

Vol. 245

No. 8



Friday

9 February, 2018

20 Magha, 1939 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
RAJYA SABHA
OFFICIAL REPORT

CONTENTS

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1-5)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development — *Presented* (page 5)

Reports of the Public Accounts Committee — *Laid on the Table* (pages 5-6)

Recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee (page 6)

Leave of Absence (page 6)

Statement by Minister —

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers — *Laid on the Table* (pages 6-7)

Regarding comments made against the chair on facebook or social media (pages 7-10)

Dispensing with Question Hour (pages 10-12)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 12-51)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 52-326)

[P.T.O.]



RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Private Members' Resolutions — *Deferred* (page 327)

The Union Budget 2018-19 — *Discussion concluded* (pages 328-407 and 409-430)

Observations by the Chair (pages 407-409)

Statutory Resolution — *Adopted* (page 430)

Special Mentions

Demand to resolve the problems being faced by home loan customers due to poor functioning of Private Banks in the country — *Laid on the Table* (pages 430-431)

Demand for construction of Satluj-Yamuna-Link canal as per the orders of the Supreme Court to make water available to Haryana — *Laid on the Table* (pages 431-432)

Demand to set up an enquiry in the alleged violation of pollution norms at SEZs in and around Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh (page 432)

RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 9th February, 2018/20th Magha, 1939 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, please be seated. Now, Papers to be laid on the Table of the House.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): Sir, on behalf of Shri Ram Vilas Paswan, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution) Notification No. S.O. 4065, dated the 26th December, 2017, amending Notification No. S.O. 371 (E), dated the 8th February, 2017, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification under Section 55 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8681/16/18]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Communications

II. Report and Accounts (2016-17) of the TRAI, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications) Notification No. F. No. 10-10/2016-BB&PA, dated the 1st January, 2018, publishing the Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018 (1 of 2018), under Section 37 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8714/16/18]
- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 and sub-section (3) of Section 24 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 8713/16/18]

I. Notifications of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

II. Reports and Accounts (2016-17) of C-MET, Pune, NIELIT, New Delhi, C-DAC, Pune and ERNET, India, New Delhi and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DR. MAHESH SHARMA): Sir, on behalf of Shri K. J. Alphons, I lay on the Table:—

- I. (i) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, under Section 55 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016:—

- (1) No. 13012/79/2017/Legal-UIDAI (No. 1 of 2017), dated the 15th February, 2017, publishing the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) (First Amendment) Regulations, 2017 (No. 1 of 2017).
- (2) No. 13012/79/2017/Legal-UIDAI (No. 2 of 2017), dated the 7th July, 2017, publishing the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2017 (No. 2 of 2017).
- (3) No. 13012/79/2017/Legal-UIDAI (No. 3 of 2017), dated the 11th July, 2017, publishing the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2017 (No. 3 of 2017).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7488/16/17]

- (ii) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Notification No. S.O. 2923 (E), dated the 12th September, 2016, publishing the Aadhaar (Removal of Difficulties) Order, 2016, under sub-section (2) of Section 58 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 7489/16/17]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET), Pune, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8715/16/18]
- (ii) (a) Twenty-Second Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8717/16/18]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Pune, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8716/16/18]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the ERNET India, New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8718/16/18]

Notifications of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare), Notification No. G.S.R. 1588 (E), dated the 28th December, 2017, publishing the Insecticides (Fourth Amendment) Rules, 2017, under sub-section (3) of Section 36 of the Insecticides Act, 1968.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8766/16/18]
- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare) Notification No. S.O. 4082 (E), dated the 28th December, 2017, publishing the Plant Quarantine (Regulation of Import into India) (Tenth Amendment) Order, 2017, under Section 4D of the Destructive Insects and Pests Act, 1914.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8688/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2016-17) of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi, New Delhi and related papers

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Arogya Nidhi (RAN) (Formerly National Illness Assistance Fund), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8479/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2016-17) of IICPT, Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu and NIFTEM, Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana) and related papers

खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (साध्वी निरंजन ज्योति): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IICPT), Thanjavur, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8694/16/18]
- (ii) (a) Seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management (NIFTEM), Kundli, Sonapat (Haryana), for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8693/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2015-16) of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Performance Report of the above Academy, for the year 2015-16.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8794/16/18]

Report and Accounts (2016-17) of the Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing, Jaipur and related papers

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of Ch. Charan Singh National Institute of Agricultural Marketing (NIAM), Jaipur, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Performance Review of the above Institute, for the year 2016-17.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 8801/16/18]

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY
STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT**

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं विभाग-संबंधित मानव संसाधन विकास संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदन (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) प्रस्तुत करता हूँ:—

- (i) 300th Report on the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Second Amendment) Bill, 2017; and
- (ii) 301st Report on Action Taken Notes by Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Two Hundred Ninetieth Report on Demands for Grants (2017-2018) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of School Education and Literacy).

REPORTS OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

SHRI SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Public Accounts Committee (2017-18):—

- (i) Eighty-seventh Report on the subject "Maintenance of Bridges in Indian Railways" pertaining to the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board);
- (ii) Eighty-eighth Report on the subject "Excesses Over Voted Grants and Charged Appropriations (2015-16)"; and

- (iii) Eighty-ninth Report on the subject "Non-Compliance by Department of Posts" pertaining to the Ministry of Communications (Department of Posts).
-

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MR. CHAIMRAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform the House that the Business Advisory Committee, at its meeting held on 8th February, 2018, allocated three hours' time for consideration and passing of the Requisition and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 2017, after it is passed by Lok Sabha.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have to inform the Members that a letter has been received from Shri Kunal Kumar Ghosh stating that due to the restriction of not leaving the jurisdiction of Narkeldanga Police Station imposed by the hon. High Court of Calcutta in the interim bail granted to him, he is unable to attend the sittings of the current (245th) Session. He has, therefore, requested for grant of leave of absence for the 245th Session.

Does he have the permission of the House to remain absent from 29th January to 6th April, 2018, during the current (245th) session of Rajya Sabha?

(No hon. Member dissented)

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

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Thirtieth Report of the

Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on the Action Taken by the Government on the observations/recommendations contained in the Twenty-fourth Report on 'Cluster Development Programme for Pharma Sector (CDP-PS)' pertaining to the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

REGARDING COMMENTS MADE AGAINST THE CHAIR ON FACEBOOK OR SOCIAL MEDIA

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मेरा एक point of order है। महोदय, हम सबको इस चेयर पर विश्वास है और हम लोग चेयर का सम्मान भी करते हैं। कल फेसबुक पर इस सदन के एक माननीय सदस्य ने माननीय चेयर के लिए कुछ ऐसे शब्द लिख दिए, जो शब्द संसदीय नहीं हैं, जो शब्द किसी प्रकार से भी नहीं लिखने चाहिए। हम लोगों को पूरा अधिकार है, चेयर हमसे कुछ भी कह दे और हमें जो कहना है, चेयर से कमरे में कह दें, लेकिन इस तरह से फेसबुक या सोशल मीडिया पर जाने में इस सदन की गरिमा गिरती है, कुर्सी की गरिमा गिरती है। मैं उन माननीय सदस्य से कहूंगा कि वे चेयरमैन से खेद प्रकट कर लें, चेयरमैन से माफी मांग लें। हम सब जानते हैं कि आपके द्वारा partiality करने का कोई सवाल ही नहीं उठता है, हम सबको आपसे न्याय मिलता है—यह मेरा कहना है।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Mr. Chairman, Sir, kindly request the hon. Ministers to reply to the Special Mentions. You had directed them once. Please direct them once again because I have not got any response to my Special Mentions, which were made almost five-six months back.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have taken note of it.

श्री भूपेंद्र यादव (राजस्थान): महोदय, जो बात नरेश अग्रवाल जी ने कही, हम सब लोग सदन के अंदर चेयर के सम्मान के साथ कार्यवाही में भाग लेते हैं। मेरा यह आग्रह है कि संसद में राजनैतिक दलों की आपस में एक-दूसरे के साथ वैचारिक मतभिन्नताएं हो सकती हैं, हम राजनैतिक दलों की कार्यवाही पर एक-दूसरे पर आक्षेप कर सकते हैं, लेकिन जहां तक चेयर का सवाल है, हम सब लोग चेयर से बंधे हुए हैं, इसलिए जिन भी सदस्यों ने फेसबुक पर या सोशल मीडिया में इस प्रकार के शब्दों का उपयोग किया है, निश्चित रूप से वह सदन की भी अवमानना है और संसदीय परम्परा के भी खिलाफ है। इसलिए नरेश जी ने जो कहा, मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि उनको इस पर खेद व्यक्त करना चाहिए।

SHRI MAJEED MEMON (Maharashtra): Sir, I second what Nareshji has said.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, we also associate ourselves with what the hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, has said.

Number two, I had given notice under Rule 267. This is the fourth day, but it has not yet been taken up. *...(Interruptions)...*

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): सभापति महोदय, मैं यह अभी सुन रहा हूँ क्योंकि यह फेसबुक वगैरह हमारे बस का नहीं है, हम न इसके बारे में जानते हैं और न कभी पढ़ते हैं। मैं तो अभी इनसे ही सुन रहा हूँ। यह बहुत अफसोस की बात है कि इस तरह की चीजें फेसबुक पर आ जाएं और चेयर पर, कोई भी चेयर पर हो, at least, on Chairman इस तरह की बात की जाए, इसकी हम पूरी निन्दा करते हैं। मेरे ख्याल में पूरे सदन को इससे disassociate करना चाहिए।

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : سبھا پتی مہودے، میں یہ ابھی سن رہا ہوں کیوں کہ یہ فیس-بک وغیرہ ہمارے بس کا نہیں ہے، ہم نہ اس کے بارے میں جانتے ہیں اور نہ کبھی پڑھتے ہیں۔ میں تو ابھی ان سے ہی سن رہا ہوں۔ یہ بہت افسوس کی بات ہے کہ اس طرح کی چیزیں فیس-بک پر آ جائیں اور چیئر پر، کوئی بھی چیئر پر ہو، at least, on Chairman اس طرح کی بات کی جائے، اس کی ہم پوری ننذا کرتے ہیں۔ میرے خیال میں پورے سدن کو اس سے disassociate کرنا چاہیے۔

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, the hon. Chairman of the Rajya Sabha...(Interruptions)... You are not allowing me to speak even about the hon. Chairman! ...(Interruptions)... The hon. Chairman of the Rajya Sabha gives us enough opportunities to discuss any grievance we may have. ...(Interruptions)... We can always talk to the Chairman in confidence. ...(Interruptions)... We do not need to go to any social media platform to express ourselves. We want to make it very clear. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, has said. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, has said. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, has said. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Naresh Agrawal, has said. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री दिलीप कुमार तिकी (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती रजनी पाटिल (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

कुमारी शैलजा (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री श्वेत मलिक (पंजाब): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आंध्र प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

† جناب محمد علی خان : مہودے، میں بھی مائے سلسلے کے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے وٹنے سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ramachandra Rao, Shri C. M. Ramesh, Shri Mohan Rao, Shri T.G. Venkatesh, and Shrimati Seetharama Lakshmi, please go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, you know my conviction that we cannot run the House if there is disorder. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, it is continuously going on. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we want Zero Hour and the discussion on the Budget. Please ask them to go to their seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I also want Zero Hour. But, I can't do this way. ...*(Interruptions)*... I also want Zero Hour; I also want Question Hour; I also want discussion to go on. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, this is not the way. ...*(Interruptions)*... Hon. Members, please go back to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Ramachandra Rao, Shri C.M. Ramesh, Shri Mohan Rao, Shri T. G. Venkatesh, and Shrimati Seetharama Lakshmi, please go to your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*... We are coming to the end of this Session. Please try to understand. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Try to understand. ...*(Interruptions)*... I do not want these scenes to be viewed by the countrymen. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is against the parliamentary tradition. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is lowering the dignity of the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Please follow my advice. ...*(Interruptions)*.. I have only two options, whether I have to name them or I have to adjourn the House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, you name them. We want to discuss the Budget. ...*(Interruptions)*... We want Budget discussion. ..*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAMOD TIWARI (Uttar Pradesh): Let the Zero Hour be there. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री सभापति: करना क्या है?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Budget discussion, Zero Hour — Sir, these are serious issues. We are all waiting to discuss them, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yesterday, one Member was named. ..*(Interruptions)*... We are all waiting to discuss the Budget. ..*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I can't do anything if this becomes a competitive politics. I adjourn the House till 12.00 p.m.

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

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

DISPENSING WITH QUESTION HOUR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. Ramesh, will you please go there for a minute till my observation is made? ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. One of our hon. Members, Shri A.V. Swamy, from Odisha – a Gandhian-Sarvodaya follower and a very simple person – fell down. He has been now moved to hospital. I just went and saw him. They are now trying to ascertain whether it is because of B.P. or it is because of sugar, whatever it is. But immediately he has been taken to hospital for check-up and afterwards we will come to know of it. Because the Session is on and he fell down here, I thought it is very important that first I should inform the Members and also share with you what has happened, etc.

Secondly, about the Question Hour, we take the Question Hour now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, we had agreed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the Opposition gives its suggestion to you that this Budget discussion is very important. There are many people here. I know it is not your style to do away with Question Hour. We are making a request to you. Since the LoP is not here,

we are doing it. Please start the Budget discussion now. We can do away with the Question Hour and then carry on. No lunch break. But we must speak on the Budget. *...(Interruptions)...* No lunch break. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, हम लोग सपोर्ट करते हैं। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you have another view?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No; same view. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: As was discussed with the hon. Chairman *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. I have a suggestion to make. *....(Interruptions)...* When one leader is there, what he suggested is okay. *...(Interruptions)...* I am accepting the suggestion of hon. Members. *...(Interruptions)...* No, it should not be the normal practice. *...(Interruptions)...* But I am doing away with the Question Hour and starting the debate on Budget. *...(Interruptions)...* I want the Budget discussion to start. *...(Interruptions)...* Yesterday, Mr. Neeraj Shekhar was making his speech, and the House was adjourned. So, he will continue today. *...(Interruptions)...* Please, Mr. Ramachandra Rao *...(Interruptions)...* Please. *...(Interruptions)...* Hon. Members, I have told you, yesterday and day-before-yesterday that this is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...* Please go back to your seats. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I had given notice under Rule... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You meet me in the Chamber and then discuss, not in the House. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट रखा है, *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, ... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the practice. *...(Interruptions)...* That is not the practice. She can meet me. *...(Interruptions)...* Agreed. I agree. *...(Interruptions)...* Let me go through the notice and then decide. *...(Interruptions)...* This is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...* This is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...* I have only two options either to name all the other Members, including these people, or adjourn the House. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Don't equate us with them. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Chairman, you can't equate. ...(*Interruptions*)... You allow her to make her submission. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let her make her submission. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: यह बजट नौजवानों, किसानों, कमजोर वर्गों और आदिवासियों के खिलाफ है। ...(*व्यवधान*)... माननीय सभापति जी, यह बजट ...(*व्यवधान*)...

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Agriculture loan

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

(a) whether it is a fact that small farmers still take sixty per cent of their agriculture loans from moneylenders, shopkeepers and traders;

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

(c) the corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) and (b) The activity of money lending is regulated by State-specific money lending laws. The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Households during NSS 70th round (January, 2013-December, 2013) in the rural areas of the country for reference period of the agricultural year July, 2012—June, 2013 which reveals the following:—

About 52 per cent of the agricultural households in the country were estimated to be indebted. At all India level, about 60 per cent of the outstanding loans were taken from institutional sources which included Government (2.1 per cent), Co-operative society (14.8 per cent) and Banks (42.9 per cent). Among the non institutional sources, agricultural/ professional money lenders and shopkeepers/traders accounted for 28.7% of outstanding loans. The average amount of outstanding loan per agricultural household was ₹47000/- (approx.).

(c) Government has taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and bringing more and more farmers including small and marginal farmers within the fold of institutional credit. These measures *inter alia*, include the following major steps to provide hassle free crop loan to farmers including small and marginal farmers:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Interest Subvention Scheme

Under the Interest Subvention Scheme, the Government is providing short-term crop loans upto ₹ 3 lakh for a period of one year to farmers at a subvented interest rate of 4% per annum in case of prompt repayment of the loan against the normal lending rate of 9%. Thus on prompt repayment the farmers get Interest Subvention of 5% per annum.

Further, in order to discourage distress sale of crops by farmers, the benefit of interest subvention has been made available to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of up to six months (post- harvest) at the same rate as available to crop loan against negotiable warehouse receipts to store their post harvest produce in Warehouses accredited by Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA).

Specific target for Small and Marginal Farmers

As per RBI directions, Domestic Scheduled Commercial Banks are required to lend 18% of the Adjusted Net Bank Credit (ANBC) or Credit Equivalent to Off-Balance Sheet Exposure (CEOBE), whichever is higher, towards agriculture. A sub-target of 8% is also prescribed for lending to small and marginal farmers including landless agricultural labourers, tenant farmers, oral lessees and share croppers. Similarly, in the case of Regional Rural Banks 18% of their total outstanding advances is required to be towards agriculture and a sub-target of 8% has been set for lending to small and marginal farmers.

Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme

Kisan Credit Card Scheme is aimed at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window to the farmers for their cultivation and other needs. In terms of master circular dated July 03, 2017 of Reserve Bank of India, tenant farmers, oral lessees or share croppers are also covered under the KCC Scheme. Under the Scheme, a flexible limit of ₹ 10,000 to ₹ 50,000 has been provided to marginal farmers (as Flexi KCC) based on the land holding and crops grown including post harvest warehouse storage related credit needs and other farm expenses, consumption needs, etc., plus small term loan investments without relating it to the value of land.

In terms of the extant guidelines to banks, margin/ collateral for agricultural loans up to ₹ 1 lakh is not required.

Guidelines for Financing of Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) of 'Bhoomi Heen Kisan'

In terms of Union Budget 2014-15 it had been declared that 5 lakh Joint Liability Groups (JLG) of 'Bhoomi Heen Kisan' will be financed through NABARD. RBI has issued guidelines to all scheduled commercial banks in this regard *vide* circular FIDD. CO.FSD.BC.42/05.02.02/2014-15 dated November 13, 2014. One of the main objectives of financing through JLGs is to augment flow of credit to landless farmers cultivating land as tenant farmers, oral lessees or share croppers and small/marginal farmers as well as other poor individuals taking up farm activities, off-farm activities and non-farm activities. As on 31st March, 2017, cumulatively 24.53 lakh Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) have been provided ₹ 26,848.13 crore loan by banks across the country.

Agriculture Ground Level Credit flow for Small and Marginal Farmers

The share of Small and Marginal Farmers (SMFs) accounts in total number financed by all agencies grew from 60.07 per cent in 2015-16 to 72.06 per cent in 2016-17. More importantly, in terms of amount disbursed, the share of SMFs grew from 41.51 per cent (in 2015-16) to 50.14 per cent (in 2016-17). In actual terms, the agri credit disbursement towards SMFs grew from ₹ 3.80 lakh crore in 2015-16 to ₹ 5.34 lakh crore in 2016-17, while the number of SMF accounts grew from 5.40 crore to 7.71 crore during this period.

Facilities under Adarsh Railway Station Scheme

*77. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have embarked on providing various passenger facilities at various stations that have been identified as Adarsh Railway Stations, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the district-wise details of the stations identified under this scheme in the State of Jharkhand;

(c) whether it is a fact that CAG has pointed out the deficiencies of facilities under this scheme, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to rectify the defects and provide adequate facilities at these stations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of amenities at stations is a continuous and on-going process. Works relating to provision/augmentation of various passenger amenities at stations are taken

up under Plan Head 53—‘Passengers Amenities’. In addition, passenger amenities are also provided as part of Plan Head 16—‘Traffic Facility’ and Plan Head 17—‘Computerisation’ etc. At present, stations are also upgraded under ‘Adarsh Station Scheme’. Selection of Railway stations for inclusion under the ‘Adarsh Station Scheme’ is based on an identified need for upgradation of amenities at stations. Adarsh stations are provided with additional basic facilities such as improvement to the facade, waiting room, landscaping of circulating area, signage, pay and use toilets, platforms, foot over bridge, water coolers, passenger reservation system etc.

(b) 1253 stations including 30 stations in the State of Jharkhand have been identified for development under this scheme. District-wise details of stations are not maintained. List of 30 stations in the State of Jharkhand identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme is as under:—

Jharkhand (30)	Bokaro, Chakradharpur, Chakulia, Chandrapura, Chittarajan, Daltonganj, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Dumka, Garhwa Road Jn., Gomoh Jn., Jagadishpur, Jasidih, Lohardaga, Madhupur, Pakur, Parashnath, Phusro, Ranchi, Sahibganj, Silli, Tatanagar, Tori, Latehar, Barwadih, Bokaro Thermal, Katrasgarh, Giridih, Gumia and Gola Road.
----------------	---

(c) and (d) Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG)’s Report No.13 of 2016 (Railways) has mentioned about the deficiencies in few passenger amenities *viz.* Pay and Use toilets, Signages, Waiting Rooms with TV and bathing facilities for Upper Classes/other classes at some stations developed as Adarsh Stations.

The norms for provision of amenities under ‘Adarsh’ Station Scheme were first introduced in 2009 which were later revised in August, 2013. The comparison of amenities to be provided as per norms of 2009 *vis-à-vis* norms of 2013, is tabulated below:—

Sl. No.	Amenities	As per norms of 2009 issued under Board’s letter No.2009/TG-IV/10/PA/Adarsh Stns. Dated 17.09.2009	As per norms of 2013 issued under Board’s letter No.2009/TG-IV/10/PA/ Adarsh Stns. Dated 13.08.2013
1	2	3	4
1.	Pay and Use Toilets	To be provided at ‘A1’ to ‘E’ category	To be provided at ‘A1’ to ‘E’ category
2.	Signages	To be provided upto ‘D’ category	To be provided upto ‘E’ category

1	2	3	4
3.	Waiting Rooms with TV and bathing facilities for Upper Classes	Not included in identified amenities	To be provided at 'A1' and 'A' category
4.	Waiting Rooms with TV and bathing facilities for other Classes	Not included in identified amenities	To be provided at A1, A and B category with bathing facility.

In the revised guidelines of 2013, it was also mentioned that these guidelines shall be effective for only those 'Adarsh' stations which were identified in the year 2013-14 and onwards.

The Audit has noticed deficiencies in the following four amenities:—

- (1) Pay and Use Toilets
- (2) Signages
- (3) Waiting Rooms with TV and bathing facilities for Upper Classes
- (4) Waiting Rooms with TV and bathing facilities for other Classes.

For item (1) it is stated that wherever Pay and Use Toilets are not feasible, departmental toilets are to be provided as per extant guidelines for provision of amenities under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme. For item (2), Audit has also noticed deficiencies of signages at E category stations, which were identified under 'Adarsh' Station Scheme before 2013 and hence provision of signages was not stipulated. In respect of items (3) and (4) above, it is stated that barring two stations, all other stations were identified prior to 2013 and therefore were not required to be provided with these two facilities.

Creation of separate tower company under BSNL

†*78. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), a profit making Government undertaking has installed 70,000 towers with its own expenses;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government intends to divide BSNL in certain segments and create a new company named as Tower Company;

(c) if so, whether the Tower Company would remain under BSNL or would be handed over to some private company; and

(d) if the Tower Company is to be handed over to some private company, the basis/reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) a 100% Government of India owned enterprise has been incurring net losses for a number of years and has 66847 mobile towers, which includes 61124 towers installed from BSNL funds and 5723 towers installed from funds received from the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF). The Government has approved the hiving-off of mobile tower infrastructure of BSNL into a separate subsidiary company which will be fully owned by BSNL. The subsidiary company may set up a Joint Venture Company with a partner, preferably within two years, on achieving financial health and stability with the objective of monetisation of its assets.

Doubling and electrification of railway lines

*79. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of railway lines in the country and the length, out of that, electrified in terms of kilometre and per centage, State-wise;

(b) whether Railways have received proposals from various States, including Punjab, for doubling and electrification of railway lines;

(c) if so, the details and present status thereof;

(d) the present status of the ongoing/pending doubling and electrification projects in the States and the funds allocated for the purpose, State-wise; and

(e) the time-frame set for completion of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The total length of Railway lines in the country as on 31.03.2017 is 67368 route kilometers.

State-wise details of total length of railway lines in the country along with the length of lines commissioned on electric traction (electrified) upto 31.03.2017 as well as their per centage to total length are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Total Route Kilometres	Route Kilometres Electrified	Per centage Electrified (%)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3817	2534	66.39
2.	Bihar	3714	1362	36.67
3.	Chhattisgarh	1216	915	75.25
4.	Chandigarh	16	16	100.00
5.	Delhi	183	144	78.69
6.	Gujarat	5258	707	13.45
7.	Haryana	1710	538	31.46
8.	Himachal Pradesh	296	10	3.38
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	298	153	51.34
10.	Jharkhand	2455	1579	64.32
11.	Karnataka	3424	493	14.40
12.	Kerala	1045	840	80.38
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5113	2292	44.83
14.	Maharashtra	5784	2339	40.44
15.	Odisha	2598	1660	63.90
16.	Punjab	2270	486	21.41
17.	Puducherry	22	11	50.00
18.	Rajasthan	5894	669	11.35
19.	Telangana	1823	915	50.19
20.	Tamil Nadu	4028	1829	45.41
21.	Uttar Pradesh	9167	3342	36.46
22.	Uttarakhand	339	123	36.28
23.	West Bengal	4139	2244	54.22
24.	Other States	2759	0	0.00
TOTAL		67368	25201	37.41

(b) to (e) **DOUBLING:** For Doubling projects, proposals/suggestions/ representations, both formal and informal are received from State Governments, Ministries of Central Government, Elected representatives, organizations etc. by Railways at various levels

including Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Division Office etc. As receipt of such proposals/suggestions is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained.

However, the projects of doubling/3rd and 4th line are sanctioned based on capacity utilization of existing network and future expected traffic.

The details of ongoing doubling projects for various States including the State of Punjab are as under:—

State	No. of Doubling projects	Funds provided in 2017-18 (in ₹ crore)
Assam and rest of North Eastern Region	6	522
Andhra Pradesh	14	1535.8
Bihar	13	616
Chhattisgarh	12	1777.3
Delhi	5	127
Gujarat	10	1638.9
Haryana	4	152.2
Jammu and Kashmir	4	37.5
Jharkhand	18	1089
Karnataka	13	1481
Kerala	7	370.8
Madhya Pradesh	23	1851
Maharashtra	19	1974.7
Odisha	26	2982.6
Punjab	9	230.5
Rajasthan	11	900.1
Telangana	5	323
Tamil Nadu	12	388.2
Uttar Pradesh	49	3030.6
Uttarakhand	1	120
West Bengal	42	1011.2

As on date, 256 projects of doubling/3rd and 4th line involving a length of approximately 19908 Km with anticipated cost of ₹ 1.85 lakh crore are in different stages of execution all over Indian Railways. Out of above, 132 doubling/3rd and 4th line have been included in the Budget during last four years.

The capital expenditure on Doubling/3rd and 4th line projects during last three years and current year is as under:—

Year	Expenditure
2014-15	₹ 3,881 crore
2015-16	₹ 9,855 crore
2016-17	₹ 9,797 crore
2017-18	₹ 16,707 crore (Budget allocation)

The completion of railway projects requires clearances from various departments of State Government and Central Ministries like acquisition of land, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life clearances, cutting of trees, shifting of services, construction of road over bridges and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, law and order issues like protests against compensation to land losers, which are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways. Thus, the targets for completion of projects are set on yearly basis depending on the total budget outlay, progress made in each project and relative priority. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix time lines for completion of all the projects.

ELECTRIFICATION: Proposal for electrification of Railway lines from various States including State of Punjab is continuous and dynamic process. Further, Indian Railways have prepared an Action Plan to electrify 100% of its Broad Gauge (BG) rail routes as per following:—

Year	Route Kilometer planned for Electrification
2017-18	4000
2018-19	6000
2019-20	7000
2020-21	10500
2021-22	10500
TOTAL	38000

As on date, 109 projects of Electrification involving a length of approximately 21989 km with anticipated cost of ₹ 23740 crore are in different stages of execution all over Indian Railways. Out of above, 89 projects have been included in the Budget during last four years.

State-wise details and present status of the on-going electrification projects under Plan Head "Railway Electrification" are as under:—

Sl. No.	State	Name of project	Total Route Kilometers (RKM)	Balance RKM to be electrified as on 01.01. 2018	Outlay for 2017-18 (₹ in crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nallapadu-Guntakal incl.Gooty-Pendekallu	426	59	52.16
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Guntakal-Kalluru	40	40	11.00
3.	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka	Guntakal-Bellary-Hospet incl. Tornagallu-Ranjitpura Branch Line	138	138	66.00
4.	Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka	Chikjajur-Bellary	184	184	0.02
5.	Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Telangana	Manmad-Mudkhed-Dhone	868	868	70.00
6.	Assam	Guwahati-Dibrugarh via Tinsukia and Simaluguri-Dibrugarh	656	656	0.02
7.	Assam	New Bongaigaon-Agthori via Rangiya	143	143	0.02
8.	Assam	New Bongaigaon-Goalpara-Kamakhyā	175	175	0.02
9.	Assam, Bihar and West Bengal	Barauni-Katihar-Guwahati incl Katihar-Barsoi	836	626	178.77
10.	Bihar	Kiul-Tilaya	87	87	31.77
11.	Bihar	Valmiki Nagar-Narkatiaganj-Sugauli-Muzaffarpur incl Sugauli-Raxaul	240	240	80.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Bihar	Mansi-Sahrsa-Daura Madhepura	63	63	9.68
13.	Bihar	Biharsharif-Daniawan	38	38	0.02
14.	Bihar	Ara-Sasaram	97	97	0.02
15.	Bihar	Fatuha-Islampur	43	43	0.02
16.	Bihar	Darbhangha-Jaynagar	69	69	0.02
17.	Bihar	Kaptanganj-Thawe- Khairah-Chhapra Kacheri	206	206	0.02
18.	Bihar	Raxaul-Sitamarhi- Darbhanga-Samastipur	231	231	0.02
19.	Bihar	Samastipur-Khagaria	85	85	0.02
20.	Bihar and Jharkhand	Bonidanga Link Cabin/Bonidanga- Barharwa-Sahibganj- Kiul incl. Tinpahar- Rajmahal	247	247	117.32
21.	Bihar and Uttar Pradesh	Chhapra-Ballia- Ghazipur-Varanasi- Allahabad	330	330	88.00
22.	Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana and Rajasthan	Delhi Sarai Rohilla- Rewari-Palanpur- Ahmedabad, incl. Kalol-Gandhinagar- Khodiyar and Alwar- Bandikui-Jaipur- Phulera	1087	864	312.59
23.	Goa and Karnataka	Hospet-Hubli-Vasco da Gama	346	346	88.00
24.	Gujarat	Ahmedabad-Rajkot	233	233	56.50
25.	Gujarat	Mehsana-Viramgam- Samakhiali	292	292	60.98
26.	Gujarat	Samakhiali- Gandhidham-Kandla Port-Mundra Port	63	63	5.00
27.	Gujarat	Rajkot-Sikka-Okha	271	271	0.02

1	2	3	4	5	6
28.	Gujarat	Wankaner-Dahinsara-Maliya Miyana and Surendranagar-Dhrangandhra	132	132	0.02
29.	Haryana	Jakhal-Hisar	79	79	33.00
30.	Haryana	Rohtak-Bhiwani	48	48	19.56
31.	Haryana	Narwana-Kurukshetra	86	86	0.02
32.	Haryana	Panipat-Jind	70	70	0.02
33.	Haryana	Rohtak-Panipat	71	71	0.02
34.	Haryana	Garhi Harsaru-Farukhnagar	12	12	0.02
35.	Haryana	Rewari-Rohtak	74	74	0.02
36.	Haryana	Manheru-Hissar	74	74	15.40
37.	Haryana and Punjab	Rohtak-Bhatinda-Lehra Muhabat	252	164	60.85
38.	Haryana and Rajasthan	Rewari-Sadulpur-Hanumangarh	320	320	0.02
39.	Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan	Hisar-Bhatinda-Suratgarh/Suratgarh Thermal Power Station	328	328	0.87
40.	Jharkhand	Koderma-Hazaribagh-Barkakana-Ranchi	203	203	70.00
41.	Jharkhand	Ranchi-Lohardaga-Tori	116	116	8.92
42.	Jharkhand	Giridih-Nawadih-Koderma	114	114	0.02
43.	Jharkhand and West Bengal	Kumedpur-Malda-Singhabad and Pakur-Malda	153	70	22.74
44.	Jharkhand, Maddhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh	Garwa Road-Chopan-Singrauli	257	158	72.82
45.	Karnataka	Miraj-Londa	189	189	22.68
46.	Karnataka	Chikbanavar-Hubballi	456	456	0.02

1	2	3	4	5	6
47.	Karnataka and Maharashtra	Gadag-Hotgi	284	284	0.02
48.	Karnataka and Tamil Nadu	Bengaluru-Omalur <i>via</i> Hosur	196	196	0.02
49.	Kerala and Karnataka	Shoranur-Mangalore-Penambur	328	27	28.120
50.	Madhya Pradesh	Vijaipur-Maksi	188	188	20.33
51.	Madhya Pradesh	Chhindwara-Nainpur-Mandala Fort	183	183	13.05
52.	Madhya Pradesh	Birlanagar-Etawah	115	115	0.02
53.	Madhya Pradesh	Guna-Gwalior	227	227	0.02
54.	Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam-Fatehabad-Laxmibainagar	115	115	0.02
55.	Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	Ratlam-Nimach-Chanderia-Kota	348	348	56.50
56.	Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh	Itarsi-Katni-Manikpur incl Satna-Rewa and Manikpur-Chheoki	653	494	136.27
57.	Madhya Pradesh	Singrauli-Katni	260	260	100.00
58.	Maharashtra	Gondia-Balharshah	250	118	26.08
59.	Maharashtra	Panvel-Pen-Thal	75	75	44.62
60.	Maharashtra	Jasai-Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust	9	9	9.78
61.	Maharashtra	Pune-Miraj-Kolhapur	326	326	51.31
62.	Maharashtra	Pen-Roha	40	40	29.70
63.	Maharashtra	Jasai-Uran	10	10	11.70
64.	Maharashtra	Chalisingaon-Dhule	56	56	5.38
65.	Maharashtra	Daund-Baramati	44	44	0.02
66.	Maharashtra	Wani-Pimpalkhutti	66	66	0.02
67.	Maharashtra	Miraj-Kurduwadi-Latur	377	377	0.02
68.	Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh	Amla-Chhindwara-Kalumna	257	142	27.50

1	2	3	4	5	6
69.	Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh	Gondia-Nainpur-Jabalpur	229	229	16.88
70.	Odisha	Vizianagaram-Rayagada-Titlagarh-Raipur	465	205	63.69
71.	Odisha	Jharsuguda-Sambalpur-Titlagarh and Jharsuguda-Ib Bypass	238	184	100.00
72.	Odisha	Sambalpur-Angul	156	86	22.00
73.	Odisha	Singapur Road-Damanjodi	152	152	42.84
74.	Punjab	Rajpura-Dhuri-Lehra Mohabat	151	151	44.00
75.	Punjab	Jakhal-Dhuri-Ludhiana	123	123	66.00
76.	Punjab	Beas-Gownidwal Sahib-Taran Taran-Amritsar	72	72	4.52
77.	Punjab	Amritsar-Batala-Bharoli	104	104	0.02
78.	Rajasthan	Bandikui-Bharatpur	97	97	0.02
79.	Rajasthan	2nd line Alwar-Bandikui	60	60	0.02
80.	Rajasthan	Sadulpur-Ratangarh-Bikaner Lalgarh incl. Ratangarh Sardarshahar	286	286	0.02
81.	Rajasthan	Ajmer-Berach-Mavli-Udaipur	294	294	79.16
82.	Rajasthan	Jaipur-Sawai Madhopur-Ringas	188	188	22.10
83.	Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh	Idgah-Achnera-Mathura and Achnera-Bharatpur	87	87	21.37

1	2	3	4	5	6
84.	Tamil Nadu	Erode-Karur-Tiruchchirapalli and Salem-Karur-Dindigul	300	200	115.00
85.	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchchirappalli-Nagapattinam-Karaikkal Port	153	153	70.00
86.	Tamil Nadu	Villupuram-Cuddalore Port-Mayiladuturai-Thanjavur and Mayiladuturai-Thiruvavur	228	228	0.02
87.	Telangana	Paddapalli-Lingampet-Jagtiyal	83	83	50.00
88.	Telangana	Pagidipalli-Nallapadu	285	285	100.00
89.	Uttar Pradesh	Ghazipur-Aunrihar-Manduadih	78	78	11.00
90.	Uttar Pradesh	Utretia-Rae Bareilly-Amethi-Janghai	214	214	66.00
91.	Uttar Pradesh	Jhansi-Manikpur incl Khairar-Bhimsen	409	409	140.00
92.	Uttar Pradesh	Zafraabad-Akbarpur-Tanda	101	101	45.64
93.	Uttar Pradesh	Gorakhpur Cantt-Kaptanganj-Valmikinagar	96	96	11.40
94.	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura-Kasganj-Kalyanpur	338	338	39.77
95.	Uttar Pradesh	Aunrihar-Jaunpur	60	60	0.01
96.	Uttar Pradesh	Chunar-Chopan	100	100	11.24
97.	Uttar Pradesh	Noli-Tapri	143	143	11.48
98.	Uttar Pradesh	Bhandai-Udi	113	113	0.02
99.	Uttar Pradesh	Unnao-Balamba-Sitapur	162	162	0.02
100.	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly-Chandausi-Hardua incl. Chandausi-Moradabad	199	199	0.02

1	2	3	4	5	6
101.	Uttar Pradesh	Gajraula-Muazzampur Narain	95	95	0.02
102.	Uttar Pradesh	Mankapur-Katra-Ayodhya	38	38	0.02
103.	Uttar Pradesh	Shikohabad-Farrukhabad	158	158	0.02
104.	Uttar Pradesh	Unnao-Unchahar	113	113	0.02
105.	Uttar Pradesh	Kasganj-Bareilly, Bhojipura-Daliganj	401	401	0.02
106.	Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand	Najibabad-Kotdwara	24	24	0.02
107.	Uttarakhand	Raiwala-Rishikesh	12	12	0.02
108.	West Bengal	Katwa-Azimganj-Nalhati and Azimganj-Tildanga/New Farakka incl. Nalhati and Azimganj bypass line	200	200	89.26
109.	West Bengal	Raninagar Jalpaiguri-Samuktala Road	129	129	0.02

The capital expenditure on Railway Electrification projects during last three years and current year is as under:—

Year	Expenditure
2014-15	₹ 1390.57 crore
2015-16	₹ 2291.13 crore
2016-17	₹ 2955.89 crore
2017-18	₹ 4077 crore
	(Revised Budget allocation)

Recommendations of Anil Kakodkar Committee on railway safety

*80. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of train accidents which occurred during the last three years along with the number of casualties and major causes for those accidents;

(b) whether it is a fact that the recommendations of the Anil Kakodkar Committee on railway safety, which were accepted by Government long ago, have not been implemented; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Details of consequential train accidents during the last three years and in the current year with the number of persons killed and injured therein is given below:—

Year	Number of consequential train accidents*	Killed	Injured
2014-15	135	292	457
2015-16	107	122	188
2016-17	104	238	369
2017-18	65	55	195
(upto 31st January, 2018)			

*Including accidents at unmanned railway crossings caused due to the negligence of road vehicle users.

During the last three years *i.e.* 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and the current year 2017-18 (upto 31st January, 2018), altogether 411 consequential train accidents (including accidents at unmanned railway crossings caused due to the negligence of road vehicle users) occurred on Indian Railways. Based on the findings of the accident inquiry reports, the major causes of accidents were failure of Railway staff, failure of persons other than railway staff, failure of equipments, incidental and combination of factors.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The High Level Safety Review Committee was constituted by the Ministry of Railways under the Chairmanship of Dr. Anil Kakodkar, former Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission. The Committee has recommended 106 recommendations, out of which 87 Nos. have been accepted by Ministry of Railways for implementation of which 65 have been implemented, as of now.

Generic medicines sold through PMBJKs

*81. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) opened so far in Rajasthan;

(b) the details regarding worth of generic medicines sold through these Kendras during the last three years, especially in Rajasthan;

(c) the details regarding cost-saving to patients in respect of generic drugs purchased from Janaushadhi Kendras as compared to equivalent non-generic medicines available in the market; and

(d) the details of safeguards being observed to maintain quality standards in respect of generic drugs?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) As on 05.02.2018, 3109 ‘Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) Kendras’ are functional in 33 States/Union Territories of the country out of which 92 PMBJP Kendras are in Rajasthan.

(b) The details of sale of generic medicines through PMBJP Kendras in Rajasthan during the last three years are as under:—

(Amount in ₹)

Year	Sale of generic medicines at PMBJP Kendras in Rajasthan
2014-15	NIL
2015-16	47,242
2016-17	3,02,671
2017-18	21,98,964
(As on 31.01.2018)	
TOTAL	25,48,877

(c) PMBJP has resulted in substantial savings to patients in the area of healthcare. An illustrative list comparing the prices of some generic medicines under PMBJP and non-generic/branded medicines available in the market is given in Statement (See below).

(d) Strict Quality Control is maintained. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) (the implementing agency of PMBJP) is procuring medicines only from World Health Organization – Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP) certified suppliers for improvement of quality of the products under the scheme. Apart from this, each batch of drugs is tested at laboratories accredited by ‘National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories’ (NABL). Only after passing the quality tests, the medicines are dispatched to PMBJP Kendras.

Statement

Comparison between the prices of some generic medicines under PMBJP and non-generic/branded medicines

Sl. No.	Medicine name	Average Market Price of top three branded medicines (₹)	PMBJP's Price (₹)	% Savings
Cardiovascular				
1.	Amlodipine 5 mg 10 tablets	20	3.24	83.80
2.	Atenolol 50 mg 14 tablets	22	5.56	74.72
3.	Losartan 25 mg 10 tablets	26	5.74	77.92
4.	Metoprolol 50 mg 10 tablets	53	5.95	88.77
5.	Telmisartan 40 mg 10 tablets	70	12.64	81.94
6.	Atorvastatin 10 mg 10 tablets	70	8.02	88.54
7.	Ramipiril 5 mg 10 tablets	72.80	9.68	86.70
Anti-allergics				
8.	Cetirizine 10 mg 10 tablets	15.30	1.84	87.97
9.	Fexofenadine 180 mg 10 tablets	125.69	27.54	78.08
Antibiotics				
10.	Ofloxacin 200 mg 10 tablets	52.60	14.80	71.86
Anti-cancer				
11.	Oxaliplatin 50 mg Vial injection	3215.34	430.00	86.62
Anti-infective				
12.	Terbinafine 250 mg 7 tablets	94.33	31.66	66.08
13.	Levosulpiride 25 mg 10 tablets	67.91	9.49	86.02
Central Nerve System (CNS)				
14.	Citicoline 500 mg 10 tablets	457.66	169.88	62.88
Anti-neoplastic				
15.	Gemcitabine 1000 mg vial injection	6412.04	631.21	90.15
Hormonal				
16.	Clomiphene Citrate 50 mg 10 tablets	85.10	15.04	82.32

Notifications regarding schemes under Aadhaar

*82. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Ministries have issued notifications that they will co-opt over 30 schemes under Aadhaar, if so, the details of these schemes;

(b) whether Government allows non-State entities to use Aadhaar authentication and gain access to data, if so, the details of these non-State entities; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government proposes to make Aadhaar mandatory for all 84 schemes covered under the Direct Benefit Transfer programme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (c) Notifications under Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 have been issued by different Ministries/Departments in respect of 252 Schemes till 31st December, 2017, where Aadhaar authentication or proof of possession of Aadhaar as a means of identification of beneficiary is a requirement. These notifications also provide mechanism to handle such cases where Aadhaar number is not assigned to an individual and instruct implementing agencies to deliver benefits on the basis of alternate identity documents.

(b) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) allows various entities including Non-Government entities as defined in schedule A of Aadhaar (Authentication) Regulations, 2016 to become Authentication User Agencies (AUAs) as per the provisions of Aadhaar Act, 2016 and its regulations. At present, total 304 AUAs have been appointed, out of which 49 entities are Government organizations such as Central/State Government Ministries/Departments, undertakings owned and managed by Central/State Government (PSU), etc., 229 entities are regulated service providers such as regulated by RBI, IRDA, PFRDA, SEBI, etc., 26 entities are other entities such as company registered in India under the Companies Act, 1956, proprietorship firm, etc.

Cyber crimes against children

*83. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of a number of children becoming victims of cyber crimes in the country;

(b) if so, the number of such cases reported and the action taken by Government on such cases; and

(c) the measures taken/being taken by Government to prevent such crimes against children?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs, a total of 5, 8 and 17 cases were registered during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively under Section 67B of Information Technology Act, 2000 pertaining to publishing or transmitting of material depicting children in sexually explicit act, etc., in electronic form.

Further, a total of 40, 94 and 48 cases were registered during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively under Section 14 (using child for pornographic purposes) and Section 15 (storage of pornographic material involving child) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012.

(c) Government has taken the following steps to tackle crime against children:—

1. The Information Technology Act, 2000 has provisions to deal with cyber crime against children. Section 67B provides for the punishment for publishing or transmitting of material depicting children in sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form.

Further, 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.

2. Government periodically blocks the websites containing extreme Child sexual abuse material based on INTERPOL's "worst of list" received through Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). CBI is the national nodal agency for Interpol in India. As on 20th December, 2017, Department of Telecom (DoT) issued instructions to block 4694 number of such websites.
3. The Government has issued an order to the concerned Internet Service

Providers (ISPs) to work out a suitable arrangement for receiving Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) list of CSAM websites/webpages on a dynamic basis and block access to child pornography webpages/websites.

4. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has communicated to all ISPs requesting them to make suitable arrangement to spread awareness among their subscribers about the use of Parental Control filters in the end-user machines through messages of email, invoices, SMS, website, etc.
5. Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has issued guidelines on 18.08.2017 to schools on the safe and secure use of Internet. This circular directs schools to install effective firewalls, filtering and monitoring software mechanisms in all the computers and deploy effective security policies.
6. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is implementing a comprehensive central sector scheme, namely “Centre for Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)” to handle all issues related to check all cyber-crime against women and children including child pornography.
7. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has published a booklet on “Child Victims of Cyber Crime – Legal Tool Kit” as a guide for investigating officers for better understanding of the cyber crime related laws in simple language.
8. POCSO E-box portal by NCPCR was opened for reporting of cyber crime targeting children on 23rd June, 2017. NCPCR has now enhanced the scope of POCSO E-box on 4th November, 2017 to also handle cyber bullying, cyber stalking, morphing of images and child pornography. The E-Box is also available as Mobile app at Google/Apple Play Store.

Grants-in-aid under PMKSY

*84. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government notifies grants-in-aid for creation/expansion of food processing and preservation capacities under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY);

(b) if so, the operational guidelines of the Government for release of such grants thereunder;

(c) the total number of States in the country having no Mega Food Parks; and

(d) the share of agri-produce, State-wise, and the reasons for not encouraging new entrepreneurs for such grants under PMKSY in the existing States having Mega Food Parks?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI HARSIMRAT KAUR BADAL): (a) Yes Sir, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has notified the operational guidelines of Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities scheme under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY).

(b) The salient features of operational guidelines for release of grants under Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities scheme are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) There are total 5 States (*i.e.* Goa, Manipur, Meghalaya, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu) and 7 UTs (*i.e.* Andaman and Nicobar islands, Chandigarh, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu, Delhi, Lakshadweep, Puduchery) having no Mega Food Parks assisted by the Ministry.

(d) The share of agri-produce, State-wise as per the statistical data available with Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is given in Statement-II (*See below*).

New Entrepreneurs are being encouraged to set up their food processing units in the Mega Food Parks because Mega Food Parks have been created with the substantial investment. The Mega Food Parks has the common facilities like Cold storages, Warehouses, Common processing facilities etc. apart from having enabling infrastructure like roads, electricity and water supply etc. The infrastructure so created in Mega Food Parks with linkages to cluster, farmers and market helps reduce the capital cost, increase viability of the project and lead to optimum utilization of the infrastructure created with Government grant.

Further, the guidelines of the Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities scheme have since been revised w.e.f. 13.12.2017 which encourages entrepreneurs to set up the food processing units not only in Mega Food Parks but also in Agro processing Clusters and Designated Food Parks notified by the Ministry from time to time.

Statement-I

*The salient features of operational guidelines for release of grants under
Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation
Capacities (CEFPPC) scheme*

The main objective of the Scheme is creation of processing and preservation capacities and modernization/expansion of existing food processing units which would

help in increasing the level of processing, value addition and thereby lead to reduction of wastage and enhancement of farmer's income.

Eligible sectors under the scheme;

Food processing sectors eligible under the scheme includes:—

- (i) Fruits and vegetables processing.
 - (ii) Milk Processing.
 - (iii) Meat/poultry/fish processing.
 - (iv) Ready to Eat/Ready to Cook Food Products/Breakfast cereals/Snacks/Bakery and other food products including nutritional health foods.
 - (v) Grains/pulses, oil seed milling and processing based on modern technology.
 - (vi) Modern Rice milling, preference will be given to Eastern (Odisha, West Bengal, Bihar and Jharkhand) and North Eastern States.
 - (vii) Other agri-horti products including spices, coconut, soybean, mushroom processing, honey processing etc.
 - (viii) Fruits/Honey based wines.
 - (ix) Natural Food flavors, food additives/food extracts and colours, oleoresins (not synthetic), guar gum, cocoa products etc.
 - (x) Processing plants that makes food products fit for human and animal consumption to be set up in Mega Food Parks.
- The activities related to manufacture of aerated water, packaged drinking water and carbonated drinks will not be considered for financial assistance under the Scheme.

Eligible organizations: Organizations such as Central and State PSUs/Joint Ventures/Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)/NGOs/Cooperatives/SHG's/Public and Pvt. companies/Limited Liability Partnerships, Corporate entity/Proprietorship firms/Partnership firms engaged or propose to engage in creation/expansion/modernization of food processing and preservation capacities would be eligible for financial assistance under the scheme.

Preference to the proposals: The order of preference for selection of projects will be as under:—

- (a) Allocation of Food processing units shall be done on the basis of notional State-wise allocation which has been derived based on agricultural production share of respective States/UTs in the total Agricultural production of the country.

- (b) The proposals for creation/expansion/modernization of food processing and preservation units will be considered in Mega Food Parks (MFPs), Agro-processing Clusters assisted by the Ministry and in designated food parks notified by the Ministry under Special Food Processing Fund created in NABARD, within the State/UT allocation. However, in States/UTs having no Mega Food Park, Agro Processing cluster or designated food park, unit may be considered anywhere.
- (c) In order to approve the proposals for financial assistance within a State, 1st preference will be given to the units being set up in the Mega Food Parks in that State, 2nd preference will be given to the Agro-cluster units and 3rd preference will be given to the units to be set up in the designated food parks notified by the Ministry from time-to-time.
- (d) In case of lack of suitable proposals with in a State, MoFPI would reserve the right to allocate such proposals to the other States with preference to units proposed in MFPs, Agro- cluster and designated food park of that State.

Pattern of assistance: The scheme envisages financial assistance to food processing units in the form of grants-in-aid as under:

- 35% of the eligible project cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 5.00 crores in General Areas;
- 50% of the eligible project cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 5.00 crores in North Eastern States including Sikkim and Difficult areas including Himalayan States (Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), State Notified ITDP areas and Islands.

Receipt of applications: Applications under the scheme will be invited through Expression of Interest (EoI). An applicant is initially required to submit their Detailed Project Report (DPR) along with loan application to the bank for appraisal and sanction of the Term loan for the project. The application for financial assistance in the prescribed format along with necessary requisite documents need to be submitted online.

Procedure for approval of applications/project proposals for financial assistance:—

- (i) The proposals found *prima facie* eligible based on the criteria will be evaluated as per the assessment criteria of these guidelines.
- (ii) The applications complete in all respect will be evaluated by the Project Management Agency (PMA) based on the assessment criteria. The proposals evaluated by the PMA will be examined by the Technical committee headed

by the concerned Joint Secretary for recommending based on merit, marks and preference.

- (iii) The proposals recommended by the Technical committee will be placed before the Inter Ministerial Approval Committee (IMAC) headed by the Hon'ble Minister, FPI. As per the decision of the IMAC, approval/rejection/modification/revision in proposal or project components, if any, will be communicated to the Applicant with suitable instructions.

Procedure for Disbursement of grant: Grant will be disbursed through bank that has sanctioned Term Loan for the project. Grant will be released in two installments each @50% of grant in the following manner:

- (i) **Release of 1st installment:** The first installment of grant would be released after the firm has utilized 50% of the Term Loan as well as 50% of promoter's contribution and on production of the requisite documents by the applicant.
- (ii) **Release of 2nd Installment:** The second installment of the grant would be released only after confirming the commencement of commercial production through joint physical verification by the PMA and bank and submission of documents regarding utilization of 1st installment of grant and 100% of Term Loan as well as 100% of Promoter's contribution as per the approved means of finances.

The detailed operational guidelines of the Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities scheme is available on Ministry's website: www.mofpi.nic.in

Statement-II

State-wise share of Agri produce

Sl.No.	State	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Overall
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.07%	6.00%	6.33%	6.32%	5.68%	6.08%
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.09%	0.12%	0.11%	0.11%	0.12%	0.11%
3.	Assam	1.57%	1.51%	1.63%	1.50%	1.76%	1.59%
4.	Bihar	5.46%	5.89%	6.14%	5.52%	5.56%	5.71%
5.	Chhattisgarh	2.01%	1.95%	2.08%	2.11%	2.18%	2.07%
6.	Goa	0.09%	0.10%	0.08%	0.09%	0.09%	0.09%
7.	Gujarat	6.54%	6.54%	6.16%	6.90%	6.57%	6.54%
8.	Haryana	4.48%	4.56%	4.39%	4.47%	4.35%	4.45%
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.80%	0.70%	0.69%	0.73%	0.70%	0.72%

Sl.No.	State	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Overall
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.13%	1.07%	0.99%	0.99%	0.94%	1.02%
11.	Jharkhand	1.34%	1.56%	1.62%	1.53%	1.60%	1.53%
12.	Karnataka	5.70%	5.40%	5.25%	5.19%	5.38%	5.38%
13.	Kerala	2.34%	2.32%	2.23%	2.20%	1.82%	2.18%
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5.69%	7.00%	8.16%	7.76%	9.10%	7.54%
15.	Maharashtra	7.17%	6.81%	6.39%	7.31%	6.34%	6.80%
16.	Manipur	0.18%	0.19%	0.16%	0.19%	0.18%	0.18%
17.	Meghalaya	0.16%	0.16%	0.16%	0.18%	0.19%	0.17%
18.	Mizoram	0.08%	0.10%	0.09%	0.10%	0.10%	0.09%
19.	Nagaland	0.15%	0.19%	0.18%	0.23%	0.23%	0.20%
20.	Odisha	2.92%	2.88%	2.99%	2.95%	3.05%	2.96%
21.	Punjab	6.46%	6.26%	6.25%	6.23%	6.08%	6.26%
22.	Rajasthan	6.68%	6.48%	6.37%	6.18%	6.81%	6.50%
23.	Sikkim	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%	0.05%
24.	Tamil Nadu	6.10%	6.14%	5.04%	5.47%	5.18%	5.59%
25.	Telangana	3.13%	2.86%	3.11%	3.14%	3.00%	3.05%
26.	Tripura	0.30%	0.29%	0.32%	0.33%	0.34%	0.32%
27.	Uttar Pradesh	14.55%	14.73%	14.75%	14.44%	14.42%	14.58%
28.	Uttarakhand	0.82%	0.80%	0.79%	0.76%	0.76%	0.79%
29.	West Bengal	7.64%	7.03%	7.24%	6.78%	7.19%	7.18%
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%
31.	Chandigarh	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
33.	Delhi	0.22%	0.20%	0.15%	0.15%	0.13%	0.17%
34.	Daman and Diu	0.01%	0.00%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
35.	Lakshadweep	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
36.	Puducherry	0.04%	0.03%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%

Source: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Special Monetary Allowance to High Court Judges in North-East

*85. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that High Court Judges in the North-East are not entitled to Special Monetary Allowances as extended to officers of North-East cadres of the All India Service; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Salary and Allowances payable to Judges of High Courts are regulated by the High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954. There is no provision of payment of Special Monetary Allowance to the Judges of High Court posted in North-East in the High Court Judges Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder.

The Judges of High Courts and All India Services Officers are governed by separate set of Acts/Rules.

Ill-effects of climate change on agriculture

*86. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether climate change has had an impact on the state of agriculture and fruiting seasons in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has devised or plans to devise any strategy/policy to combat the ill-effects of climate change on farm produce, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI RADHA MOHAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Climate change impacts on agriculture are being witnessed all over the world, but countries like India are vulnerable in view of the high population depending on agriculture, pressure on natural resources and poor coping mechanisms. In India, the impact of climate change on agriculture is expected to be more, particularly in crops like wheat. Yield decline are likely to be caused by shortening of growing period, negative impacts on reproduction, grain filling, decrease in water availability and poor vernalization. However, increase in yield has also been predicted in case of some crops.

(b) and (c) The Government has developed numerous adaptation measures to combat effect of climate change on agriculture. National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) is one of the eight Missions under the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which has been launched in 2010. The strategies and programme of action (POA) aim at transforming agriculture into an ecologically sustainable climate resilient production system by devising appropriate adaptation strategies for ensuring food security, equitable access to food resources, enhancing livelihood opportunities and contributing to economic stability at the national level. Hence the objectives of NMSA are promoting location specific integrated/composite farming systems; soil and moisture conservation measures; comprehensive soil health management; efficient water management practices and mainstreaming technologies for rainfed area development.

The impacts of climate change are global and it is likely to threaten the food security and livelihoods of millions of people in Asia, including India. The Government through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) launched the National Initiative on Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) project addressing challenges posed by climate change on agriculture.

The objective of NICRA is to minimize the crop yield losses due to extreme weather events and can improve the livelihoods of the farmers by demonstrating the technologies across the country. The NICRA project addresses the long term impacts of climate change through research and development of adaptation and mitigation strategies like generation of stress tolerant genotypes, development of conservation agriculture and carbon sequestration practices and technologies. Short-term impacts of climate variability are being addressed through location specific technology demonstrations in farmers' fields to increase the resilience in agriculture due to extreme climate events such as droughts and floods. Climate resilient practices include demonstration of drought tolerant and short duration varieties to cope with drought, flood tolerant varieties in paddy, resource conservation practices, crop diversification and integrated farming systems to enhance the food and livelihood security of farmers across 151 climatically vulnerable districts in the country.

The District Agricultural Contingency Plans (DACP) have been developed in a project mode with financial support from Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. So far 623 contingency plans have been prepared and hosted on ICAR/DAC&FW and ICAR-CRIDA websites. These plans have also been circulated to all State Agriculture Departments. The agricultural contingencies addressed various weather aberrations such as droughts, floods, cyclones, hailstorms, heat and cold waves addressing different sectors of agriculture including horticulture, livestock, poultry and

fisheries. The plans also provide suitable technological interventions to minimize the crop losses due to above weather aberrations. To bring awareness among the stake holders, ICAR in collaboration with DAC&FW has organized National and State level interface meetings in 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 before the onset of the season for preparedness assessment. Special emphasis was laid in these meetings on mechanism of implementation of the plans, refinement required and the impacts.

To insulate farmers against the loss of crop due to natural calamities, Government of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif season of 2016-17. Government of India approves Central assistance to States under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), which includes crop damage on the recommendation of the Inter Ministerial Central Team constituted on the basis of proposals received from States/UTs.

Keeping in view the impact of climate change and focusing on end to end solution in irrigation sector, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY) has been made operationalised from 2015-16. For faster implementation of 99 major and medium irrigation project by December, 2019, a mission mode implementation has been envisaged to bring 76.03 lakh ha. under irrigation. Besides, for conservation and efficient use of water, micro irrigation is being promoted. So far about 9.5 million ha area has been brought under micro irrigation.

Regularization of contractual safai karamcharies

*87. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps Railways have taken to abolish or regulate the regularization of contractual safai karamchari jobs, the details thereof;

(b) in how many stations and coaches has the cleaning work been completely mechanized during 2014-2017, the details thereof;

(c) the number of trains still running with direct discharge toilets;

(d) how many such trains have been replaced in the last three years; and

(e) the Railways' plan for the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) On the Railways, primarily the jobs relating to Safai are carried out by regularly appointed Railway servants designated as Safaiwalas/cleaners. However, in a few departments, the work of cleanliness (including mechanised cleaning) has been outsourced to external agencies

(contractors), who in turn engage safai karamcharies on contractual basis. In view of the fact that such contract staff are contract employees of contractors, there is no question of their regularization in Railways. In this connection, attention is drawn to Ministry of Personnel and Public Grievances' OM dated 11.12.2006, whereby all Ministries of the Government of India were directed to follow/implement the orders of the Apex Court (Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court) in the case of "Secretary of State of Karnataka *Vs.* Uma Devi and Others" (Civil Appeal No. 3595-3612/1999). As per this directive, appointment has to be given only by following the prescribed procedure of recruitment. Moreover, there is no provision in the Contract Labour (R&A) Act, 1970 for automatic absorption of such contract labour.

In view of aforesaid statutory provisions, Railways is statutorily barred to take any step to regularise contract workers.

(b) Integrated Mechanized Housekeeping Contracts have been awarded in around 488 stations. Mechanised coach cleaning contracts are provided in around 132 major coaching depots.

(c) 45% of coaches on Indian Railways are running with direct discharge as on 31.1.2018.

(d) Total 23104 coaches were fitted with bio-toilets during last three years.

(e) Passenger coaches are being progressively provided with bio-toilets eliminating direct discharge and a large number will be completed in the next two years.

Telecommunication projects in karnataka

*88. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress of various ongoing projects of the Central Government for better telecommunication infrastructure in Karnataka, district-wise;

(b) the reasons for inadequate pace of implementation of projects in certain districts of the State;

(c) the estimate of livelihood opportunities made available through new communications infrastructure projects implemented in the State of Karnataka after June, 2014; and

(d) the comparative figures of amount spent on communications-related projects implemented in Karnataka between 2009-14 and 2014-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The details of the progress of ongoing projects of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), Government of India *viz.*, BharatNet (initially National Optical Fibre Network), Setting up of Public Wi-Fi Networks and provision of VPTs (Village Public Telephone) in Uncovered inhabited Villages as per Census 2001 for better telecommunication infrastructure in Karnataka, are given in Statement-I (*See below*). Approximately 8,63,500 man-days of employment have been created under USOF since 2014 in Karnataka. Amount spent on communication related USOF projects in Karnataka between 2009-14 is ₹ 149.79 crore and between 2014-17 is ₹ 327.11 crore.

Centralised Network Management Systems (NMS) for MPLS and Broadband Network has started functioning from 30.11.2017. The cost of ongoing project is ₹ 2.6 crore.

A pilot project for the establishment of Telecom Testing and Certification Centre (TTSC) is under implementation at Bengaluru. Based on the pilot study a Pan-India institutional framework will be created for Telecom Testing and security certification. The test lab is expected to be functional by July 2018. After approval of Project estimate (₹ 42 crore approx.), so far payment of ₹ 6.6 crore has been made to M/s BSNL in January 2018.

The projects being undertaken by other units of DOT are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

The details of ongoing projects of Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)

1. **BharatNet (initially National Optical Fibre Network):** BharatNet Project is being implemented to connect all Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000 GPs) by broadband in the country (including 6092 GPs in Karnataka). As on 04.02.2018, a total of 6071 GPs out of total 6092 Gram Panchayats have been made Service Ready by laying 12935 km of Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) in Karnataka. District-wise status of BharatNet in Karnataka is as follows:—

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total No. of service ready GPS in the district
1.	Bagalkot	200
2.	Bangalore rural	105
3.	Bangalore urban	101
4.	Belgaum	519
5.	Bellary	205

Sl. No.	Name of district	Total no. of service ready gps in the district
6.	Bidar	186
7.	Bijapur	219
8.	Chamrajnagar	131
9.	Chickmagalur	227
10.	Chikkaballapur	157
11.	Chitradurga	190
12.	Dakshina Kannada	232
13.	Davangere	233
14.	Dharwad	144
15.	Gadag	121
16.	Gulburga	259
17.	Hassan	267
18.	Haveri	225
19.	Kodagu	104
20.	Kolar	155
21.	Koppal	158
22.	Mandya	234
23.	Mysore	268
24.	Raichur	181
25.	Ramanagara	128
26.	Shimoga	272
27.	Tumkur	331
28.	Udupi	161
29.	Uttar Kannada	232
30.	Yadgir	126
TOTAL		6071

2. Setting up of Public Wi-Fi Networks: BSNL is setting up Public Wi-Fi hotspots at 25,000 Telephone Exchanges of BSNL in rural areas of the country (including 2150 in Karnataka). Out of these, 113 have been installed and providing service. Further, Common Service Centre-Special Purpose Vehicle (CSC-SPV), under the Ministry of Electronics and IT, is setting up “Wi-Fi Choupals” in 5,000 GPs

in the country, including 65 in Karnataka which have already been installed. The District-wise details of Karnataka is as follows:—

*District-wise details of Setting up of Wi-Fi Choupals at
Gram Panchayats in Karnataka*

Sl.No.	District	No. of GPs
1.	Chikballapur	14
2.	Belgaum	51
	TOTAL	65

Statement-II

The projects being undertaken by other units of DOT

BSNL

The various BSNL projects are in progress in Karnataka Circle. The details of district wise progress are as under:—

1. BSNL Projects of Mobile Services

At present Phase VIII.4 GSM project is in progress, where BSNL has planned to add 1200 3G sites and 534 4G sites.

3G and 4G sites in Phase VIII.4 project in Karnataka circle are planned as mentioned below:—

Sl.No.	District/SSA	3G	4G
1.	Bangalore	276	27
2.	Belgaum	55	22
3.	Bellary	41	9
4.	Bidar	32	5
5.	Bijapur and Bagalkot	87	5
6.	Chickmangalore	70	24
7.	Dakshin Kannada and Udupi	88	33
8.	Davengere and Chitradurga	35	8
9.	Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri	42	26
10.	Gulbarga and Yadgir	52	8
11.	Hassan	40	10

Sl.No.	District/SSA	3G	4G
12.	Kodagu	25	28
13.	Kolar and Chikkaballapur	50	5
14.	Mandya	35	7
15.	Mysore and Chamrajanagar	85	19
16.	Raichur and Koppal	66	13
17.	Shimoga	53	20
18.	Tumkur	55	12
19.	Uttara Kannada	15	26

2. NGN Projects

At present replacement of TDM switches by NGN (Vendor M/s Utstar) Phase-2 and Conversion of CDOT MBM to MAX NG (Vendor CDOT) are in progress. BSNL has planned to replace the old life expired equipment into NGN platform. The District wise planned for conversion of TDM switches and CDOT MBM to NGN platform in Karnataka circle are as mentioned below:—

Sl.No.	District/SSA	C5 NGN (Lines)	CDOT NG (Lines)
1.	Bangalore	276128	27500
2.	Belgaum	30912	34570
3.	Bellary	NIL	25762
4.	Bidar	NIL	12161
5.	Bijapur and Bagalkot	320	25101
6.	Chickmangalore	NIL	25902
7.	Dakshin Kannada and Udupi	55936	23461
8.	Davengere and Chitradurga	14656	14552
9.	Dharwad, Gadag and Haveri	39872	25900
10.	Gulbarga and Yadgir	14016	11500
11.	Hassan	3648	14577
12.	Kodagu	NIL	22116
13.	Kolar and Chikkaballapur	NIL	25609
14.	Mandya	NIL	11693
15.	Mysore and Chamrajanagar	54880	11083
16.	Raichur and Koppal	NIL	22066

Sl.No.	District/SSA	C5 NGN (Lines)	CDOT NG (Lines)
17.	Shimoga	9632	23199
18.	Tumkur	NIL	24536
19.	Uttara Kannada	NIL	50535
TOTAL		500000	431923

3. OFC Projects

- (i) CPAN Phase I and Phase II project is in progress, where BSNL has planned to add 47 Nos. Type B2, 209 Nos. Type B1, 690 Nos. Type A1 and 22 Nos. Type A2 equipment.
- (ii) Laying of 4100 Kms. of 48F OFC planned

The District-wise planned CPAN Equipment and OFC (Kms.) in Karnataka circle are as mentioned below:—

Business Area	District/SSA	CPAN Equipment				48F OFC (Kms.)
		A1	A2	B1	B2	
2102	Bangalore	185	22	60	11	1400
2103	Belgaum	30	0	10	2	110
2104	Bellary	21	0	7	2	140
2105	Bidar	18	0	5	2	30
2106	Bijapur	30	0	12	2	150
2107	Chickmagalur	35	0	2	1	50
2108	Davangere	25	0	6	2	130
2109	Gulbarga	25	0	12	1	60
2110	Hassan	22	0	7	1	110
2111	Hubli	32	0	15	4	270
2112	Karwar	32	0	9	1	150
2113	Kolar	26	0	8	2	110
2114	Madikeri	18	0	3	3	70
2115	Mandya	15	0	5	1	50
2116	Mangalore	55	0	13	3	430
2117	Mysore	56	0	13	4	480
2118	Raichur	20	0	10	2	80
2119	Shimoga	25	0	7	1	90
2120	Tumkur	20	0	5	2	190

4. Wi-Fi Project: Wi-Fi hot spots and Wi-Fi offload Project. Cost of Project for Karnataka circle is 11.6 crore.

Sl. No.	SSA Name	Commissioned (Radiated) Sites	Sl. No.	SSA Name	Commissioned (Radiated) Sites
1.	Bangalore	26	10.	Hassan	11
2.	Belgaum	7	11.	Hubli	29
3.	Bellary	9	12.	Karwar	9
4.	Bidar	8	13.	Kolar	9
5.	Bijapur	9	14.	Mandya	6
6.	Chikmagalur	18	15.	Mysore	25
7.	Davangere	10	16.	Raichur	15
8.	Mangalore	35	17.	Shimoga	14
9.	Gulbarga	15	18.	Tumkur	8

5. FTTH/Broadband Projects

Centralised Network Management Systems (NMS) for MPLS and Broadband Network was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of State for Communications (I/C) Shri. Manoj Sinha on 30.11.2017 MNG-PAN(MPLS-TP (Multiprotocol Label Switching—Transport Profile) based Next Generation Packet Aggregation Network) Project for augmentation of backhaul of Broadband network and hence improving the browsing speed of customers. No of nodes-35, cost is ₹ 2,60,00,000/- (for ongoing project).

The cost of projects between 2009-2014 and 2014-2017 are as given below:—

(Figures in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the project	2009-2014	2014-17
1.	Phase V	547.34	-
2.	Phase VII	-	121.32
3.	Phase VII+	-	173.84
4.	NOFN	Nil	602
5.	NGN Phase-I	-	52
6.	PJF cable laying for Development works and for Mtce	76.2	60.18
7.	OFC Net work expansion	287.97	58.67

Sl.No.	Name of the project	2009-2014	2014-17
8.	Addition of Transmission equipments	45.46	25.19
9.	Wi-Fi Projects	Nil	11.6
10.	Broadband projects	9.92	-
11.	GPON Project	26.63	-
12.	MNG-PAN Project	-	7.30 (spent) 2.60 (to be spent on on going project)
TOTAL		993.52	1114.7

ITI Limited

An investment of nearly ₹ 140 Cr. has been made in the following areas in ITI Bangalore:—

- Development and manufacturing of secrecy equipments for the secured communication of Indian Defence.
- Development of Radio Modem communication systems.
- Establishment of Center of Excellence for Internet of Things.
- Setting up of 3D Printing facility.
- Establishment of world class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing to not only manufacture ITI's products, but also to offer contract manufacturing services for local/ other design houses.
- Establishment of latest machineries for mechanical fabrication of items, like racks and also machineries for injection moulding.
- Upgradation of Printed Circuit Board (PCB) plant to manufacture PCBs up to 8 layers.

In addition to the above, the company is also investing about ₹ **200 crore to expand its Data Centre capacity to serve more customers.**

Along with the investment on infrastructure, ITI has been inducting new products and implementing transfer of technology in the plant for products, like, Caller ID Phone, Antenna, Ruggedized MUX and other Defence equipments etc.

The above infrastructure will address the manufacturing requirements of ITI as well as other companies in the region and thus help in addressing electronic market

of the country. The company has also contributed in setting of Broadband network equipments in about 750 Gram Panchayats in Karanataka State during 2017 as part of BharatNet Phase I project, which aims to connect rural citizens through fiber based broadband network. With the upgradation of infrastructure, the Bangalore plant of ITI has improved its order book position to appx. ₹ 136 Cr. in the current financial year and, with the company's ambitious plans for growth, it expects much higher turnover in the coming years. This will result into higher contribution to the local region in terms of supplies, employment generation as well contribution to exchequer of Central and State Governments in terms of taxes.

As a result of all the above investments and the new projects taken up for implementation, ITI Bangalore, Karnataka, has turned around - which is a significant milestone achieved. Also, ITI, as a whole, is expected to turn around in next financial year.

MoP for appointment of judges

*89. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sent any response or consent to the revised Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), which lays down procedure for appointment of Judges in higher judiciary, as finalized by the Collegium of the Supreme Court and sent to the Ministry by the Chief Justice of India in March, 2017; and

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

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

(a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13 of 2015 for improvement in the "Collegium System", directed the Government to finalize the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) by supplementing it in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat, and mechanism to deal with complaints.

The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP and the draft MoP's were sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 13.03.2017.

Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 of Supreme Court in a “*suo moto*” contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges to the Constitutional Courts. The Government of India has conveyed the need to make improvement on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court *vide* letter dated 11.07.2017.

TRAI meeting with telecom service providers

*90. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) held meeting with telecom service providers recently to discuss issues that would be taken up during the year;

(b) if so, the deliberations made in the said meeting;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the telecom service providers put forward many suggestions to be implemented in 2018; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. An Interactive Meeting was held with the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) on 23rd January, 2018 to elicit ideas/suggestions for incorporation/formulation of areas/topics on which public consultation may be carried out or the studies/surveys may be undertaken during the year 2018.

Following issues were discussed during the meeting with TSPs:—

- (i) Provision of telecom services – infrastructure related issues
 - (ii) Consultation paper on Over-The Top (OTT)
 - (iii) Telecom as a critical infrastructure financial viability issues
 - (iv) Review of licensing framework— one nation one license
 - (v) National telecom numbering plan
 - (vi) Laying of undersea cable and its repair
 - (vii) Multiple audits in telecom sector
-

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Benefits of A2 milk**

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

(a) the steps being taken by Government to promote indigenous breeds of cows across the country;

(b) whether Government has undertaken a study regarding benefits of A2 milk; and

(c) whether there is any medium term plan to increase focus and awareness about indigenous breeds and A2 milk if they are found to be beneficial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States to promote indigenous breeds of cows across the country following steps are being undertaken by Government of India:—

- (i) Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been initiated for development and conservation of indigenous in order to promote indigenous breeds across the country.
- (ii) Two National Kamdhenu Breeding Centres are being established with the aim of development and conservation of indigenous breeds in a scientific and holistic manner.
- (iii) National Dairy Plan-I is being implemented in 18 major dairy States with aim of enhancing milk production and productivity with a focus on development and conservation of 12 indigenous breeds.
- (iv) Livestock Health and Disease control Programme is being implemented with the aim of prevention, control, containment and surveillance of animal diseases.
- (v) National Livestock Mission has a submission for enhancing availability of feed and fodder in the country and prevention of economic loss through livestock insurance.
- (vi) Government has also established three subordinate organizations namely (a) Central Cattle Breeding Farms (CCBFs) (b) Central Herd registration Scheme and (c) Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institute. These institutes are playing important role in supply of high genetic merit bulls and semen doses of indigenous breeds.

(vii) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research through its research institutes is undertaking genetic improvement and conservation of indigenous breeds,

(b) and (c) As informed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research under the National Fund Project on Delineating Beta Casein Variants in Indian cows and potential health implications of A1A2 milk, the ICAR National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal is undertaking a study on effect of A1A1, A1A2 and A2A2 milk feeding on type 1 diabetes and coronary heart disease in animal model (mice). Government of India has already initiated following schemes for increasing focus and awareness about importance of indigenous breeds of bovines and milk produced by indigenous breeds: (a) Rashtriya Gokul Mission; (b) establishment of two National Kamdhenu Breeding Centre and (c) National Dairy Plan-I.

Milk processing capacity in the country

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

(a) the total number of projects related to the Dairy sector out of the 236 cold chain projects in the country assisted by the Ministry, the State-wise details thereof, including those of Maharashtra;

(b) the total daily milk storage capacity in the country at present, including that of Maharashtra; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to enhance the milk processing capacity in the country, including Maharashtra along with the details of the milk processing capacity, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) Ministry of Food Processing Industry (MoFPI) has informed that MoFPI has been implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure under which 56 projects related to Dairy sector out of 232 Integrated Cold Chain Projects in the country. State-wise details including those of Maharashtra are given in the Statement-I (See below).

The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has been implementing Central Sector Schemes namely National Dairy Plan-I and National Programme for Dairy Development under which 189 and 35 sub-projects respectively have been approved for installation of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

bulk milk coolers at village level till 31.12.2017. State-wise details including those of Maharashtra are given in the Statement-II and III respectively (*See below*).

(b) Altogether, the total installed capacity of bulk milk coolers, milk chilling plants and milk processing plants with the cooperative sector in the country including Maharashtra is 1213.21 lakh litres per day as on 31.03.2017.

(c) This Department has been implementing following schemes to enhance the milk processing capacity in the country including Maharashtra:—

(i) National Programme for Dairy Development

(ii) Dairy Processing Infrastructure Development Fund

State-wise details of processing capacities with dairy cooperatives including Maharashtra are given in the Statement-IV.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Integrated Cold Chain Projects sanctioned by Ministry of Food Processing Industries with dairy sector project, total capacity of cold storages/Deep Freezer and Milk Processing Capacity including Maharashtra under the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure

State	Total No. of project approved by Ministry	No. of Dairy Sector project	Total Capacity of Cold Storage/ Deep Freezer (Lakh MT)	Milk Processing (Lakh Litre Per Day)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	8	2	0.011	4.80
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	0	0
Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	0
Assam	2	0	0	0
Bihar	3	1	0.0	1.30
Chhattisgarh	2	0	0	0
Gujarat	19	8	0.073	26.20
Haryana	9	0	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	12	0	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	6	1	0.00	0.48
Karnataka	9	4	0.049	2.26

1	2	3	4	5
Kerala	4	1	0.00	1.00
Madhya Pradesh	8	3	0.002	3.50
Maharashtra	52	15	0.069	34.05
Manipur	2	0	0	0
Mizoram	2	0	0	0
Nagaland	2	0	0	0
Odisha	2	0	0	0
Punjab	16	5	0.018	6.10
Rajasthan	10	4	0.001	3.60
Tamil Nadu	8	2	0.007	2.50
Telangana	7	2	0.00	3.30
Uttar Pradesh	23	6	0.011	9.40
Uttarakhand	16	2	0.00	2.0
West Bengal	8	0	0	0
TOTAL	232	56	0.241	100.49

Statement-II

State-wise bulk milk coolers with capacities approved under National Dairy Plan-I (upto 31.12.2017)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Bulk milk coolers	
			Number	Capacity ('000 litres)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6	36	135
2.	Bihar	12	30	150
3	Chhattisgarh	2	18	31
4.	Gujarat	17	695	2616
5.	Haryana	12	8	20
6.	Jharkhand	1	30	68
7.	Karnataka	22	569	1945
8.	Kerala	5	21	79
9.	Maharashtra	25	313	717

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Odisha	11	8	28
11.	Madhya Pradesh	6	22	58
12.	Punjab	15	352	637
13.	Rajasthan	17	632	1153
14.	Telangana	3	15	71
15.	Tamil Nadu	12	45	222
16.	Uttarakhand	0	0	0
17.	Uttar Pradesh	13	0	0
18.	West Bengal	10	4	20
TOTAL		189	2798	7950

Statement-III

State-wise bulk milk coolers with capacities approved under National Programme for Dairy Development (upto 31.12.2017)

Sl. No.	State	No. of Projects	Bulk Milk Coolers	
			Number	Capacity ('000 litres)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	13	9.5
2.	Chhattisgarh	1	13	26
3.	Madhya Pradesh	3	130	122.5
4.	Nagaland	1	10	5
5.	Odisha	1	8	16
6.	Punjab	3	216	248
7.	Sikkim	2	42	13.9
8.	Tamil Nadu	2	214	238
9.	Telangana	2	87	81.5
10.	Rajasthan	5	222	188
11.	Uttarakhand	1	2	2
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	10	5
13.	Jharkhand	1	48	108
14.	Assam	1	8	14

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Bihar	3	44	37.5
16.	Goa	1	57	43.5
17.	Gujarat	1	77	63.5
18.	Haryana	1	50	39.00
19.	Meghalaya	1	21	10.5
20.	Puducherry	1	15	14.5
21.	West Bengal	2	4	2.00
TOTAL		35	1291	1287.9

Statement-IV

State-wise processing capacity available with dairy cooperatives

(as on 31.03.2017)

State/Region	Installed Capacity* (TLPD)
North	
Delhi	1,500
Haryana	6,750
Himachal Pradesh	65
Jammu and Kashmir	20
Punjab	1,960
Rajasthan	2,075
Uttar Pradesh	3,333
Uttarakhand	240
SUB-TOTAL	15,943
East	
Assam	60
Bihar	2,565
Jharkhand	680
Mizoram	15
Nagaland	22
Odisha	655

State/Region	Installed Capacity* (TLPD)
Sikkim	60
Tripura	19
West Bengal	1,637
SUB-TOTAL	5,713
West	
Chhattisgarh	138
Goa	110
Gujarat	22,575
Madhya Pradesh	1,460
Maharashtra	11,092
SUB-TOTAL	35,375
South	
Andhra Pradesh	1,985
Karnataka	4,915
Kerala	1,810
Puducherry	50
Tamil Nadu	4,121
Telangana	1,005
SUB-TOTAL	13,886
ALL INDIA	70,917

*Provisional.

TLPD-Thousand Litres Per Day.

Source: National Dairy Development Board.

Setting-up of KVKs in all districts of the country

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

(a) the details of the number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country, State-wise, including Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether Government proposes to establish such Kendras in all districts of the country, if so, the details thereof and whether any target has been fixed for this; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the amount of financial assistance being given to these KVKs, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The State-wise number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) functioning in the country including Madhya Pradesh is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Yes, Sir. So far, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has established 681 KVKs in the country. Besides, the Government has approved for setting-up of 65 new KVKs in the rural districts of country. The details of the districts where New KVKs are to be set-up during 2017-18 to 2019-20 are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Yes, Sir. The ICAR has increased the financial assistance of KVKs from ₹ 830.90 crore in 2016-17 to ₹ 887.73 crore in 2017-18.

Statement-I

*State-wise details of number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras including
Madhya Pradesh*

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of KVK
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	15
4.	Assam	26
5.	Bihar	39
6.	Chhattisgarh	25
7.	Delhi	1
8.	Goa	2
9.	Gujarat	30
10.	Haryana	18
11.	Himachal Pradesh	13
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	21
13.	Jharkhand	24
14.	Karnataka	33
15.	Kerala	14

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	No. of KVK
16.	Lakshadweep	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	51
18.	Maharashtra	45
19.	Manipur	9
20.	Meghalaya	7
21.	Mizoram	8
22.	Nagaland	11
23.	Odisha	33
24.	Puducherry	3
25.	Punjab	22
26.	Rajasthan	42
27.	Sikkim	4
28.	Tamil Nadu	30
29.	Telangana	16
30.	Tripura	7
31.	Uttarakhand	13
32.	Uttar Pradesh	69
33.	West Bengal	22
TOTAL		681

Statement-II

Details of the districts where KVKs proposed to be set-up in the country during 2017-18 to 2019-20

Zone	Name of the State/Union Territory	Name of the District
Zone-I	Jammu and Kashmir [4]	(1) Baramula (additional)
		(2) Kishtwar
		(3) Ramban
		(4) Udhampur
	Uttarakhand [2]	(5) Pithoragarh
		(6) Chamoli

Zone	Name of the State/Union Territory	Name of the District
Zone-II	Rajasthan [6]	(7) Sriganganagar
		(8) Jalore
		(9) Pali
		(10) Udaipur
		(11) Sikar
		(12) Bhilwara
Zone-III	Haryana [3]	(13) Palwal
		(14) Mewat
		(15) Panchkula
		(16) Allahabad
		(17) Kheri
	Uttar Pradesh [20]	(18) Hardoi
		(19) Azamgarh
		(20) Jaunpur
		(21) Badaun
		(22) Sultanpur
		(23) Bahraich
		(24) Moradabad
		(25) Gonda
		(26) Ghazipur
		(27) Rae Bareilly
		(28) Muzaffarnagar
		(29) Shravasti
		(30) Amroha
		(31) Shamali
		(32) Hapur
		(33) Sambhal
		(34) Amethi
		(35) Kasganj

Zone	Name of the State/Union Territory	Name of the District
Zone-IV	Bihar [5]	(36) Madhubani (37) Pashchim Champaran (38) Purba Champaran (39) Samastipur (40) Gaya
Zone-V	West Bengal [4]	(41) Bankura (42) Birbhum (43) Murshidabad (44) Bardhaman
Zone-VI	Arunachal Pradesh [2]	(45) Kurung Kumey (46) Dibang Valley
Zone-VII	Tripura [1]	(47) Sepahijala
Zone-VIII	Maharashtra [5]	(48) Sangli (49) Kolhapur (50) Nagpur (51) Thane (52) Jalna
	Dadra and Nagar Haveli [1]	(53) Silvassa
	Daman and Diu [2]	(54) Daman (55) Diu
Zone-IX	Madhya Pradesh [3]	(56) Sagar (57) Chhindwara (58) Dhar
	Chhattisgarh [4]	(59) Sukma (60) Balod (61) Kondagaon (62) Surajpur
Zone-X	Tamil Nadu [2]	(63) Villupuram (64) Thiruppur
	Puducherry [1]	(65) Mahe

Assured MSP for farm produces

804. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had asked all State Governments to ensure payment of Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers for farm produces;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of States which have adhered to Central Government directive and the action proposed against those States which have not followed the same; and

(c) whether Government is considering to extend some financial assistance to the States in order to safeguard the interests of the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) There is already a mechanism to ensure payment of Minimum Support Price (MSP) to the farmers. Under which, as per prescribed guidelines, procurement is made by Government agencies at MSP in consultation with the concerned State Government when market price of notified farm produces of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) goes below MSP. Payment to the farmers is made primarily through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)/National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) and account payee cheque by the procuring agencies. However, if farmers gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market.

Remunerative price for agricultural produces

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

(a) whether agricultural growth has shrunk to 2.1 per cent during the current year, as per the recent projection, in spite of favourable monsoon conditions;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether non-provision of remunerative price for agricultural produces and non-implementation of recommendations of the Swaminathan Commission, along with demonetisation are main reasons behind agrarian crisis and large scale suicides by farmers; and

(d) 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 the First Advance Estimates of National Income 2017-18 released by the Central Statistics Office on 5th January, 2018 the growth rate of GVA of Agriculture and Allied Sector at constant (2011-12) prices for the year 2017-18 is 2.1 per cent.

The CSO's approach of estimation of GVA in Agriculture Sector is production based. Since 2016-17 marked a record production of Foodgrains and the base year 2015-16 (for calculating growth of GVA 2016-17) was a drought year, the GVA in Agriculture and Allied Sector recorded a high growth during 2016-17. Whereas, 2016-17 is the base year for estimation of GVA growth during 2017-18 therefore its effect is visible on GVA growth rate of 2017-18 in spite of a good Foodgrains production estimated for this year.

(c) and (d) The recommendations of National Commission on Farmers (NCF) headed by Dr. M.S. Swaminathan was that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. The Government fixes MSP on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Recommendations of CACP in this regard are based on objective criteria considering host of relevant factors including the cost of production.

The Budget for 2018-19 has announced that as a pre-determined principle, Government has decided to keep MSP at one and half times of the cost of production of the ensuing Kharif crop also in line with that already implemented for the rabi crops of 2018-19 marketing season.

Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif and Rabi crops for 2017-18 season on the basis of recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Government has taken several steps to ensure farmers get MSPs for agricultural produce which includes setting up of procurement centres keeping in view the potential in the areas; creating awareness among the farmers of the MSP operations; encouraging decentralized procurement; adopting e-procurement system; engaging private players in certain States to participate in procurement operations, implementing e-National Agriculture Market, promoting Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) etc.

Government implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oil seeds, pulses and cotton through Central Nodal Agencies at MSPs declared by the Government. PSS aims to provide remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production.

Further, Government also implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the PSS.

After the announcement of demonetisation, the mandi arrivals declined for a week and thereafter gradually improved during subsequent weeks. Hence, there has been very limited immediate impact for small period. Presently, the APMC's are functioning normally.

As per the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB)'s publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI), major causes of suicides reported among farmers/ cultivators are 'Bankruptcy or Indebtedness' and 'Farming Related Issues'. Other prominent causes of farmers/cultivators suicides are family problems, illness etc.

Merger of telecom players

806. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has approved merger of some telecom players;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps to protect telecom consumers from monopolistic/oligopolistic hegemony of collusive telecom players; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department has been processing the requests for transfer/merger of license(s), as and when received from telecom service providers, as per the Merger and Acquisition Guidelines dated 20.02.2014, amended from time to time. The cases of transfer/merger of license(s) have been processed by the Department, subsequent to approval of scheme of amalgamation of companies by the Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)/Hon'ble High Court(s).

In the recent past, the Department has approved the acquisition of telecom business of M/s Sistema Shyam Tele Services Limited (M/s SSTL) by M/s Reliance Communications Limited (M/s RCOM). The Department has also approved the merger of M/s Augere Wireless Broadband Services India Pvt. Ltd. with M/s Bharti Airtel Limited subject to the final outcome of the judicial proceedings in the Telecom Petition 06 of 2017 before the Hon'ble Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) and appeal thereof, if any.

In the following recent cases of mergers in the telecom sector, the proposed scheme of amalgamation of companies is yet to be approved by the Hon'ble NCLT:—

- (i) Merger of M/s Telenor (India) Communications Limited with M/s Bharti Airtel Limited;
- (ii) Merger of M/s Vodafone Group entities with M/s Idea Cellular Limited; and
- (iii) Merger of M/s Tikona Digital Networks with Bharti Airtel Limited.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Transfer/merger of telecom licenses is permitted only if the resultant entity fulfils the conditions as prescribed in the Merger and Acquisition Guidelines dated 20.02.2014 which *inter alia* include:—

“3...

- (g) Taking into consideration the spectrum cap of 50% in a band for access services, transfer/merger of licences consequent to compromise, arrangements or amalgamation of companies shall be allowed where market share for access services in respective service area of the resultant entity is upto 50%. In case the merger or acquisition or amalgamation proposals results in market share in any service area(s) exceeding 50%, the resultant entity should reduce its market share to the limit of 50% within a period of one year from the date of approval of merger or acquisition or amalgamation by the competent authority. If the resultant entity fails to reduce its market share to the limit of 50% within the specified period of one year, then suitable action shall be initiated by the licensor.
- (h) For determining the aforesaid market share, market share of both subscriber base and Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) of licensee in the relevant market shall be considered. The entire access market will be the relevant market for determining the market share which will include wireline as well as wireless subscribers. Exchange Data Records (EDR) shall be used in the calculation of wireline subscribers and Visitor Location Register (VLR) data or equivalent, in the calculation of wireless subscribers for the purpose of computing market share based on subscriber base. The reference date for taking into account EDR/VLR data of equivalent shall be 31st December or 30th June of each year depending on the date of application. The duly audited AGR shall be the basis of computing revenue based market share for operators in the relevant market. The date for duly audited AGR would be 31st March of the preceding year.
- (k) Consequent upon the implementation of scheme of compromises, arrangements or amalgamation and merger of licenses in a service area thereupon, the total spectrum held by the Resultant entity shall

not exceed 25% of the total spectrum assigned for access services and 50% of the spectrum assigned in a given band, by way of auction or otherwise, in the concerned service area. The bands will be as counted for such cap in respective NIAs for auction of spectrum. In respect of 800 MHz band, the ceiling will be 10 Mhz. Moreover, the relevant conditions pertaining to auction of that spectrum shall apply. In case of future auctions, the relevant conditions prescribed for such auction shall be applicable. However, in case transferor and transferee company had been allocated one block of 3G spectrum through the auction conducted for 3G/BWA spectrum in 2010, the resultant entity shall also be allowed to retain two blocks of 3G spectrum in respective service areas as a result of compromises, arrangements and amalgamation of the companies and Transfer/Merger of various categories of Telecommunication service licences/authorization under Unified Licence (UL), being within 50% of spectrum band cap.

- (I) If, as a result of merger, the total spectrum held by the relevant entity is beyond the limits prescribed, the excess spectrum must be surrendered within one year of the permission being granted. The applicable Spectrum Usage Charges on the total spectrum holding of the resultant entity shall be levied for such period. If the spectrum beyond prescribed limit is not surrendered by the merged entity within one year, then, separate action in such cases, under the respective licenses/statutory provisions, may be taken by the Government for non surrender of the excess spectrum. However, no refund or set off of money paid and/or payable for excess spectrum will be made...”

Supply of cow milk and agricultural produces

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

(a) whether Government is formulating/running any special scheme to enhance the supply of cow milk, vegetables and other agricultural produces, if so, the details of the scheme in this regard;

(b) whether Government has consulted the State Governments in this regard or received suggestions from them, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds spent under the above scheme during the last three years, State-wise?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHIRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) to (c) The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries is implementing the schemes namely National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) and National Dairy Plan-I (NDP-I) for dairy development including cow milk throughout the country in all States/UTs. No separate project proposal under these schemes have been received or approved by the Department. However, eligible organizations are free to send proposal for cow milk procurement, processing and marketing under National Programme for Dairy Development.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is implementing Mission for integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a centrally Sponsored scheme w.e.f. 2014-15 for holistic growth of the horticulture sector covering fruits, vegetables, root and tuber crops, mushrooms, spices, flowers, aromatic plants, coconut, cashew, cocoa and bamboo. Mission subsumes National Horticulture Mission (NHM), Horticulture Mission for North East and Himalayan States (HMNEH), National Horticulture Board. The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables through various interventions. Activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Integrated Nutrient Management (INM), organic farming, including *insitu* generation of organic inputs are taken up for development of fruits and vegetables. Capacity buildings of farmers and technicians are also provided for adopting improved technologies. Scheme also envisages creation of infrastructure for post harvest management (PHM) and marketing for better price realization of produce.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) is also implementing following schemes for the overall development of agriculture:—

- (a) National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
- (b) National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)
- (c) Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
- (d) Soil Health Management (SHM)
- (e) Soil Health Card (SHC)
- (f) Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms (ATMA)
- (g) National E-Governance Plan Agriculture
- (h) Pramaparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) (i) Per Drop More Crop [Micro Irrigation]

- (j) Sub Mission on Agro forestry
- (k) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana
- (l) Sum Mission on Agriculture Mechanization under NMAET (SMAM)
- (m) Submission on Seeds and Planting Material under NMAET (SMSP)
- (n) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
- (o) On Farm Water Management (OFWM)

Fund Released in the last three years under the above mentioned schemes are given in the Statement-I to XVIII.

Statement-I

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) for the last three years

		(₹ in crore)		
Sl. No.	State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	3.50	4.36
2.	Bihar	3.00	10.59	12.87
3.	Chhattisgarh	1.50	2.04	1.75
4.	Gujarat	1.19	0.00	0
5.	Haryana	0.00	0.28	0
6.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.65	0.00	5.05
8.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	3.08
9.	Karnataka	2.00	4.46	0.00
10.	Kerala	25.24	1.06	13.05
11.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	3.64	1.55
12.	Maharashtra	1.38	0.00	0.00
13.	Orissa	3.07	10.67	12.43
14.	Punjab	7.60	20.92	17.78
15.	Rajasthan	1.16	2.30	9.02
16.	Tamil Nadu	15.01	2.00	6.89
17.	Telangana	0.00	2.92	4.32
18.	Uttar Pradesh	2.63	1.46	3.00

Sl. No.	State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
19.	Uttarakhand	8.00	0.00	7.03
20.	West Bengal	0.52	0.00	0.00
21.	Assam	0.00	0.00	4.68
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.94	3.72	3.07
23.	Manipur	2.58	0.00	0.00
24.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
25.	Mizoram	0.17	0.00	4.38
26.	Nagaland	1.90	1.00	1.00
27.	Tripura	6.42	0.00	0.00
28.	Sikkim	1.99	3.39	4.36
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00	0.00	0.00
30.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		89.95	73.95	119.70

Statement-II

*Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs
under National Dairy Plan-I since inception*

(₹ in crores)

State	No. of Approved Sub Projects	Grant Assistance	Grant Assistance till 2017-18	Fund Released till 11 Dec 2017
		A	B	C
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	16	73.73	65.08	55.39
Bihar	29	64.46	49.83	37.04

1	2	3	4	5
Chhattisgarh	4	12.08	8.34	5.16
Gujarat	51	334.70	301.41	255.87
Haryana	24	72.93	59.55	43.13
Jharkhand	2	5.00	5.00	3.54
Karnataka	43	175.22	154.24	130.71
Kerala	13	40.81	36.20	29.57
Madhya Pradesh	16	24.06	23.16	19.14
Maharashtra	44	103.95	101.52	85.85
Odisha	21	27.73	24.51	18.18
Punjab	27	116.82	94.19	76.96
Rajasthan	37	218.75	198.95	179.49
Tamil Nadu	27	116.90	91.73	71.20
Telangana	8	21.97	21.35	17.75
Uttar Pradesh	27	162.66	133.78	117.85
Uttarakhand	7	26.09	22.88	16.06
West Bengal	18	30.67	29.94	21.72
Centralised	1	23.15	23.15	12.93
TOTAL	414	1628.53	1421.66	1184.61

Statement-III

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Mission for Integrated Development (MIDH), for the last three years:

*Details of funds Allocation and Releases under MIDH
from 2014-15 to 2016-17*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
		Releases	Releases	Releases
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	64.68	55.75	64.02
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	23.77	35.50	0.00
3.	Assam	29.09	20.00	22.00

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Bihar	17.00	4.00	17.96
5.	Chhattisgarh	111.88	77.55	61.47
6.	Goa	0.00	2.30	1.65
7.	Gujarat	109.47	47.82	65.45
8.	Haryana	65.45	50.75	59.55
9.	Himachal Pradesh	42.42	24.49	24.25
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	45.00	52.00	96.09
11.	Jharkhand	49.69	25.79	30.13
12.	Karnataka	96.08	67.69	69.50
13.	Kerala	40.00	25.00	15.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	42.23	40.50	35.62
15.	Maharashtra	140.00	96.25	50.44
16.	Manipur	44.17	35.75	10.00
17.	Meghalaya	27.60	18.00	18.75
18.	Mizoram	41.00	34.50	31.50
19.	Nagaland	34.76	17.25	15.00
20.	Odisha	71.75	54.45	43.68
21.	Punjab	58.50	30.35	30.00
22.	Rajasthan	42.67	45.00	43.13
23.	Sikkim	44.50	33.25	25.25
24.	Tamil Nadu	55.36	58.73	47.14
25.	Telangana	45.00	35.25	20.96
26.	Tripura	37.00	32.75	23.50
27.	Uttar Pradesh	37.32	22.00	31.96
28.	Uttarakhand	32.73	22.50	47.50
29.	West Bengal	18.74	28.00	8.00
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1.42	2.50	0.00
31.	Puducherry	0.86	0.50	1.00
32.	Chandigarh	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0.00	0.00
34.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
36.	Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		1470.14	1096.17	1010.49

Note: During 2016-17, an amount of ₹ 47.89 crore and during 2017-18, an amount of ₹ 75.00 crore released for Prime Minister's Development Package 2015 for Jammu and Kashmir.

Statement-IV

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under NFSM from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75.64	50.12	47.62
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.50	13.93	5.15
3.	Assam	95.82	67.84	39.28
4.	Bihar	74.68	55.79	35.62
5.	Chhattisgarh	47.94	37.50	53.39
6.	Goa		0.00	0.29
7.	Gujarat	13.92	9.22	21.36
8.	Haryana	36.49	11.39	10.40
9.	Himachal Pradesh	17.98	8.55	15.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	10.20	6.48	7.13
11.	Jharkhand	23.35	29.46	9.41
12.	Karnataka	134.19	52.11	99.29
13.	Kerala	3.13	0.77	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	214.71	134.11	185.08
15.	Maharashtra	194.71	111.64	139.96
16.	Manipur	14.82	13.02	7.40

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
17.	Meghalaya	9.63	6.23	3.15
18.	Mizoram	7.08	2.03	1.13
19.	Nagaland	19.41	11.75	10.90
20.	Odisha	53.98	67.70	34.67
21.	Punjab	40.83	14.05	9.85
22.	Rajasthan	213.88	106.54	103.44
23.	Sikkim	2.42	3.24	3.84
24.	Tamil Nadu	73.49	35.87	44.52
25.	Telangana	66.03	38.79	8.29
26.	Tripura	29.66	18.94	6.08
27.	Uttar Pradesh	254.85	120.16	92.93
28.	Uttarakhand	8.98	6.67	9.74
29.	West Bengal	54.32	33.13	56.02
TOTAL		1799.64	1067.03	1061.77

Statement-V

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under NMOOP from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	57.62	39.57	30.83
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.04	2.18	5.30
3.	Assam	8.86	8.87	0.00
4.	Bihar	1.54	1.70	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	3.20	3.19	4.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	14.01	6.47	23.34
8.	Haryana	2.42	8.31	0.00

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.01	0.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	1.19	0.00	1.27
12.	Karnataka	20.22	13.36	15.83
13.	Kerala	0.41	0.02	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	45.06	26.15	25.78
15.	Maharashtra	34.08	19.83	36.52
16.	Manipur	1.98	0.67	0.91
17.	Meghalaya	0.63	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	6.68	5.07	10.86
19.	Nagaland	4.55	1.20	6.03
20.	Odisha	9.26	5.58	8.42
21.	Punjab	0.40	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	47.85	34.91	24.76
23.	Sikkim	0.69	0.30	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	8.43	8.06	7.83
25.	Telangana	6.19	9.68	0.00
26.	Tripura	5.12	2.62	0.62
27.	Uttar Pradesh	11.73	13.19	4.15
28.	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.70	0.51
29.	West Bengal	6.03	9.85	5.00
TOTAL		301.20	221.47	211.97

Statement-VI

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Rainfed Area Development (RAD), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under RAD from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13.00	19.50	18.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	4.73	3.00	4.00

Sl.No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
3.	Assam	3.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	5.00	2.50	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	11.44	5.50	2.40
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	22.50	5.00	5.46
8.	Haryana	0.00	1.57	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	7.58	7.00	6.83
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.50	1.00	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	10.00	6.02	7.00
12.	Karnataka	15.00	5.00	4.00
13.	Kerala	5.00	1.50	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	24.98	11.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	40.00	25.00	26.63
16.	Manipur	5.00	3.50	4.25
17.	Meghalaya	4.84	1.50	1.50
18.	Mizoram	4.88	3.00	6.53
19.	Nagaland	5.46	6.00	9.00
20.	Odisha	13.00	15.27	18.35
21.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	25.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Sikkim	4.60	1.04	3.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	30.00	31.83	33.50
25.	Telangana	10.00	12.60	9.60
26.	Tripura	4.50	3.50	5.20
27.	Uttar Pradesh	20.00	11.82	16.43
28.	Uttarakhand	7.00	7.00	8.00
29.	West Bengal	5.00	6.00	10.51
TOTAL		304.00	196.65	200.19

Statement-VII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Soil Health Management (SHM), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under SHM from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3.93	2.89	6.52
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.62	0.00	0.51
3.	Assam	1.82	1.02	0.00
4.	Bihar	5.52	1.52	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.22	2.25	6.20
6.	Goa	1.90	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	2.58
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.99	0.91	1.81
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.36	0.25	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.17	3.37
12.	Karnataka	0.50	2.93	9.27
13.	Kerala	1.01	0.40	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5.60	0.00	38.77
15.	Maharashtra	5.04	3.20	17.21
16.	Manipur	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.42
18.	Mizoram	0.08	0.00	0.44
19.	Nagaland	0.40	0.41	0.00
20.	Odisha	1.51	1.97	0.00
21.	Punjab	1.75	0.00	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	0.00	7.71	0.00

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
23.	Sikkim	6.12	0.15	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1.85	3.06	0.60
25.	Telangana	3.70	1.68	4.41
26.	Tripura	0.50	0.28	2.89
27.	Uttar Pradesh	6.79	8.38	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.20	0.00
29.	West Bengal	3.75	4.78	0.00
TOTAL		62.98	44.15	95.00

Statement-VIII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Soil Health Card (SHC), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under SHC from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.24	4.58	13.94
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.12	0.17	0.37
3.	Assam	0.51	1.42	3.65
4.	Bihar	2.53	4.88	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	0.66	2.81	3.43
6.	Goa	0.12	0.12	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.81	6.03	5.29
8.	Haryana	0.34	2.88	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.24	0.47	0.29
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.32	0.77	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	0.51	0.54	0.64
12.	Karnataka	1.27	6.50	10.30
13.	Kerala	1.13	0.61	0.00

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1.43	8.88	13.74
15.	Maharashtra	2.16	9.32	19.11
16.	Manipur	0.13	0.18	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.14	0.21	0.00
18.	Mizoram	0.12	0.14	0.06
19.	Nagaland	0.13	0.22	0.18
20.	Odisha	0.80	2.70	3.04
21.	Punjab	0.26	3.05	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	1.43	8.76	11.08
23.	Sikkim	0.12	0.12	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	1.32	4.70	6.45
25.	Telangana	0.93	3.53	4.68
26.	Tripura	0.18	0.23	0.59
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3.54	17.16	24.42
28.	Uttarakhand	0.23	0.65	1.45
29.	West Bengal	1.17	4.80	10.95
TOTAL		23.90	96.44	133.67

Statement-IX

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms (ATMA), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under ATMA from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22.64	11.41	13.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.13	5.78	11.35
3.	Assam	7.49	6.82	5.83

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
4.	Bihar	23.61	27.72	29.24
5.	Chhattisgarh	11.83	10.10	17.14
6.	Goa	0.00	0.19	1.14
7.	Gujarat	44.86	24.80	21.93
8.	Haryana	2.83	5.44	3.34
9.	Himachal Pradesh	11.85	8.66	8.07
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	3.24	5.30	6.79
11.	Jharkhand	15.06	13.27	16.53
12.	Karnataka	11.47	20.09	8.41
13.	Kerala	17.68	6.57	11.81
14.	Madhya Pradesh	50.06	35.46	29.70
15.	Maharashtra	34.13	24.81	27.66
16.	Manipur	6.71	8.36	3.69
17.	Meghalaya	1.72	1.30	3.74
18.	Mizoram	2.44	3.87	4.23
19.	Nagaland	7.56	10.69	10.75
20.	Odisha	44.48	24.26	28.42
21.	Punjab	19.95	7.15	9.00
22.	Rajasthan	24.43	15.48	29.25
23.	Sikkim	3.51	2.14	1.32
24.	Tamil Nadu	36.94	25.07	21.09
25.	Telangana	13.47	7.44	3.77
26.	Tripura	1.94	1.38	1.27
27.	Uttar Pradesh	69.98	59.43	45.87
28.	Uttarakhand	6.96	5.58	6.34
29.	West Bengal	17.14	25.12	27.05
TOTAL		521.12	403.70	407.87

Statement-X

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under National E-Governance Plan Agriculture (NEGP-A), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under NEGP-A from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.06	1.55	1.24
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.74	0.79	0.81
3.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Bihar	3.00	2.14	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	1.16	0.80	0.64
6.	Goa	0.10	0.14	0.00
7.	Gujarat	1.76	1.21	0.00
8.	Haryana	0.95	0.67	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0.18	0.00	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.02	0.72	0.58
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
12.	Karnataka	0.00	0.00	1.15
13.	Kerala	0.75	2.31	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1.63	0.00	0.00
15.	Maharashtra	0.47	0.00	0.00
16.	Manipur	0.47	0.33	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	0.40	0.28	0.22
18.	Mizoram	0.33	0.22	0.33
19.	Nagaland	0.56	0.84	0.32
20.	Odisha	1.93	1.36	1.13
21.	Punjab	1.04	0.74	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	1.78	2.43	0.99
23.	Sikkim	0.24	0.19	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	2.24	1.71	2.97

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
25.	Telangana	0.67	0.74	0.58
26.	Tripura	0.41	0.28	0.44
27.	Uttar Pradesh	4.84	3.39	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	0.74	0.51	0.79
29.	West Bengal	1.85	1.39	1.19
TOTAL		30.32	24.74	13.36

Statement-XI

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/Us under Pramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under PKVY from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	11.00	7.98
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.51	0.81
3.	Assam	-	5.76	0.00
4.	Bihar	-	10.50	6.64
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	6.04	3.15
6.	Goa	-	0.07	0.00
7.	Gujarat	-	1.78	2.39
8.	Haryana	-	0.54	0.46
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	3.95	0.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.75	0.88
11.	Jharkhand	-	3.21	2.03
12.	Karnataka	-	19.45	8.15
13.	Kerala	-	3.82	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	28.27	17.88
15.	Maharashtra	-	25.99	29.58
16.	Manipur	-	1.07	0.00

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
17.	Meghalaya	-	1.45	2.96
18.	Mizoram	-	0.89	1.39
19.	Nagaland	-	1.54	0.00
20.	Odisha	-	10.28	6.50
21.	Punjab	-	1.61	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	-	23.74	14.91
23.	Sikkim	-	4.09	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	4.00	2.07
25.	Telangana	-	10.71	4.49
26.	Tripura	-	1.34	3.09
27.	Uttar Pradesh	-	20.52	12.71
28.	Uttarakhand	-	19.63	20.19
29.	West Bengal	-	2.14	3.94
TOTAL		-	224.65	152.19

Statement-XII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Per Drop More Crop [Micro Irrigation], for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under Per Drop More Crop [Micro Irrigation] from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	177.68	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	0.00	-
3.	Assam	-	0.50	-
4.	Bihar	-	10.00	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	7.50	-
6.	Goa	-	0.00	-
7.	Gujarat	-	204.10	-
8.	Haryana	-	16.94	-

Sl.No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	0.75	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	0.00	-
11.	Jharkhand	-	0.00	-
12.	Karnataka	-	111.75	-
13.	Kerala	-	0.86	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	134.33	-
15.	Maharashtra	-	88.38	-
16.	Manipur	-	1.36	-
17.	Meghalaya	-	0.00	-
18.	Mizoram	-	2.25	-
19.	Nagaland	-	0.00	-
20.	Odisha	-	8.35	-
21.	Punjab	-	0.00	-
22.	Rajasthan	-	52.37	-
23.	Sikkim	-	4.26	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	72.75	-
25.	Telangana	-	95.15	-
26.	Tripura	-	0.00	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	-	7.50	-
28.	Uttarakhand	-	3.50	-
29.	West Bengal	-	0.00	-
TOTAL		-	1000.28	-

Statement-XIII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Sub-mission on Agro-forestry, for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under Sub-mission on Agro-forestry from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-	3.15
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-	0.00
3.	Assam	-	-	0.00
4.	Bihar	-	-	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	-	0.00
6.	Goa	-	-	0.00
7.	Gujarat	-	-	4.50
8.	Haryana	-	-	1.75
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-	1.15
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	0.00
11.	Jharkhand	-	-	0.00
12.	Karnataka	-	-	3.25
13.	Kerala	-	-	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	-	4.20
15.	Maharashtra	-	-	0.00
16.	Manipur	-	-	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	-	-	0.00
18.	Mizoram	-	-	0.00
19.	Nagaland	-	-	0.00
20.	Odisha	-	-	0.00
21.	Punjab	-	-	2.00
22.	Rajasthan	-	-	0.00
23.	Sikkim	-	-	0.00

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	-	2.50
25.	Telangana	-	-	0.00
26.	Tripura	-	-	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	-	-	0.00
28.	Uttarakhand	-	-	0.00
29.	West Bengal	-	-	0.00
TOTAL		-	-	22.50

Statement-XIV

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (Erstwhile National Mission on Micro Irrigation, for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (Erstwhile National Mission on Micro Irrigation) from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16 (other Interventions)	2016-17 (micro irrigation)	2016-17 (other Interventions)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	28.79	265.69	43.00
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	2.60	0.00	2.00
3.	Assam	-	4.53	0.00	11.00
4.	Bihar	-	18.60	0.00	21.60
5.	Chhattisgarh	-	12.80	24.00	20.80
6.	Goa	-	0.30	0.30	0.50
7.	Gujarat	-	8.95	250.00	24.00
8.	Haryana	-	18.03	24.00	3.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	-	6.85	0.50	8.00
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	-	4.87	0.00	5.40
11.	Jharkhand	-	14.97	12.00	18.70

1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	Karnataka	-	101.37	169.00	60.00
13.	Kerala	-	7.67	0.00	0.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	-	27.41	84.00	37.10
15.	Maharashtra	-	18.88	247.50	58.30
16.	Manipur	-	1.40	0.00	3.60
17.	Meghalaya	-	1.43	0.00	0.00
18.	Mizoram	-	1.02	3.90	4.20
19.	Nagaland	-	2.34	0.00	4.50
20.	Odisha	-	20.35	10.80	29.00
21.	Punjab	-	43.00	1.20	0.00
22.	Rajasthan	-	90.47	72.00	57.00
23.	Sikkim	-	0.60	3.90	1.50
24.	Tamil Nadu	-	57.03	110.00	33.50
25.	Telangana	-	16.17	165.00	24.00
26.	Tripura	-	1.55	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	-	30.01	12.00	29.20
28.	Uttarakhand	-	6.10	10.00	5.00
29.	West Bengal	-	4.80	3.90	16.00
TOTAL		-	552.89	1469.69	520.90

Statement-XV

*Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs
under Sub-mission on Agricultural Mechanization under
NMAET (SMAM) for the last three years*

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under NMAET from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10.54	7.28	48.99
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.49	1.88	1.33
3.	Assam	5.62	0.00	1.08

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
4.	Bihar	9.01	0.00	14.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	5.19	4.00	10.00
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	7.94	7.55	6.00
8.	Haryana	2.55	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.02	0.75	4.95
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.18	0.95	3.64
11.	Jharkhand	3.58	2.54	2.25
12.	Karnataka	9.62	0.00	44.41
13.	Kerala	2.37	0.00	1.00
14.	Madhya Pradesh	13.92	26.02	20.00
15.	Maharashtra	20.34	15.96	15.00
16.	Manipur	1.10	2.91	0.00
17.	Meghalaya	1.25	0.00	0.90
18.	Mizoram	0.50	2.03	2.00
19.	Nagaland	0.62	2.85	3.33
20.	Odisha	7.09	5.67	35.78
21.	Punjab	2.09	0.00	52.09
22.	Rajasthan	15.80	0.00	4.25
23.	Sikkim	0.19	0.65	1.44
24.	Tamil Nadu	8.44	21.39	30.30
25.	Telangana	6.93	4.76	5.97
26.	Tripura	0.39	2.44	2.00
27.	Uttar Pradesh	21.21	16.51	37.98
28.	Uttarakhand	0.91	0.78	2.56
29.	West Bengal	5.98	5.65	4.00
TOTAL		165.87	132.57	355.25

Statement-XVI

*Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs
under Sub-mission on Seeds and Planting Material under
NMAET (SMSP) for the last three years*

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under NMAET from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.11	9.69	9.40
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.37	0.63	0.00
3.	Assam	18.87	15.00	12.64
4.	Bihar	7.29	7.12	7.05
5.	Chhattisgarh	17.82	3.26	5.94
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Gujarat	0.08	0.79	0.12
8.	Haryana	0.01	0.13	0.04
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.00	2.71	4.19
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2.41	5.74	7.40
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	
12.	Karnataka	1.16	7.39	6.56
13.	Kerala	1.56	0.25	0.35
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11.20	9.34	20.30
15.	Maharashtra	10.45	1.29	6.73
16.	Manipur	0.25	0.04	0.54
17.	Meghalaya	0.34	0.98	0.68
18.	Mizoram	0.00	0.00	0.25
19.	Nagaland	1.71	1.31	-
20.	Odisha	16.68	0.00	0.93
21.	Punjab	2.70	3.28	0.61
22.	Rajasthan	7.82	5.43	3.89
23.	Sikkim	0.05	0.00	-

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
24.	Tamil Nadu	14.38	9.97	8.40
25.	Telangana	3.93	9.73	9.99
26.	Tripura	3.25	0.00	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	14.00	12.55	7.99
28.	Uttarakhand	2.22	3.97	2.82
29.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	-
TOTAL		150.66	110.60	116.82

Statement-XVII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under RKVY from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	263.54	192.66	222.59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	13.92	31.55	11.92
3.	Assam	267.71	94.10	210.45
4.	Bihar	545.73	111.20	90.61
5.	Chhattisgarh	341.75	145.07	193.04
6.	Goa	0.00	21.70	10.35
7.	Gujarat	290.03	174.55	155.31
8.	Haryana	254.68	141.54	126.85
9.	Himachal Pradesh	86.11	28.30	52.76
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	78.25	37.36	38.49
11.	Jharkhand	153.15	78.32	72.72
12.	Karnataka	632.22	346.93	242.31
13.	Kerala	300.70	90.48	92.76
14.	Madhya Pradesh	511.78	264.09	293.49
15.	Maharashtra	942.09	438.00	250.91

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
16.	Manipur	43.00	20.46	12.83
17.	Meghalaya	60.64	8.26	10.63
18.	Mizoram	113.92	19.39	20.58
19.	Nagaland	52.75	25.25	34.94
20.	Odisha	482.07	292.36	334.91
21.	Punjab	413.71	107.97	95.81
22.	Rajasthan	695.28	325.97	261.98
23.	Sikkim	9.49	4.07	14.40
24.	Tamil Nadu	298.95	259.74	204.87
25.	Telangana	179.64	135.91	256.99
26.	Tripura	80.27	21.54	34.41
27.	Uttar Pradesh	589.47	177.41	201.89
28.	Uttarakhand	80.70	36.20	46.57
29.	West Bengal	582.34	284.56	280.78
TOTAL		8363.89	3914.94	3876.15

Statement-XVIII

Details of financial assistance provided by the Government to States/UTs under On Farm Water Management (OFWM) for the last three years

Details of funds Allocation and Releases under OFWM from 2014-15 to 2016-17

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1.	Andhra Pradesh	121.48	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.00	-	-
3.	Assam	1.00	-	-
4.	Bihar	35.00	-	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	10.00	-	-
6.	Goa	0.20	-	-

Sl. No.	States/Implementing Agency	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
7.	Gujarat	140.68	-	-
8.	Haryana	23.00	-	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.50	-	-
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	-	-
11.	Jharkhand	15.00	-	-
12.	Karnataka	124.25	-	-
13.	Kerala	3.75	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	66.50	-	-
15.	Maharashtra	177.50	-	-
16.	Manipur	2.72	-	-
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	-	-
18.	Mizoram	4.50	-	-
19.	Nagaland	0.00	-	-
20.	Odisha	10.14	-	-
21.	Punjab	0.00	-	-
22.	Rajasthan	75.00	-	-
23.	Sikkim	4.26	-	-
24.	Tamil Nadu	56.63	-	-
25.	Telangana	77.57	-	-
26.	Tripura	2.00	-	-
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3.00	-	-
28.	Uttarakhand	6.97	-	-
29.	West Bengal	0.00	-	-
TOTAL		962.65	-	-

Deaths due to occupational exposure to pesticides

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

(a) whether there have been deaths due to occupational exposure to pesticides in the States of Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Telangana in 2017-18 in addition to Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including deaths and hospitalisations from each State and the districts affected;

(c) the names of common pesticides involved in these cases; and

(d) whether Government plans to ban or prohibit the use of these pesticides to protect public health?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the concerned Agriculture Departments, no deaths have been reported in States of Odisha and Telangana due to occupational exposures to pesticides in 2017-18. The Maharashtra Agriculture Department has informed that death of 63 farm labours/farmers have been reported due to handling of pesticides. The details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*), whereas, the Tamil Nadu Agriculture department has informed that 3 farmers have died due to excessive usage of pesticides and lack of safety measures while spraying.

(c) As per the information received from Maharashtra Agriculture Department, the suspected pesticides for poisoning are: Monocrotophos 36% SL, Profenophos 40% + Cypermethrin 4% EC, Fipronil 40% + Imidacloprid 40% WG, Acephate 75% SC and Difenthiuron 50% WP.

(d) The Registration Committee, constituted under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides after considering its efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. Pesticides used as per approved labels and leaflets are unlikely to cause any harm to human health. In additions, technical reviews are carried out from time to time to assess the safety of pesticides for their continued use. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) has constituted an expert committee in July, 2013, to review 66 pesticides that are banned, restricted, withdrawn in one or more countries but continued to be registered in India. The Expert Committee, *inter alia*, recommended 13 pesticides to be completely banned, 27 pesticides to be reviewed in 2018 after completion of certain technical

studies and 6 pesticides to be phased out by 2020. The Complete list is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Considering the recommendation of Expert Committee as accorded by the Registration Committee, the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, *vide* its Notification S.O. 4212(E) dated 15th December, 2016, had invited objections and suggestions from the public/stakeholders on banning/phasing out of certain pesticides. The details are given in the Statement-III (*See below*). In response to the Notification S.O. 4212(E) dated 15th December, 2016, the Ministry has received various objections and suggestions. Keeping in view of which, a committee has been constituted to review the received objections and suggestions.

Statement-I

*No. of farm labours/farmers affected due to pesticides
poisoning in Maharashtra*

Sl. No.	District	Casualties due to pesticide poisoning of farm labours/farmers
1.	Dhule	1
2.	Nandurbar	1
3.	Jalgaon	2
4.	Ahmadnagar	1
5.	Solapur	2
6.	Nanded	4
7.	Amravati	2
8.	Buldana	2
9.	Akola	9
10.	Yavatmal	21
11.	Nagpur	7
12.	Wardha	1
13.	Bhandara	3
14.	Chandrapur	4
15.	Gadchiroli	3
TOTAL		63

Statement-II*Recommendation of the Expert Committee with respect to 66 pesticides*

Sl. No.	Category	No. of pesticides	Name of the Pesticides
1	2	3	4
1.	I—to be continued	18	Aluminium phosphide, Bifenthrin, Carbosulfan, chlorfenapyr, Chlorothalonil, Dazomet, Diflubenzuron, Ethofenprox, Fenpropathrin, Iprodione, Kasugamycin, Mepiquat chloride, Metaldehyde, Paraquat dichloride, Pretilachlor, Propargite, Propineb and Zinc phosphide
2.	II—to be reviewed again in 2018, after completion of the recommended studies	27	Acephate, Atrazine, Benfuracarb, Butachlor, Captan, Carbendazim, Carbofuran, Chlorpyrifos, Deltamethrin, Dicofol, Dimethoate, Dinocap, Diuron, 2,4-D, Malathion, Mancozeb, Methomyl, Monocrotophos, Oxyfluorfen, Pendimethalin, Quinalphos, Sulfosulfuron, Thiodicarb, Thiophanate methyl, Thiram, Zineb, Ziram
3.	III—to be phased out by 2020 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No new certificate of • registration to manufacture shall be issued after • December, 2017 • No person shall import, manufacture or formulate w.e.f. 1st January, 2019 • The use shall be • completely banned w.e.f. • 31st December, 2020 	6	Alachlor, Dichlorvos, Phorate, Phosphamidon, Triazophos, Trichlorfon
4.	IV—ban to be continued	1	Fenitrothion

1	2	3	4
5.	V—its use to be completely banned.	13	Benomyl, Carbaryl, DDT Diazinon, Fenarimol, Fenthion, Linuron, MEMC, Methyl Parathion, Sodium Cyanide, Thiometon, Tridemorph, Trifluralin
6.	VI—not reviewed as it is <i>sub-judice</i>	1	Endosulfan

Statement-III*Names of the pesticides in the notification S.O.4212 (E)*

Sl.No.	Name
1.	Benomyl
2.	Carbaryl
3.	Diazinon
4.	Fenarimol
5.	Fenthion
6.	Linuron
7.	MEMC
8.	Methyl Parathion
9.	Sodium Cyanide
10.	Thiometon
11.	Tridemorph
12.	Trifluralin
13.	Alachlor
14.	Dichlorvos
15.	Phorate
16.	Phosphamidon
17.	Triazophos
18.	Trichlorfon

Illegal use of controversial herbicide glyphosate on cotton crops

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

(a) whether controversial herbicide Glyphosate is being used illegally on cotton crop in the country, due to the illegal cultivation of HT cotton, being referred to

as BG3;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Ministry has done studies on the human and ecological toxicity of Glyphosate;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether other countries have banned or severely restricted Glyphosate due to its adverse impacts and whether Anupam Verma Committee of the Ministry reviewed this chemical for a similar ban in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) No specific information is available with Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage.

(c) and (d) The Registration Committee under section 5 of the Insecticides Act registers the pesticides only after evaluating their efficacy and safety to human health and environment. While evaluating the safety of pesticides toxicity data is obtained on acute toxicity, repeated dose toxicity, chronic toxicity, carcinogenicity, teratogenicity, reproductive toxicity, genotoxicity, neurotoxicity and toxicity to some environmental components like birds, fish, honey-bees etc. Glyphosate is registered for use in the country on tea and non-crop area.

(e) to (g) As per the information available on Rotterdam Convention (UNEP) website, Glyphosate is not banned in any country. Further, the Anupam Verma Committee constituted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare did not review this chemical for its continued use or otherwise in the country because this pesticide was not banned in any other country.

Agitations by farmers for increase in MSP

810. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers across various parts of the country have been agitating from time to time demanding increase in Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for oilseeds and pulses;

(b) if so, the details of such agitations during 2016-17 and 2017-18; and

(c) whether Government has considered demands of the farmers and if so, the extent to which MSPs have been increased during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) From time to time, farmers and farmers' organizations have been making various demands from the Government through representations. Some Incidents of agitations have been there especially from the farmers and farmers' organizations from the States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of pulses and oilseeds for 2016-17 and 2017-18 after taking into account the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned and other relevant factors. In addition to increase in MSPs, an incentive bonus on pulses and oilseeds for 2016-17 and 2017-18 has also been announced to incentivise farmers to cultivate pulses and oilseeds. The MSPs including bonus of pulses and oilseeds and their increase for 2016-17 and 2017-18 are given in the Statement (*See below*). The Union Budget for 2018-19 has announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSP at levels of one and half times the cost of production for Kharif crops also in the lines of that already implemented for Rabi crops in October, 2017.

Statement

Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) and increase in MSP

		(₹ per quintal)				
Sl. No.	Commodity	2015-16	2016-17	(#) increase in MSP 2016-17 over 2015-16	2017-18	(#) increase in MSP 2017-18 over 2016-17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pulses						
1.	Arhar(tur)	4625^	5050^^	425(9.2)	5450^	400(7.9)
2.	Moong	4850^	5225^^	375(7.7)	5575^	350(6.7)
3.	Urad	4625^	5000^^	375(8.1)	5400^	400(8)
4.	Gram	3500**	4000^	500(14.3)	4400@	400(10.0)
5.	Masur (lentil)	3400**	3950@	550(16.2)	4250*	300(7.6)
Oilseeds						
1.	Groundnut in shell	4030	4220*	190(4.7)	4450^	230(5.5)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	Sunflower seed	3800	3950*	150(3.9)	4100*	150(3.8)
3.	Soyabean	2600	2775*	175(6.7)	3050^	275(9.9)
4.	Sesamum	4700	5000^	300(6.4)	5300*	300(6)
5.	Nigerseed	3650	3825*	175(4.8)	4050*	225(5.9)
6.	Rapeseed/mustard	3350	3700*	350(10.4)	4000*	300(8.1)
7.	Safflower	3300	3700*	400(12.1)	4100*	400(10.8)
8.	Toria	3290	3560	270(8.2)	3900*	340(9.6)

Figures in brackets indicate per centage increase.

* Including Bonus of ₹ 100 per quintal.

** Including Bonus of ₹ 75 per quintal.

^ Including Bonus of ₹ 200 per quintal.

^^ Including Bonus of ₹ 425 per quintal.

@ Including Bonus of ₹ 150 per quintal.

Prices of pesticides

811. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has held a meeting with pesticide industry with a view to bring down the prices of pesticides to address the farmers' grievances;

(b) if so, the details of outcome of the meeting and extent to which the pesticide industry has brought down the prices of pesticides; and

(c) the other measures taken by Government to address the problems of farmers across the country during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) A meeting was convened on 15th June, 2017, to deliberate on prices of generic pesticides. It was decided that the pesticide associations will provide last three years' data on Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of fast moving high consumption generic pesticide and their formulated products.

(c) The Government is implementing "Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach in India" Scheme, wherein, Farmers Field Schools (FFSs) are being organised to sensitise farmers about Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach so as to reduce dependence on chemical pesticides and encourage use of bio-pesticides and other alternative plant protection measures. In addition, Soil Health Card, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinhchai

Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market (NAM), Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) are some of the schemes, *inter alia*, which are being implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for the betterment of the farmers.

Employment in agriculture sector

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

(a) the details of measures being taken to increase the availability of employment and enhancing the scope thereof in Agriculture sector of the country and the manner in which it is being carried out; and

(b) the measures taken to increase the income of farmers dependent on agriculture and analytical details of their present economic condition with reference to part “a” above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Agriculture is a State subject. However, the Government of India is undertaking various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes to increase the availability of employment and enhancing the scope thereof in Agriculture sector by way of higher production through productivity gains, reduction in cost of cultivation, remunerative returns, risk management, sustainable practices and employment of the farmers through latest agricultural technologies, scientific crops production technologies, distribution of seed mini kit, production of quality seed, testing of soil for ensuring judicious use of fertilizer, promote organic farming under Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, expanding cultivated area with assured irrigation under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, e-NAM ensuring better price discovery, bringing in transparency and competition to enable farmers to get improved remuneration for their produce, insurance coverage for all stages of the crop cycle including post harvest risks in specific instances under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana etc.

The National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducted "Situation Assessment Survey (SAS) of Agricultural Household" during NSS 70th round (January, 2013-December, 2013) in the rural areas of the country with reference to the agricultural year July, 2012-June, 2013. The survey estimated the average monthly income per agricultural household as ₹ 6426/-. There has been no further assessment of the farmer's income thereafter (2013-14 to 2017-18). Government of India is working towards doubling the farmer's income by 2022 through its various schemes. The name of the schemes being implemented by Government of India, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare are given in the Statement.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)
2.	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)
3.	Rainfed Area Development (RAD)
4.	Soil Health Management (SHM)
5.	Soil Health Card (SHC)
6.	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)
7.	Sub-mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)
8.	Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)
9.	Sub-mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP)
10.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)
11.	National Agro-forestry and Bamboo Mission (NABM)
12.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)
13.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)
14.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
15.	National Agriculture Market (e-NAM)

Remunerative price for agricultural produces

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

(a) the main recommendations of the National Commission on Farmers and the measures taken to implement them along with the details of the remaining recommendations;

(b) the policy for doubling the income of farmers and the results thereof so far; and

(c) the status of protecting the remunerative prices of agri-produces of farmers, including potatoes, onions, tomatoes, garlic and other produces?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', submitted by the Swaminathan Commission, which

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

An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), which was constituted for preparation of Plan of Action, identified 201 Action Points from NPF, 2007, where necessary action had to be taken. Of the 201 number of action points identified, 192 numbers have already been implemented as of date. Details of remaining points are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) 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.

(c) The Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 major agricultural crops to ensure remunerative prices for farmers based on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP) and in addition, MSP for Toria and De-husked coconut is also fixed on the basis of MSPs of Rapeseed/Mustard and Copra respectively. To incentivise cultivation of pulses and oilseeds in the country, Government has announced bonus for 2017-18, over and above the approved MSP for pulses and oilseeds. 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 including gunny bags, provide working capital for State agencies, creation of revolving fund for PSS operations etc. as required under the scheme guidelines. The basic objectives of PSS are to provide remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production and to safeguard the interest of consumers by making available supplies at reasonable prices with low cost of intermediation.

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. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The condition is that there should be either at least a 10 per cent increase in production or a 10 per cent decrease in the ruling market prices over the previous normal year. The scheme is implemented at the request of State/UT Government which is ready to bear 50 per cent of the loss (25 per cent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. The extent of total amount of loss to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the Central Government

and the State Government is restricted to 25 per cent of the total procurement value which includes cost of the commodity procured plus permitted overhead expenses.

Statement

Remaining action points

Sl.No.	Action Point
1.	The policy provides for implementation of laws relating to, <i>inter alia</i> , tenancy and land leasing. States may examine ways and means to develop land lease markets under their respective laws. States may be advised accordingly.
2.	Appropriate measures should be taken for improving surface water irrigation efficiency to 40% by 2010 and 50% by 2025 and ground water irrigation efficiency to 70% as recommended by National Commission for Integrated Water Resource Development.
3.	A Model Flood Code for chronically flood affected areas be prepared and circulated to States incorporating measures like ensuring availability of quality seeds and other inputs to be provided to the farmers after flood, planning for crops/varieties resistant to water logging/flood and other measures to mitigate losses to the farmers on account of floods.
4.	For preparation of above Model Codes, DAC may take the lead with the assistance of ICAR institutions like NCAP.
5.	One Model Genome Club in each State should be set up to start with, with the support from RKVY.
6.	MOEF may take action for restoring traditional grazing rights in certain forest areas.
7.	Sustainability of fodder resources through rotational grazing, scientific lopping and Pollarding, and promoting forest conservation and development for ensuring organic farming in the forest areas may be taken up through extension activities.
8.	Steps may be taken for promoting forest conservation and development for ensuring organic farming in the forest areas, through awareness campaigns and monetary incentives for the forest conserving communities.
9.	Involvement of PRIs in popularizing the insurance scheme among the farmers by various Banks and Insurance companies. (Under para 5.9 of NPF 2007)

Impact of climate change on agriculture

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

(a) the impact of climate change on Indian agriculture in the 21st century;

(b) whether it is a fact that there would be an impact of US \$ 10 billion loss every year on the country due to climate change; and

(c) if so, in what manner the Ministry is planning to address this problem since it impacts production and productivity of agriculture items which is likely to start from 2020 till the end of the century?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Climate change impacts on agriculture are being witnessed all over the world, but countries like India are vulnerable in view of the high population depending on agriculture, pressure on natural resources and poor coping mechanisms. In India, the impact of climate change on agriculture is expected to be particularly more in crops like wheat. Yield decline are likely to be caused by shortening of growing period, negative impacts on reproduction, grain filling, decrease in water availability and poor vernalization. However, adopting the improved varieties developed and input management for instance in rice, can improve yields by 6-17% in irrigated and 20-35% in rainfed conditions. Increase in yield are also predicted in case of some crops including kharif soyabean, groundnut, chickpea and potato.

(c) The Government is implementing National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), which is one of the eight Missions under National Action Plan on Climate Change which was launched in 2010. Climate resilient interventions have been embedded and mainstreamed into Missions/Programmes/Schemes of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare through a process of restructuring and convergence. NMSA as a programmatic intervention aims at making agriculture more productive, sustainable, remunerative and climate resilient by promoting location specific integrated/composite farming system; soil and moisture conservation measures; comprehensive soil health management; effective water management practices and mainstreaming rainfed technologies. 623 District Agricultural Contingency Plans (DACP) have been prepared to advice the States for undertaking suitable technological interventions to minimise the crop losses due to weather aberrations.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) initiated a network project on National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA) in 2011 aiming at enhancing climate resilience of Indian agriculture through strategic research, technology

demonstration, capacity building and sponsored/competitive grant projects. The research on adaptation and mitigation covers crops, livestock, fisheries and natural resource management.

Share of agriculture in GDP

815. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the estimates released by Central Statistics Office (CSO), the share of agriculture in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has declined in the last four years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that every year, farmers lose ₹ 63,000 crore for not being able to sell their produces; and

(d) if so, the steps Government has taken to prevent the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the First Revised Estimates of National Income released by Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) on 31st January, 2018, the share of Agriculture and Allied Sector in Gross Value Added (GVA) of the country has declined from 17.8% in 2013-14 to 15.3% in 2016-17 at 2011-12 prices. The share of GVA of Agriculture and Allied Sector to total economy (GVA) for the last four years at 2011-12 prices is given as under.

(in per cent)

Year	Share of GVA of Agriculture and Allied sector to Total Economy
2013-14	17.8
2014-15	16.5
2015-16	15.4
2016-17	15.3

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

The decline in contribution of agriculture sector in the GVA is due to a shift from a traditional agrarian economy to industry and service dominated economy. This phenomenon is generally expected in the normal development of an economy.

(c) and (d) Government has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of Kharif and Rabi crops for 2017-18 season on the basis of recommendations of the

Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Government has taken several steps to ensure farmers get MSPs for agricultural produce which includes setting up of procurement centers keeping in view the potential in the areas; creating awareness among the farmers of the MSP operations; encouraging decentralized procurement; adopting e-procurement system; engaging private players in certain States to participate in procurement operations, implementing e-National Agriculture Market, promoting Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) etc. The Government offers to procure the agricultural produce at MSP through designated procurement agencies. However, farmers are free to sell their produce to Government procurement agencies.

Government implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oil seeds, pulses and cotton through Central Nodal Agencies at MSPs declared by the Government. PSS aims to provide remunerative prices to the growers for their produce with a view to encourage higher investment and production.

Further, Government also implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the PSS. The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production.

Bollworm attack on cotton crops

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

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers have lost 84 per cent cotton crop to bollworm in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take to protect cotton crop from bollworm and also to provide relief to the cotton producers of the State who have lost their crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As per the information received from the Agriculture Department of the Maharashtra State, outbreak of pink boll worm has been reported on about 34 Lakh ha. from 21 major cotton growing districts.

(c) Timely advisories are being issued by the Ministry to the State Government

disseminating, *inter alia* management strategies to curb the spread of pink boll worm. In addition, awareness and training programs have been organized to sensitize famers about pink boll worm. Furthermore, Agriculture Department of the Maharashtra State has informed that a memorandum has been submitted under National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for cotton crop affected by pink boll worm and also action has been initiated against seed companies for compensation under provision of Maharashtra Cotton Seed Act, 2009.

Functioning of KVKs in the country

817. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is implementing any programmes to support the functioning of the Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) in the country;

(b) the number of KVKs in the country, State-wise;

(c) the budgetary allocations and expenditure for the KVKs since 2014; and

(d) the steps taken by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to support the KVKs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is implementing Krishi Vigyan Kendra scheme in the country with 100 per cent financial assistance.

(b) The State-wise number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The details of budgetary allocations and expenditure for the KVKs since 2014 are given in table below:—

(₹ in crore)		
Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2014-15	533.61	533.61
2015-16	644.85	654.89
2016-17	830.90	754.71
2017-18	887.73	565.95*

* upto December, 2017.

(d) The ICAR is providing support to KVKs for need based infrastructure including main building, a trainees' hostel, two demonstration units and six residential apartments;

fencing and farm development; purchase of vehicles, equipments, implements and instructional aids; and recurring contingencies etc.

Statement

State-wise number of Krishi Vigyan Kendras

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of KVK
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	15
4.	Assam	26
5.	Bihar	39
6.	Chhattisgarh	25
7.	Delhi	1
8.	Goa	2
9.	Gujarat	30
10.	Haryana	18
11.	Himachal Pradesh	13
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	21
13.	Jharkhand	24
14.	Karnataka	33
15.	Kerala	14
16.	Lakshadweep	1
17.	Madhya Pradesh	51
18.	Maharashtra	45
19.	Manipur	9
20.	Meghalaya	7
21.	Mizoram	8
22.	Nagaland	11
23.	Odisha	33
24.	Puducherry	3
25.	Punjab	22
26.	Rajasthan	42
27.	Sikkim	4

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of KVK
28.	Tamil Nadu	30
29.	Telangana	16
30.	Tripura	7
31.	Uttarakhand	13
32.	Uttar Pradesh	69
33.	West Bengal	22
TOTAL		681

Assistance for drought affected farmers

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

(a) the total cultivable land area in the country, State-wise;

(b) the details of drought affected areas at present, State-wise;

(c) whether any area is declared as drought affected by the Central Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether any financial assistance has been distributed to the farmers of drought affected areas during 2014-15 to 2016-17?

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, State-wise details of cultivable land (Agricultural Land) in the country for the year 2014-15 is given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) Declaration of the drought is made by respective State Governments. During 2017-18, the State Governments 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.

(d) Details of financial assistance sought by the States affected by the drought and assistance approved from NDRF during 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

The State Governments are primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities.

Statement-I

*State-wise details of cultivable land/agricultural land in the country
for the year 2014-15 (latest available)*

State/UT	2014-15
Andhra Pradesh	9047
Arunachal Pradesh	423
Assam	3364
Bihar	6579
Chhattisgarh	5558
Goa	197
Gujarat	12661
Haryana	3656
Himachal Pradesh	812
Jammu and Kashmir	1075
Jharkhand	4343
Karnataka	12827
Kerala	2266
Madhya Pradesh	17252
Maharashtra	21099
Manipur	390
Meghalaya	1056

State/UT	2014-15
Mizoram	367
Nagaland	694
Odisha	6784
Punjab	4285
Rajasthan	25511
Sikkim	97
Tamil Nadu	8112
Telangana	6877
Tripura	272
Uttarakhand	1549
Uttar Pradesh	18939
West Bengal	5655
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28
Chandigarh	1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24
Daman and Diu	3
Delhi	53
Lakshadweep	2
Puducherry	29
ALL INDIA	181886

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

Statement-II

State-wise details of assistance sought and assistance approved from National Disaster Response Fund in the wake of drought

(₹ in crore)

State	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17	
	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved	Assistance Sought	Assistance Approved
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Haryana	4829.25	168.87	-	-	-	-
Uttar Pradesh	4819.49	777.34	2057.79(K) 1888.35(R)	1304.52(K) 622.76(R)	-	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Karnataka	779.20	200.85	3830.84(K) 1417.14(R)	1540.20(K) 723.23(R)	4702.54(K) 3310.83(R)	1782.44(K) 795.544(R)
Maharashtra	6013.28	1962.99	6020.36(K) 2251.66(R)	3638.83(K) 679.54(R)	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	1532.00	237.51	2000.56(K)	433.77(K)	2513.97(K)	518.93(K)
Rajasthan	-	-	10537.02(K)	1193.41(K)	3660.97(K)	588.34(K)
Telangana	-	-	2601.17	791.21	-	-
Chhattisgarh	-	-	6093.79	1276.25	-	-
Madhya Pradesh	-	-	5114.53	2032.68	-	-
Odisha	-	-	2344.99	815.00	-	-
Jharkhand	-	-	2142.78	336.94	-	-
Uttarakhand	-	-	91.97(R)	70.22(R)	-	-
Kerala	-	-	-	-	1019.90	112.05
Tamil Nadu	-	-	-	-	39565.00	1748.28

K-Kharif

R-Rabi

MSP of paddy

819. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy during the last three years;

(b) whether there has been any assessment of per acre expenditure for growing paddy in States like Odisha, Bihar, Chhattisgarh and West Bengal, etc.;

(c) whether the increase in the support price has been made corresponding to the expenditure required for production of per quintal paddy; and

(d) whether the Central Government is considering the request of Government of Odisha to increase the MSP of paddy and fix it at ₹ 2930/- per quintal, if so, by when, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Details of increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of paddy during the last three years and current year *i.e.* from 2014-15 to 2017-18 is as under:—

Paddy	Increase in MSP (₹ per quintal)#			
	2014-15 over 2013-14	2015-16 over 2014-15	2016-17 over 2015-16	2017-18 over 2016-17
Common	50(3.8)	50(3.7)	60(4.3)	80(5.4)
Grade 'A'	55(4.1)	50(3.6)	60(4.1)	80(5.3)

Figures in brackets indicate per centage increase.

(b) Cost of cultivation (per hectare costs on various inputs) and yield per hectare are the basis for determining cost of production of crops by the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The cost of production (A2+FL) in ₹ per quintal is one of the factors considered in the recommendation of MSPs by CACP. Details of cost of production (A2+FL) of paddy from 2014-15 to 2017-18 is as under:—

State	A2+FL cost (₹ per quintal)			
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Odisha	1033	1067	1136	1327
Bihar	990	1047	1013	1053
Chhattisgarh	777	816	833	915
West Bengal	1164	1256	1261	1409

(c) The MSP fixed by Government for paddy on the basis of recommendations of CACP provides adequate return over weighted average cost of production (A2+FL) as projected by CACP. Details from 2014-15 to 2017-18 is as under:—

(₹ per quintal)				
Year	Paddy	Cost of production (A2+FL)	MSP	% return over A2+FL
2014-15	Common	978	1360	39.1
	Grade 'A'	978	1400	43.1
2015-16	Common	1020	1410	38.2
	Grade 'A'	1020	1450	42.2
2016-17	Common	1045	1470	40.7
	Grade 'A'	1045	1510	44.5
2017-18	Common	1117	1550	38.8
	Grade 'A'	1117	1590	42.3

(d) Government has increased MSP of paddy (common) and paddy (Grade 'A') to ₹ 1550/- per quintal and ₹ 1590/- per quintal respectively for 2017-18 season from ₹ 1470/- per quintal and ₹ 1510/- per quintal respectively of 2016-17 season on 7th June, 2017. The MSP fixed by the Government for 2017-18 for paddy provides adequate return over all India weighted average cost of production including family labour (A2+FL) of ₹ 1117/- per quintal as projected by CACP. Cost of production varies in different States on account of difference in levels of irrigation, resource endowment, farm mechanisation, land holding size, yield of crops etc.

CACP uses all India weighted average cost of production while making its recommendations on MSP and recommends uniform MSP which is applicable for all States. Even though there is variation in cost of production among States, the MSP fixed by Central Government for 2017-18 season provides adequate returns over weighted average cost of production (A2+FL) of ₹ 1327/- per quintal for Odisha as estimated by CACP. The higher cost of production of paddy in Odisha is due to lower yield and higher cost of human, bullock and machine labour and higher expenditure on fertilizer and manure.

III-effects of indiscriminate use of chemical fertilizers

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

(a) whether Government has studied the fact that indiscriminate use of urea and other chemical fertilizers in Haryana and Punjab has considerably increased the number of cancer patients therein; and

(b) if so, the manner in which Government is providing training to the farmers to use urea, other chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the minimal quantity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Government has not carried out any such study in any States including Haryana and Punjab.

The following steps have been taken to provide training/awareness to farmers to use urea, other chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the minimal quantity:—

- (i) Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme is being implemented to assist all State Governments to evaluate fertility in all farm holdings across the country and issue soil health cards to farmers in a cycle of every two year. Soil health

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

- (ii) Under Soil Health Management (SHM), financial assistance is provided to States for training of farmers on judicious use of fertilizers.
- (iii) Government is recommending soil test based balanced and integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources (manure, biofertilizers etc.) of plant nutrients for judicious use of chemical fertilizers to improve soil health and quality. In addition, split application and placement of fertilizers, use of slow releasing N-fertilizers and nitrification inhibitors, growing leguminous crops and use of Resource Conservation Technologies (RCTs) are also advocated.
- (iv) Government is implementing “Strengthening and Modernization of Pest Management Approach” scheme wherein, Farmers Field Schools are organized to sensitize farmers on Integrated Pest Management approach and to use chemical pesticides as a last resort as per approved labels and leaflets.

Ending the monopoly of APMC

821. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to end Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) monopoly with a view to liberalize the trade in farm produces and aid better price realisation for farmers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the meeting of Chief Ministers has been convened recently to deliberate on the matter; and
- (d) if so, the details and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The Government has drafted a model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017 which provides for progressive agricultural marketing reforms including setting up markets in private sector, direct marketing, farmer-consumer markets, de-regulation of fruits and vegetables, e-trading, single point levy of market fee, issue of unified single trading license in the State, declaring warehouses/silos/cold storage as market sub-yards and Market Yards of National

Importance (MNI) so that more markets are available for farmers to sell their produce for better price.

The said model Act was released on 24th April, 2017 in a meeting of Hon'ble Ministers of Agricultural Marketing from States/UTs chaired by Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for its adoption by States/UTs.

(c) and (d) Two meetings of Ministers of Agricultural Marketing of States implementing Scheme of National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) were held under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on 05.07.2017 and 20.09.2017. In the meetings the progress of implementation of e-NAM was reviewed. The States were requested to adopt the Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017. State representatives were requested to make all efforts for successful implementation of the scheme to achieve the objective for optimizing benefits to the farmers.

Production of honey

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

(a) whether Government has implemented any plan to boost production of honey in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken and amount spent in this regard during the last three years and its impact on production of honey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India is implementing 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.

The beekeeping and honey production is also being promoted under Rashtriya Kishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) of DAC&FW.

The year-wise details of funds/subsidies/assistance provided for encouraging beekeeping/honey production for the last three years period (2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 - as on date under MIDH and RKVY) are given as under:—

(₹ in lakh)

Sl.No.	Year	Assistance Provided/Funds	Sanctioned/Released	Total
		Under MIDH	Under RKVY	
1.	2015-16	3048.19	250.00	3298.19
2.	2016-17	3181.13	84.00	3265.13
3.	2017-18	3462.23	1500.00	4962.23

Khadi and Village Industries Commission implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP) for promotion of Khadi and Village Industries which includes assistance for production of Honey. The 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/her 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%

ICAR–All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Honey Bees and Pollinators (HB&P) having research plans to increase the genetic diversity of the existing stock of *Apis mellifera* to breed more efficient strains.

NBB, DAC and FW, for promotion and development of scientific beekeeping/honey production in the country, has decided to set up Integrated Beekeeping Development Centres (IBDCs)/Centres of Excellence (CoEs) on beekeeping in the country. 14 IBDCs/CoEs, as role model for beekeeping, have been commissioned/approved by NBB, DAC and FW under MIDH in 14 States, one each in, Haryana, Delhi, Bihar, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh, Tripura and West Bengal.

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.

The above efforts have resulted increase in Honey Production from 76,150 Metric Tonnes (MTs.) in 2013-14 to 94,500 MTs. in 2016-17. Honey production for the year 2017-18 has been estimated at 1,05,000 MTs.

Assistance to tackle drought

823. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the large number of deaths/suicides by farmers across the country;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government has received any proposal from the State Governments for Central assistance to tackle the drought situation in the States;

(c) if so, the details thereof, as on date, along with the present status of the said proposal; and

(d) by when the said proposal is likely to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) During 2017-18, the State Governments 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

Assistance from NDRF is admissible for natural calamities of severe nature. In response to the Memoranda 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 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 Ministry of Home Affairs for placing before the High Level Committee for approval.

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.

Organizing farmers under institutional mechanism

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

(a) whether several studies have brought forward the fact that organizing the farmers under institutional mechanism has the possibility of increasing agricultural production and providing remunerative price to them from the market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Government has taken steps to organize the farmers under institutional mechanism and promote collective action in the Agriculture sector keeping the target of doubling their income by 2022 in mind; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) No specific study in this regard has been conducted by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India. Hence, the issue does not arise.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) In order to promote collective action in the agriculture sector Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare (DAC&FW) supports the State Government in the formation of Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs). So far, 707 FPOs have been formed in the country.

Similarly, Government of India, through National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), is organizing the farmers under institutional mechanism and promote collective action in the agriculture sector through Producers Organization Development and Upliftment Corpus (PRODUCE) Fund. Under PRODUCE Fund, 2154 FPOs have been formed.

Contract farming

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

(a) whether contractual farming helps the farmers to have access to inputs and advanced technology, skill transfer, guaranteed and remunerative prices and reliable market;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central Government has taken several policy initiatives during the last three years to promote contractual farming and announced to bring a model law for contractual farming in the Budget 2017-18; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The contractual farming agreement helps farmers to avail production support like inputs, advance technology and transfer of skill etc. from contract farming sponsor while getting the assured market support with pre-determined remunerative prices.

(c) and (d) So far, 20 States based on Model APMC Act, 2003, have adopted the Contract farming and Punjab has formulated a separate Contract Farming Act. In pursuant to announcement in the budget speech 2017-18, the Government is formulating a progressive, holistic and facilitative model contract farming Act, which is in the final stage of its drafting. Comments of various stakeholders have been solicited on the draft model Contract Farming Act including placing it on the website inviting comments of the public.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Changes in Crop Insurance Policy

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

(a) whether Government is considering any changes in Crop Insurance Policy based on feedback received;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the crop insurance done, cases settled and compensation paid during last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) 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.

(c) State-wise details of farmers covered, sum insured and total claims under various crop insurance schemes during last three years are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of No. of Framers insured, Sum Insured and Total Claims under various Crop Insurance Schemes for last 3 years

Sl. No.	State	No. of Farmers Insured	Sum Insured	Total Claims
			₹ in lakh	
1	2	3	4	5
2014-15				
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	783	460.32	5.86
2.	Andhra Pradesh	405745	205420.29	7854.15
3.	Assam	49889	17277.33	1340.25
4.	Bihar	3874082	968084.05	112472.86
5.	Chhattisgarh	1068387	361422.90	18502.44
6.	Goa	160	26.17	0.00
7.	Gujarat	660856	430544.91	50424.15
8.	Haryana	22	28.43	0.79
9.	Himachal Pradesh	131770	47026.95	3293.78
10.	Jharkhand	258569	66947.74	2912.52

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Karnataka	1113816	304247.30	22263.69
12.	Kerala	49386	16426.05	719.96
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5159693	1858895.55	74150.64
14.	Maharashtra	7019829	812419.59	222821.76
15.	Manipur	3472	1720.97	185.13
16.	Meghalaya	2010	798.55	16.28
17.	Odisha	1918490	570933.83	26331.23
18.	Puducherry	1541	631.99	1.76
19.	Rajasthan	9886728	704627.27	119085.68
20.	Sikkim	19	12.60	0.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	707716	288218.29	3599.58
22.	Telangana	1090959	542213.04	16987.17
23.	Tripura	324	74.82	0.00
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1759441	491698.86	78079.99
25.	Uttarakhand	79233	28553.31	4164.41
26.	West Bengal	1834322	484057.46	17836.36
GRAND TOTAL		37077242	8202768.58	783050.45

2015-16

1.	Andaman and Nicobar	1055	634.10	1.19
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1717533	807640.51	33114.64
3.	Assam	45736	16992.11	552.18
4.	Bihar	3091612	1102886.94	97332.12
5.	Chhattisgarh	1283176	327563.73	69863.15
6.	Goa	136	51.58	14.49
7.	Gujarat	504170	354481.94	179612.54
8.	Haryana	0	0.00	0.00
9.	Himachal Pradesh	162458	56165.19	3718.86
10.	Jharkhand	589793	100540.89	22572.88
11.	Karnataka	1210430	372425.65	87881.27
12.	Kerala	62335	23046.05	1411.45

1	2	3	4	5
13.	Madhya Pradesh	5740022	2136541.19	480816.31
14.	Maharashtra	12517231	1407758.98	552689.34
15.	Manipur	7514	4505.95	269.70
16.	Meghalaya	1129	456.40	0.00
17.	Odisha	2258871	760126.75	178264.07
18.	Puducherry	1680	790.64	0.00
19.	Rajasthan	10956917	975656.00	178713.37
20.	Sikkim	149	85.32	0.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	1090098	471289.64	52109.42
22.	Telangana	1334240	725845.81	35382.78
23.	Tripura	1458	319.28	0.24
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3795359	1340994.43	144356.97
25.	Uttarakhand	150111	54110.29	1800.73
26.	West Bengal	2007789	468344.35	35770.24
GRAND TOTAL		48531002	11509253.74	2156247.95

2016-17

1.	Andaman and Nicobar	324	46.84	14.56
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1771557	860882.63	90678.47
3.	Assam	60265	23559.43	501.68
4.	Bihar	2713178	1172428.36	32717.65
5.	Chhattisgarh	1549164	723141.15	15473.11
6.	Goa	757	579.83	2.68
7.	Gujarat	1975192	1232375.98	100247.70
8.	Haryana	1335984	1178293.97	29476.09
9.	Himachal Pradesh	378199	89680.49	4420.11
10.	Jharkhand	878059	201050.17	2641.90
11.	Karnataka	3120592	1133229.45	117358.43
12.	Kerala	77405	33247.68	2141.80
13.	Madhya Pradesh	6897723	3522827.23	194492.40
14.	Maharashtra	12005989	2447175.48	231225.41

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Manipur	8366	3693.96	195.91
16.	Meghalaya	89	47.13	2.62
17.	Odisha	1820236	726234.75	43018.18
18.	Puducherry	8537	3398.78	733.61
19.	Rajasthan	9287936	1718984.79	130824.45
20.	Sikkim	574	45.93	0.00
21.	Tamil Nadu	1449379	625375.46	278512.00
22.	Telangana	975822	548942.47	18391.61
23.	Tripura	12528	2957.70	9.69
24.	Uttar Pradesh	6593417	2472505.07	53746.59
25.	Uttarakhand	261571	92139.49	2747.07
26.	West Bengal	4135189	1234547.59	36255.87
GRAND TOTAL		57318032	20047391.80	1385829.60

Workforce involved in agriculture

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

(a) whether it is a fact that 55 per cent of the total workforce in the country is involved in agriculture;

(b) if so, its trend during the last five years;

(c) how does this high per centage compare with developed countries; and

(d) whether there is any agency to monitor their problems and redress their grievances?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per Census 2011, conducted by the Registrar General of India, about 55 per cent of the total workforce in the country is involved in agriculture sector. Since the Census is conducted after every 10 years, the trend in workforce dependent on agriculture during the last five years is not available.

(c) As per the latest available information, the share of agriculture in total employment in major developed countries is given in below:—

Country	Employment in Agriculture in 2014 (% of Total Employment)
Australia	2.8
France	2.8
Germany	1.4
New Zealand	6.2
United Kingdom	1.3
United States of America	1.5

Source: World Bank.

(d) Government receives representations from time to time on various issues concerning agricultural sector. In order to serve the interest of farmers and to redress their grievances, various schemes/programmes are being implemented by the Union and State Governments and organizations under them. The performance of these schemes/programmes is also being regularly monitored by the respective Governments/Organizations.

MSP for fruits and vegetables

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

(a) whether Government is considering to fix Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for fruits and vegetables;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to provide remunerative prices to fruit and vegetable growing farmers in order to improve their condition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for 22 major agricultural crops *viz.* Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Arhar, Moong, Urad, Groundnut-in-shell, Soyabean, Sunflower, Sesamum, Nigerseed, Cotton, Wheat, Barley, Gram, Masur (Lentil), Rapeseed/Mustard, Safflower, Jute and Copra and Fair and Remunerative Price (FRP) for Sugarcane on the basis of the recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after obtaining the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned and other relevant factors. In addition, MSP for Toria and De-Husked coconut is also fixed on the basis of MSPs of Rapeseed/Mustard and Copra respectively.

Government implements Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural crops including fruits and vegetables which are not covered under the MSP on the request of State/UT Governments. 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. Losses, if any, incurred by the procuring agencies are shared by the Central Government and the concerned State Government on 50:50 basis (75:25 in case of North-Eastern States).

In addition, Government under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) scheme is supporting farmers producer organization and post production activities including pack houses, cold storages, marketing infrastructure to ensure remunerative prices for farmers.

Benefits of agricultural schemes to farmers

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

(a) the name of schemes being implemented by Government to reduce the agriculture cost along with the details thereof;

(b) the amount of budget allocated for the said schemes and the amount spent thereon during the last three years;

(c) the number of farmers benefited from the said schemes along with the details thereof;

(d) the reduction in cost of agriculture per hectare by implementation of the schemes and the amount of increase in the income of farmers, the details thereof for the last three years; and

(e) whether Government proposes to reduce the rate of GST on necessary resources for the agriculture?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Agriculture is a State subject. Government of India facilitates the State Governments through many Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes to increase production, implementation of new technologies to reduce cost of cultivation like improved variety of seeds, drip irrigation, soil testing and using fertilizers most suited for crops, scientific crops production technologies, seed minikit etc., Details showing the

amount of budget allocated and amount spent thereon during the last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Some indicators regarding number of farmers benefited under various schemes is as follows:—

Under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization 20483 demonstrations have been conducted, 14273 number of trainers have been trained, 4,74,650 number of agricultural machinery distributed. 4900 number of Custom Hiring Centres been established. 57 Hi-Tech hubs and 2352 number of Farm Machinery Bank established at Farm Level.

Under Parampragat Krishi Vikas Yojana, 2.0 lakh hectares of land has been converted into organic farming land and 5.0 lakh farmers have been benefited.

Under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region, 45863 hectare area has been brought under Organic Farming in the North Eastern States, 80 Farm Producer Centers (FPCs) have been achieved and 2406 Farmers Interest Group (FIGs) have been formed and 44064 farmers are mobilized.

Under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, about 573 lakh farmers have been covered over an area of 571 lakh hectares during Kharif 2016 and Rabi 2016-17 seasons.

Under Seed Village Programme, the number of farmers benefited in 2016-17 was 16.04 lakhs. Over 1.31 crore farmers have been benefited through different extension activities under Sub-Mission on Agricultural Extension since 2014-15.

Data on all Schemes is not available.

(d) While a comprehensive study regarding this aspect is not available, according to some evaluations impact of certain schemes is as follows:—

1. Soil Health Card Scheme

As per feedback received from farmers from 21 States covering 171 districts, it emerged that application of fertilizers as per the recommendation of soil health cards led to savings in nitrogen fertilizers like urea thereby resulted in reduction in cost of cultivation.

Rice – the cost of cultivation is reduced by 16-25% and savings of nitrogen is found to be around 20 Kg per hectare.

Pulses – 10-15% reduction in cultivation cost and savings 10 Kg per hectare of urea is observed.

Oil Seeds – reduction in cultivation cost is 10-15% and savings on Nitrogen is 9 Kg/acre in Sunflower, around 23 kg/acre in ground nut and around 30 kg/acre in castor.

Cash crops – in case of cotton, reduction in cultivation cost is 25% and savings on nitrogen fertilizer is around 35 kg/acre.

Horticulture crops : In potato, 46 kg/acre of nitrogen saving is observed.

Savings on fertilizers and increase in production also resulted in increased income to the farmers:

Paddy : Increase in income around ₹ 4500/- per acre.

Tur : Increase in income to ₹ 25000-30,000/- per acre

Sunflower : Increase in income around ₹ 25000/- per acre

Groundnut : Increase in income around ₹ 10000/- per acre

Cotton : Increase in income around ₹ 12000/- per acre

Potato : Increase in income around ₹ 3000/- per acre.

2. Micro Irrigation

An impact evaluation study for Micro Irrigation was carried out in the year 2014 and major findings of the study are:-

Irrigation cost reduced by 20% to 50% with average of 32%.

Electricity consumption reduced by about 31%.

Saving of fertilizers vary from 7% to 42%.

Average productivity of fruits and vegetables increased by about 42.3% and 52%.

Overall income enhancement of farmers in the range of 20% to 68% with average of 48.5%.

(e) The decisions taken by the Nodal Ministry of Government of India, *i.e.*, Ministry of Finance with respect to the rates of GST on necessary resources for the agriculture are given in the Statement-II

Statement-I

Details showing the amount of budget allocated and amount spent thereon during the last three years

(₹ in crore)

Sl.No.	Name of Mission/Scheme	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
2014-15				
1.	National Food Security Mission	2030.00	1830.00	1872.74
2.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	2263.00	1990.07	1956.45
3.	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm	433.00	333.00	319.07
4.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture	1684.00	1456.37	1391.77
5.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology	1316.00	1229.14	1241.86
6.	Secretariat Services	13.00	12.50	11.51
7.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census and Statistics	257.00	225.90	216.56
8.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	2823.00	2784.93	2598.35
9.	Debantures of Land Development Banks	25.00	10.00	10.89
10.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing	800.00	1035.00	979.80
11.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation	111.00	98.99	99.41
12.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY)	9954.00	8444.00	8443.20
13.	Price Stabilisation Fund	500.00	50.00	50.00
14.	National Agri-Tech Infrastructure	100.00	0.10	0.00
15.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana	0.00	30.00	0.00
16.	National Rainfed Area Authority	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	National Agriculture Market	0.00	0.00	0.00

2015-16

1.	National Food Security Mission	1300.00	1136.61	1162.34
2.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	2000.00	1769.59	1696.80
3.	National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm	353.00	272.03	305.81
4.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture	835.00	747.47	701.38

Sl.No.	Name of Mission/Scheme	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
5.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology	1170.35	1079.95	1033.10
6.	Secretariat Services	15.00	13.84	12.43
7.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census and Statistics	257.00	210.00	218.58
8.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	2823.00	3185.09	2983.04
9.	Debantures of Land Development Banks	12.00	12.30	12.30
10.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing	900.00	750.36	570.30
11.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation	111.00	126.00	121.70
12.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna (RKVY)	4500.00	3900.00	3940.01
13.	Price Stabilisation Fund	450.00	660.00	660.00
14.	National Agri-Tech Infrastructure	100.00	80.00	51.19
15.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana	1800.00	1550.01	1555.94
16.	National Rainfed Area Authority	20.00	6.75	3.08
17.	National Agriculture Market	0.00	0.00	0.00

2016-17

1.	National Food Security Mission	1700.00	1280.00	1286.03
2.	Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH)	1620.00	1660.00	1493.07
3.	National Mission On Oilseeds and Oil Palm	500.00	376.00	326.31
4.	National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture	1062.00	879.50	651.35
5.	National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology	1100.00	1226.50	1200.94
6.	Secretariat Services	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Census and Statistics	210.00	188.00	172.18
8.	Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana	5500.00	16836.32	14650.83
9.	Debantures of Land Development Banks	0.00	25.00	18.18
10.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Marketing	787.90	1270.00	782.49
11.	Integrated Scheme on Agriculture Cooperation	130.00	130.00	129.81

Sl.No.	Name of Mission/Scheme	BE	RE	Actual Exp.
12.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojna(RKVY)	5400.00	3550.00	3891.86
13.	Price Stabilisation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	National Agri-Tech Infrastructure	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana	2340.00	1990.00	1991.25
16.	National Rainfed Area Authority	0.10	0.00	0.00
17.	National Agriculture Market	50.00	0.00	44.90

Statement-II

The decisions taken by the Ministry of Finance with respect to the rates of GST on necessary resources for the agriculture

The following tax incentives are currently available with respect to agriculture:

(A) In form of exemptions: The following services are exempted from GST:—

- a. Services provided by the Central Government, State Government, Union Territory or local authority by way of assignment of right to natural resources to an individual farmer for cultivation of plants and rearing of all life forms of animals, except the rearing of horses, for food, fibre, fuel, raw material or other similar products.

[SI. No. 63 of notification No. 12/2017-CT(R) *refers*].

- b. Services by way of transportation by rail or a vessel from one place in India to another of the following goods:—

- (i) Agricultural produce;

- (ii) milk, salt and foodgrain including flours, pulses and rice; and

- (iii) organic manure.

[SI. No. 20 of notification No. 12/2017-CT(R) *refers*]

- c. Services provided by a goods transport agency, by way of transport in a goods carriage of agricultural produce;

[SI. No. 21 of notification No. 12/2017-CT(R) *refers*]

- d. Services relating to cultivation of plants and rearing of all life forms of animals, except the rearing of horses, for food, fibre, fuel, raw material or other similar products or agricultural produce by way of:—

- (a) agricultural operations directly related to production of any agricultural produce including cultivation, harvesting, threshing, plant protection of testing;

- (b) supply of farm labour;
- (c) processes carried out at an agricultural farm including tending, pruning, cutting, harvesting, drying, cleaning, trimming, sun drying, fumigating, curing, sorting, grading, cooling or bulk packaging and such like operations which do not alter the essential characteristics of agricultural produce but make it only marketable for the primary market;
- (d) renting or leasing of agro machinery or vacant land with or without a structure incidental to its use;
- (e) loading, unloading, packing, storage or warehousing of agricultural produce;
- (f) agricultural extension services;
- (g) services by any Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee or Board or services provided by a commission agent for sale or purchase of agricultural produce.

[Sl. No. 54 of notification No. 12/2017-CT(R) *refers*]

- e. Carrying out an intermediate production process as job work in relation to cultivation of plants and rearing of all life forms of animals, except the rearing of horses, for food, fibre, fuel, raw material or other similar products or agricultural produce.

[Sl. No. 55 of notification No. 12/2017-CT(R) *refers*]

(B) In form of reduced tax rates: The following services are Taxable at 12% instead of the standard 18% Composite supply of works contract as defined in clause (119) of section 2 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017, supplied by way of construction, erection, commissioning, or installation of original works pertaining to,

- (i) post-harvest storage infrastructure for agricultural produce including a cold storage for such purposes; or
- (ii) mechanised foodgrain handling system, machinery or equipment for units processing agricultural produce as food stuff excluding alcoholic beverages.

[Sl.No.3(v)e,f of notification No.11/2017-CT(R) *refers*]

GST rates for main resources for agriculture are as under:—

Agriculture Resources	GST rate
Fertilizers	Organic fertilizers (other than put up in unit container and bearing a brand name) attracts Nil GST, organic fertilizers (put up in unit container and bearing a brand name) attracts 5% GST and chemical fertilizers also attract 5% GST rate.
Pesticides	Bio-pesticides attract 12% GST rate, while other pesticides attract 18% GST rate.
Agricultural implements manually operated or animal driven.	Nil
Agricultural, horticultural or forestry machinery for soil preparation or cultivation; lawn or sports-ground rollers.	12%
Harvesting or threshing machinery, including straw or fodder balers; grass or hay mowers; machines for cleaning, sorting or grading eggs, fruit or other agricultural produce.	12%
Other agricultural, horticultural, forestry, poultry-keeping or bee-keeping machinery, including germination plant fitted with mechanical or thermal equipment; poultry incubators and brooders.	12%
Micro irrigation including drip irrigation systems.	12%
Mechanical Sprayers.	12%
Fixed Speed Diesel Engines of power not exceeding 15HP.	12%
Tractors	12%

Increase in price of organic fertilizers

830. SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

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

- (a) the details of type of organic fertilizers used in agriculture;
- (b) whether organic fertilizers have scientifically proved effective in agriculture;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the advantages of the organic fertilizers in comparison with inorganic fertilizers;
- (e) whether Government is aware that many organic fertilizers are being sold at exorbitant prices in the market;
- (f) if so, whether Government has taken any measures to control the price and manufacturing of organic fertilizers in the country; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) The various types of organic fertilizers used in agriculture are City Compost, Vermicompost, Phosphate Rich Organic Manure (PROM), Organic manures, Bone meal, Steamed bone meal, De-oiled cake/Caster-oiled Cake.

(b) to (d) Organic fertilizers are the source of organic carbon besides nutrients. The organic carbon content is vital for maintaining and enhancing soil fertility. In order to enhance the efficacy of chemical fertilizers and for improving crop response to the applied fertilizers, use of organic fertilizers is required. Government is recommending soil test based integrated nutrient management through conjunctive use of both inorganic and organic sources of plant nutrients.

Organic fertilizers have been tested scientifically in ICAR institutions and SAUs on various crops and soil types and found suitable for improving soil health and productivity. These organic fertilizers presently available may supplement costly chemical fertilizers (N,P) by nearly 20-25%. Biofertilizers when applied along with compost @ 5t/ha, or vermicompost @2t/ha, fertilizers saving is almost 50%.

The advantages of these organic fertilizers over chemical fertilizers are (i) they are eco-friendly and (ii) not only provide nutrients for maintaining soil fertility but also improve soil physical and biological health.

(e) to (g) No such reports have been brought to notice to the Government. The Government of India is not regulating the price of organic fertilizers. Its prices are determined by market forces. The specifications of organic fertilizers are notified under the Fertilizer (Control) Order, (FCO), 1985. No person shall manufacture organic fertilizer which is not notified in the FCO or not of standard prescribed in the FCO.

Prices of fertilizers

831. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of fertilizers have not decreased during the last few months;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps being taken by Government to keep the prices of fertilizers under check;
- (d) whether Government has data regarding State-wise differences in prices of fertilizers;
- (e) if so, the details regarding trends in prices of fertilizers in Rajasthan; and
- (f) the details regarding steps being taken to provide fertilizers to farmers in Rajasthan at cheap rates, especially in drought affected and low-yield areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government has implemented Nutrient Based Subsidy Policy w.e.f. 01.04.2010 for Phosphatic and Potassic (P&K) Fertilizers. Under the policy, a fixed amount of subsidy, decided on annual basis, is provided on subsidized P&K fertilizers depending on their nutrient content. Under this policy, MRP is fixed by fertilizer companies as per market dynamics at reasonable level.

Reduction in prices of P&K fertilizers have not been seen during the last few months. However, in line with fall in international prices in 2016-17, the prices of P&K fertilizers came down by ₹ 190/-, ₹ 250/- and ₹ 50/- per 50 Kg bag of DAP, MOP and Complex Fertilizers respectively during the year 2016-17.

In case of Urea, it is sold to the farmers at a Maximum Retail Price (MRP) statutorily fixed by the Government of India, which is at present ₹ 5360 per MT (exclusive of Central/State Taxes and other charges towards neem coating).

(c) In order to ensure that prices of P&K fertilizers are fixed by the Companies reasonably, the Department has taken the following steps:—

- (i) It has been made mandatory for the fertilizer companies to submit along with their subsidy claims, the cost data of their fertilizer products from 2012-13 onwards in prescribed format on annual basis to find out reasonableness of MRP fixed by them. The Department has also appointed Cost Accountants/ Firms to scrutinise the said cost data to ensure that the prices fixed by the fertilizer companies are reasonable.
- (ii) It has also been stipulated in the provisions that in cases, where after scrutiny, unreasonableness of MRP is established or where there is no correlation between the cost of production or acquisition and the MRP printed on the bags, the subsidy would be restricted or denied even if the product is otherwise eligible for subsidy under NBS Scheme. In proven case of abuse of subsidy mechanism, the Department of Fertilizers, on the recommendation of Inter-Ministerial Committee may exclude any grade/grades of fertilizers of a particular company or the fertilizer company itself from the NBS Scheme.
- (d) and (e) The data regarding State-wise differences in prices of fertilizers are not maintained by the Government.
- (f) MRP of Urea and Nutrient Based Subsidy rates are fixed by the Government for whole country irrespective of the States.

Cases of overcharging for medicines being pursued by NPPA

832. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of overcharging for medicines and medical equipments being pursued by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Authority (NPPA) since 2014, year-wise;
- (b) the total amount recovered as a proportion of the total amount for which demand notices have been sent to pharmaceutical companies;
- (c) whether Government is taking steps for early resolution of such cases which get stuck in litigation;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Details of demand notices issued and amount recovered during last 3 (three) years are as below:—

Year	Number of cases	Demanded Amount (in crores)	Amount Recovered (in crores)
2014-15	129	581.08	90.17
2015-16	264	931.18	12.32
2016-17	138	334.00	302.06
2017-18 (upto 31.12.2017)	189	675.41	140.26

The list of overcharging cases, indicating those under litigation, is uploaded on NPPA's website www.nppa.nic.in.

(c) to (e) The cases pending in various courts are followed up persistently through Department of Legal Affairs and their nominated law officers, senior advocates, and Government advocates.

Study to assess impact of Neem Coated Urea

833. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has started producing Neem Coated Urea (NCU) in full-fledged manner;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government undertook any study to assess its impact on the crops after full-fledged use;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Based on CCEA decision, *vide* notification dated 25th May, 2015 Department of Fertilizers has made it mandatory for all the domestic producers of urea to produce 100% as Neem Coated Urea with an extra MRP of 5% to be charged by the fertilizer manufacturing entities from farmers. Entire quantity of indigenously produced urea and imported urea is being neem coated w.e.f 1st September, 2015 and w.e.f 1st December, 2015 respectively.

(c) to (e) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) was entrusted to conduct a study to determine the impact of Neem Coated Urea. The interim report prepared by Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre

(ADRTC), Bengaluru has been submitted by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DACFW). The brief findings of the study are as follows:

- (i) Improvement in soil health.
- (ii) Reduction in costs with respect to plant protection chemicals.
- (iii) Reduction in pest and disease attack.
- (iv) An increase in yield of paddy, sugarcane, maize, soybean and tur/red gram to an extent of 5.79%, 17.5%, 7.14%, 7.4% and 16.88% respectively.
- (v) Diversion of highly subsidized urea towards non-agricultural purposes negligible among farmers after the introduction of the mandatory policy of production and distribution of only Neem coated urea.

Prices of industrial chemicals

834. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether prices of various industrial chemicals have increased during the last one year;
- (b) if so, details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether decrease in production of industrial chemicals in China is a reason for such rise;
- (d) if so, details thereof;
- (e) whether industrial chemical manufacturers in our country have made windfall profits from such rise in the last one year; and
- (f) the steps taken by Government to protect the interests of industries using such chemicals against such rise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per the price index of Chemical and Chemical Products, there is minor increase (111.6 in April, 2017 to 112.8 in December, 2017) in price index of products in the sub-group 'Chemical and Chemical Products' during the last one year in the country. The industrial chemical sector is delicensed and decontrolled. The entrepreneurs are setting up units based on techno-economic feasibility, demand and supply scenario and cost of feedstock/raw materials and selling in the free market. Government has taken various steps including rationalization of custom duty on the feedstock/building blocks for having synergy in the complete value chain for boosting the chemical sector and competitiveness of the industry in the country.

(c) and (d) India's import (in quantity and rupees) of inorganic and organic chemicals from China as well as other countries has decreased in 2016-17 as compared to previous year. Import of chemicals from a country depends on large number of global and domestic economic factors.

(e) and (f) The prices of chemicals depend upon demand and supply prevailing in the market. The Government does not regulate the prices of chemicals.

Drug Pricing Policy

835. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a change in the method of approving prices of new drugs, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether non-essential drugs might be affected by the change in drug pricing policy; and

(c) if so, the steps Government will take to protect any adverse effects of this pricing policy change on the pharmaceutical sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir. The prices of 'new drugs' continue to be governed by Para 15 of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO-2013).

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

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

Providing customized fertilizers to farmers

836. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to distribute/provide customized fertilizers to the farmers of the country;

(b) if so, the details of plan and model applications therefor; and

(c) the proposal to revamp fertilizer units of the country to meet the demand for production and supply thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of India under clause 20 B of the Fertilizer (Control) Order, 1985 has notified 30 valid grades of

customized fertilizers. These are crop, area and soil specific. These grades are notified for the districts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and for the crops namely, Potato, Rice, Wheat, Oil Palm, Maize, Chilli and Sugar Cane.

So far only three companies namely, M/s Tata Chemicals, M/s Nagarjuna Chemicals and M/s Indogulf are producing the customized fertilizers. These grades are required to be sold only in those districts for which it is notified.

(c) Government has decided to revive five 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) by setting up of 12.7 Lakh Metric Tonnes Per Annum (LMTPA) urea plant at each of these units and total capacity of production of five units comes to 63.5 LMTPA.

New Drugs Policy

837. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce a New Drugs Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the new policy; and

(c) the manner in which it would be beneficial to consumers, especially the common man?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has come up with the first draft of a new National Pharmaceutical Policy which includes the following objectives:—

- Making essential drugs accessible at affordable prices to the common masses;
- Providing a longer term stable policy environment for the Pharmaceutical sector;
- Making India sufficiently self-reliant in end to end indigenous drug manufacturing;
- Ensuring world class quality of drugs for domestic consumption and exports;
- Creating an environment for R&D to produce innovator drugs;
- Ensuring growth and development of the Indian Pharma Industry.

(c) This Policy would further help the common man in getting quality medicines at reasonable prices.

Strategy to prevent coal crisis

838. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country is coal surplus, if so, the reasons for shortage of coal at power plants;

(b) whether it is a fact that several States were forced to resort to load shedding due to severe shortage of coal; and

(c) if so, the strategy to be adopted to prevent coal crisis?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) make all efforts to meet the requirements of Power Sector in the country. The Production and dispatch plan is also prepared keeping the same in view. However, many of the power stations of the country opted to restrict the coal supplies from the Coal Companies during major part of the last financial year and in the initial months of this fiscal when demand for power was subdued. The total stock at the power stations' end 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. Hence, there had been no shortage of coal in the beginning of the current fiscal *i.e.* 2017-18 at CIL end, but coal stock at Power House end reduced as Power Houses preferred to consume coal from their own stock during 2016-17 and in the initial months of 2017-18.

(b) and (c) As per Central Electricity Authority (CEA), during April-December, 2017, there was a marginal demand-supply gap of 0.7% in terms of energy in the country. However, this demand-supply gap in energy not supplied is mostly because of factors other than inadequacy of power availability in the country. During the second quarter of 2017-18, there was a spurt in demand in thermal power arising out of drop in power generation from other sources like nuclear, hydro and wind energy. However, coordinated efforts of Ministry of Coal, Coal India Ltd., and Railways ensured stepping up supplies to Power Sector and averted power crisis situation. In fact, coal supplies to Power Sector from CIL grew by 20%, 19%, 17%, 9% and 3% during the months of August, 2017, September, 2017, October, 2017, November, 2017 and December, 2017 respectively as compared to the supplies during the same months of last year. In addition to the monitoring mechanism available at coal companies, coal supplies to Power Utility sector is monitored regularly by an inter-Ministerial Sub-Group comprising representatives of Ministry of Power, Ministry of Coal and

Ministry of Railways constituted by the Infrastructure Review Committee of Cabinet Secretariat. This Sub-Group takes various operational decisions for meeting any contingent situations relating to coal supplies to Power Sector including critical coal stock position for power plants. Moreover, the situation is also monitored jointly by Secretary (Coal), Secretary (Power) and Member Traffic, Railway Board in regular reviews. Due to the above efforts, coal stock at power Stations have reached to 14.68 MT (as on 04.02.2018).

FIR against former and serving officers of BCCL

839. SHRI SANJIV KUMAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that very recently an FIR has been registered by CBI against a former CMD of the Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) and other senior serving officers of BCCL;

(b) if so, the grounds for registration of the FIR;

(c) the status of investigation in the instant case; and

(d) the number of cases of investigation by the prosecuting agencies which are currently under progress against officers of BCCL?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) CBI has recently registered two cases on 08.09.2017 and 22.11.2017 against former Chairman-cum-Managing Directors (CMD) and other Senior officers/officials of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL). The grounds on which cases have been registered are as under:—

(i) During the period 2012-13, the accused persons of BCCL, Dhanbad, entered into a criminal conspiracy amongst themselves and with M/s. Larsen and Toubro Limited, Bangalore and cheated and defrauded BCCL by way of initiating/processing/recommending/approving the consolidated purchase proposal without any support of documents and expert opinion and awarded contract in favour of M/s. Larsen and Toubro Ltd. for supply of 100 numbers of 35 Te Tippers with 06 years MARC at an exorbitant cost of maintenance and thereby causing wrongful pecuniary loss of ₹ 97.04 crores (approx.) to BCCL and corresponding wrongful gain to themselves and others.

(ii) As per order of Central Vigilance Commission, New Delhi, the case was registered alleging that during the period 2009 to 2016, the accused persons in criminal conspiracy with private parties cheated BCCL by issuing supply order for 02 Road Header Machines for use in coal mining works and also made payment for the said machines which were not fulfilling the required technical specification due to which both machines broke down/remained unutilized resulting into wrongful loss of

₹ 11.6 crores (approx..) to BCCL and corresponding wrongful gain to themselves.

The above two cases are under investigation by CBI.

(d) CBI has registered a total number of 38 cases against officers of BCCL and 3 cases against BCCL staff.

Utilization of ventilation Air Mine Methane

840. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ventilation Air Mine Methane (VAM) is vented into the atmosphere along with large volumes of ventilation return air, which constitutes a major source of greenhouse gas emission;

(b) whether it is fact that our country does not have the proper technology in place to capture and utilise the VAM;

(c) the measures Government has taken to develop such technology to harness VAM; and

(d) whether any proposal is pending with Government in this regard, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes Sir, Ventilation Air Methane (VAM) is vented into the atmosphere with return air of Underground Coal Mines. However, concentration of VAM in the return air of Indian Coal Mines is extremely low (typically less than 0.3% and often less than 0.1%) and therefore its contribution to total Green House Gas emission of the country is insignificant.

(b) The technology for capture and utilization of Ventilation Air Methane (VAM) has not been tried so far in India. On global scale also this technology has not been developed commercially.

(c) and (d) The commercial development of technology is discussed with various countries during Joint working group meetings. There is no proposal pending with the Government in this regard.

Allotment of coal mines to CIL

841. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to allot 11 coal mines to Coal India Limited (CIL);

(b) whether it is also a fact that CIL is planning to increase the production capacity by 225 million tonnes:

(c) whether it is also a fact that CIL had informed the Government that its three subsidiaries do not have adequate coal reserves at present; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Coal India Ltd. (CIL) had requested the Government for allotment of additional coal mines so as to make its 3 subsidiaries viz. Eastern Coalfields Ltd. (ECL), Bharat Coking Coal Ltd. (BCCL) and Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL), 100 MT plus coal producing subsidiaries as these 3 subsidiaries do not have adequate coal reserves at present. Considering the request of CIL, 11 coal mines have been allocated to CIL under the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 and the MMDR Act, 1957. Addition of these 11 coal mines will add about 225 MT of coal in its annual production capacity. The details of these 11 coal mines are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of Coal Mine	Location	Name of Subsidiary company of CIL
1.	Amarkonda Murgadangal	Jharkhand	ECL
2.	Brahmani	Jharkhand	
3.	Chichro Patsimal	Jharkhand	
4.-5.	Rampia and Dip side of Rampia	Odisha	WCL
6.-7.	Ghogharpalli and Dip Extension of Ghogharpalli	Odisha	
8.	Mandar Parvat	Bihar	BCCL
9.	Dhulia North	Jharkhand	
10.	Mirzagaon	Bihar	
11.	Pirpainti-Barahat	Jharkhand	

Joint Ventures for evacuation of coal through Railways

842. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to float more Joint Ventures for evacuation of coal through Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether any such Joint Venture has been proposed in the Southern Railway;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Coal India Limited (CIL) a PSU under Ministry of Coal has participated in four JV railway infrastructure companies namely Jharkhand Central Railway Limited (JCRL), Mahanadi Coal Railway Limited (MCRL), Chhattisgarh East Railway Limited (CERL) and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Limited (CEWRL) for construction of dedicated rail corridor for evacuation of coal from the States of Jharkhand, Odisha and Chhattisgarh respectively. There is no proposal to float more Joint Ventures for evacuation of coal at present.

(c) to (e) As of now there is no proposal to form any joint venture with Southern Railways due to commercial reasons.

Revival of thermal power plants by coal linkage policy

843. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of COAL be please to state;

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to revive thermal power plants in the country by coal linkage policy, if so, the details of the scheme;
- (b) the total demand for coal from the unregulated sector; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to offer any discounts/rebates to independent power producers (IPPs) participating in the auction, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The Government approved a new policy for allocation of future coal linkages in a transparent manner for power sector consumers. This policy is christened as 'Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India' (SHAKTI). The policy is an important initiative in alleviating one key challenge in power sector, viz. lack of coal linkage and is expected to positively contribute in resolution of a number of stressed assets. A copy of the policy is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The annual coal linkage with non-regulated sector, from CIL, would be around 100 Million Tonnes Per Annum (MTPA) by March, 2018, taking into account the linkages auctioned recently. Further about 75 MT of coal is projected to be sold to non-regulated sector through various e-auction schemes in the year 2017-18. Total demand from unregulated sector from Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) sources is about 1.22MT. Thus, from the above information, the total indicative coal demand by the Non-Regulated Sector is likely to be around 177 MT.

- (c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

Statement

*Details of a new policy for allocation of future coal linkages
for power sector consumers*

No. 23011/15/2016-CPD/CLD

Government of India

Ministry of Coal

Shastri Bhawan,

New Delhi, the 22nd May, 2017

To

- (i) Chairman-cum-Managing Director,

Coal India Limited,

Coal Bhawan, New Town,

Rajarhat, Kolkata-700156.

- (ii) Chairman-cum-Managing Director,

SCCL, PB No. 18,

Khairatabad, Hyderabad,

Telangana.

Subject: Signing of Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) with Letter of Assurance (LoA) holders of Thermal Power Plants-Fading Away of the existing LoA-FSA Regime and Introduction of a New More Transparent Coal Allocation Policy for Power Sector, 2017- SHAKTI (Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India).

Sir,

The proposal of Coal linkages Allocation Policy for Power Sector has been under examination in this Ministry. With the approval of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), the following policy guidelines for allocation of coal linkages to power sector have been decided:

- (A) Under the old regime of LoA-FSA:

- (i) FSA may be signed with the pending LoA holders after ensuring that the plants are commissioned, respective milestones met, all specified conditions of the LoA fulfilled within specified timeframe and where nothing adverse is detected against the LoA holders. The outer time limit

within which the power plant of LoA holders must be commissioned for consideration of FSA shall be 31.03.2022, failing which LoA would stand cancelled. Coal supply to these capacities may be at 75% of ACQ. The coal supply to these capacities may be increased in future based on coal availability.

- (ii) The 583 pending applications for LoA need not be considered and may be closed.
- (iii) The capacities totaling about 68,000 MW as per the decision of CCEA dated 21.06.2013 would continue to get coal at 75% of ACQ even beyond 31.03.2017. The coal supply to these capacities may be increased in future based on coal availability.
- (iv) About 19,000 MW capacities out of the 68,000 MW could not be commissioned by 31.03.2015. Coal supply to these capacities may be allowed at 75% of ACQ against FSA provided these plants are commissioned within 31.03.2022. The coal supply to these capacities may be increased in future based on coal availability.
- (v) Actual coal supply to power plants shall be to the extent of long-term PPAs with DISCOM/State Designated Agencies (SDAs) and medium term PPAs to be concluded in future against bids to be invited by DISCOMs as per bidding guidelines issued by Ministry of Power.

With these, the old regime of LoA-FSA would come to finality and fade away.

(B) The following shall be considered under a New More Transparent Coal Allocation Policy for Power Sector, 2017-SHAKTI (Scheme for Harnessing and Allocating Koyala (Coal) Transparently in India):

- (i) CIL/SCCL may grant Coal linkages for Central Government and State Government Gencos at the notified price of CIL/SCCL. Similarly, coal linkages may be granted for JVs formed between or within CPSUs and State Govt./PSUs. The recommendations shall be made by Ministry of Power.
- (ii) CIL/SCCL may grant coal linkages on notified price on auction basis for power producers/PPPs having already concluded long term PPAs (both under section 62 and section 63 of The Electricity Act, 2003) based on domestic coal. Power producers/PPPs, participating in auction will bid for discount on the tariff (in paise/unit). Bid Evaluation Criteria shall be the non-zero Levellised Value of the discount (applying a pre-notified discount rate) quoted by the bidders on the existing tariff for each year of the balance period of the PPA. Ministry of Coal may, in consultation

with Ministry of Power, work out a methodology on normative basis to be used in the bidding process for allocation of coal linkages to IPPs with PPAs:—

- (a) The discount by generating companies would be adjusted from the gross amount of bill at the time of billing, *i.e.*, the original bill shall be raised as per the terms and conditions of the PPA and the discount would be reduced from the gross amount of the bill. The discount shall be computed with reference to scheduled generation from linkage coal supplied under this auction. This would be applicable to both the PPAs contracted under Section 62 as well as Section 63 of the Electricity Act, 2003.
 - (b) Accordingly, PPA may be amended or supplemented mutually between the developer and the procurer to pass on the discount to the procurer and the approval of the Appropriate Commission obtained, as per the provisions of the PPA or Regulations.
 - (c) FSA shall be signed with the successful bidders after the terms and conditions for signing of FSA are met and the Appropriate Commission has approved the amendment or supplement to the PPA.
- (iii) CIL/SCCL may grant future coal linkages on auction basis for power producers/IPPAs without PPAs that are either commissioned or to be commissioned. All such power producers/IPPAs may participate in this auction and bid for premium above the notified price of the coal company. The methodology for bidding of linkages shall be similar to the bidding methodology in the policy on auction of linkages of Non-Regulated Sector dated 15.02.2016. Coal drawal will be permitted only against valid long term and medium term PPA with Discoms/State Designated Agencies (SDAs), which the successful bidder shall be required to procure and submit within two years of completion of auction process.
- (a) In case of the commissioned capacities, FSA shall be signed with the successful bidders after completion of the auction process provided that the standard terms and conditions for signing of FSA are met. In case of others, a Letter of Assurance (LoA) may be issued by CIL/SCCL to the successful bidder and FSA shall be signed after commissioning of the unit and fulfilling other conditions of the LoA.
 - (b) Further, if the power producer/IPP, does not start drawing the coal within two years of submission of the PPA, the FSA or the LoA, as the case may be, shall stand terminated.

(iv) Coal linkages may also be earmarked for fresh PPAs, by pre-declaring the availability of coal linkage with description to the States. States may indicate these linkages to Discoms/SDAs.

(I) The States/Discoms may, based on such linkages, undertake tariff based competitive bidding for long-term and medium-term procurement of power as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Power and may recommend grant of these linkages to successful bidders. In case of the commissioned capacities, FSA shall be signed with the successful bidder after completion of the auction process. In case of the likely to be commissioned capacities, a Letter of Assurance may be issued by CIL/SCCL to the successful bidder and FSA shall be signed on commissioning of the unit. The successful bidder shall be required to meet the conditions specified in the Letter of Assurance and FSA. The existing FSA/LoA holders may also participate in the competitive bidding for PPA and, if successful, shall surrender proportionate quantity of the FSA/LoA for the corresponding tenure; or

(II) The States/Discoms may recommend grant of the earmarked linkages to capacities that are covered under exceptions and proviso clauses of para 5.2 of the Tariff Policy dated 28.01.2016. A Letter of Assurance may be issued by CIL/SCCL to such capacities and FSA shall be signed on commissioning of the unit.

Provided

- (a) The priority between (iv) I and (iv) II above will be decided by the State Government concerned considering its public interest and based on its requirements.
- (b) The quantity remaining unutilized for 2 years contrnously shall lapse. Detailed policy guidelines for sub-para (iv) shall be formulated by Ministry of Power.
- (v) Power requirement of group of States can also be aggregated and procurement of such aggregated power can be made by an agency designated by Ministry of Power or authorized by such States on the basis of tariff based bidding. Coal linkages will be earmarked for such agencies by pre-declaring the availability of coal linkage with description, based on which such agency will undertake tariff based competitive bidding for long-term and medium-term procurement of power and recommend grant of these linkages to successful bidders. The methodology in this regard shall be formulated by Ministry of Power.

- (vi) Linkages shall be granted for full normative quantity to Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) incorporated by nominated agency for setting up Ultra Mega Power Projects (UMPP) under Central Government initiative through tariff based competitive bidding under the guidelines for determination of tariff, on the recommendation of Ministry-of Power.
- (vii) Ministry of Coal in consultation with Ministry of Power may, subject to the availability of coal and the condition that such supply does not adversely impact the availability of coal for plants based on domestic coal, formulate a detailed methodology of a transparent bidding process for allocating coal linkages to IPPs, having PPAs based on imported coal, with full pass through of cost saving to consumers. Further, the successful bidder would not be allowed to claim any upward revision in the tariff on account of such coal linkages.
2. Since the Competent Authority has approved the proposal of Coal linkages Allocation Policy for Power Sector as mentioned in para 1 above, policy guidelines are circulated to all concerned for further action. The action taken report shall be sent to this Ministry from time to time.

(A. Das)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Power, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, North Block, New Delhi.
3. CEO, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Chairman, Railway Board, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi
5. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi
7. Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
8. Secretary, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Fertilizers
9. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
10. Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Jeevan Deep Building, New Delhi.
11. Prime Minister's Office, (Kind Attn. - Shri A K. Sharma, Joint Secretary), South Block, New Delhi.

12. Cabinet Secretariat (Kind Attn. - Shri S. G. P. Verghese, Director), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
13. Director (Marketing), Coal India Ltd., Kolkata, Coal Bhawan, New Town, Rajarhat, Kolkata-700156.
14. EO/Coal Movement, SCCL, PB No. 18, Red Hills, Khairatabad, Hyderabad, Telangana
15. CMD, CMPDI, Gondwana Place, Kanke Road, Ranchi, Jharkhand.
16. Chairman, Central Electricity Authority, Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi.

Copy also to:

Chief Secretaries of all States/UTs

Copy for information to:

1. OSD to MoS(I/C), Coal, 2.PS to MoS (I/C), Coal, power and N&RE, 3. PSO to Secretary, Ministry of Coal, 4.PPS to Additional Secretary, Ministry of Coal, 5. Sr. PPS to Joint Secretary (RPG), Ministry of Coal, 6. PS to JS(VB), Ministry of Coal, 7. PPS to JS (RKS), Ministry of Coal, 8.PS to JS and FA, Ministry of Coal, 9. PS to Adviser (Projects). Ministry of Coal, 10. PS to Economic Adviser, Ministry of Coal, 11.PS to Director, CPO, Ministry of Coal, 12. Shri G.K. Vashishtha, GM(S&M), CIL, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi.

Copy to Director, NIC, M/o Coal with the request to place the same on the website of this Ministry.

(A.K. Das)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

Recommendation to break up monopoly of CIL

844. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government officials tasked with reviewing energy security by the Prime Minister are recommending the break up of the country's coal monopoly by the Coal India Ltd. (CIL); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL, (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) No Sir. However, Niti Aayog, in its "Draft National Energy Policy" under Chapter 5-"Coal" (Clause 5.4.7) has *inter alia* made some suggestions in this regard which do not reflect Government policy.

Allocation of coal to karnataka

845. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that between April and December, 2017, Karnataka was allocated 119.57 lakh metric tonnes of coal, of which only 63.09 lakh metric tonnes was supplied;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the quantity of coal demanded by Government of Karnataka for the period from January to March, 2018; and

(d) the quantity of coal allocated and expected to be supplied to Karnataka between January and March, 2018?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL) (a) and (b) The Raichur Thermal Power Station (TPS) of Karnataka has Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) where the pro rata Annual Contract Quantity (ACQ) for the period from April to December, 2017 was 59.55 Lakh Tonnes (LT) and actual coal supply during the same period was 51.1 LT. The coal supply to other power plants of the State is through Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and coal is supplied on a best effort basis. The pro rata MoU quantity for the period from April to December, 2017 was 52.374 LT against which 28.26 LT was supplied. WCL had offered Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) to lift quantities as per their requirement from a mix of Rail and Road modes considering the logistics feasibility. However, KPCL did not lift coal by road.

(c) and (d) The coal requirements against FSA of power plants of Karnataka between January and March, 2018 is 21.86 LT and the coal requirement against MoU of the power plants of the State for the same period is 18.75 LT. It is expected that the coal supply against the FSA requirements shall be met and the supplies against MoU shall be made on a best effort basis.

Price of non-coking coal

846. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Coal India Limited has increased the prices of non-coking coal, aiming to rake in ₹ 1956 crore for the remaining part of this fiscal;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that following the increase in price, CIL projected annual incremental revenue at ₹ 6421 crore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) Fixing the price of coal is not in the domain of the Government. Pricing is an operational decision of Coal India Limited (CIL) and Government does not play any role in it. As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), prices of non-coking coal were rationalized with effect from 09.01.2018.

In order to linearize the prices of coal *vis-a-vis* grades of coal, CIL has rationalized its pricing structure. Out of 17 grades of non-coking coal, CIL has decreased the prices of 7 grades, price of 1 grade remained unchanged and moderately increased the prices of 9 grades. The consecutive pricing exercises of May, 2016 and January, 2018 was aimed at rationalizing the price structure, for narrowing down the price difference of unit heat value of higher and lower grades of coal and bringing linearity.

As a result of the above exercise, the projected annual incremental revenue was estimated at ₹ 6421 crores, assuming dispatch of B.E. production (2017-18) of 561.32 Million Tonne of non-coking coal. For the remaining part of the year the incremental revenue was estimated at ₹ 1956 Crores assuming that 33% of the B.E production is achieved as per production target for the remaining part of the fiscal year.

Modernisation of post offices

847. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan to modernise/upgrade the post offices in view of the important works being assigned to them *viz.*, issuance of train reservation tickets, Aadhaar enrolment centres, Passport seva, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of post offices in which modernisation/upgradation has already been undertaken; and

(d) the details of post offices in which modernisation/upgradation is proposed to be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The IT Modernization Project of Department of Posts was approved by the Government in November, 2012. The project involves computerization, modernisation and networking of approximately 1,55,000 post offices in the country, including 1.29 lakhs branch post offices in rural

areas. The scope of the project *inter alia* includes:—

- (i) Establishment of IT Infrastructure.
- (ii) The project of Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices for a New India (DARPAN).
- (iii) Development of software applications.
- (iv) Training of Postal employees and Gramin Dak Sewaks for the changes at their workplace on account of induction of technology.

Besides above, necessary infrastructure/equipments etc are provided and upgradation of the post offices is carried out on need basis for running different services like Passenger Reservation System (PRS), Post Office Passport Sewa Kendras (POPSKs) and Aadhaar Enrolment/Updation Centres etc.

(c) Computerization of 25,348 post offices has been carried out to provide all services mandated to the Department of Posts. 28,290 offices including Post Offices, Mail Offices and Administrative Offices are connected under Single Wide Area Network (SWAN). Further, 'look and feel' of 3274 post offices has been upgraded so far. Under the IT Modernization Project, till now 23502 post offices have been migrated to Core Banking Solution (CBS) and 53,603 rural branch post offices have been provided DARPAN handheld devices, which is capable of carrying out online postal and financial transactions. There are 332 Railway Passenger Reservation System (PRS) locations, 60 Post Office Passport Sewa Kendras (POPSKs) and 2264 Aadhaar Enrolment-cum-Updation Centres functional across the country.

(d) Expansion of the facility of Passenger Reservation System (PRS), Post Office Passport Sewa Kendra (POPSKs) and Aadhaar Enrolment-cum-Updation Centres in Post Offices is an ongoing process and is undertaken considering feasibility and viability of each location in consultation with Nodal Department/Organization.

Penalty on telecom service providers for denying interconnection

848. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the telecom regulator, TRAI, had recommended a hefty penalty of ₹ 3050 crore on three telecom service providers;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that this was done for the denial of interconnection to another service provider; 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) in its recommendations dated 21.10.2016 had recommended penalty of ₹ 50 crore per Licensed Service Area (LSA) on M/s Bharti Airtel Limited, M/s Vodafone India Limited and M/s Idea Cellular Limited for violation of the provisions of license agreements and the standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations, 2009 as per the details below:—

Sl. No.	Telecom Service Provider	No. of LSAs in which penalty is recommended by TRAI	Amount of penalty recommended by TRAI
1.	M/s Bharti Airtel Limited	21	21*50 crores = ₹ 1050 crores
2.	M/s Vodafone India Limited	19	19*50 crores = ₹ 950 crores
3.	M/s IdeaCellular Limited	21	21*50 crores = ₹ 1050 crores
TOTAL			₹ 3050 crores

(c) and (d) TRAI in its recommendations have stated that M/s Bharti Airtel Limited, M/s Vodafone India Limited and M/s Idea Cellular Limited have violated the terms and conditions of License and denied Interconnection to M/s RJIL (M/s Reliance JioInfocomm Limited) which appears to have been done with ulterior motive to stifle competition and is anti-consumer.

Suspension of internet services

849. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of instances where internet services were suspended 2014 onwards along with details of reasons for ordering suspension, places where it was suspended, duration of suspension and the law invoked to suspend services, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether, in future, such suspensions will be ordered by invoking the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017;

(c) if so, what consultations were held with stakeholders, civil society, etc., before finalizing these Rules; and

(d) how these Rules are an improvement over the earlier rules/laws using which, internet services could be suspended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The Section 5 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885

empowers Central/State Government, on occurrence of public emergency or in the interest of public safety, to take temporary possession of licensed telegraphs and to order interception or detention or non-transmission of messages.

In pursuance of these provisions of Indian Telegraph Act and in order to streamline the process of temporary suspension of telecom services, the Department of Telecommunications has notified “Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017” on 07.08.2017. As per these rules, the directions for temporary suspension of telecom services, including internet services in an area, can either be issued by the Union Home Secretary or the State Home Secretary, as the case may be, due to public emergency, or in the interest of public safety. These directions are then reviewed by the Review Committee constituted in the Central or State Government under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary or Chief Secretary, as the case may be, within five working days of issue of such directions.

Before finalizing these rules, inter-ministerial consultations were held with Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Ministry of Finance and NITI Aayog.

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has informed that it does not maintain records of internet shutdowns ordered by the State Governments. Further, MHA has not exercised its power under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017 till date.

Free data services to rural masses

850. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has suggested Government to consider providing free data services to the rural masses;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken any decision in the matter; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had suo-moto initiated a Consultation Paper on Free Data on 19.05.2016. Subsequently, TRAI provided its recommendations to Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on “Encouraging Data Usage in Rural Area through Provisioning of Free Data” dated 19.12.2016. The recommendations *inter alia* state that:

- (i) In order to bridge the affordability gap for the persons residing in rural areas and to support Government's efforts towards cashless economy by incentivising digital means, the Authority recommends that scheme under which a reasonable amount of data, say 100MB per month, may be made available to rural subscribers for free.
- (ii) The cost of implementation of the scheme may be met from Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF).

(c) and (d) The recommendations were referred back to TRAI for clarifications by DoT *vide* letter dated 25-09-2017. The response from TRAI dated 29-11-2017 has been received and is being examined in DoT.

Use of drones for delivering parcels

851. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to provide postal services by using latest technology with support of drones, for delivering mail and parcels at various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with indicating details of study done so far in this regard; and

(c) by when this system will be started in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No Sir. No proposal to use drones for delivery of mail or parcels is under consideration of the Department at present. However, the Department has taken measures such as development of a smart phone based Postman Mobile Application through which, delivery information can be updated on a real time basis and electronic signature of customers can be obtained on the smart phone.

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

Interconnectivity regulations for service providers

852. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued new interconnectivity regulations, mandating service providers to enter into an interconnection agreement on non-discriminatory basis within 30 days of receiving a request from another operator;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the TRAI has fixed ₹ 1 lakh as daily penalty per service area for operators violating the new norms; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 1st January, 2018 has prescribed “The Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018” with a view to ensure effective and expeditious interconnection on the basis of Fair, Reasonable and Non-Discriminatory Principles. These Regulations have come into force w.e.f. 01.02.2018. Copy of these Regulations is given in the Statement (*See below*). These Regulations, *inter alia*, provide as follows:—

- Every service provider shall, within 30 days of receipt of request from a service provider, enter into interconnection agreement, on non-discriminatory basis, with such service provider.
- If any service provider contravenes the provisions of these regulations, it shall, without prejudice to any penalty which may be imposed under its licence or the provisions of the Act or rules or orders made or directions issued thereunder; be liable to pay an amount, by way of financial disincentive not exceeding rupees one lakh per day per licensed service area, as the Authority may direct.

Statement

Copy of interconnectivity regulations

[To be published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4]

The Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018 (1 of 2018)

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Notification

New Delhi, the 1st January, 2018

File No. 10-10/2016-BB&PA — In exercise of the powers conferred upon it under section 36, read with sub-clauses (ii), (iii) and (iv) of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 11, of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997), the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India hereby makes the following regulations, namely:—

Chapter I

Preliminary

1. Short title, extent and commencement:—

- (1) These regulations may be called the Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018 (1 of 2018).

(2) They shall come into effect from the 1st February, 2018.

2. **Definitions:**— In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:—

- (1) “Act” means the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997);
- (2) “Authority” means the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India established under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Act;
- (3) “busy hour” means the continuous one-hour period lying wholly in a given time interval for which the traffic is highest;
- (4) “interconnection” means the commercial and technical arrangements under which service providers connect their equipment, network and services to enable their customers to have access to the customers, services and networks of other service providers;
- (5) “interconnection charge” means the charges payable by one service provider to another service provider for interconnection;
- (6) “interconnection usage charges” or “IUC” means the charge payable by one service provider to one or more service providers for usage of the network elements for origination, transit or termination of the calls;
- (7) “licence” means a licence granted or having effect as if granted under Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885, (13 of 1885) and Indian Wireless Telegraphy Act, 1933 (17 of 1933);
- (8) “point of interconnection” or “POI” means a mutually agreed point of demarcation (based on TRAI determination/regulations/License Agreement) where the exchange of traffic between the two parties takes place;
- (9) “port” means a place of termination on a switch/distribution frame to provide ingress and egress of traffic between two interconnecting networks;
- (10) “regulations” means the Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018 (1 of 2018);
- (11) “Schedule” means the Schedule appended to these regulations;
- (12) all other words and expressions used in these regulations but not defined, and defined in the Act and the rules and other regulations made thereunder, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act or the rules or other regulations, as the case may be.

Chapter II

Interconnection Agreement

3. **Interconnection Agreement:**— Every service provider shall, within thirty days of receipt of request from a service provider, enter into interconnection agreement, on non-discriminatory basis, with such service provider.
4. **Procedure for entering into interconnection agreement:**—
- (1) A service provider, who intends to enter into an interconnection agreement with another service provider, shall make request to such service provider alongwith:—
 - (a) a copy of its license agreement;
 - (b) name of the services for which interconnection is sought;
 - (c) proposed locations of its points of interconnection; and
 - (d) name of technology to be used for interconnection at each POI.
 - (2) The service provider, to whom request has been made under sub-regulation (1) for entering into interconnection agreement, shall, within five working days of receipt of the request, send draft interconnection agreement to the service provider from whom the request was received.
 - (3) On receipt of the draft interconnection agreement issued under sub-regulation (2), the service provider who made the request for entering into interconnection agreement shall, within five working days, submit its suggestions and objections, if any, on such draft to the other service provider.

Chapter III

Bank Guarantee

5. **Bank guarantees:**—
- (1) The service provider, who made request for entering into interconnection agreement, shall be liable to furnish bank guarantee, for a period of six months from the date of establishment of initial interconnection for the total number of ports sought during such period, if demanded by the service provider to whom request for entering into interconnection agreement was made:—

Provided that the amount of such bank guarantee shall be determined in the manner specified in the Schedule-I to these regulations.
 - (2) At the end of six months from the date of establishment of initial interconnection or on the 1st February, 2018, whichever is later, liability to furnish bank guarantee shall be determined in the following manner:

- (a) the interconnection usage charges payable by the two interconnecting service providers to each other for the two months prior to the end of six months from the date of establishment of initial interconnection or the 1st February, 2018, whichever is later, shall be calculated and the service provider who is liable to pay interconnection usage charges, after adjustment, to the other service provider, shall be liable to furnish bank guarantee for a period of six months, if demanded by the other service provider;
- (b) the bank guarantee shall be limited to the amount of interconnection usage charges payable by a service provider after adjustment under clause (a); and
- (c) this process to determine the liability of a service provider to furnish the bank guarantee shall be repeated at the end of every six month.

Chapter IV

Provisioning and Augmentation of ports at POIs

6. Seeking ports at POIs:—

- (1) For a period of two years from the date of establishment of initial interconnection, the service provider, who made the request for entering into interconnection agreement, shall seek ports at POIs from the other service provider to meet the demand of incoming and outgoing traffic at the POIs,
- (2) At the end of two years from the date of establishment of initial interconnection or on the 1st February, 2018, whichever is later, the total ports existing at a POI shall be converted for carrying one way traffic in such a manner that the number of ports for sending the outgoing traffic of each service provider to the other service provider are in proportion to their outgoing traffics averaged over a period of preceding three months; and
- (3) After the conversion of ports under sub-regulation (2), each service provider shall seek ports to meet the requirement of its outgoing traffic.

7. Request for initial provisioning of ports:—

After entering into an interconnection agreement, the service provider, who made request for entering into interconnection agreement, may request the other service provider to provide such number of ports at POIs which shall meet the requirement of its outgoing and incoming traffic at the POIs for a period of three months from the date of initial interconnection.

8. Request for augmentation of POIs:—

A service provider may request the other service provider for additional ports at a POI, if the projected capacity utilization of the ports at such POI, at the end of thirty days from the date of placing the request, is likely to be more than seventy per cent of the ports at the POI and such projected capacity utilization of the ports at the POI shall be determined on the basis of the daily traffic for the preceding thirty days at the POI during busy hour:

Provided that the service provider shall request for such number of additional ports which is likely to bring the capacity utilization of the ports at the POI at the end of thirty days from the date of making request, to less than sixty per cent.

9. Framework for provisioning of ports:—

- (1) A service provider, upon receipt of request of ports under regulation 7 and regulation 8, and collocation space, if required, shall issue letter of acceptance, and, demand note, if any, within five working days of the receipt of the request.
- (2) A service provider, upon receipt of the demand note under sub-regulation (1), shall pay the amount within three working days from the date of receipt of the demand note.
- (3) The service provider, who issued the letter of acceptance under sub-regulation (1), shall intimate the requesting service provider about provisioning of the ports and allocation of the collocation space, if applicable:—
 - (a) within five working days from the date of issue of its letter of acceptance, in case no demand note was issued; and
 - (b) within five working days from the date of receipt of payment from the requesting service provider against the demand note, in case a demand note was issued.
- (4) A service provider, upon receipt of the intimation under sub-regulation (3), shall, within three working days of the receipt of the intimation, intimate the other service provider about establishment of the transmission link between the POIs of the two service providers.
- (5) A service provider, upon receipt of the intimation under sub-regulation (4), shall, within five working days of the receipt of the intimation, carry out acceptance testing and issue final letter of commissioning of the ports to the other service provider.

- (6) A service provider shall provide STM-1 ports at POIs, if any service provider requests for provisioning of such ports for augmentation of the POIs:—

Provided that the two service providers may agree for augmentation of POIs at any lower or higher level such as DS-3 or STM-16.

Chapter V

Interconnection Charges

10. **Interconnection charges:** The interconnection charges such as set-up charges and infrastructure charges may be mutually negotiated between service providers subject to the regulations or directions issued by the Authority from time to time:

Provided that such charges are reasonable, transparent and non-discriminatory.

Chapter VI

Disconnection of POIs

11. **Procedure for disconnection of POIs:** A service provider, before disconnection of a POI, shall:—

- (a) give a show-cause notice of fifteen working days to the other service provider with reasons for the proposed disconnection;
- (b) if not satisfied with the reply of the show-cause notice issued under clause (a) or no reply is received to the show-cause notice, give a notice of fifteen working days to such service provider specifying the date of disconnection of POI; and
- (c) not disconnect POI before the expiry of the period of notice given under clause (b):

Provided that nothing contained in this regulation shall apply if a POI is disconnected with mutual consent, or on the direction of the Licensor or the Authority.

Chapter VII

Financial Disincentive on Interconnection Matters

12. **Consequences for contravention of the provisions of these regulations:** If any service provider contravenes the provisions of these regulations, it shall, without prejudice to any penalty which may be imposed under its licence, or the provisions of the Act or rules or orders made or directions issued, thereunder, be liable to pay an amount, by way of financial disincentive not

exceeding rupees one lakh per day per licensed service area, as the Authority may direct:—

Provided that no order for payment of any amount by way of financial disincentive shall be made by the Authority unless the service provider has been given a reasonable opportunity of representing against the contravention of the regulations observed by the Authority.

Chapter VIII

Miscellaneous

13. **Power of the Authority to issue direction:** Without prejudice to any of the provisions of the Act or any other regulations made under the Act or direction issued thereunder, the Authority may, from time to time, issue such directions, as it may deem fit, to the service providers on any aspect of interconnection for which provisions have been made under these regulations.

Maintenance of BSNL towers by private companies

853. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government plans to hand over the maintenance of BSNL towers to private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the BSNL employee unions have opposed the said plan of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has floated a tender for outsourcing of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities of passive infra (non electronic infrastructure at mobile tower sites) along with Sales and Marketing (S&M) work for 26287 BSNL Non-colocated Base Transceiver Station (BTS) sites in 21 circles on pan-India basis for operational and financial reasons.

(c) and (d) BSNL has informed that its Employee Unions so far have not opposed the aforesaid outsourcing arrangement of Operations and Maintenance (O&M) activities of passive infra along with Sales and Marketing (S&M) work for BSNL non-colocated BTS sites.

Foreign investments in telecom equipment manufacturing

854. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of investments made in telecom equipment manufacturing by foreign manufacturers in the country in the last five years and the current year, year-wise and company-wise;

(b) the details of profits earned by these plants;

(c) whether there is any regulatory mechanism overseeing manufacturing in these plants; and

(d) whether any new manufacturing plants have been approved by Government, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) The FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) up to 100% is permitted in telecom equipment manufacturing *via* automatic route. Under the automatic route, investment in telecom equipment manufacturing can be made in the country without prior approval either of the Government or the Reserve Bank of India. Moreover, FDI is largely a matter of private business decisions, and therefore the investments and other related details of the foreign companies carrying out telecom equipment manufacturing in India, is not maintained.

Regulation of installation of mobile towers in residential areas

855. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to regulate installation of mobile towers in residential areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to minimize the effects of mobile tower radiation on people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. In the Ministry of Communications, there is no proposal to regulate installation of mobile towers in residential areas.

With regard to impact of Electromagnetic Field (EMF) emissions from mobile towers on health, it is intimated that World Health Organization (WHO) has referred

to approximately 25,000 articles published around the world over past 30 years, and based on an in-depth review of scientific literature, has stated, “Despite the feeling of some people that more research needs to be done, scientific knowledge in this area is now more extensive than for most chemicals.” WHO has concluded — “current evidence does not confirm the existence of any health consequences from exposure to low level electromagnetic fields”.

The main conclusion from the WHO reviews is that EMF exposures below the limits recommended in the International Commission on Non Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) international guidelines do not appear to have any known consequence on health. In India norms for exposure limit for the Radio Frequency Field (Base Station Emissions) are already 10 times more stringent than the safe limits prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO. Making the norms ten times stricter than what has been prescribed by ICNIRP and recommended by WHO, obviates the need for having separate norms/regulations on installation of mobile tower for special localities like residential.

Government of India has also put in place a well structured process and adequate mechanism to ensure that Telecommunications Service Providers strictly adhere to these prescribed norms. All new mobile BTS sites start radiating commercially only after ensuring adherence to prescribed norms and after submission of certificate to this effect to relevant Telecom Enforcement Resource and Monitoring (TERM) field offices of DoT. In order to ensure compliance to the prescribed stricter precautionary norms of EMF radiation from mobile tower, extensive audit of compliance of self-certificates being submitted by telecom service providers and Base Transceiver Station (BTS) sites is carried out by TERM field units of DoT.

Public Data Offices for Wi-Fi hotspot services

856. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to open Public Data Offices (PDO) in the country to provide Wi-Fi hotspot services on payment, on the lines of PCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any pilot project for Wi-Fi hotspot has been launched, the outcome thereof;

(d) whether any criteria or guidelines have been finalized as to whom the PDO will be allotted, like PCO, if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether, in view of internet becoming a necessity for availing welfare schemes, the services of PDO will be extended to rural areas also, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Department of Telecommunications (DoT) received recommendations dated 9th March, 2017 from Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on "Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks". In these recommendations, TRAI has, *inter alia*, recommended setting up of Public Data Offices (PDOs) for providing public Wi-Fi services on a model similar to the Public Calling Offices (PCOs).

A Committee under Member (Technology) was constituted in Department of Telecommunications for examining these TRAI recommendations and the Committee has submitted its report.

(c) Based on the recommendation, TRAI sought permission on 11.08.2017 from DoT for carrying out the trial Project, the same has been provided by DoT to TRAI. This trial Project is under Progress.

(d) and (e) After completion of trial and submission of recommendation, appropriate decision will be taken by DoT.

Shifting of WPC wing

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is set to shift wireless planning and coordination (WPC) wing completely online;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this will help to speed up network deployment, addressing longstanding grievances of carriers that have often asked the Government to simplify processes;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the telecom regulator, TRAI, has recommended many things for implementing ease of doing business; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A plan to upgrade the existing online system of WPC Wing is under consideration, which will also aim at simplifying the processes.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. TRAI has provided recommendation dated 30.11.2017 on “Ease of doing Business”. The recommendation includes simplification of SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation) clearance, provision of online submission of documents, time-bound delivery of various licenses, among others. The TRAI recommendation is under examination.

App-based calls

†858. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that telecom companies are opposing app-based calls;

(b) if so, the reasons for such opposition;

(c) whether customers can avail the facility of calls on cheap rates from app-based calls;

(d) if so, whether the Ministry would consider to provide facility of app-based and cheaper calls to customers by formulating feasible policy for app-based calls; and

(e) whether BSNL is formulating its own app so that customers can avail facility of app-based calls, which the private companies are opposing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) TRAI had received representations from Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) in 2014 about Over-The-Top (OTT) Services being provided by OTT players using the telecom service provider's network. The Telecom Service providers through COAI, had opposed OTT services on the ground that some of the services being offered by OTT players like messaging/instant messaging and Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) calls are substitutes for the services being offered by telecom service providers and this creates non-level playing field because of absence of any licensing and regulatory restrictions or liabilities or obligations on OTT players. Since, these apps offer voice calls on data and in view of the fact that cost of data is drastically coming down, the app based calls is a cheaper option for the customer.

(d) There is no restriction on App based calls at present. Hence, in the view of the DoT, there is no policy required to be under consideration in the Government.

(e) No Sir, there is no such indication from BSNL at present.

Converting Post Offices into Multi-Service Centres

859. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise data of the total number of Post Offices modernised and converted into Multi-Service Centres in the country under the 'Public Internet Access Programme – National Rural Internet Mission and deliver various citizen-centric services';

(b) the State-wise data of the total number of post offices yet to be modernised and converted into Multi-Service Centres in the country; and

(c) by when Government is planning to modernise all the Post Offices of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Department of Posts is not implementing the Project of Public Internet Access Programme under National Rural Internet Mission for converting Post Offices into Multi Service Centers in the country. The Department of Posts has however, computerized 25,348 departmental Post Offices across the country for carrying out various online transactions of Postal and Financial Services. Further, under the Project “Digital Advancement of Rural Post offices for a New India” (DARPAN), the Department of Posts is planning to deploy Hand Held Devices in 1.29 lakhs Branch Post Offices in the rural areas of the country, for carrying out online Postal and Financial transactions. The DARPAN Project is being implemented in a phased manner and likely to be completed by June, 2018. State/UT-wise data of total number of Post Offices computerized and the current status of DARPAN Project is given in the Statement-I and II respectively.

Statement-I***Information on computerisation of Departmental Post Offices, State/UT-wise***

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Total Computerized Post Offices
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1595
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	49
3.	Assam	625
4.	Bihar	1055
5.	Chhattisgarh	349
6.	Goa	104
7.	Gujarat	1337

Sl.No.	State/Union Territory	Total Computerized Post Offices
8.	Haryana	504
9.	Himachal Pradesh	469
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	262
11.	Jharkhand	463
12.	Karnataka	1714
13.	Kerala	1499
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1021
15.	Maharashtra	2111
16.	Manipur	56
17.	Meghalaya	68
18.	Mizoram	39
19.	Nagaland	42
20.	Odisha	1205
21.	Punjab	726
22.	Rajasthan	1335
23.	Sikkim	23
24.	Tamil Nadu	2581
25.	Telangana	850
26.	Tripura	83
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2553
28.	Uttarakhand	392
29.	West Bengal	1717
30.	Delhi	407
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4
32.	Daman and Diu	3
33.	Lakshadweep	9
34.	Chandigarh	42
35.	Puducherry	29
36.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	27
TOTAL		25348

Statement-II*Digital Advancement of Rural Post Offices for a New India (DARPAN)**Rolled Out Status as on 31.01.2018, State-wise*

Sl.No.	State	No. of Branch Post Offices Rolled out
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2229
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9
3.	Assam	3266
4.	Bihar	2882
5.	Chhattisgarh	1940
6.	Delhi	88
7.	Goa	138
8.	Gujarat	6544
9.	Jharkhand	2618
10.	Haryana	2102
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1866
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	773
13.	Kerala	1934
14.	Karnataka	2554
15.	Meghalaya	133
16.	Maharashtra	1438
17.	Manipur	46
18.	Madhya Pradesh	2885
19.	Mizoram	123
20.	Nagaland	12
21.	Odisha	2176
22.	Punjab	3057
23.	Rajasthan	5018
24.	Sikkim	0
25.	Telangana	1470
26.	Tripura	129

Sl.No.	State	No. of Branch Post Offices Rolled out
27.	Uttarakhand	619
28.	Uttar Pradesh	7027
29.	West Bengal	527
TOTAL		53603

Making telecom services more accessible for differently-abled

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the telecom regulator TRAI has recommended measures to make telecom services more accessible for the differently-abled;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the handset manufacturers would be mandated to manufacture at least one model for differently-abled persons with assistive technology features such as hearing, visual aids and emergency button;

(c) whether it is also a fact that information on billing and pricing needs to be provided in a more accessible form for such persons; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) In accordance with the TRAI Act, 1997 as amended, TRAI has initiated the consultation process, on *suo moto* basis, with release of the Consultation Paper “Making ICT Accessible for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)” on 20th December, 2017. The paper seeks views of all stakeholders with regard to identifying key areas where policy interventions are needed, to understand the barriers being faced by the PwDs in accessing the telecom and broadcasting services, so that affirmative action at policy level in the form of recommendations to the Government or formulation of regulation or advisory to equipment/service providers or a combination of these can be taken by TRAI under the Act.

The consultation process is presently going on. The consultation paper is available on TRAI website at www.trai.gov.in/release-publication/consultation.

Government mandated internet shutdowns

861. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been a rise in the number of Government mandated internet shutdowns in the country in the last two years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether internet shutdowns have helped to achieve the aims, for which the Government sought these shutdowns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Section 5 of Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 empowers Central/State Government, on occurrence of public emergency or in the interest of public safety, to take temporary possession of licensed telegraphs and to order interception or detention or non-transmission of messages.

In pursuance to these provisions of Indian Telegraph Act, the Department of Telecommunications has notified “Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017” on 07.08.2017. As per these rules, the directions for temporary suspension of telecom services, including internet services in an area, can either be issued by the Union Home Secretary or the State Home Secretary, as the case may be, due to public emergency, or in the interest of public safety.

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has informed that it does not maintain records of internet shutdowns ordered by the State Governments. Further, MHA has not exercised its power under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017 till date.

Setting up of grievance redressal mechanism and State Food Commissions

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

(a) whether all the States have completed the process of setting up grievance redressal mechanism and a State Food Commission as per the rules set under the NFSA; and

(b) the reasons for the delay in conducting social audits by the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Under the National Food Security Act, 2013, it is the responsibility of States/Union Territories to set up Grievance Redressal Mechanism, which comprises of Internal Grievance Redressal Mechanism (nodal officers, call centres, help lines etc.), District Grievance Redressal Officer (DGRO) and State Food Commission (SFC). As reported by State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, all the States/UTs have set up call centres/helplines and have designated DGROs. In 21 States/UTs, independent SFC

has been constituted under Section 16 of the Act. In remaining States/UTs, except West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, an existing commission or body has been designated as SFC, under Section 18 of the Act, to exercise the powers and perform the functions of SFC.

(b) The States/UTs have started implementation of NFSA from different dates between September, 2013 to November, 2016. After starting implementation of the Act, the States/UTs took some time to put in place mechanism for social audit

Telephone density in villages of Maharashtra

863. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present telephone density in the villages of Maharashtra; and

(b) the action Government proposes to take to increase the telephone density substantially in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The telephone density in Maharashtra service area as on 30.11.2017 stands at 94.47 %. The rural and urban teledensity in Maharashtra are 68.53% and 138.79% respectively.

(b) The Government has pursued liberal and reformist policies for rapid growth of the telecom connectivity in India. The Government has ensured fair competition among service providers, and a fair and proactive regulatory framework to make telecom services available to consumers at affordable prices.

The Government has taken a major initiative to ramp up telecom infrastructure in rural areas of the country including Maharashtra. The flagship BharatNet programme is being implemented to link 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats (GPs) in India through optical fibre network of which 28014 GPs are in Maharashtra. A total of 13437 GPs are Service ready in the State.

In order to bring connectivity to remote villages in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, a project has been executed for providing mobile services in these areas. Under Phase-I of this project mobile connectivity has been provided at 65 sites in Maharashtra. Another 136 locations are to be taken up under Phase-II of this project.

Sugar subsidy

864. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any other States, like the State of Tamil Nadu, had requested the Central Government to enhance the subsidy rate of sugar from 18.50 to 28.50 per kg.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government on the request made by the State Government of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Central Government has reviewed the sugar subsidy scheme and has decided to continue it only for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families. 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.

Linking of ration card with Aadhaar

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

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure that no individual is denied PDS benefits even if he/she does not have Aadhaar or has not linked his ration card to the number; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Food and Public Distribution has issued clear instructions to all States/UT Governments 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 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. The State/UT Governments are required to comply with the provisions

of the notification issued by this Department *vide* SO No. 371[E] dated 8/2/17 [as amended from time to time], for granting PDS benefits to those beneficiaries who do not possess Aadhaar.

Refusal of ration to BPL people due to non-availability of Aadhaar card

866. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Fair Price Shops under Public Distribution System (PDS) are refusing to distribute foodgrains to people from BPL category due to non-linkage of Aadhaar number;

(b) the provision for providing Government benefit schemes to those from the BPL category that either do not have an Aadhaar card or have not yet registered due to absence of permanent address, which is essential for procuring an Aadhaar card; and

(c) the number of BPL category people who have so far been denied the benefits of Government schemes due to non-availability of Aadhaar card during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) 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 National Food Security Act (NFSA) in getting their entitled quota of foodgrains.

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. The notification provides that 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)

Besides, 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.

Procurement of farmers' yields

867. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of farmers owing to procurement of their various agricultural yields by the private sector below the prescribed rates;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government agencies have been negligent towards procurement of farmers' yields from time to time; and

(c) if so, whether Government is contemplating to prepare a blueprint for total procurement of yields of farmers by Government agencies along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The procurement policy of wheat and paddy is open ended. Under this policy, whatever wheat/paddy is offered by farmers, within the stipulated period and conforming to the specifications prescribed, are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies including Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool. However, if producer/farmer gets better price in comparison to MSP, they are free to sell their produce in open market *i.e.* to private trader/anyone.

Further the different commodities of coarse grains are procured by State Governments itself in consultation with FCI as per their requirement for distribution under National Food Security Act (NFSA) as well as Other Welfare Schemes (OWS).

Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Government of India implements Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of oil seeds, pulses and cotton at the MSP and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the PSS. With a view to make the existing

procurement mechanism more efficient a concept paper for a new scheme called Market Assurance Scheme (MAS) has been prepared by DAC&FW. A copy of the same is given in the Statement.

Statement

Revised Concept Paper on Market Assurance Scheme

1. 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. 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. 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 horticultural 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. **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 and paddy) of farmers, for which MSPs are notified by Government of India.

5. 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. **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.
 - (vii) Market price stabilization will happen with greater probability due to timely intervention.
7. 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.

Consumer complaints

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

(a) whether Government is receiving a large number of complaints from the consumers against various manufacturers/ companies and E-commerce companies towards harassment and unfair trade practices in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government is seriously considering to replace the existing 31-year old Consumer Protection Act to provide relief to consumers against unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the new Consumer Protection Law will be functional?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) A number of complaints are being received through the National Consumer Helpline (NCH) run by the Department of Consumer Affairs from consumers relating to e-commerce transactions. The complaints relate to Delay in /Not providing Services, no replacement/repair of defective products, Charging for Repair Under Warranty Period, Selling Duplicate/Spurious Product, non-delivery of products, delivery of defective products, paid amount not refunded, delivery of wrong product, etc. For resolution of the consumer grievances, the NCH has partnered with about 60 e-commerce companies under its programme called “Convergence Platform”. The complaints received against the companies are transferred directly to the companies concerned through the system for resolution. In cases where the consumer is not satisfied with the resolution provided, the consumers are advised to approach the Consumer Forum of appropriate jurisdiction, set up under the provisions of Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

(c) and (d) The Government has already introduced the Consumer Protection Bill, 2018 in Parliament to replace the existing 31 years old Consumer Protection Act, 1986. The Bill provides for establishment of an executive agency, to be called the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA), which will, *inter alia*, deal with matters relating to unfair trade practices and misleading advertisements.

Bonus on procurement of paddy

869. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Government has issued direction to the State Governments not to give bonus to the farmers on procurement of paddy over and above the Minimum Support Price (MSP), if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the said directive stipulates that if any State Government allows bonus to the farmers, the Food Corporation of India will not procure additional quantum of rice from that State;

(c) whether it is a fact that some State Governments, including Chhattisgarh, are allowing subsidy to farmers over and above the MSP; and

(d) if so, whether that relaxation will be allowed to other States also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Government of India has stipulated that in case a surplus De-

Centralized Procurement (DCP) state declares bonus for paddy or wheat from Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2014-15 and Rabi Marketing Season (RMS) 2015-16 onwards, the Central Government will limit the procurement for Central Pool to the extent of requirement of foodgrains for National Food Security Act (NFSA)/Other Welfare Scheme (OWS) allocations of that State and will provide acquisition and distribution subsidy to the State Government accordingly.

Food Corporation of India (FCI) may acquire any additional quantity of foodgrains from the State Government/its Agencies for augmenting its stocks elsewhere, but it would not be under any compulsion to do so. The State Government will be responsible for the disposal of any surplus quantity procured in the State over and above this quantity and bear the financial burden in that regard.

With regard to non-DCP States, it has been decided that if a State announces bonus over and above MSP, the FCI will not take part in Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in the State concerned and State agencies will have to mobilize resources and take care of entire MSP operations in the State on their own including the arrangements to be made for storage of procured foodgrains.

The reason for such stipulation was to avoid market distortion by declaration of bonus over and above MSP. The MSP takes care of not only the cost to the farmer but also certain margin of profit.

(c) and (d) Some State Governments, including Chhattisgarh, has announced for payment of bonus to farmers over and above MSP during recent years.

No relaxation is given to State Government of Chhattisgarh. Government of India proposed to accept 24 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT) parboiled rice over and above State's requirement under National Food Security Act (NFSA)/Other Welfare Scheme (OWS) in Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2017-18 as there is shortfall of parboiled rice at national level.

Further, In Jharkhand, a deficit State, FCI has been allowed to continue the participation in procurement operations in the state even after declaration of the bonus by the State Government during KMS 2016-17 and KMS 2017-18.

No such relaxation has been asked by any other State.

Revision of fair price rates of food items supplied under PDS

870. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to revise the rates of food items that are being supplied under the Public Distribution System (PDS);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the prices of the items that are being increased along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) No Sir. There is no proposal to increase prices of foodgrains under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Reduction in FPSs in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether Government is aware that Fair Price Shops (FPSs) in Andhra Pradesh have come down from 45322 as of 1 January, 2014, to 28,663 as of 1 January, 2018;

(b) how does Government look at this 40 per cent reduction of FPSs in Andhra Pradesh and how does it hamper distribution of essential commodities to poor and AAY families;

(c) whether Government is also aware that Government of Andhra Pradesh has also decided to convert all the 28663 FPSs into Chandranna Village Malls; and

(d) if so, whether it would not defeat the very objective of PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has informed that as on 1/7/2014 (before reorganization of Andhra Pradesh State) there were 45,583 Fair Price Shops[FPSs] in the State. Out of these, 28,663 FPS were in 13 districts of Andhra Pradesh and remaining 16,920 were in Telangana districts. As on 1/1/2018, there are 29,517 FPS in Andhra Pradesh and thus there is an increase of 854 FPS in the State after reorganization of the State.

(c) and (d) Clause 9 of the Targeted Public Distribution System (Control) Order, 2015, *inter alia* stipulates that the State Government shall allow sale of commodities other than the foodgrains distributed under the TPDS at FPSs to improve viability of the FPS operations. With this objective in mind, Government of Andhra Pradesh has launched the sale of commodities other than those distributed under the Public Distribution System through FPSs under the scheme named 'Çhandranna Village

Mall', on pilot basis in 2 FPSs on 12/12/17. Distribution of PDS commodities is being done from 1st to 15th of every month by the FPS dealers as usual.

Import of onion

872. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of onion imported since 2014 till date;

(b) whether the Ministry proposed import of 20,000 tonnes of onion to control onion prices, if so, the details thereof along with the date of order/countries and date of consignment received and distributed in the market; and

(c) the details of similar steps being taken by Government with regard to other vegetables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Details of onion imported in India since 2014 are as under:—

Year	Quantity (in Tonnes)
2014-15	813
2015-16	128371
2016-17	87
2017-18	6169 ^P
(upto Nov., 2017)	

P: Provisional

Source: DGCIS.

(b) and (c) Government has not imported onions and other vegetables during financial year 2017-18 so far.

Complaints lodged with National Consumer Helpline

873. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a complaint lodged by consumer with the National Consumer Helpline is transferred to the company complained against;

(b) if so, whether such companies report action taken back to the Ministry or it is between consumer and the company; and

(c) if companies do not report back, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes, Sir. Complaints lodged with National Consumer Helpline (NCH) are registered on the portal www.consumerhelpline.gov.in. Once the complaint is registered, it is automatically transferred to the companies, who have voluntarily partnered with NCH, as part of the 'Convergence' programme. The companies respond to these complaints according to their redressal process and revert by providing a feedback to the complainant on the portal directly. Complaints against those companies, who have not partnered with National Consumer Helpline, are forwarded to the company email id from NCH for redressal. Complaints related to Government Departments are forwarded to Concerned Departments/Ministries through the portal.

(b) and (c) The response given by the companies to complainant is also disseminated to NCH. Companies, who have partnered with NCH under Convergence programme, directly respond to the complaints on portal which is visible to NCH as well as to the complainant. The responses received by NCH from those companies who have not partnered with National Consumer Helpline are posted on the portal.

Setting up of procurement centres in North-Eastern States

874. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Assam is the only State in the entire North-East, having procurement centres, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government would conduct any survey for feasibility or viability to establish such centres in other States of the region to facilitate the farmers; 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) to (c) Yes Sir, Assam is the only procuring State in North-East Region.

Procurement centres are decided and opened in mutual consultation between respective State Government and Food Corporation of India (FCI), taking into account the production and marketable surplus in the catchment area, convenience of farmers and availability of other logistics/infrastructure such as storage and milling facilities etc.

There is no such plan to conduct any survey for feasibility or viability to establish purchase centres in other States of the region to facilitate the farmers.

On the request of State Government of Tripura for procurement of paddy in

Tripura under Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations during Kharif Marketing Season (KMS) 2016-17, various meetings were held at the level of FCI Regional Office and at the level of Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India. State Government has been suggested to resolve cost issues, taxes, milling etc. for enabling operation of procurement.

None of the other North-Eastern States have shown interest in procurement in their States.

Requirement of warehouses

875. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of agro warehouses, built or contracted under Food Corporation of India (FCI), functional in the country;

(b) whether Government is aware of any gap in the actual and desired number of agro warehouses which is approximately 15 MMT;

(c) whether Government proposes to extend the number of agro warehouses, if so, the details of the proposed number, time-frame and revenue sources for the same; and

(d) whether it is also proposed to ease the multiple regulatory mechanisms and requirements to improve the viability of agro warehousing as a business?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) Food Corporation of India (FCI) deals with storage of only foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS) in the country. As on 31.12.2017, 1841 Food Storage Depots under FCI are functional across the country. The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) On the basis of peak stock requirement during procurement season, the overall storage capacity required for Central Pool Stock in the country is about 600 LMT. Against this, the total storage capacity available with Food Corporation of India (FCI), Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and State Agencies as on 31.12.2017 was 725.39 LMT. Thus, sufficient capacity is available for storage of Central Pool Stock.

(c) Although there is sufficient capacity for storage of Central Pool Stocks in the country, based on requirement in specific areas, the Government constructs warehouses and silos mostly in Public Private Partnership mode to augment and

modernize the storage facilities. Private parties who invested and built warehouses for FCI under Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme are given guaranteed rent for 10 years to enable them to get sufficient returns on their investment.

(d) There is only one regulatory authority under Central Government namely, Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority (WDRA) for agro warehousing. This authority has simplified its rules and guidelines for registration and inspection of warehouses. It has also launched a portal on 26.09.2017 for online registration and inspection of warehouses for the benefit of warehousemen.

Statement

State-wise number of storage godowns available with FCI as on 31.12.2017

Sl. No.	State/UT	Covered								Total Covered
		FCI Owned	Hired							
			State Govt.	CWC	SWC	PEG	PWS 2010	Private Parties	Total Hired	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Bihar	12	1	10	22	14	1	4	52	64
2.	Jharkhand	6	0	2	11	19	0	1	33	39
3.	Odisha	22	0	8	22	0	0	0	30	52
4.	West Bengal	23	0	3	0	0	0	7	10	33
5.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	3	0	0	0	0	5	8	14
6.	Assam	20	2	3	4	1	0	10	20	40
7.	Manipur	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
8.	Nagaland	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	6
9.	Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura	14	4	0	2	0	0	0	6	20
10.	Delhi	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
11.	Haryana	33	16	16	27	130	0	1	190	223
12.	Himachal Pradesh	6	6	3	0	3	0	0	12	18
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	16	1	0	0	7	0	7	15	31
14.	Punjab	118	1	25	205	186	0	10	427	545
15.	Rajasthan	36	0	24	67	11	0	5	107	143
16.	Uttar Pradesh	45	1	21	98	61	1	0	182	227

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
17.	Uttarakhand	4	3	5	6	0	0	0	14	18
18.	Andhra Pradesh	24	0	2	1	5	0	1	9	33
19.	Karnataka	22	0	4	18	7	0	1	30	52
20.	Kerala	23	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	24
21.	Tamil Nadu	14	0	11	11	11	0	2	35	49
22.	Telangana	11	1	7	8	6	0	0	22	33
23.	Chhattisgarh	21	1	5	11	4	0	0	21	42
24.	Gujarat	14	2	9	0	1	0	1	13	27
25.	Madhya Pradesh	19	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	21
26.	Maharashtra	13	0	9	24	27	2	1	63	76
TOTAL		537	43	170	537	494	4	56	1304	1841

SWC: State Warehousing Corporation.

CWC: Central Warehousing Corporation.

PEG: Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee Scheme.

PWS: Private Warehousing Scheme.

Construction of steel silos

876. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to create 100 lakh MT storage capacity in the form of steel silos;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the locations identified for the purpose across the country; and

(c) by when the construction of steel silos is likely to be completed and made available for storage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India has approved a road map for construction of steel silos in the country for a capacity of 100 Lakh MT (LMT) in 3 phases by 2020. Private parties selected through tendering process will construct the silos to be taken on guaranteed hiring by Food Corporation of India (FCI)/State Agencies. Total 31.50 LMT is planned to be constructed by Government of India through FCI and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC). Balance capacity of 68.50 LMT is to be constructed by the State Governments/Agencies.

The location-wise and State-wise details of silos planned for construction are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The technology for rice silos is yet to be established and FCI has undertaken pilot projects at 2 places namely Kaimur and Buxar in Bihar. Hence, construction of rice silos of 8.75 LMT capacity will depend on the outcome of the pilot projects. So far as wheat silos are concerned, a capacity of 6.25 LMT has already been constructed. For the rest of the capacity, the construction of silos is dependent on the selection/approval of sites and sidings, which are dependent on the respective State Governments and Railways. Further, construction of silos to be done by State Governments depends on their response which has been lacking. Hence, no definite timeline can be determined for the same.

Statement

State-wise and phase-wise locations for construction of steel silos

Phase-I

Punjab

- 0.5 LMT capacity under Viability Gap Funding (VGF) mode in Kilaraipur to be built by Punjab State Warehousing Corporation (PSWC).
- 0.5 LMT capacity to be built by Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) at Nabha.
- 0.75 LMT capacity under VGF mode to be built in existing Food Corporation of India (FCI) godowns.

Sl.No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Sahnawal	50,000
2.	Kotkapura	25,000

- 6.75 LMT capacity planned by PSWC:—

Sl.No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Nurmahal	25,000
2.	Chhehreatta	25,000
3.	Bhulath	25,000
4.	Machhiwara	25,000
5.	ChwaPayal	37,500
6.	Mullanpur	25,000
7.	Patran	37,500

Sl.No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
8.	Sirhind	25,000
9.	Sangrur	25,000
10.	Bathinda	25,000
11.	Jalalabad	25,000
12.	Ajnala	50,000
13.	Kartarpur	25,000
14.	Banga	50,000
15.	Ajitwal	50,000
16.	Phagwara	25,000
17.	Balachaur	25,000
18.	Roopnagar	50,000
19.	Dharamkot	50,000
20.	Makhu	50,000

- 5 LMT capacity to be built by Punjab Grains Procurement Corporation Ltd. (PUNGRAIN):—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Khanna	50,000
2.	Malerkotla	50,000
3.	Ahmedgarh	50,000
4.	Dhuri	50,000
5.	Barnala	50,000
6.	Patiala	50,000
7.	Nabha	50,000
8.	Sunam	50,000
9.	Jagroan	50,000
10.	Rampuraphul	50,000

- 3.5 LMT Silos under Non-VGF mode:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Barnala	50,000
2.	Chhehreatta	50,000

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
3.	Patiala	50,000
4.	Jalalabad	50,000
5.	Sangrur	50,000
6.	Dhuri	50,000
7.	Batala	50,000

Assam

- 0.5 LMT capacity under VGF mode at Changsari.

Haryana

- 3 LMT Silos under Non-VGF mode. These are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Bhattu	50,000
2.	Jind	50,000
3.	Panipat	50,000
4.	Palwal	50,000
5.	Rohtak	50,000
6.	Sonepat	50,000

Delhi

- 0.5 LMT capacity under VGF mode in Narela.

Maharashtra

- 1 LMT capacity under VGF mode in Baramati and Borivilli (50,000 MT each).

Bihar

- 1 LMT capacity Silos at Bhagalpur and Bettiah under Non-VGF mode (50,000 MT each).
- 1 LMT capacity Silos under VGF mode (DEA model) at Kaimur and Buxar (50,000 MT each).
- 0.5 LMT capacity Silos under VGF mode at Katihar.

Madhya Pradesh

- 5 LMT capacity Silos built by Madhya Pradesh Warehousing and Logistics Corporation (MPWLC) at 10 locations:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Harda	50,000
2.	Hoshangabad	50,000
3.	Dewas	50,000
4.	Raisen	50,000
5.	Satna	50,000
6.	Sehore	50,000
7.	Ujjain	50,000
8.	Vidisha	50,000
9.	Bhopal	50,000
10.	Indore	50,000
TOTAL		5,00,000

Gujarat

- 1 LMT capacity under non-VGF mode at Banaskantha and Ahmedabad (50,000 MT each).

West Bengal

- 2 LMT capacity under non-VGF mode at Rangapani, Maldha, Dankuni and Mecheda (50,000 MT each).

Karnataka

- 0.25 LMT capacity under VGF mode at Whitefield.

Uttar Pradesh

- 3 LMT Silos under Non-VGF mode. These are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Varanasi	50,000
2.	Kannauj	50,000
3.	Faizabad	50,000
4.	Fatehpur	50,000
5.	Basti	50,000
6.	Deoria	50,000

- 0.5 LMT capacity under VGF mode in Dhamora.

State wise breakup of locations of Phase-I

Sl.No.	State	Total Capacity (in LMT)
1.	Punjab	17.0
2.	Haryana	3.0
3.	Uttar Pradesh	3.5
4.	Delhi	0.5
5.	Maharashtra	1.0
6.	Bihar	2.5
7.	Madhya Pradesh	5.0
8.	Gujarat	1.0
9.	West Bengal	2.0
10.	Assam	0.5
11.	Karnataka	0.25
TOTAL		36.25

Phase-II**Punjab**

- Capacity of 7 LMT is proposed to be transferred from Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme to Silos. Unsanctioned capacities under PEG scheme will be merged to construct Silos of 50,000 LMT at the following locations under non VGF model:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Ropar	50,000
2.	Sirhind	50,000
3.	Faridkot	50,000
4.	Kilaraipur	50,000
5.	Rajpura	50,000
6.	Batala	50,000
7.	Banga	50,000
8.	Phagwara	50,000
9.	Jagraon	50,000
10.	Moga	50,000

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
11.	Barnala	50,000
12.	Dhuri	50,000
13.	Sangrur	50,000
14.	Sunam	50,000
TOTAL		7,00,000

- 1.5 LMT capacity will be built by CWC at Nabha in this phase.

Haryana

- Capacity of 2 LMT is proposed to be transferred from Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme to Silos. Unsanctioned capacities under PEG scheme will be merged to construct Silos of 50,000 LMT at the following locations under non VGF model:—

Sl.No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Tohana	50,000
2.	Jagadhari	50,000
3.	Rohtak	50,000
4.	Narwana	50,000
TOTAL		2,00,000

Actual locations will be finalised by State Level Committee (SLC)/High Level Committee (HLC) route constituted for the purpose.

Maharashtra

- 0.5 LMT by dismantling End-of-life (EOL) godown at Nagpur on VGF model

Delhi

- 0.5 LMT by dismantling part of the godown at Mayapuri on VGF model.

West Bengal

- 2 LMT capacity Silos at JJP and OJM (1 LMT each) by dismantling End-of-life (EOL) godowns on VGF model.

Rajasthan

- 1.5 LMT capacity Silos at Udaipur, Gandhinagar and Ajmer (50,000 MT each) by dismantling End-of-life (EOL) godowns on VGF model.

- 3.5 LMT capacity Silos shall be created by State Government on their own land. Tentative locations can be as follows:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Sriganganagar	1,00,000
2.	Sawai Madhopur	50,000
3.	Kota	50,000
4.	Alwar	50,000
5.	Bikaner	50,000
6.	Dholpur	50,000
TOTAL		3,50,000

Uttar Pradesh

- By dismantling End-of-life (EOL) godowns on VGF model.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Gorakhpur	50,000
2.	Talkatora	50,000
3.	Agra Cantt.	50,000
4.	Hapur	50,000
5.	Varanasi	50,000
6.	Harduaganj	50,000
7.	Chanderi	50,000
TOTAL		3,50,000

Bihar

- 2 LMT capacity Silos at Digaghat, Phulwarisharif, Mokama and Gaya (50,000 MT each) by dismantling End-of-life (EOL) godowns on VGF model.
- Capacity of 1 LMT may be transferred from Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme to Silos as below:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Bhagalpur	50,000
2.	Hajipur	50,000
TOTAL		1,00,000

Actual locations will be finalised by State Level Committee (SLC)/High Level Committee (HLC) route constituted for the purpose.

Further, State Government will be allocated 4 LMT capacity as below:—

Sl.No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Vaishali	50,000
2.	Muzzaffarpur	50,000
3.	Sitamarhi	50,000
4.	Motihari	50,000
5.	Darbhangha	50,000
6.	Samastipur	50,000
7.	Purnea	50,000
8.	Araria	50,000
TOTAL		4,00,000

State-wise breakup of locations of Phase-II

Sl. No.	State	Total Capacity (in LMT)
1.	Punjab	8.5
2.	Haryana	2.0
3.	Uttar Pradesh	3.5
4.	Rajasthan	5.0
5.	Maharashtra	0.5
6.	Delhi	0.5
7.	West Bengal	2.0
8.	Bihar	7.0
TOTAL		29.0

Phase-III

In Phase 3, construction of silos will be taken up based on the experience gained in construction of rice silos. Further additional capacity is proposed to be created by mainly by concerned State Governments. This will also involve de-hiring of godowns from private parties/State Warehousing Corporations (SWCs)/CWC.

Details of State-wise capacity to be built is as under:-

Andhra Pradesh and Telangana

- 5 LMT capacity to be created for Rice silos.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Srikakulam	1,00,000
2.	East Godavari	1,00,000
3.	West Godavari	1,00,000
4.	Krishna	50,000
5.	Nalgonda	1,00,000
6.	Karimnagar	50,000
TOTAL		5,00,000

Rice Silos in Andhra Pradesh can be taken up in earlier phase also based on the experience gained in the pilot projects for Rice Silos at Kaimur and Buxar.

Uttar Pradesh

- 5 LMT capacity to be created for Wheat Silos.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Allahabad	50,000
2.	Hardoi	50,000
3.	Azamgarh	50,000
4.	Barabanki	50,000
5.	Bareilly	50,000
6.	Jaunpur	50,000
7.	Kanpur Dehat	50,000
8.	L. Kheri	50,000
9.	Saharanpur	50,000
10.	Sitapur	50,000
TOTAL		5,00,000

West Bengal

- 3.5 LMT capacity to be created in W.B. In Darjeeling, out of 1 LMT capacity, 50,000 MT will be built for Wheat Silos and 50,000 MT capacity for Rice Silos. At remaining centres, capacity will be built for Wheat Silos. Details are as under:-

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Darjeeling	1,00,000
2.	Durgapur	50,000
3.	Birbhum	50,000
4.	Hooghly	50,000
5.	Kolkata	50,000
6.	Murshidabad	50,000
TOTAL		3,50,000

- The above capacity will be built by the concerned State Government

Gujarat

- 2 LMT capacity to be created for Wheat Silos.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Mehsana	50,000
2.	Kheda	50,000
3.	Anand	50,000
4.	Baroda	50,000
TOTAL		2,00,000

- The above capacity will be built by the concerned State Government.

Odisha

- 2 LMT capacity to be created for Rice Silos.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Mayurbhanj	50,000
2.	Keonjhar	50,000
3.	Sundergarh	50,000
4.	Puri	50,000
TOTAL		2,00,000

- The above capacity will be built by concerned State Government.

Chhattisgarh

- 1 LMT capacity to be created at Raipur for Rice Silos.

Rajasthan

1.25 LMT capacity can be allocated to State Government. Tentative locations can be as follows:—

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Hanumangarh	1,00,000
2.	Ajmer	25,000
TOTAL		1,25,000

Madhya Pradesh

- 5 LMT capacity to be created for Wheat Silos to be built by State Government.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Morena	50,000
2.	Gwalior	50,000
3.	Shivpuri	50,000
4.	Guna	50,000
5.	Ashok Nagar	50,000
6.	Datia	50,000
7.	Dhar	50,000
8.	Khandwa	50,000
9.	Sagar	50,000
10.	Banapura	50,000
TOTAL		5,00,000

Haryana

- 4.5 LMT capacity to be created for Wheat Silos.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Shahabad	50,000
2.	Ambala	1,00,000
3.	Karnal	1,50,000
4.	Panipat	50,000
5.	Bhiwani	50,000
6.	Hansi	50,000
TOTAL		4,50,000

Punjab

- 5.5 LMT capacity to be created in Punjab for Wheat Silos. In this, 50,000 MT capacity at Bhagtanwala will be built by CWC and remaining Silos of 5 LMT capacity will be built by State Government.

Sl. No.	Centre	Capacity in MTs
1.	Bhagtanwala	50,000
2.	Mansa	50,000
3.	Budhlada	50,000
4.	Bhucho	50,000
5.	Gidderbaha	50,000
6.	Muktsar	1,00,000
7.	Ajitwal	50,000
8.	Abhor	50,000
9.	Faridkot	50,000
10.	Khanna	50,000
TOTAL		5,50,000

State-wise breakup of locations of Phase-III

Sl. No.	State	Total Capacity (in LMT)
1.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	5.0
2.	Uttar Pradesh	5.0
3.	West Bengal	3.5
4.	Gujarat	2.0
5.	Odisha	2.0
6.	Chhattisgarh	1.0
7.	Rajasthan	1.25
8.	Madhya Pradesh	5.0
9.	Haryana	4.5
10.	Punjab	5.5
TOTAL		34.75

Note:—

- Above proposed locations are only indicative and all the locations will need to be ratified by State Level Committee (SLC) and High Level Committee (HLC) constituted for the Silos.
- The capacity indicated in various phases can be interchanged among different phases depending on the operational feasibilities.
- Phase-3 capacity is proposed to be created mainly through respective State Governments.
- PEG capacity has been created on 9/10 years Guarantee period which would be getting over in the next 5-6 years. Accordingly the proposed Silos will become operational and will replace the capacities built under PEG Scheme as well as other conventional hired capacities.
- In all cases the actual assessment of requirement of Silo Storage Capacity will be done by the HLC on the recommendation of the SLC for the Silos.

Mismatching of fingerprints in biometric system

†877. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it takes lot of time for customers in receiving ration due to mismatching of fingerprints in biometric system and slow speed of internet and they have to come repeatedly to ration shops;

(b) whether Government is aware that in order to avoid such situation where customers have to repeatedly go to ration shops they comply with ration shop operator and accept half the ration that they are entitled to receive and remaining part of their ration reaches to black marketers through a nexus; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) In normal circumstances bio-metric authentication of a PDS beneficiary takes a few seconds. States have provided other modes of identification in case Aadhaar based authentication fails. At present, out of 5.27 lakh FPSs in the country, 2.94 lakh FPSs have been automated. About 50% of the total ePoS transactions happen through bio-metric authentication.

This Department has issued clear instructions to all States/UT Governments 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

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

be denied 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.

Rise in prices of essential food items

†878. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of essential food items are rising continuously due to which common consumers are not able to buy food items in adequate quantity; and

(b) the retail inflation in the month of December, 2017 and the extent to which it has been successfully reduced at present along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Details of inflation rate as per all India Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI), brought out by M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation (MOSPI) are as under:—

Inflation Rate (%) Base 2012=100

Year/Month	2017	2016	2015
August	1.52	5.91	2.20
September	1.25	3.96	3.88
October	1.90	3.32	5.25
November	4.35	2.03	6.07
December	4.96	1.37	6.40
	(Prov.)		

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

BHIM app for all mobile payments

879. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is working on a strategy to make BHIM app for all mobile payments for its seamless nationwide network;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the transaction cost for (a) above when compared to the existing ones and whether it accepts all modes of digital payments?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 30th December, 2016 to promote Digital transactions. BHIM App was envisaged as a starter App to bring new as well as financially excluded citizens in digital banking. It uses UPI (Unified Payments Interface) platform (now BHIM platform) to offer payment services and is bank agnostic Mobile app *i.e.* not owned by any bank.

Government of India is promoting the BHIM app as policy favoured instrument and instructed the Ministries/Departments to use BHIM as one of the preferred payment option.

(c) In BHIM app P2P (Person to Person) no transaction cost is applicable to person/individual for a transaction. In respect of merchant transactions, there is a charge (Merchant Discount Rate), and the Government has decided to reimburse any such charge on payments made by BHIM app to registered merchants upto value of ₹ 2000/- for a period of 2 years from 01.01.2018.

Therefore, the transaction charges for the user are NIL for most payments made on the BHIM app/platform and compares favourably with any other alternative mode of digital payment.

Unique Biometric Competency Centre

880. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of challenges posed by biometric recognition and the steps taken/ being taken to face/overcome these challenges;

(b) whether the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has set up a Unique Biometric Competency Centre (UBCC); and

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

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The challenges faced by biometric recognition are poor and worn out finger prints. The steps taken to overcome these challenges are:—

- (i) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) provides various modes of authentication viz demographic, biometric (fingerprint and Iris) and OTP. The requesting entity may provide authentication facility using any of the above modes of authentication.
- (ii) 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.
- (iii) DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat had issued a detailed circular dated 19.12.2017 regarding 'Use of Aadhaar in Benefit Schemes of Government-Exception Handling'.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Challenge grants to start-ups to spur research and development

881. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to encourage development of new technologies in the field of cyber security, the Government will offer challenge grants upto ₹ 5 crore to start-ups to spur research and development;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government is in the process of working with Data Security Council of India to conduct challenge grant for cyber security; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the country would invite cyber security scholars from the Asia Pacific region to do their research here, if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Data Security Council of India has submitted a proposal to Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology to conduct Grand Challenge to develop cyber security product by start-ups. The proposal is under evaluation.

(c) No, Sir.

Authentication failures for Aadhaar identity verification

882. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of authentication failures for identity verification through Aadhaar since 2015, State-wise, month-wise and scheme-wise;
- (b) whether such data is maintained by UIDAI, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the reasons for authentication failures;
- (d) whether authentication failure can lead to benefits associated with Aadhaar card being denied;
- (e) if so, the details of complaints of denial of benefits received in last one year, State-wise, month-wise and Scheme-wise; and
- (f) the remedy available in case of authentication failure?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) does not maintain details of authentication failures for identity verification through Aadhaar State-wise, month-wise and scheme-wise. There is no such requirement as per the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016.

(c) The reasons for authentication failure may be poor network connectivity, biometric mismatch, demographic mismatch, invalid OTP value, incorrect Aadhaar number, etc.

(d) to (f) No resident can be denied benefits on the basis of Authentication failure. The details in respect of denial of benefits, if any, would be available with concerned Ministries/Departments which are using Aadhaar authentication in their respective schemes.

DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat vide their letter dated 19.12.2017 has issued guidelines on exception handling for use of Aadhaar in benefit schemes of Government, which *inter alia* stipulates the following mechanism in respect of cases where Aadhaar authentication fails:—

- (i) Departments and Bank Branches may make provisions for IRIS scanners along with fingerprint scanners, wherever feasible.
- (ii) In cases of failure due to lack of connectivity, offline authentication system such as QR code based coupons, Mobile based One Time Password (OTP) or Time-based One Time Password (TOTP) may be explored.

In all cases where online authentication is not feasible, the benefit/service may be provided on the basis of possession of Aadhaar, after duly recording the transaction in register, to be reviewed and audited periodically.

Software to identify and check online criminal websites

883. SHRI. RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to ban and /or develop software to identify and thus check online criminal websites for viewing in the country;

(b) if so, the proposal details thereof;

(c) whether Government also proposes to make consortium with web-tech giants to access such obscene contents; and

(d) if so, the action taken by Government in this regard, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has provisions for blocking/removal of objectionable online content. Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any Computer Resource in the interest of Sovereignty and Integrity of India, Defence of India, Security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above. Government takes action under this section for blocking of web-sites/specific web-pages with objectionable contents, whenever requests are received from designated nodal officers or upon Court orders for blocking of web-sites and web-pages.

Further, Section 79 of the Act provides that intermediaries are required to disable/remove unlawful content on being notified by appropriate government or its agency. Further, the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 notified under section 79 of the IT Act requires that the Intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable, obscene, pornographic, paedophilic, hateful, affect minors and unlawful in any way.

Law Enforcement Agencies regularly monitor the social media sites and take action under existing legal provisions for removal of malicious contents/materials and prosecuting the offenders.

Government also regularly interacts with representatives of social media sites to curb objectionable content appearing on their platform.

Cyber security collaboration

†884. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to discuss the issue of cyber security collaboration with Government of Britain;
- (b) if so, whether Government has considered the issue till now; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) India and UK are having bilateral cyber dialogue to collaborate on cyber issues. The first India-UK Cyber Dialogue was held in November, 2012, second in February, 2015 and the third in September, 2016. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Computer Emergency Response Team-United Kingdom (CERT-UK), was signed on 20th May, 2016 with a validity period of five years. This MoU is intended to form a strategic collaboration to enable sharing of information and collaboration in matters pertaining to cyber threats.

Appellate mechanism against unsatisfactory response by Aadhaar centres

885. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Grievance Redressal Mechanism as mentioned in the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations provide for an appellate mechanism to allow residents to appeal against an unsatisfactory response provided by the contact centre; and
- (b) if so, the procedures and processes pertaining to this appellate mechanism, if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Regulation no. 32 (Setting up of a contact centre for grievance redressal) of Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, does not provide for Appellate Mechanism.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The contact centres run by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) caters to queries/grievances received from residents through phone, e-mails and website. The queries/grievances are resolved by the agents based on the information available in CRM (Customer Relation Management) Database at that point of time. In case, resident is not satisfied with replies provided by agent, he/she may ask to speak to the supervisor of the Contact Centre.

In case, there is no information available in the database, the queries/grievances are forwarded to Regional Office Technology Centre, Authentication Division, etc (functional division concerned) for providing resolution to resident directly through CRM system.

Additionally, UIDAI also maintains and run an escalated grievance handling system operated and closely monitored by UIDAI Headquarters wherein e-mails addressed to UIDAI officials or escalated grievances are addressed.

Residents often approach UIDAI through other grievance redressal mechanism like, Public grievance portal, RTI, etc., in case they need more information or are not satisfied with replies provided by Aadhaar contact centre.

Linking of driving licence with Aadhaar

886. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government will soon start linking driving licence with Aadhaar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that serious concerns have been raised about the security of Aadhaar data; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that the biometric information, which includes iris scan and fingerprints, is stored in an encrypted form and is very secure?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) As per information received from Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, a draft notification to amend the form of application for license to drive a motor vehicle and the form of driving license, as prescribed in the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, has been submitted to Ministry of Law and Justice, Legislative Department for legal vetting. Aadhaar card has been incorporated as one of the options in the list of documents to be submitted by the applicant as proof of address and age. However, if an applicant does not have an

Aadhaar card, there is a provision for submission of other alternative documents like passport, birth certificate, Life insurance policy etc.

(c) There have been instances of concerns being raised on the security of Aadhaar data. All the concerns raised regarding the security, have been dealt with and addressed by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI). Adequate legal, organizational and technological measures are in place for the security of the data stored with UIDAI.

(d) Yes, Sir. Biometric information including iris scan and fingerprints is securely stored in an encrypted form at UIDAI's Central Identities Data Repository (CIDR).

Setting up of ITIR in Visakhapatnam

887 SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh submitted a proposal for setting up of Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) in Visakhapatnam district;

(b) if so, when such proposal was received and the present status of the same;

(c) whether the proposal has been placed before the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA); and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be placed before the CCEA?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India had received a proposal from Government of Andhra Pradesh on 26th August, 2014 for setting up of Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. During the consideration of the proposal, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in its meeting held on 10.9.2014 directed that the ITIR Policy Resolution, 2008 be comprehensively re-examined in the light of the experience gained over time. Now, the Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) Policy, 2008 has been closed. Henceforth, the proposal for setting up of ITIR at Visakhapatnam has not been considered for further course of action.

Switch over to internet of things

888. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that by 2019, more than 80 per cent of the organizations in Asia-Pacific region are likely to switch over to Internet of Things (IoT), *i.e.*, devices, appliances, equipments and machines with the capability to connect, communicate and control each other;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the benefits to Information Technology sector and preparedness in the country for the adoption of IoT by 2019; and

(c) whether the switch over to IoT in the country shall increase additional opportunities for unemployed youth?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) is aware of the revolution that IoT and its related technologies will bring along in coming years. Taking into consideration the same, MeitY had also drafted the IoT Policy for India in year 2016 and since then implementation upon the drafted strategies are in progress. The main aim of the policy is to enable the IoT Ecosystem in India and reap the benefits from upcoming Global and Local IoT Industry. The ecosystem build up includes—IoT Standards Development and Participation from Indian organizations in development of standards, Creation of Incubation Centres for Start-ups , ensuring the upcoming resources (from our post graduate colleges) to be ready to work on IoT and related technologies, etc. Meity has been actively working on supporting the process of creation and building the eco-system for IoT.

Anticipating the promising potential of Machine to Machine Communication (M2M), Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has also released the ‘National Telecom M2M Roadmap’ as M2M/ IoT based applications in sectors like Transport, Power, Utilities, Logistics, Health, Shipping; Smart City etc. have tremendous potential to bring sustainable value addition to the emerging scenario on continuous basis.

(b) MeitY initiated a Creation of Centres of Excellence (COEs) for IoT which will support entrepreneurship in the area of IoT and also bring-in more awareness on IoT. The main objective of the CoE IoT is to help Indian IoT Startups leverage cutting edge technologies to build market ready product. Through IoT Startups Program, the aim is to build industry capable talent in an entrepreneurial ecosystem by providing Incubation, Funding, Acceleration, Industry Connect and Mentoring. The First CoE has already been established in Bengaluru and three more CoEs are to be established at Vizag, Ahmedabad, Gurgaon. This will lead to bringing in of in-house

IoT products/services to Indian Market and indirectly help in improving the Indian economy as well. Further, the following are the major benefits of these Centres of Excellence for IoT to the Information Technology sector:—

- Trained manpower
- Innovative Ideas
- Prototypes for new products.
- Future products for cross functional business process enhancement in various industry verticals

(c) Switch-over to IoT in the country will also lead to bringing in of newer IoT based products and services, that will help to bring in more employment automatically for development, integration and support of these products or services. Various skills sets that would be benefited will depend on the domain served by such product or services. In general, IoT will require resources (manpower) to perform System Integrations, Embedded Software development, Creation of sensors and processors and deployment of such products/services. These skills will not only be required in India but will also be required globally.

Revenue from IT sector

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

(a) whether Government has any plan/roadmap to increase the revenue from the Information Technology (IT) sector and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government is aware of the competition from other countries in IT sector and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government plans to increase domestic manufacturing of electronic components by incentivizing them and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government also plans to increase the availability of computer/IT programming in regional languages across the country and distribute the same free of cost, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken a series of steps and initiated programmes under the Digital India Initiative for growth of the Information Technology (IT) sector. These include steps to increase domestic Electronic production, BPO promotion schemes for creation of employment opportunities and promotion of BPO/ITeS operations across the country particularly in small cities/

towns including rural areas, Digital Payments programme to increase online cashless transactions, setting-up of Common Service Centres (CSCs) in about 2.80 Lakh Gram Panchayats for efficient delivery of Government Services, re-skilling and up-skilling of IT workforce in new and emerging IT technologies, and Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA) to bring about digital inclusion.

(b) Yes, Sir. Many countries are building capabilities and offering incentives to compete in the global market to attract IT investments and operations. These include South Africa and a few countries in South East Asia and Eastern Europe.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken concrete steps including introduction of Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP), implementation of Modified Special Incentive Package scheme (M-SIPS) and the Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) scheme to incentivize electronic manufacturing in the country. Research and Development (R&D) initiatives have been launched for “Chips to Systems”, design “India Microprocessor”, and development of Nano-Electronics and Micro-Electronics.

(d) Yes, Sir. Under the Technology Development for Indian Languages (TDIL) and Free and Open Source Software (FOSS) development initiatives of the Government, fonts, drivers, tools, utilities, and standards have been developed and popular software such as Open Office, Libre Office, web browser Firefox, and email client Thunderbird have been localized in all 22 Indian languages including their alternative scripts. These are made available free to public to enable use of computers in local language as well as to develop applications and content.

Legal framework to regulate online transactions

890. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is planning to establish a legal framework to regulate online transactions, e-wallets, payment gateways, prepaid cards and other payment platforms, if so details thereof;

(b) whether it is planning to implement the recommendations made by the Ratan Watal Committee for same;

(c) the deadline for the implementation of legal framework to protect the privacy and financial details of people using electronic payment; and

(d) the steps taken by the ministry to eradicate/prevent ghost beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) This Ministry has been assigned the

task of promotion of Digital Payments. As per information received from Department of Economic Affairs, a proposal to create legal framework for transactions through card/digital modes was approved by Cabinet and a Committee was constituted on 23.08.2016 chaired by Shri Ratan P Watal, former Finance Secretary and Principal Advisor, NITI Aayog to review the framework related to digital payments. The Finance Minister in his budget speech on 01.02.2017 has announced (i) creation of Payment Regulatory Board (PRB) in Reserve Bank by replacing Board of Payments and Settlement Systems (BPSS) and (ii) comprehensive review of PSS Act, 2007.

A draft bill incorporating amendments in PSS Act, 2007 has been prepared and Inter-Ministerial committee has been constituted on 03.11.2017 to examine the draft bill and finalize the amendment to PSS Act, 2007.

(c) Government of India has constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of former Supreme Court Justice Shri B N Srikrishna to study various issues relating to data protection in India and make specific suggestions on principles to be considered for data protection in India and to suggest a draft Data Protection Bill. The committee has put out a white paper on data protection and has held four stakeholder consultation meetings. The feedback received is presently being analysed by the committee.

(d) Government in consultation with RBI has amended Prevention of Money Laundering (Maintenance of Records) Rules, 2005 vide G.S.R 538(E) dated 01.06.2017, whereby bank accounts are required to be seeded with Aadhaar numbers, PAN numbers etc which will serve to identify the ghost beneficiaries.

Technology to stop cyber crimes

†891. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cyber crimes are increasing on a large scale day by day;

(b) whether in view of the increasing incidents of cyber crimes, the Ministry is working towards developing a technology through which incidents of various crimes can be prevented from entering into the cyber space and their prompt monitoring could be ensured; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) With the proliferation and vast expansion of Information Technology and related services, there is a rise in instances of cyber crimes including financial frauds, using bank cards and e-wallets in the country like elsewhere in the world. As per the data maintained by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), a total of 9622, 11592 and 12,317 cyber crime cases were registered during the years 2014, 2015 and 2016 respectively. Further, As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In), a total no. of 44679, 49455, 50362 and 53081 cyber security incidents were observed during the year 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 respectively. The types of cyber security incidents include phishing, scanning/probing, website intrusions and defacements, virus/malicious code, ransomware, Denial of Service attacks, etc.

(b) and (c) Government has taken a number of legal, technical and administrative measures to prevent incidents of cyber crimes. These *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Enactment of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 which has adequate provisions for dealing with prevalent cyber crimes.
- (ii) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) as per the provisions of Section 70A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country.
- (iii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis.
- (iv) Government has initiated setting up of National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities. Phase-I of NCCC has been made operational.
- (v) The Government has circulated Computer Security Policy and Guidelines to all the Ministries/Departments on taking steps to prevent, detect and mitigate cyber attacks.
- (vi) Cyber Crime Cells have been set up in all States and Union Territories for reporting and investigation of cyber crime cases.
- (vii) Government has set up cyber forensic training and investigation labs in the States of Kerala, Assam, Mizoram, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh,

Tripura, Meghalaya, Manipur and Jammu and Kashmir for training of law enforcement personnel and Judiciary in these States.

- (viii) A number of Cyber forensics tools for collection, analysis and presentation of the digital evidence have been developed indigenously and such tools are being used by law enforcement Agencies.
- (ix) Government has formulated Cyber Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors. Regular workshops are conducted for Ministries, Departments, States and Union Territories and critical organizations to sensitize them about the cyber security threat landscape and enabling them to prepare and implement the Cyber Crisis Management Plan.
- (x) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same for banks as well as common users.
- (xi) 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. 22 training programs covering 610 participants were conducted during the year 2017.
- (xii) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organizations in Government and critical sectors. 15 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 148 organisations from different states and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS, etc have 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.

ITIR in Visakhapatnam

892. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be please to state:

(a) whether Government has received any fresh representation from the Government of Andhra Pradesh requesting for release of necessary funds to the proposed IT Investment Region Visakhapatnam in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Government to complete the project at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India has not received any fresh representation from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of funds to the proposed IT Investment Region at Visakhapatnam. Now, the Information Technology Investment Region (ITIR) Policy, 2008 has been closed. Henceforth, the proposal for setting up of ITIR at Visakhapatnam has not been considered for further course of action.

Irradiation projects

893. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to tide over shortages and the resultant price rise, the Centre has approved four irradiation projects under the Integrated Cold Chain scheme;

(b) if so, the details of the approved projects, State/UT-wise;

(c) the details of the project cost and the total grant approved by the Ministry; and

(d) whether Government is planning to set up irradiation centres under PPP model, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing a scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure with the objective of preventing post-harvest losses of horticultural and non-horticultural produce. One of the components of the Cold Chain scheme is the setting up of Irradiation facilities for preservation of the food products. The entrepreneurs/promoters are free to set up Irradiation facility as per their business model and financial capability throughout the country. The Ministry has approved 04 irradiation projects under the Scheme. A total grant of ₹ 23.94 crore has been approved for these four projects with total project cost of ₹ 68.54 crore. Out of these four irradiation projects assisted by Ministry, one project each is located in State of Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Karnataka and Rajasthan. Details of irradiation projects being assisted by Ministry under the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) The Government has formulated the Viability Gap Funding (VGF) scheme for financial support to Public Private Partnership (PPP) in Infrastructure. The Scheme is being implemented by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs. Capital Investment in the creation of modern storage capacity including cold chains and post-harvest storage is one of the sectors eligible for VGF. Till date no proposal to set up a cold chain project including irradiation project under the PPP mode has been received.

Statement

Details of irradiation project being assisted by Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the Scheme for Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure

Sl. No.	Project	District/ location of main facility	State	Date of Approval	Project cost (₹ In Lakh)	Approved Amount of grant-in-aid (₹ In Lakh)	Amount of grant released (₹ In Lakh)
1.	Jhunsons Chemicals Pvt. Ltd.	Alwar	Rajasthan	20.01.2009	1773.00	705.96	705.96
2.	Impartial Agrotech (P) Ltd.	Unnao	Uttar Pradesh	25.05.2011	1478.97	630.75	630.75
3.	InnovaAgri Bio Park Ltd.	Kolar	Karnataka	07.06.2011	1400.00	336.25	336.25
4.	Aligned Industries Ltd.	Rewari	Harayana	04.07.2012	2202.18	730.28	721.00
TOTAL					6854.15	2403.24	2393.96

Setting up of FPIs at locations other than mega food parks

894. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether steps are being taken to encourage setting up Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in locations other than those at Mega Food Parks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reasons for withdrawing capital subsidy offer to FPIs being set up in locations other than at Mega Food Parks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the revised Guidelines dated 13.12.2017, the Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC) under the PRADHAN MANTRI KISAN SAMPADA YOJANA launched by Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MOFPI), Food Processing Industries could be set up not only in Mega Food Parks (MFPs) but also in Agro Processing Clusters assisted by this Ministry as well as designated Food Parks notified by the Ministry from time to time.

(d) Food Processing Industries are being encouraged to be set up in the Mega Food Parks(MFPs) because Mega Food Parks have been created with the substantial investment. The Mega Food Parks has the common facilities like Cold storages, Warehouses, Common processing facilities etc. apart from having enabling infrastructure like roads, electricity and water supply etc. The infrastructure so created in Mega Food Parks with linkages to cluster, farmers and market helps reduce the capital cost, increase viability of the project and lead to optimum utilization of the infrastructure created with Government grant.

Further, the guidelines of the Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities scheme have since been revised w.e.f. 13.12.2017 which encourages entrepreneurs to set up the food processing units not only in Mega Food Parks but also in Agro processing Clusters and Designated Food Parks notified by the Ministry from time to time.

Setting up of small FPIs

895. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Ministry has proposed to set up 200 small Food Processing Industries (FPIs) in country;

(b) if so, details thereof with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the facilities and benefits to be extended to these 200 units:

(d) whether, in the absence of cold chain bogies to, at least, Superfast Express Trains, Food Processing sector is not able to speed up food processing in the country;

(e) whether any consultations have been held with Railways in this regard;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) if not, whether the Ministry would consult Railways in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries does not set up any Food Processing Industries in the country on its own. Under the Scheme for Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (CEFPPC) of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana launched recently by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, 400 Food Processing Units would be provided with financial assistance in the form of Grants-in-Aid for creation/ expansion of food processing in the country including Andhra Pradesh. Based on state-wise share of Agri produce, 400 Food Processing Units have been allocated to States/UTs in the country and Andhra Pradesh has been allotted 21 Units as its share. Accordingly, Expression of Interest (EOI)/Proposals have been invited for providing financial assistance to 400 Food Processing Units in the country *vide* notification dated 29.12.2017. Under the said Scheme, financial assistance would be provided to food processing units in the form of grant-in-aid as under:—

- 35% of the eligible project cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 5.00 crore in General Areas;
- 50% of the eligible project cost subject to a maximum of ₹ 5.00 crores in North Eastern States including Sikkim and Difficult areas including Himalayan States (Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand), State Notified ITDP areas and Islands.

(d) to (g) Ministry of Food Processing Industries had requested Ministry of Railways to provide Railway refrigerated Wagons for transportation of perishable commodities throughout the country. In this regard a consultation meeting was held on 16.08.2017 in the Ministry of Railways w.r.t the quick and efficient transportation of perishable commodities from various part of India by Indian Railways. It was informed during the Meeting that CONCOR is running a weekly train service from Delhi to Chennai for transportation of perishable goods. It was also informed that NE Railway can provide space in SLRs of Mail/Express train for transportation of perishable agri-produce, whenever the traffic is offered.

Progress of schemes for promotion of food processing units in Karnataka

896. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress of various schemes of the Central Government for promotion of food processing units in Karnataka;

(b) the details of district-wise progress in Karnataka and the reasons for inadequate pace of implementation in certain districts of the State;

(c) the estimate of livelihood opportunities made available through promotion of food processing units in Karnataka after June, 2014; and

(d) the comparative figures of amount spent on promotion of food processing related projects implemented in Karnataka between 2009-14 and 2014-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing following Central Sector Schemes under “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana” for promotion and development of the food processing sector in the country including Karnataka:—

- (i) Mega Food Parks;
- (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure;
- (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities;
- (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters;
- (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages;
- (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure; and
- (vii) Human Resources and Institutions.

(b) to (d) Details of district-wise projects under various Schemes of the Ministry for promotion of food processing units in Karnataka during the period from 2009-14 and 2014-17 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of district-wise projects under various Schemes of the Ministry for promotion of food processing units in Karnataka during the period from 2009-14 and 2014-17

(a) Mega Food Parks

(₹ in Crore)

Sl. No.	Project Name	Project Cost	Date of In-principle Approval	Date of Final Approval	Amount of grant approved	Amount of grant released	Status
1.	Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Tumkur	144.33	03.08.2010	27.03.2011	50.00	48.22	Completed
2.	Favorich Infra Pvt. Ltd., Mandya	113.83	03.01.2017	19.12.2017	50.00	SPV is in the process of meeting the conditions for release of 1st instalment.	

(b) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Project	Sector	District	Date of Approval	Project cost	Approved Amount of grant-in-aid	Amount of grant released	Status
1.	Atharvass Traders Pvt Ltd.	F&V	Hassan, Belgam, Bengaluru	30.10.2009	28.61	7.50	7.50	Commercial production started
2.	Basweshwar Industry	F&V	Belgaum, Bijapur	04.10.2013	18.20	7.80	7.80	Commercial production started
3.	Innova Agri Bio Park Ltd.	Irradiation	Kolar	07.06.2011	14.00	3.36	3.36	Commercial production started
4.	Vijaykant Dairy and Food Products Ltd.	Dairy	Belgaum	20.09.2013	8.66	2.80	2.80	Commercial production started
5.	Dairy Classic Ice Creams Pvt. Ltd.	Dairy	Ramnagara	20.04.2017	29.71	10.00	1.99	Reported 25% progress
6.	Namdhari Animal Genetics Pvt. Ltd.	Dairy	Bengaluru	17.04.2017	17.27	5.75	1.12	Reported 25% progress
7.	Srikrishna Milks Private Limited	Dairy	Uttar Kannada	24.04.2017	18.76	5.67	0	Reported 25% progress
8.	Supermarket Grocery Supplies Pvt. Ltd.	F&V	Bengaluru	15.05.2017	46.73	10.00	0	Under implementation
9.	Malpefresh Marine Exports Private Limited.	Marine	Udipi	08.08.2017	25.00	5.33	0	Under implementation

Achievement of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana

897. DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether implementation of Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana has helped in providing better prices to farmers and contributed in doubling of their income and if so, to what extent;

(b) whether it has led to generation of employment opportunities, especially in the rural areas and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it has led to reduction in wastage of agricultural produce and if so, the details thereof?

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 (PMKSY) on 3rd May, 2017 with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for the period 2016-20 co-terminous with the 14th Finance Commission Cycle.

SAMPADA is a comprehensive package which will result in 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 reducing wastage of agricultural produce, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods thereby helping in providing better prices to farmers and is a big step towards doubling of farmers income, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas.

The following schemes will be implemented under “Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana”:-

- (i) Mega Food Parks
- (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure
- (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities
- (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters
- (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages
- (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure
- (vii) Human Resources and Institutions

Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is expected to benefit 20 lakh farmers and generate 5,30,500 direct/indirect employments in the country by the year 2019-20.

(c) One of the objectives of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) is to create robust modern infrastructure along the entire food processing value chain in order to minimize post harvesting losses of agricultural produce. Therefore, schemes under PMKSY provides financial assistance for creation of appropriate processing technology and techniques, proper packaging, transportation and storage which can play a significant role in reducing wastage and extending self-life of the agricultural produce.

Regulation of conduct of legal profession

898. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether to enable the poor have access to justice, the Apex Court has asked the Centre to bring a law to regulate the conduct of legal profession and to prescribe floor and ceiling of advocates' fees;

(b) whether Apex Court deprecated the practice of lawyers demanding a share in clients' pecuniary gains/benefits awarded by Courts and termed it a professional misconduct for which action should be taken; and

(c) whether terming the exorbitant fees, charged by lawyers, as a barrier to access justice, the Law Commission had recommended a regulatory mechanism for legal profession, including capping of lawyers' fees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes Sir, The Apex Court in Criminal Appeal No. 2068 of 2017 in the matter of B. Sunitha *Vs.* The State of Telangana and Anr. directed the Central Government to bring a law to regulate the conduct of legal profession and to prescribe floor and ceiling of advocates' fees. The Apex Court directed the Central Government to carry out the legislative changes for an effective regulatory mechanism to check violation of professional ethics and also to ensure access to legal services which is a major component of access to justice mandated under Article 39A of the Constitution.

(b) Yes Sir, the Apex Court in the same case, deprecated the practice of lawyers demanding a share in clients' pecuniary gains/benefits awarded by the Courts and termed it a professional misconduct for which action should be taken.

(c) Yes Sir, the Law Commission of India in its 131st Report titled “Role of Legal Profession in Administration of Justice” at Para 3.28 specifically recommended to prescribe the floor and ceiling in fees. In 266th Report of the Law Commission of India, a regulatory mechanism for legal profession has been recommended.

Filling up of vacant posts of Judges

899. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are vacant posts of Judges in High Courts at present;
- (b) if so, the number thereof and by when they will be filled up;
- (c) the number of vacancies of Judges in the District and Subordinate Courts in the country;
- (d) the average time taken to fill up such posts;
- (e) whether Government has drawn up a programme to speed up the process; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) At present, there are 403 vacant posts of Judges in various High Courts. 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 High Courts, the proposals are initiated by the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court after consultation with the Collegium of the High Court for filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Court. Hence, action is initiated after receipt of proposals for appointment from the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court.

(c) 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 the Constitution, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of High Courts and the State Governments concerned.

(d) 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.

(e) and (f) Issues relating to increasing judicial strength and timely filling up of vacancies have also been discussed in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held in August, 2009 and in April, 2013 and during meetings of the Advisory Council of the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms. Communications have been sent as follow up from the Union Government to the State Governments and High Courts. This issue was also raised in the 7th Advisory Council Meeting of the National Mission of Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms where it was discussed that there may be a need for adding some flexibility in the recruitment rules for subordinate court judges to allow multiple sources for direct recruitment of eligible candidates. During the video conference held recently with Registrars General of all High Courts and Law Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs, the need to filling up of vacant posts of judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts in timely manner was re-emphasised.

Controlling online betting

900. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission is considering a series of regulations to control illegal online betting in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Law Commission wants either to ban the illegal online betting or put stringent regulations in place;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the Law Commission is of the view that people who are interested in placing online bets will have to play through licensed operator; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Law Commission of India informed that it has undertaken the study on the subject titled the 'Issue of Legalizing Betting and Gambling' in view of the Order/judgment dated 18.07.2016 in Civil Appeal No.

4235/2014, Board of Control for Cricket v. Cricket Association of Bihar and Orsvs. by the Supreme Court. The suggestions in the matter had been sought from all State Governments, National Sports Federations and State Cricket Association-BCCI Members. The Law Commission has received number of responses from various stakeholders. The same are being examined by the Commission.

(c) to (e) The Law Commission of India informed that the subject is under examination of the Commission and so far no conclusion(s) have been drawn on any issue of the project under study.

Digitisation and uploading of records and proceedings on websites of courts

901. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the judicial proceedings/decisions are available on the websites of courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the records and proceedings of the courts are being digitised by Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other initiatives taken by Government for digitising the records and proceedings of courts to bring more transparency in their functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. The judicial proceedings/decisions of Supreme Court of India are available on the website of Supreme Court of India (<http://sci.gov.in>) and proceedings/decisions of District Courts are available on the eCourts portal. The eCourts portal (<http://www.ecourts.gov.in>) provides an online mechanism to stakeholders such as litigants, advocates and members of judiciary to track the court proceedings, status and judgments for the computerized district and subordinate courts in the country. The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) portal provides statistical information of court cases pan country, State-wise and district-wise. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders, and final judgments are also made available to litigants and advocates through SMS (Push and Pull), email and mobile application. The eCourts mobile app with the facility of QR Code offers services under different captions viz. Search by CNR, Case Status, Cause List and My Cases for use of litigants and lawyers is available at present. At present, litigants can access case status information in respect of 9.38 crore cases and 5.85 crore orders/judgments.

The Central Government has accepted the recommendation of the 14th Finance Commission which included scanning and digitisation of court records of all High Courts, district and subordinate courts. The 14th Finance Commission has urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the 14th Finance Commission award in the tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. Under this award, digitisation of case records of High Courts across the country has been taken up.

Disposal of pending cases

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

(a) whether it is a fact that in every High Court of the country judgments on appeals are pending for over forty years;

(b) if so, High Court-wise oldest pending cases and average disposal time of cases therein;

(c) the total number of cases pending in the Supreme Court for the last thirty years;

(d) whether over 50 per cent of posts of Judges are lying vacant in High Courts and the Supreme Court; and

(e) if so, the number of vacancies of Judges in all High Courts as on 31 December, 2017?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Disposal of cases pending in courts, including disposal of pending appeals in High Courts, is within the domain of judiciary.

(b) and (c) Disposal of a case depends on several factors such as category of the case (civil or criminal), complexity of the facts, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake-holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants besides the availability of physical infrastructure, supporting court staff and applicable rules of procedure. As per information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), details of High Court-wise cases pending over ten years are given in the Statement (*See below*). As per the information made available by the Supreme Court, 55,163 cases were pending in Supreme Court as on 31.01.2018. The details of oldest pending cases in various High Courts are not available on the web portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and the details of oldest pending case in Supreme Court is also not available on the website of the Supreme Court.

(d) and (e) The sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court is 31 and there are 6 vacant posts of Judges in Supreme Court at present. The sanctioned strength of High Court Judges is 1079 and there are 403 vacant posts of Judges in High Courts at present.

Statement

Details of cases pending over ten years in various High Courts

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Cases pending over ten years
1.	Allahabad High Court	2,67,406
2.	High Court of Bombay	1,45,425
3.	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	1,09,764
4.	Calcutta High Court	93,521
5.	High Court of Rajasthan	71,219
6.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	66,071
7.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh High Court	51,585
8.	Madras High Court	51,044
9.	Orissa High Court	40,056
10.	Patna High Court	24,113
11.	High Court of Kerala	20,963
12.	High Court of Gujarat	17,032
13.	High Court of Jharkhand	15,647
14.	High Court of Delhi	9,124
15.	High Court of Uttarakhand	7,620
16.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	6,941
17.	High Court of Karnataka	6,370
18.	High Court of Jammu And Kashmir	4,674
19.	High Court of Manipur	4,372
20.	Gauhati High Court	3,338
21.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	1,800
22.	High Court of Tripura	3
23.	High Court of Meghalaya	1
TOTAL		10,18,089

Fake and unqualified lawyers

903. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bar Associations in the South have intensified a drive to identify black sheep among its fraternity, who do not hold a valid law degree to practice in courts;

(b) whether during such drives, many persons practicing in courts with fake degrees, have been caught and their enrolment revoked; and

(c) whether during one such operation, it was discovered that a person has been working as a Magistrate for the last ten years in a Tamil Nadu court, without holding any valid law degree?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The information is being collected from Bar Council of India and once received, it will be laid on the Table of the House.

Transparency in appointment and functioning of Judges

904. SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps taken by Government, including the introduction of the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill in Parliament with requisite provisions to bring transparency and accountability and to check corruption and other undesirable practices in appointments and functioning of Judges in the higher judiciary; and

(b) if no steps taken, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India, in its full Court meeting on 7th May, 1997, adopted two Resolutions namely (i) “The Restatement of Values of Judicial Life” which lays down certain judicial standards and principles to be observed and followed by the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (ii) “In-house procedure” for taking suitable remedial measure against Judges who do not follow the universally accepted values of judicial life including those included in the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life. Any complaint against the Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts are handled as per the “In-house procedure”.

With the objectives of enforcing greater accountability and transparency, the Judicial Standards and Accountability Bill was passed by the Lok Sabha in 2012.

The Bill could not be taken up in the Rajya Sabha and lapsed due to dissolution of 15th Lok Sabha.

To bring transparency in the area of appointment of Judges in higher judiciary, the Government passed the National Judicial Appointment Commission (NJAC) Act 2014 but the same was struck down by the Supreme Court. However, the Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.13 of 2015 directed the Government of India for bringing improvement in the Collegium system by supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium, taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat and mechanism to deal with complaints.

The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP. The draft MoP was sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 13.03.2017.

Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 of Supreme Court in a “*suo moto*” contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges to the Constitutional Courts. The Government of India has conveyed the need to make improvement on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court *vide* letter dated 11.07.2017

Transparency in the appointment of Judges of High Courts and Supreme Court

905. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to check corruption and to bring transparency in the appointment of Judges to the High Courts and the Supreme Court after the National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act passed by the Parliament was struck down by the Supreme Court as unconstitutional; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The issue of checking corruption in the Higher Judiciary is largely to be addressed by the Higher Judiciary as it is an

independent organ under the Indian Constitution. Accountability in higher judiciary is maintained through “in-house mechanism”. The Supreme Court of India, in its full Court meeting on 7th May, 1997, adopted two Resolutions namely (i) “The Restatement of Values of Judicial Life” which lays down certain judicial standards and principles to be observed and followed by the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (ii) “In-house procedure” for taking suitable remedial measure against Judges who do not follow the universally accepted values of judicial life including those included in the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life.

As per the “In-house procedure”, Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts and get the same enquired into. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of respective High Court Judges. As such, complaints against the conduct of Judges, whenever received by the Government, are forwarded to the Chief Justice of India or to the Chief justice of the concerned High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action.

As regards bringing transparency in the area of appointment of Judges in higher judiciary, the Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.13 of 2015 directed the Government of India for bringing improvement in the Collegium system by supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium, taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat and mechanism to deal with complaints.

The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP and the draft MoP were sent to the Hon’ble Chief Justice of India on 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 13.03.2017.

Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 in a “*suo moto*” contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges to the Constitutional Courts. The Government of India has conveyed the need to make improvement on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court *vide* letter dated 11.07.2017

Cases disposed off by Lok Adalats

906. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to set up more Lok Adalats in the country to clear pending cases in High Courts and Lower Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of Lok Adalats presently functioning in various States;

(c) the number of cases cleared by the Lok Adalats during the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the extent to which it has reduced the number of pending cases in High Courts and Lower Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) National Legal Services Authority issues guidelines which are applicable to the State Legal Services Authorities, as prescribed *vide* National Legal Services Authority (Lok Adalat) Regulations, 2009, to organize Lok Adalats to reduce pendency of cases in the courts including High Courts and Lower Courts.

As per the information furnished by the National Legal Services Authority, presently 315 Permanent Lok Adalats are functioning in the country to settle the cases relating to public utility services. State-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). In addition, sittings of regular Lok Adalats and National Lok Adalats are held by legal services institutions from Supreme Court to Taluk level Courts at regular intervals. Regular Lok Adalats are held weekly/fortnightly/monthly whereas National Lok Adalats are conducted once in two months.

The details showing the number of Lok Adalats held and cases disposed of by these Lok Adalats during the last three financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and the current financial year 2017-18 (upto December, 2017) are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The details of cases disposed by National Lok Adalats during the last three calendar years *viz.* 2015, 2016 and 2017 are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

State-wise details of Permanent Lok Adalats (PLA) (Established u/s 22-B of LSA Act), total number of sittings held and cases disposed off during 2017-18

(For the period w.e.f. April, 2017 to December, 2017)

Sl. No	SLSA	PLAs Functioning	Number of Sittings	Cases settled
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	0	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9	605	842
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
4.	Assam	20	393	293
5.	Bihar	9	92	1
6.	Chhattisgarh	5	844	119
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	2	336	8144
10.	Goa	2	6	51
11.	Gujarat	4	1	72
12.	Haryana	21	1914	32525
13.	Himachal Pradesh	4	23	55
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	0
15.	Jharkhand	24	1449	2547
16.	Karnataka	6	1125	6870
17.	Kerala	3	409	576
18.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	50	327	10028
20.	Maharashtra	4	587	6852
21.	Manipur	0	0	0
22.	Meghalaya	0	0	0
23.	Mizoram	2	0	0
24.	Nagaland	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5
25. Odisha		13	400	1284
26. Puducherry		0	0	0
27. Punjab		22	2545	15409
28. Rajasthan		35	2399	2220
29. Sikkim		0	0	0
30. Tamil Nadu		18	0	0
31. Telangana		4	114	3628
32. Tripura		5	35	11
33. Chandigarh (UT)		1	185	2722
34. Uttar Pradesh		47	4345	1331
35. Uttarakhand		4	0	0
36. West Bengal		0	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		315	18134	95581

Statement-II

State-wise details of regular Lok Adalats held and number of pending cases settled during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 (upto December, 2017)

Sl. No.	Name of the State Authority	2015-16		2016-17		2017-18 (upto Dec., 2017)	
		No. of Lok Adalats held	No. of Pending cases settled	No. of Lok Adalats held	No. of Pending cases settled	No. of Lok Adalats held	No. of Pending cases settled
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	0	2	52	22	318
2.	Andhra Pradesh	11162	126336	9122	25649	6849	10069
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	61	465	53	478	5	23
4.	Assam	35	41729	6	3257	364	61275
5.	Bihar	2127	35309	1803	1869	568	144
6.	Chhattisgarh	2018	712378	1156	20680	753	8938
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	10	55	0	0	1	10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Daman and Diu	8	101	0	0	0	0
9.	Delhi	1077	197126	315	1100	40	0
10.	Goa	156	1600	52	483	33	296
11.	Gujarat	13819	80340	9842	37977	4613	11209
12.	Haryana	66473	176657	58018	167412	45467	91100
13.	Himachal Pradesh	1331	106333	419	11718	826	38362
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	628	56704	254	3067	113	2092
15.	Jharkhand	4459	22139	692	9521	485	4062
16.	Karnataka	20375	251104	15768	185123	8648	82454
17.	Kerala	3287	161390	2039	18787	1566	6801
18.	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	0	9	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	1230	571447	2136	11028	1442	4161
20.	Maharashtra	3823	105775	829	32016	49	882
21.	Manipur	25	84	5	0	0	0
22.	Meghalaya	87	1543	1	9	0	0
23.	Mizoram	83	23	88	65	74	26
24.	Nagaland	70	261	1	4	0	0
25.	Odisha	1456	193304	650	216430	418	195476
26.	Puducherry	104	4433	102	376	47	204
27.	Punjab	4308	566971	913	14017	846	4565
28.	Rajasthan	13623	304310	6894	96818	3426	67653
29.	Sikkim	331	362	120	435	90	230
30.	Tamil Nadu	4339	486843	2841	5484	2349	3960
31.	Telangana	5939	122525	2384	16251	1970	8347
32.	Tripura	571	79092	130	45346	120	49334
33.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	970	13170	37	406	9	3
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1236	1982798	175	3279	134	4337
35.	Uttarakhand	222	25523	67	10387	34	12633
36.	West Bengal	2138	276383	2106	26155	1335	19958
GRAND TOTAL		167586	6704613	119021	965679	82705	688922

Statement-III

*State-wise details of pending cases disposed off by National Lok Adalat
during the years 2015, 2016 and 2017*

Sl.No.	Name of SLSA	2015	2016	2017
1.	Andhra Pradesh	104774	95756	118949
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	113	178	595
3.	Assam	18789	38954	35143
4.	Bihar	238524	39468	26614
5.	Chhattisgarh	249783	247007	17159
6.	Goa	1313	1654	1319
7.	Gujarat	117433	58275	132205
8.	Haryana	81493	62654	44326
9.	Himachal Pradesh	71685	76226	21183
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	41345	17361	31214
11.	Jharkhand	22198	6431	33084
12.	Karnataka	297534	202773	58682
13.	Kerala	197848	158466	21683
14.	Madhya Pradesh	720380	308365	121574
15.	Maharashtra	110034	239029	154554
16.	Manipur	100	157	167
17.	Meghalaya	1518	842	962
18.	Mizoram	19	265	22
19.	Nagaland	242	194	182
20.	Odisha	558486	575842	118564
21.	Punjab	550772	242998	78084
22.	Rajasthan	118325	78218	103326
23.	Sikkim	100	1878	114
24.	Tamil Nadu	619584	440500	373314
25.	Telangana	109597	60304	93117
26.	Tripura	68674	48020	3200
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1760458	1654965	1194296

Sl.No.	Name of SLSA	2015	2016	2017
28.	Uttarakhand	5052	6414	13014
29.	West Bengal	17856	21020	89910
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	197	52	825
31.	Chandigarh (UT)	14204	27866	12227
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	56	83	83
33.	Daman and Diu	106	58	82
34.	Delhi	38765	252302	24514
35.	Lakshadweep	1	0	36
36.	Puducherry (UT)	21171	12427	4016
GRAND TOTAL		6158529	4977002	2928339

Functioning of Nyaya Mitras in Kerala

907. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Nyaya Mitras functioning in the country, along with the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the number of Nyaya Mitras started in Kerala so far, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of Central assistance released to Government of Kerala for the development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary during 2014-15 to 2016-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) A total of 15 Nyaya Mitras have been functioning at present in the country, of which 5 are in Uttar Pradesh, 4 each are in West Bengal and Rajasthan and 1 each are in Bihar and Tripura.

(c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for Judiciary is being implemented by the Union Government in cooperation with State/UT Governments. An amount of ₹ 85.87 crores has been released to the Government of Kerala since inception of the scheme in the year 1993-94, of which an amount of ₹ 25.00 crores has been released in 2017-18. No amounts could be released to the State of Kerala during the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 in view of unspent balance with the Government of Kerala and non-receipt of utilization certificates. The amount of ₹ 25.00 crores in 2017-18 has been released after receiving the pending utilization certificates from the Government of Kerala.

Computerization of courts in Odisha

908. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of District and Subordinate Courts in the country, particularly in Odisha, at present;

(b) whether a large number of these courts have been computerized under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project;

(c) if so, the number and details of Courts in Odisha fully computerized so far and the funds incurred to computerize them;

(d) the number of remaining courts in Odisha proposed to be computerized by Government during the next two years; and

(e) the funds sanctioned and released in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) As per available information from High Courts and State Governments, the sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts in the country is 22,623. There are 647 functioning courts in Odisha. Funds have been released for computerization of 16,089 District and Subordinate Courts in the country, including 509 courts of Odisha, under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project. The funds released for computerization of district and subordinate courts in Odisha under e-Courts Mission Mode Project is ₹ 27.98 crores, out of which ₹ 8.01 crores have been utilized as on 31st January, 2018. A project to provide internet connectivity to 45 courts housed in 41 court complexes in Odisha has been given “in- principle” approval.

(d) and (e) No proposals have been received till now for computerization of the remaining 138 district and subordinate courts in Odisha.

Cases pending in POCSO courts

909. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working of POCSO courts dealing with crimes against children are upto the desired level;

(b) if so, the number of cases pending in these courts in each State as on date;

(c) whether these courts have the qualified personnel and adequate infrastructure to deal with such sensitive cases; and

(d) the total number of courts set up/ designated for cases of crimes against children established under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The working and control of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) courts dealing with crimes against children comes within the purview of respective High Courts. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), under the Ministry of Women and Child Development, which administers the POCSO Act, 2012, has informed that as per Crime in India, 2016 Report published by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there were 90205 cases pending trial at the end of the calendar year 2016. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*). Development of adequate infrastructure facilities for judiciary is within the jurisdiction of the respective State Governments.

(d) NCPCR has informed that as per the information obtained from 35 States/ Union Territories, there are 597 courts set up/designated in 681 districts under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 to deal with the crimes against children.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of cases pending trial at the end of the year 2016

Sl. No.	State/UT	Cases Pending Trial at the End of the year (2016)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1550
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	101
3.	Assam	1005
4.	Bihar	653
5.	Chhattisgarh	2562
6.	Goa	288
7.	Gujarat	3606
8.	Haryana	1275
9.	Himachal Pradesh	596
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	71
11.	Jharkhand	307

1	2	3
12.	Karnataka	3529
13.	Kerala	5637
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10950
15.	Maharashtra	17338
16.	Manipur	85
17.	Meghalaya	563
18.	Mizoram	307
19.	Nagaland	24
20.	Odisha	3843
21.	Punjab	509
22.	Rajasthan	4011
23.	Sikkim	97
24.	Tamil Nadu	2711
25.	Telangana	2507
26.	Tripura	411
27.	Uttar Pradesh	15938
28.	Uttarakhand	284
29.	West Bengal	4316
TOTAL STATE(S)		85074
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	196
31.	Chandigarh	45
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	23
33.	Daman and Diu	17
34.	Delhi UT	4769
35.	Lakshadweep	6
36.	Puducherry	75
TOTAL UT(S)		5131
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		90205

Filling up of judicial vacancies

910. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the delay in finalizing the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment of Judges in the higher judiciary;

(b) if so, the action taken to expedite the MoP and by when it is likely to be finalized; and

(c) the details of judicial vacancies in the Supreme Court and various High Courts at present and the steps taken by Government to fill up the vacancies in the higher judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The Supreme Court of India *vide* order dated 16.12.2015 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13 of 2015 for improvement in the “Collegium System”, directed the Government to finalize the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) by supplementing it in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium, taking into consideration factors such as eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of Secretariat, and mechanism to deal with complaints. The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP and the draft MoP was sent to the Hon’ble Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India *vide* letter dated 13.03.2017.

Meanwhile, in another judgment dated 4.7.2017 in a “*suo moto*” contempt proceeding against a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, the Supreme Court has underlined the need to revisit the process of selection and appointment of Judges to the Constitutional Courts. The Government of India has conveyed the need to make improvements on the draft MoP to the Secretary General of the Supreme Court on 11.07.2017.

(c) The details indicating approved strength, working strength and vacant post of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts are given in the Statement (*See* below). As the process of finalizing the supplementation of the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) was likely to take some time, at the initiative of the Government, the matter of continuing the appointment process was taken up with Supreme Court and it is continuing in accordance with the existing MoP to fill the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

During 2016, 4 Judges in the Supreme Court and 14 Chief Justices of High Courts were appointed. Besides, 126 fresh appointments of Judges were made in High Courts which is the highest number in a calendar year. During 2017, 5 Judges in the Supreme Court, 8 Chief Justices of High Courts and 115 fresh appointments of Judges in the High Courts have been made. During 2018, as on 01.02.2018, 3 fresh appointments of Judges in the High Courts have been made.

Statement

Details indicating approved strength, working strength and vacant posts of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as per Approved Strength
1	2	3	4	5
(A) Supreme Court of India		31	25	06
(B) High Court				
1.	Allahabad	160	104	56
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	61	31	30
3.	Bombay	94	70	24
4.	Calcutta	72	33	39
5.	Chhattisgarh	22	12	10
6.	Delhi	60	38	22
7.	Gauhati	24	18	6
8.	Gujarat	52	31	21
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13	08	05
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	17	11	06
11.	Jharkhand	25	17	08
12.	Karnataka	62	24	38
13.	Kerala	47	37	10
14.	Madhya Pradesh	53	33	20
15.	Madras	75	58	17
16.	Manipur	05	02	03
17.	Meghalaya	04	02	02
18.	Odisha	27	17	10

1	2	3	4	5
19. Patna		53	32	21
20. Punjab and Haryana		85	50	35
21. Rajasthan		50	24	16
22. Sikkim		03	03	0
23. Tripura		04	02	02
24. Uttarakhand		11	09	02
TOTAL		1079	676	403

Setting up of Legal Information Kiosks in Jharkhand

911. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to establish voice-based Legal Information Kiosks in the State of Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the total number of active District Legal Services Authorities in the State of Jharkhand; and

(d) the details of the number of persons getting benefited by these services in the Financial Year 2017-18?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) During 2014-2015, a total of 25 Voice based Legal Information Kiosks were installed in the State of Jharkhand under the Government of India— UNDP Access to Justice Project.

(c) A total number of 24 active District Legal Services Authorities in the State of Jharkhand.

(d) As per the information furnished by the Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, approximately 17400 have persons benefited from these services in the year 2017-18.

Appointment of judges and pending cases

912. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has considered the recommendations given in the 245th report of the Law Commission, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of Judges appointed by the Ministry for Higher Judicial Service and Subordinate Judicial Service in the last two years;

(c) whether the Ministry is considering setting up of Special Traffic Courts in the country as recommended for speedy disposal, if so, the details thereof;

(d) the total number of pending cases in the High Courts and the District Courts of the country; and

(e) the current rate of disposal of cases by the High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) 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) As per the provisions in the Constitution, the selection and appointment of judges in district and subordinate judiciary is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. The sanctioned and working strength of judicial officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary in the country are 22,623 and 16,698

respectively, leaving 5925 vacancy of judiciary officers in District and Subordinate Judiciary.

(c) New courts (including Special traffic Courts) at district and sub-district/subordinate level are established by the respective State Governments in consultation with the concerned High Courts.

(d) As per information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), as on 05.02.2018 41.84 lakh cases were pending in the High Courts, and 2.65 crore cases were pending in the District and Subordinate Courts (excluding District and Subordinate Courts in the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Puducherry).

(e) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. Number of pending cases in various High Courts was 40.15 lakh as on 31.12.2016, and 34.27 lakh as on 01.01.2018, except High Courts of Allahabad and Jammu and Kashmir.

Ensuring legal aid to the poor

913. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to State:

(a) whether Government is concerned about the hurdles to common citizen for accessibility to legal services;

(b) if so, whether Government has already initiated free legal services scheme in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the total number of legal aid clinics established by Government, State-wise, and the financial assistance provided to the States during last three years in this regard; and

(d) whether Government has made any efforts to ensure that legal aid reaches the poor and the people residing in rural areas and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government and National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) have taken a number of measures to address the problems of common citizens for accessing legal services. The Government has been implementing Access to Justice Project since 2012 in 8 States of the North East namely, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Manipur, Tripura, Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Sikkim and the

State of Jammu and Kashmir in partnership with State Legal Services Authorities and State Governments. Under the project a number of legal aid and literacy programme are being implemented in these States. In 2016-17, 46 legal aid clinics were setup in Tuensang and Mon districts of Nagaland. The Government in partnership with UNDP also implemented another project on Access to Justice in 8 States namely, U.P., Bihar, M.P., Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Rajasthan, Odisha and Maharashtra from 2009 to 2017. Under the project training and capacity building of panel lawyers, para legal volunteers, elected representatives of gram panchayats and anganwadi workers have been undertaken. Under the project 04 legal aid clinics were setup in Odisha in partnership with National Law University, Odisha and 02 legal aid clinics were setup in Mumbai in partnership with Tata Institute of Social Science (TISS).

In April, 2017, the Government has launched three new legal empowerment initiatives, namely, Tele Law, Pro bono legal services and Nyaya Mitra. Tele Law scheme has been launched in 1800 gram panchayats in 10 States of the country for providing free legal aid to marginalised persons as mentioned in section 12 of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. As on 07.02.2018, out of 12526 cases registered under the scheme, legal advice has been provided in 9405 cases. Under the Pro Bono legal service scheme, 298 cases of marginalised persons have been assigned to 215 advocates. Under the Nyaya Mitra scheme, 15 Nyaya Mitras have been engaged in 6 States namely, U.P., Bihar, West Bengal, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tripura. The Nyaya Mitras are required to assist the judiciary in the disposal of long pending cases and also to provide free legal advice to marginalised persons.

NALSA was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes. Under the Act, legal services institutions have been set up at all levels from taluka courts, the district court, High Court to the Supreme Court. Legal aid clinics setup in jails, observation homes, juvenile justice boards and law schools are being manned by panel lawyers and para legal volunteers of legal services authorities. A total number of 20134 legal aid clinics have been established in the country as on 31.12.2017. The details of these clinics set up State-wise are given in the Statement (*See below*).

NALSA has developed schemes and programmes to ensure equitable access to justice, especially for the marginalised communities. These schemes are meant for providing legal aid to those specific categories of people who are excluded from the formal legal system due to political, cultural, social or environmental conditions. Such schemes range from providing legal services to victims of disasters-(both manmade and natural) to acid attack victims. NALSA has also been at the vanguard for protecting the rights and interest of some of the most vulnerable members of the society, be

it children, women, tribals or mentally ill and disabled people. During the current financial year (up to December, 2017) more than 5.47 lakh persons have benefited through legal aid services in the country.

Annual Grants allocated to the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) during the financial years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 are ₹ 57.05 crores, ₹ 110.10 crores and ₹ 79.00 crores respectively. NALSA in turn provides funds to State Legal Services Authorities for financing activities at the district level through District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs).

Statement

State-wise number of legal services clinics established in the country

Sl. No.	Name of the SLSAs	Number of Legal Services Clinics established as on 31.12.2017
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	858
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	21
3.	Assam	186
4.	Bihar	261
5.	Chhattisgarh	493
6.	Goa	120
7.	Gujarat	638
8.	Haryana	506
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1010
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	215
11.	Jharkhand	498
12.	Karnataka	876
13.	Kerala	652
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1138
15.	Maharashtra	645
16.	Manipur	81
17.	Meghalaya	133
18.	Mizoram	102
19.	Nagaland	124

1	2	3
20.	Odisha	522
21.	Punjab	526
22.	Rajasthan	7432
23.	Sikkim	31
24.	Tamil Nadu	818
25.	Telangana	392
26.	Tripura	370
27.	Uttar Pradesh	181
28.	Uttarakhand	267
29.	West Bengal	886
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0
31.	Chandigarh (U.T.)	19
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	13
33.	Daman and Diu	7
34.	Delhi	50
35.	Lakshadweep	0
36.	Puducherry	63
TOTAL		20134

Linking of Aadhaar with registration of marriage

914. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from Law Commission for linking of Aadhaar with registration of marriages to prevent fraudulent marriages and denial of subsistence to deserted women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken/to be taken by Government on their request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The 21st Law Commission of India in its 270th Report titled “Compulsory Registration of Marriages” has observed that it would be desirable to have a centralized national portal for maintenance of records of

marriage registration and if registration of marriage is linked to the unique identification number (UID), it would be possible to achieve universal tracing of records.

(c) The Government is yet to take a decision in the matter.

Filling up of posts of judges and other staff

†915. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies of Judges and other staff in different courts and the steps taken to fill them up during the last three years;

(b) the reasons for not making appointments against those vacancies within a fixed time-limit;

(c) whether the recruitment process for filling up of posts, lying vacant since 2007, in some High Courts had not started even in 2016;

(d) whether the Ministry would ensure that recruitments are made in advance against posts that are likely to fall vacant soon; and

(e) the impact on the functioning of courts due to said vacant posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the provisions of the Constitution, the selection and appointment of judicial officers in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. As on date, there are six vacancies in the Supreme Court, 403 positions of Judges in High Courts and 5925 Judicial Officers in District/Subordinate Courts. The selection and appointment of other staff in courts at all levels is in the domain of the judiciary and the information on vacancies thereon is not maintained in the Central Government.

(b) 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

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

conditions in the State or other relevant conditions. The Union Government does not have a role under the Constitution in the selection and appointment of judicial officers in district/subordinate judiciary.

(c) to (e) Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposal for filling up of vacancies of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. However, this timeline is rarely adhered to by the High Courts.

Filling up of vacancies is a continuous process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Hence, the time-frame for filling up of the vacancies cannot be indicated. 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.

Based on the proposal received from the High Court Collegium, during the year 2016, 126 fresh appointments of Judges in High Courts were made and 131 Additional Judges were made permanent, which is the highest number of appointments made in a given year. In addition, the tenure of 22 Additional Judges of High Courts was also extended. Besides, based on the proposal received from the Supreme Court Collegium, 4 judges were appointed in the Supreme Court in 2016. During the year 2017, 05 Judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court, 08 Chief Justices have been appointed in the High Courts, 115 Judges have been appointed in the High Courts and 31 Additional Judges have been made Permanent. During the current year, 3 Judges have been appointed in High Courts and 7 Additional Judges have been made permanent.

Shortage of Judges in courts is one of the reasons for pendency of cases in High Courts.

Stopping of train services on certain routes

916. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA:

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to stop services at the eight train routes of Bardhaman-Katwa, Sonarpur-Canning, Shantipur-Nabadwip Ghat, Barasat-Hasnabad, Baruipur-Namkhana, Ballygunge-Budge Budge, Kalyani Simanta-Sealdah and Bhimgara-Palasthali in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Ministry is aware that these routes are availed by lakhs of common commuters daily; and

(d) if so, the reasons for stopping the routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal for discontinuation of services of trains on Bardhaman-Katwa, Sonarpur-Canning, Shantipur-Nabadwip Ghat, Barasat-Hasnabad, Baruipur-Namkhana, Ballygunge-Budge Budge, Kalyani Simanta-Sealdah and Bhimgara-Palasthali sections in West Bengal.

(d) Does not arise.

Employees in various cadres of Railways

917. SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees, in officer and other cadres, in Railways at present in executive, technical and other sectors;

(b) the number of vacancies in administrative and technical sectors at present;

(c) whether the total number of employees working in Railways has increased or decreased during the last three years;

(d) the changes in numbers; and

(e) whether vacancies are affecting efficiency and quality of services in Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) As on 01.04.2017, Zonal Railways employed 11,541 Gazetted officers and 12,32,760 non-gazetted staff.

(b) As on 01.04.2017, over Zonal Railways, total number of vacancy of Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' staff in Administration Department and in Technical Department is 1,53,589.

(c) and (d) Over Zonal Railways, total number of employed non-gazetted staff during the last three years is as under:—

Year	Total employed staffs
01.04.2015	1247255
01.04.2016	1253954
01.04.2017	1232760

(e) No, Sir.

Coach Mitra facility

918. SHRI VIVEK GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the clean my coach initiative by Railways, a passenger can get Coach Mitra services by requesting online;

(b) if so, the total number of requests filed by the passengers in the last one year, month-wise;

(c) the number of times action was taken on those requests during the said period, month-wise; and

(d) the steps being taken to make the passengers aware about the availability of this facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. 'Clean My Coach'/'Coach Mitra' service is provided in nearly 950 pairs of trains having On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS).

In 'Clean My Coach' scheme, for any cleaning requirement in the coach, passenger can send a message through mobile (SMS) on a specified mobile number. Alternatively, passenger can also use an android app or webpage for logging the request.

'Clean My Coach' service is now being upgraded to 'Coach Mitra' facility which is a single window interface to register coach related requirements of passengers such as cleaning, disinfection, linen, train lighting, air conditioning and watering of coaches. 'Coach Mitra' facility has been introduced in about 800 pairs of trains.

(b) and (c) Month-wise data is not available but total number of requests is being monitored. More than 71,000 service requests were received from April, 2017 to December, 2017. Nearly 90 % of those service requests were attended.

(d) Posters/Stickers are displayed inside the coach near main gate/doorway to make the passengers aware about the facility.

Drive against entry of unauthorized persons in reserved coaches of trains

919. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place any comprehensive plan to check entry of unauthorized persons in trains, particularly in reserved coaches, viz., Sleeper, AC III Tier, AC II Tier and First Class in long distance trains;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted any drive against entry of unauthorized persons in reserved coaches of trains originating from New Delhi/H. Nizamuddin and heading towards Chennai, Madurai, Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Following steps are taken by the Railways to keep a check on the entry of unauthorized passengers in reserved coaches of trains:—

(i) Train manning staff keeps the regular watch on the entry of unauthorized passengers in reserved coaches. Any unauthorized person found travelling in reserved coaches is penalized as per provisions of Railway Act.

(ii) Regular and surprise checks are conducted by Commercial and Security Departments of the Railway to keep a check on unauthorized entry in reserved coaches as well as to apprehend such passengers for taking further necessary action.

(iii) Regular announcements through public address system are made advising unauthorized passengers not to travel in reserved coaches of the trains otherwise they will be penalized and charged under section 155 of Railway Act, 1989.

(iv) Regular advertisements are also published in leading newspapers for educating passengers not to enter into reserved coaches unauthorisedly.

(c) to (e) Drives against entry of unauthorised persons are conducted by Zonal Railways on regular basis on all the trains including those originating from New Delhi/Hazrat Nizamuddin and heading towards Chennai/Madurai/Tirunelveli/Kanyakumari. During the financial year 2017-18 (upto December, 2017) 18.18 lakh checks were conducted by Zonal Railways in which approximately ₹ 183.36 lakh persons were detected travelling without ticket/with improper ticket and approximately ₹ 867.36 crores were realized therefrom.

Fake interviews for jobs in Railways

920. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a racket, which conducted fake interviews for jobs in Railways, in Room No. 09, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi has been reported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has inquired into how they got access to rooms for interview in Rail Bhawan and the involvement of railway officials;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the details of persons/officials involved therein; and

(e) the reasons for failure of Railways to detect the said racket early which was being run below the officer rooms of the Minister of Railways and MoS, Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) A complaint has been received alleging that fake interviews for jobs in Railways, were conducted in Room No 09, Rail Bhawan, New Delhi.

A complaint was lodged by the victims with Police Station, Parliament Street, New Delhi, which has been registered *vide* Dy. No. 160-S/GC dated 27.12.2017.

During enquiry conducted by Railway Protection Force, however, it could not be ascertained, how the alleged persons got access to the room for interview in Rail Bhawan as the Room No. 09 is situated just near to reception area where access is available to visitors without entry pass.

(e) No information regarding any such recruitment racket has come or been brought to notice.

Revision of flexi fare system

921. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways may soon revise its flexi fare system on premium trains to get more passengers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Railways are considering selling half the seats without any surge pricing;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Railways want a system that does not pinch passengers' pockets much and also help it achieve its revenue targets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) An eight member committee was constituted to review the flexi fare scheme. The terms of reference of the committee was 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 *vis-a-vis* 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.

The Committee has submitted its report on 16.01.2018. The Report has already been put up to the Board.

Connectivity of tribal areas of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand

922. SHRI D. RAJA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the plans of Railways to connect tribal areas of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand to sea ports like Visakhapatnam;

(b) whether it is a fact that weak and outdated railway tracks in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand are not being replaced nor modern tracks are being laid;

(c) the funds allotted for track renewal in these two States in 2017-18; and

(d) the steps proposed to improve rail connectivity in all backward areas to the nearest sea ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Tribal areas of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand are well connected to sea

ports like Visakhapatnam through existing railway networks. To further enhance the connectivity of rural tribal areas of Jharkhand State to nearest ports, work of new line between Chitra Basukinath and Pakur – Godda have been included in the budget.

(b) 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.

Primary track renewals are now sanctioned with Pre-stressed Concrete (PSC) Sleepers, 60kg, 90 UTS (Ultimate Tensile Strength) rails, fan-shaped layout on PSC sleepers, Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges, etc.

The State of Chhattisgarh falls in East Coast Railway and South East Central Railway and the State of Jharkhand falls in East Central Railway, South Eastern Railway and Eastern Railway. The details of track renewal carried out on these Zonal Railways for the year 2017-18, are as under:—

Zonal Railway	Track Renewal [in km of Complete Track Renewal (CTR) units] (upto December, 2017)
East Coast	145
South East Central	109
East Central	189
South Eastern	210
Eastern	155

(c) The required details are as under:—

Zonal Railway	Funds allotted for track renewal (Revised Estimates) (₹ in crore)
East Coast	741.92
South East Central	301.98
East Central	655.97
South Eastern	576.13
Eastern	546.90

(d) Improvement of rail connectivity projects in all areas including backward areas is an ongoing continuous process. These projects are taken up on the basis of

remunerative returns, last mile connectivity, missing links, alternate routes, augmentation of congested/saturated lines, socio-economic considerations, throw forward of ongoing projects, overall availability of funds and competing demands of different areas etc.

Electrification and doubling of Chennai Egmore-Kanyakumari route

923. SHRIMATI SASIKALA PUSHPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that electrification and doubling between Chennai Egmore–Kanyakumari route is pending for a long period;

(b) if so, the status of the electrification and doubling between Chennai Egmore – Kanyakumari project as on 31 January, 2018; and

(c) the tentative date by which this project will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The status of electrification and doubling between Chennai Egmore-Kanniyakumari route is as under:—

(i) Chennai Egmore-Villupuram-Tiruchchirappalli-Madurai route.

Entire route has been commissioned on electric traction with double line except Kalpattichatram-Tamaraipad (25 Route Kilometer) section.

Single line section of Kalpattichatram-Tamaraipad is already commissioned on electric traction. Doubling with electrification between Kalpattichatram-Tamaraipad section is in advance stage.

(ii) Madurai-Vanchi Maniyachchi-Tuticorin and Vanchi Maniyachchi-Tirunelveli-Nagercoil-Kanniyakumari routes.

The entire route is already electrified with single line.

Doubling with electrification for Madurai-Vanchi Maniyachchi-Tuticorin (160 Km), Vanchi Maniyachchi-Nagercoil (102 Km) and Trivandrum-Nagercoil-Kanniyakumari (86.56 Km) lines have also been approved and detailed estimates of the projects have been sanctioned.

Completion of projects depends on a number of factors such as acquisition of land, forestry and wildlife clearances, shifting of various services, construction of Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges by road maintenance departments, apart from availability of adequate funds. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of the Ministry of Railways, it is not feasible to give time lines for completion of these projects.

Water Management Policy of Railways

924. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the proposed Water Management Policy of Railways along with its objectives;

(b) whether there is a proposal to set up National Railway Water Management Fund to give incentives to railway divisions to boost replacement of fresh water with recycled water and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Railways for preparing a strategy for water management?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways' Water Policy has been formulated in March, 2017. The objective is to improve water use efficiency by effective demand and supply management, installing water efficient systems and setting up Water Recycling Plants on railway land.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The following steps have been envisaged in the Water Policy for efficient water management:—

- Upgrading water supply system.
- Introduction of Automatic Valves.
- Mandatory provision of Solar water heaters.
- Rain Water Harvesting (RWH).
- Reviving old water bodies on railway land.
- Water Recycling Plants on BOOT basis.
- Use of water efficient fittings.
- Water Audit.

Jan Aushadhi Kendras at railway stations

†925. SHRI MEGHRAJ JAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to open Jan Aushadhi Kendras at railway stations for the convenience of railway passengers, if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether railway stations have been selected for launching this scheme, if so, the details of the stations, particularly the State of Madhya Pradesh; and

(c) whether the prices of the medicines, to be sold at these Kendras, would be fixed by the Government, if so, whether any Committee has been setup for this, 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) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Construction work on forest land

926. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has undertaken construction work on forest land since 2014;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether environmental clearances were obtained for the above;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) Railways does not require environment clearance for undertaking projects. However, Forestry/Wildlife clearances are required wherever the diversion of forest land is involved. Taking permission from Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) is an integral part of project execution. For this, online applications are filed by different Zonal Railways which are then processed by concerned DFO of the State and further approved by MoEFCC. For areas requiring Wildlife Clearances, separate application is made to State Wildlife Board/National Wildlife Board.

Maintenance of railway tracks

†927. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating to give top priority to maintenance of railway tracks;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, whether Government is going to take any steps in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of such steps and by when such steps would be taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Track maintenance is accorded due priority. The degradation of track is a normal process due to passing of traffic and the maintenance schedule of track has been drawn up keeping the same in view.

The systematic maintenance of Railway track is undertaken with the help of track machines as per guidelines contained in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual (IRPWM) and the intermediate attention and other patrolling activities are done by Track Maintainers for safe operations of trains.

Joint Procedure Orders (JPOs) have been issued for advance planning of maintenance block by Zonal Railways for track maintenance works which require traffic block.

Stopping of train services

928. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to stop train services on many routes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that train services of these were stopped due to losses incurred; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Indian Railways, at times, have to resort to cancellation of trains due to various reasons which include inclement weather conditions (like flood, fog etc.), to facilitate gauge conversion/ infrastructural works, to undertake urgent safety related works etc. Trains cancelled on these accounts are restored as soon as the weather conditions improve/works get completed.

Rationalization of train operations is an on-going process on Indian Railways and with this end in view, trains with consistent poor occupancy are also cancelled. However, during the period 1st April, 2017 to 31st January, 2018, no train service has been cancelled owing to poor patronization.

Dismal passenger train service on New Delhi-Ghaziabad route

929. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether between New Delhi-Ghaziabad, there is no passenger/EMU/MEMU train after 2.30 p.m. till 6.00 p.m., a gap of more than 3 hours, building up crowds on stations in between;

(b) whether Train No. 64032 between Shakurbasti and Ghaziabad, serving home-coming commuters to some extent, has been put out of operations for no ostensible reasons;

(c) whether the suburban train service between New Delhi and Palwal section has been well taken care of because of likelihood of irate commuters turning violent and damaging railway property; and

(d) the reasons for the neglect of New Delhi-Ghaziabad suburban train service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) At present, 3 EMU train services available between New Delhi to Ghaziabad between 02.30 p.m. to 06.00 p.m. are as under:—

1. 64032 New Delhi Departure 03:37 p.m. Ghaziabad Arrival 04:25 p.m.
2. 64419 New Delhi Departure 04:07 p.m. Ghaziabad Arrival 05:10 p.m.
3. 64450 New Delhi Departure 05:50 p.m. Ghaziabad Arrival 06:40 p.m.

(b) Train No. 64032 Shakurbasti-Ghaziabad EMU had been temporarily cancelled w.e.f. 15.12.2017 due to foggy weather conditions and ongoing safety related maintenance works at New Delhi Railway Station.

(c) and (d) At present, New Delhi-Ghaziabad section is being served by 52 EMU/MEMU/Passenger train services while the New Delhi-Palwal section is being served by 22 EMU/MEMU/Passenger train services. These are in addition to the Mail/Express trains serving the aforesaid two sections.

Upgradation of trains to reduce journey time

930. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are finally moving to connect the country's most high profile route, Delhi-Mumbai, by upgrading the existing train;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways have any plans to upgrade the trains of other routes to reduce the journey hours; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Railways has decided to connect the country's most high profile route Delhi-Mumbai by introduction of a new train no. 09004/09003 which covers the distance in 13 hours 55 minutes.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. At present, there is no proposal for speeding up of trains. However, speeding up of trains is a constant endeavour and continuous process on Indian Railways. During 2017, speed of 51 trains has been increased within existing infrastructure to reduce the journey time ranging between 1 hour to 6 hours.

Improving safety of rail tracks

931. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Railways are planning a series of steps to improve the safety of rail tracks, including automated inspections and frequent traffic blocks for maintenance;

(b) whether it is a also a fact that all the railway zones have been asked to procure self propelled cars for track inspection;

(c) whether a large number of rail fractures are occurring on railway tracks that have not even served 25 per cent of their lifespan; and

(d) whether this usually happens due to improper handling or laying of rail tracks and is a major sign of worry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Steps taken by the Railways to improve safety of railway track are as under:—

- (i) Track renewal works are undertaken as and when stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual on age/condition basis.
- (ii) Primary track renewals are now sanctioned with Pre-stressed Concrete (PSC) Sleepers, 60kg-90 kg/sq mm UTS (Ultimate Tensile Strength) rails, fan-shaped layout on PSC sleepers, Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges, etc.

(iii) Indian Railways have a system of scheduled inspections by Railway officials which, *inter alia*, includes daily inspection by Keyman, inspections at stipulated periodicity by various designated officials to monitor condition of track and periodic measurement/monitoring of track parameters by Track Recording Cars (TRCs) and Oscillation Monitoring Systems (OMS) for safe running of traffic.

(iv) Mechanized track maintenance is being carried out by deployment of state of the art track maintenance machines. Advance monitoring equipments *viz.* Automated integrated track geometry cum video inspection system with features like rail wear measurement, axle box level acceleration measurement, clearance measurement to identify any infringement, etc besides track geometry measurement are also planned to be inducted. To ensure availability of traffic blocks for track maintenance work, a Joint Procedure Order (JPO) has been issued for advance planning of maintenance block by Zonal Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Instances have also come to notice where Rail fractures have taken place within 25% of stipulated service life of Rails. However, immediate corrective action is initiated as and when such instances come to the notice of the Railway Administration. These Rail fractures occurred due to various reasons which include higher wheel impact loading, inherent defects in rails improper handling of rails, etc.

Time-bound implementation of electrification work of tracks

932. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to achieve 100 per cent electrification of tracks in the next four years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the railway officials have been asked to prepare an incentive-cum-penalty programme for vendors in order to implement the plan in a time-bound manner;

(c) whether the total electrification of railway tracks is expected to reduce the energy bill from the current ₹ 26,500 crore per year to about ₹ 16,000 crore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have prepared an Action Plan to electrify

(commission on electric traction) 38000 Route Kilometers in five years (2017-18 to 2021-22) for 100% electrification of its Broad Gauge (BG) rail routes, as given below:—

Year	Route Kilometer planned for commissioning on electric traction
2017-18	4000
2018-19	6000
2019-20	7000
2020-21	10500
2021-22	10500
TOTAL	38000

(b) For expeditious execution of Railway Electrification projects, it is planned to adopt Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) tendering system having structure of incentive and penalty.

(c) and (d) It is expected to achieve recurring saving of ₹ 13510 crore per annum at current price after switch over of all trains from diesel traction to electric traction.

Action plan for cleaner bedding and better meals

933. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has put in place an action plan to provide cleaner bedding and better meals to rail passengers in running trains in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how Government proposes to implement the action plan with delinquent contractors who continue to work for Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(i) Some steps taken for providing cleaner bedding are as below:—

- Washing of bed linen (except blanket) is done after every single use. Blankets are cleaned at least once in two months.
- To improve the quality of washing of bed linen, 58 mechanized laundries have been set up in the railways, covering nearly 65 % of linen washing

requirement. Most of the remaining linen is also washed in outside mechanised laundries through contracts.

- Nominated storage places with facilities like racks and compactors are provided for storage of linen.
- Sample checking of washed linen is done before dispatch from laundry.
- Regular inspections are carried out by officers and supervisors for compliance to the norms for washing of linen items.

(ii) The following steps have been taken for provision of better meals to passengers:—

- New Catering Policy has been issued in February, 2017, wherein *inter alia*, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC) has been mandated to create a distinction primarily between food preparation and food distribution.
- IRCTC is to set up new kitchens and upgrade existing ones.
- Optional Catering service has been introduced as a pilot project for 180 days from August, 2017 on 32 Rajdhani /Shatabdi/Duranto trains under the management of IRCTC.
- Introduction of station based E-Catering for widening the options of food choice.
- Pilot for introduction of pre-cooked food in the range of options available to passengers.
- Operation of All India helpline No. 138 for lodging complaints / suggestions pertaining to food and catering services and Operation of Centralized Catering Service Monitoring Cell (CSMC) for prompt redressal of passenger grievances and real time assistance related to catering.
- A Twitter handle @ IRCATERING has been made operational for complaints/suggestions pertaining to catering services.

(c) Regular inspections are done at various levels to monitor the quality of bedding and catering services.

In case of unsatisfactory work or passenger complaint regarding bed roll, suitable penalty is imposed on the contractor as per contract conditions.

A policy of zero tolerance towards poor quality of food served to passengers and overcharging is being followed. In current financial year, 12 catering contracts have been terminated for complaints or other contractual deficiencies.

Hacking of website of IRCTC

†934. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tickets of touts were being confirmed instead of common men by hacking the website of IRCTC;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the officers identified by Government in this scam and the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Railway stations with modern facilities

†935. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the scheme of equipping the select railway stations with modern facilities has stuck midway;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) if not, the number of railway stations equipped with modern facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) 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
1.	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Maharashtra
2.	Pune	Maharashtra
3.	Thane	Maharashtra

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Name of Station	State
4.	Mumbai Central	Maharashtra
5.	Bandra Terminus	Maharashtra
6.	Borivali	Maharashtra
7.	Howrah	West Bengal
8.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
9.	Kanpur Central	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
11.	Kamakhya	Assam
12.	Udaipur City	Rajasthan
13.	Faridabad	Haryana
14.	Jammu Tawi	Jammu and Kashmir
15.	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh
16.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
17.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
18.	Chennai Central	Tamil Nadu
19.	Kozhikode	Kerala
20.	Yashwantpur	Karnataka
21.	Bangalore Cantt.	Karnataka
22.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
23.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh

Out of the 23 stations mentioned above, bids were received for Jammu Tawi and Kozhikode stations only, which are under evaluation. No bids were received for 18 stations. In view of the not so-encouraging response, bids for these stations were foreclosed. The scheme has now been modified.

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. Seven stations *viz.*, Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, Chandigarh, Habibganj (Bhopal), Shivaji Nagar (Pune), Surat and Gandhinagar have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment. Out of these seven stations, offers have been finalized for Habibganj and Gandhinagar and Letter of award has been issued on 07.06.2016 and 03.01.2017 respectively and works are in progress.

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). Bids for Gomtinagar have been invited on 06.01.2018.

Rail Land Development Authority has been entrusted to redevelop Safdarjung Station in New Delhi along with IRCON.

Foundation stone of Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet train

936. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister of Japan has recently laid the foundation stone of the high speed Bullet train project between Ahmedabad and Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when it is likely to be completed and the number of passengers likely to travel in the said train, per day, along with the approximate fare likely to be charged from them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The ground-breaking ceremony of Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail project was held on 14.09.2017 in presence of Hon'ble Prime Ministers of India and Japan. The project is targeted for completion by the year 2022-23. The feasibility report had assessed a ridership of 35,800 passengers per day in the year 2023 which goes up to 1,85,800 per day by the year 2053. It is premature to state actual fare to be charged at this stage.

Cleanliness and maintenance of passenger rail coaches

937. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have not yet been able to keep passenger rail coaches in perfect state of cleanliness and maintenance despite tall claims and increase in fare;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Railways have any concrete plan to strengthen the current system to improve the cleanliness and maintenance of rail coaches up to accepted standards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Every endeavour is made to keep the coaches in properly maintained and clean condition. However, a few complaints are received. All efforts are made by the Railways to address the complaints.

(c) Some of the major initiatives taken by Indian Railways towards improvement of cleanliness and maintenance of coaches are as follows:—

- (i) Cleaning of coaches of trains at both ends including mechanized cleaning.
- (ii) On Board Housekeeping Service (OBHS) has been provided in more than 970 pairs of trains including Rajdhani, Shatabdi and other important long distance Mail/Express trains for cleaning of coach toilets, doorways, aisles and passenger compartments during the run of the trains.
- (iii) 'Clean My Coach' service is provided on demand in nearly 950 pairs of important Superfast/Mail/Express long distance trains having On Board Housekeeping Service.
- (iv) Clean Train Station (CTS) scheme has also been prescribed for limited mechanized cleaning attention to identified trains including cleaning of toilets during their scheduled stoppages enroute at nominated stations.
- (v) Regular maintenance and upkeep of all passenger coaches is carried out during laid down maintenance schedules at the Coaching depots and workshops to ensure that they remain in good condition.
- (vi) Some special measures like running of model rake trains (like Mahamana Express), upgradation of identified Rajdhani/Shatabdi trains to Swarn Standard, running of Humsafar, Tejas, Antyodaya trains etc. have also been taken to improve travelling experience.

Electrification of railway lines in Andhra Pradesh

938. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have prepared a ₹ 35,000 crore plan to fully electrify railway network in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Railways have identified any sectors in the State of Andhra Pradesh to be included in the electrification network plan; and

(c) by when this project will come into implementation along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways have prepared an Action Plan to electrify (commission on electric traction) 38000 Route Kilometers (RKM) in five years (2017-18 to 2021-22) for 100% electrification of its Broad Gauge (BG) rail routes which includes 1253 RKM of BG rail routes in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Year-wise details of balance BG rail routes planned for electrification are as under:—

Year	Route Kilometer planned for commissioning on electric traction
2017-18	4000
2018-19	6000
2019-20	7000
2020-21	10500
2021-22	10500
Total	38000

The expenditure of ₹ 32591 crore is planned for commissioning of 38000 Route Kilometers of sections on electric traction.

Development of railway Stations of Bihar

†939. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had made certain announcements in the Budget 2017 for the comprehensive development of Buxar, Patna Sahib and other railway stations of Bihar;

(b) if so, the progress in implementation of the above announcements so far; and

(c) the latest status of construction of ROB at Itarhi railway crossing on the eastern side of the Buxar railway station?

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. Patna Sahib

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and Buxar stations, being 'A' category stations, are in the list of stations identified for redevelopment.

Bids were called for 23 stations in the first phase of Station Redevelopment Programme. Out of the 23 stations, bids were received for Jammu Tawi and Kozhikode stations only, which are under evaluation. No bids were received for 18 stations. In view of the not-so-encouraging response, bids for these stations were foreclosed.

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 Surat have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment. Works at Gandhinagar and Habibganj stations have commenced.

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. The following ten (10) stations have been taken up for redevelopment under this scheme, jointly by Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Building Construction Company (NBCC):-

Tirupati, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Nellore, Madgaon, Lucknow, Gomtinagar, Kota, Thane New, Ernakulam Jn. and Puducherry.

Rail Land Development Authority has been entrusted to redevelop Safdarjung Station in New Delhi along with IRCON

At present, Ministry of Railways is formulating revised schemes for station redevelopment on fast track. The proposals for redevelopment of Buxar, Patna Sahib and other important stations of Bihar will be taken up, once the revised strategy for redevelopment of stations is finalized.

(c) Work for construction of ROB (Road Over Bridge) in lieu of level crossing No.70-A at km 660/25-27 on eastern side of Buxar station was sanctioned on cost sharing basis. General Arrangement Drawing has been approved. Estimate is under preparation jointly by Railways and State Government.

Introduction and renaming of trains

940. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trains which have been cancelled alongwith the new trains introduced in the last three years and the ones which have been renamed; and

(b) the details regarding the new railway tracks and railway bridges proposed by present Government alongwith the status of projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The details of trains introduced during 2015-2016 to 2017-18 (till 1st February, 2018) are as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	No.of train services introduced
1.	2015-2016	151
2.	2016-2017	215
3.	2017-2018	136

During the aforesaid period, 57 pairs of trains have been cancelled on permanent basis on account of closure of lines for Gauge conversion works, line closure due to mine fires and poor patronage etc. The following four pairs of trains have been re-named:—

1. 11303/11304 Dadar-Sawantwadi Rajya Rani Express as “Tutari” Express.
2. 12723/12724 New Delhi-Hyderabad AP Express as “Telangana” Express.
3. 17035/17036 Secunderabad-Sirpur Kaghaznagar Telangana Express as “Kaghaznagar” Express.
4. 22701/22702 New Delhi-Vijayawada AC Express as “AP” Express.

(b) Proposals for railway tracks both formal and informal are received from State Governments, Ministries of Central Government, Elected representatives, organizations/road users etc. by Railways at various levels including Railway Board, Zonal Railways, Division Office etc. As receipt of such proposals is a continuous and dynamic process, centralized compendium of such requests is not maintained. Further, survey for new lines, gauge conversion of Meter Gauge lines to Broad Gauge and feasibility study etc. is a continuous and ongoing process of Indian Railways and is done based on demands raised by State Governments, Central Ministries, Members of Parliament, other public representatives and Railways’ own requirement. However, during the last three years *i.e.* 2015-2016, 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 details of Railway projects included in PINK BOOK are given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of Railway projects included in PINK BOOK during 2015-16 to 2017-18*

(₹ in crore)								
Sl. No.	Rly.	State	Ph	Project	Year	Total length (in km)	Latest Cost	Outlay 2017-18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	CR	MAH	NL	Jeur-Ashti	2017-18	78	1560	10
2.	CR	MAH	NL	Phaltan to Pandharpur.	2017-18	105	1149	100
3.	CR	MAH	NL	Hatkanangale-Ichalkarangi	2017-18	8	160	10
4.	ECoR	ORI	NL	Extension of Naupada-Gunupur new line upto Theruvali	2017-18	79	936	1
5.	ECR	BIH	NL	Wazerganj-Natesar <i>via</i> Gehlaur	2017-18	20	300	1
6.	NER	UP	NL	Padrauna-Kushinagar <i>via</i> Gorakhpur	2017-18	64	1345	1
7.	NER	UP	NL	Etah-Kasganj	2017-18	29	277	1
8.	NFR	NER, Assam	NL	Sibsagar-Jorhat	2017-18	62	1296	1
9.	NFR	NER, Assam	NL	Salona-khumtai	2017-18	99	5958	1
10.	NFR	NER, Assam	NL	Tezpur-Silghat	2017-18	25	2025	1
11.	NR	UP	NL	Una-Hamirpur	2017-18	50	2850	1
12.	NCR	UP	NL	Robertsganj to Mughalsarai <i>via</i> Madhupur, Sukrit, Ahrora	2017-18	70	1260	1

13.	NWR	RAJ, Guj	NL	Taranga Hill-Abu Road <i>via</i> Ambaji (89.38 Km)	2017-18	89	1696	10
14.	SCR	AP	NL	Vijayawada-Guntur <i>via</i> Amravati	2017-18	106	2680	1
15.	SWR	KAR	NL	Gadag-Yalvigi	2017-18	58	640	1
16.	WR	MP, Raj	NL	Nimach-Badi sadri	2017-18	48	475	1
17.	NCR	UP	GC	Mathura-Vrindavan	2017-18	11	98	1
18.	NER	UP	GC	Pilibhit-Shahjahanpur	2017-18	83	623	1
19.	NER	UP	GC	Nanpara-Nepalganj Road	2017-18	20	150	1
20.	NWR	RAJ	GC	Marwar-Mavli	2017-18	152	1597	1
21.	WR	GUJ	GC	Dabhoi-Chandod GC with extension upto Kevadiya	2017-18	50	692	1
22.	WR	GUJ	GC	Kalol-Kadi-Katosan Road	2017-18	37	279	1
23.	WR	GUJ	GC	Katosan Rd-Chanasma	2017-18	52	388	1
24.	WR	GUJ	GC	Chanasma-Ranuj	2017-18	13	96	1
25.	WR	GUJ	GC	Adraj Moti-Vijapur	2017-18	40	297	1
26.	WR	GUJ	GC	Vijapur-Ambliyan	2017-18	42	310	1
27.	WR	GUJ	GC	Khijadiya-Visavadar	2017-18	91	548	1
28.	WR	GUJ	GC	Junagarh-Visavadar	2017-18	42	254	1
29.	WR	GUJ	GC	Veraval-Talala-Visavadar	2017-18	72	460	1
30.	WR	GUJ	GC	Samni-Jambusar	2017-18	24	217	1
31.	WR	GUJ	GC	Jambusar-Vishvamitri	2017-18	48	434	1

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 277

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
32.	WR	GUJ	GC	Samlaya-Timba Road	2017-18	54	401	1
33.	WR	GUJ	GC	Nadiad-Petlad	2017-18	37	335	1
34.	WR	GUJ	GC	Petlad-Bhadran	2017-18	23	203	1
35.	WR	GUJ	GC	Talala-Delwada	2017-18	70	525	1
36.	WR	GUJ	GC	Himmatnagar-Khedbrahma	2017-18	55	355	1
37.	WR	GUJ	GC	Prachi Road-Kodinar	2017-18	26	193	1
38.	WR	GUJ	GC	Fatehabad Chandrawati Ganj-Ujjain	2017-18	23	245	1
39.	NCR	UP	DL	3rd Down line between Naini and Chheoki with additional Platform	2017-18	2	23	1
40.	NCR	UP	DL	4th line between Bhaupur-Panki connecting Dn Loop of Bhaupur to shunting neck of Panki.	2017-18	11	82	1
41.	NCR	UP	DL	Allahabad Division. Construction of Kanpur fly-over.	2017-18	30	1790	1
42.	NER	UP	DL	Malhaur-Daliganj doubling with electrification	2017-18	13	111	1
43.	NFR	NER and Assam	DL	Saraighat Bridge	2017-18	7	888.32	1
44.	NFR	NER and Assam	DL	Kamakhya-New Guwahat Quadruppling	2017-18	10.3	3062	1
45.	NR	UP	DL	Chord line between Jaunpur Jn. and Jaunpur city.	2017-18	2	86.32	1
46.	NR	UP	DL	Janghai-Phaphamau doubling with electrification	2017-18	47	357.48	1

47.	NR	PUN	DL	Ludhiana-Kila Raipur (19 Kms) with freight line at Gill station on LDH-JHL section	2017-18	19	230.22	1
48.	NR	PUN	DL	Ludhiana-Mullanpur	2017-18	21	82.99	1
49.	NR	UP	DL	3rd and 4th Line between Barabanki-Malhaur (16.42 km.)	2017-18	33	323.86	1
50.	NR	UP	DL	Third line between Varanasi-Mughalsarai (16.72 km.) with substructure of two lines on Malviya Bridge	2017-18	17	2005.15	1
51.	SER		DL	Connections of DMF-LINK "C" line with BZR Station	2017-18	2	34.93	1
52.	SER		DL	Provision of connection of line between Radhanagar siding line of Adra Division to Barachak and Y connection to Sitaram pur station of Asansol Division	2017-18	10	39.93	1
53.	SR		DL	Salem-Magnesite Junction-Omalur	2017-18	11	76.43	1
54.	WR	GUJ	DL	Anand-Godhara	2017-18	79	683	1
55.	CR	MAH	NL	Indore-Manmad <i>via</i> Malegaon	2016-17	368	4984	150
56.	CR	MAH	NL	Pune-Nasik	2016-17	265	2425	225
57.	CR	MAH	NL	Vaibhavwadi-Kolhapur	2016-17	107	3750	250
58.	ECoR	ORI	NL	Jeypore-Malkangiri	2016-17	130	2170	79
59.	ECoR	ORI	NL	Jeypore-Nabarangpur	2016-17	38	738	275
60.	ECR	BIH	NL	Vikramshila-Katareah (Pirpainthi-Naughachia)	2016-17	18	1601	2
61.	ER	WB, JHA	NL	Chitra-Basukinath	2016-17	37	859	50.01

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 279

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
62.	ER	JHA	NL	Gooda-Pakur	2016-17	80	1722	50.01
63.	NER	UP	NL	Sahjanwa-Dohrighat	2016-17	70.45	743.54	10
64.	NER	UP	NL	Bahraich-Shravasti-Balrampur/Tulsipur	2016-17	80	1600	30
65.	NFR	WB	NL	Haldibari-International Border	2016-17	3	67	30
66.	NR	UP, Har	NL	Meerut-Panipat	2016-17	104	2200	32
67.	NR	PUN	NL	Rajpura-Mohali	2016-17	24	406	2
68.	SECR	CHH	NL	Dongargarh-Kharigarh-Bilaspur	2016-17	270	2500	1.01
69.	SECR	CHH	NL	Dharamjaigarh-Korba	2016-17	63	1155	100.01
70.	SR	TN	NL	Morappur-Dharmapuri	2016-17	36	134	0.1
71.	WCR		NL	Indore-Jabalpur	2016-17	342	4320	0.5
72.	WR	GUJ	NL	Bhimnath-Dholera	2016-17	28	280	40
73.	NER	UP	GC	Indara-Dohrighat	2016-17	34	120	15
74.	NER	UP	GC	Bahraich-Mailani incl bypass at Mailani	2016-17	230	1900	17
75.	CR	MAH	DL	Daund-Manmad	2016-17	236	1875	32
76.	CR	MAH	DL	Manmad-Jalgaon 3rd line	2016-17	160	854	26
77.	CR	MAH	DL	Wardha-Nagpur 4th line	2016-17	76	912	21
78.	CR	MAH	DL	Jalgaon-Bhusawal 4th line	2016-17	24	199	25
79.	ECR	BIH	DL	Karota Patner-Mankatha surface triangle line	2016-17	10	130.9	10

80.	ECR	BIH	DL	Sagauli-Valmikinagar	2016-17	109.7	744.04	1
81.	ECR	BIH	DL	Gaya Bypass line for Manpur	2016-17	2	12.56	10
82.	ECR	BIH	DL	Muzaffarpur-Sagauli	2016-17	100.6	731.64	2
83.	ECR	JHA	DL	Garwa Road Rail over rail	2016-17	10	48.73	1
84.	ECR	JHA	DL	Gomoh Flyover for down trains	2016-17	15	94.56	5
85.	NCR	UP	DL	Jhansi-Khairar-Manikpur and Khairar-Bhimsen	2016-17	411	3000	10
86.	NCR	UP	DL	Yamuna Br.-Agra Fort With major Br at Yamuna river	2016-17	2	107.73	10
87.	NCR	UP	DL	Iradatganj-Kunwadih-const of flyover	2016-17	20.1	1838.75	10
88.	NCR	UP	DL	Karchana-Iradatganj-Const. of flyover	2016-17	2	563.1	10
89.	NCR	UP	DL	Naini-Iradatganj-Const. of flyover	2016-17	12	675.95	10
90.	NCR	UP	DL	Jeonathpur-flyover	2016-17	13	738.99	10
91.	NCR	UP	DL	Mathura-Murhesi Rampur-flyover	2016-17	11.08	210	7
92.	NCR	UP	DL	Flyover at Aligarh	2016-17	25	1457.89	7
93.	NCR	UP	DL	Lalitpur-Birari with flyover at Lalitpur	2016-17	16	260	7
94.	NER	UP	DL	Domingarh-GKP-GKP Cantt-Kusumhi	2016-17	21.15	116.72	20
95.	NER	UP	DL	Burhwal-Gonda 3rd line	2016-17	61.72	602.49	20
96.	NER	UP	DL	Shahganj-Bhatni-Phephna-Indara, Mau-Sahaganj excl Mau-Indara	2016-17	150.28	922.84	30
97.	NER	UP	DL	Bhatni-Aurnihar with RE excl Mau-Indara	2016-17	116.95	936	40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
98.	NER	UP	DL	Aurnihar-Jaunpur	2016-17	68	600	39
99.	NFR	WB	DL	New Maynaguri-Gumanihat (remaining section)	2016-17	51.65	556.31	10
100.	NR	UP	DL	Barabanki-Akbarpur	2016-17	161	1200	5
101.	NR	UP	DL	Janghai-Pratapgarh-Amethi	2016-17	87	700	7
102.	NR	UP	DL	Jaunpur-Tanda	2016-17	94	831	1
103.	NR	UP, Del	DL	Delhi-Shamli-Tapri incl SRE bypass	2016-17	175	1500	11
104.	SCR	AP	DL	Guntur-Guntakal	2016-17	443	4000	124
105.	SER	WB, ODI	DL	Narayangarh-Bhadrak 3rd line	2016-17	155	2037.13	20
106.	SER	WB	DL	Damodar-Mohishila	2016-17	8	70.91	35
107.	SER	ODI	DL	Bondamunda-Rourkela 4th line	2016-17	9.3	83.79	45
108.	SR	KAR	DL	Netravati-Mangalore	2016-17	1.5	18.93	5
109.	SWR	KAR	DL	Birur-Shimoga	2016-17	60	500	2
110.	WCR	MP	DL	Powerkheda-Jujharpur single line tlyoner in UP direction	2016-17	12	162.63	10
111.	WCR	MP	DL	Jukehi chord line at Katni	2016-17	0.53	6.23	2
112.	WR	MP	DL	Nagda-Ujjain-Doubling of Gambhir Bridge	2016-17	0.44	31.29	10
113.	WR	MP	DL	Indore-Dewas-Ujjain	2016-17	80	700	20
114.	CR	MAH	NL	Karad-Chiplun	2015-16	112	1200	300
115.	CR	MAH	NL	Dighi Port-Roha	2015-16	34	723.78	100

116.	NER	UP	NL	Mau-Ghazipur-Tarighat	2015-16	51	1765.92	150
117.	NWR	RAJ	NL	Ajmer-Sawai Madhopur	2015-16	165	873.77	30
118.	WR	GUJ	GC	GC of Ahmedabad-Mahesana for doubling	2015-16	70	420	128.13
119.	CR	MAH	DL	3rd line bet. Pune-Lonvala	2015-16			
120.	CR	MAH, KAR	DL	Pune-Miraj-Londa	2015-16	467	3627.47	280
121.	CR	MAH	DL	Wardha-Ballarshah 3rd line	2015-16	132	1272	65
122.	CR	MAH, MP	DL	Itarsi- Nagpur 3rd line. Bal.	2015-16	280	2450	60
123.	CR	MP	DL	Construction of 3rd line between Dharakho and Maramjhiri Ghat section.	2015-16			0
124.	CR	MAH	DL	Construction of 3rd line between Teegaon and Chichonda Ghat section	2015-16	17	175.66	12
125.	ECoR	ORI, AP	DL	Vizianagram-Titlagarh (Sambalpur) 3rd line	2015-16	263.65	2336	90
126.	ECoR	ORI	DL	3rd and 4th line between Jarapaada-Budhapank with flyover at Talcher.	2015-16	91	702	138
127.	ECoR	ORI	DL	3rd and 4th line between LINE between Budhapank-Salegaon via Rajatgarh.	2015-16	170	1173	195
128.	ECoR	ORI, AP	DL	3rd line in balance section bet. Bhadrak-Vizianagram	2015-16	525	5250	150
129.	ECoR	ORI, AP	DL	Kottavalasa-Koraput	2015-16	189	2500	250
130.	ECoR	ORI	DL	Koraput-Singapur Rd.	2015-16	164	2362	220
131.	ECoR	ORI, AP	DL	Byepass at Khurda Rd., Vizianagram	2015-16	1.61	25.22	9.45

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 283

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
132.	ECoR	ORI, CHH	DL	Jagdalpur-Koraput doubling	2015-16	110	1547	200
133.	ECR	JHA, UP, MP	DL	Ramna-Singrauli	2015-16	160	2436	25
134.	ECR	JHA	DL	3rd line bet. Patratu-Sonnagar (Dhanbad-Sonnagar)	2015-16	291	3406	70
135.	ECR	BIH	DL	Hajipur-Bachwara	2015-16	72	679	75
136.	ECR	BIH	DL	Samastipur - Darbhanga	2015-16	38	491	50
137.	ECR	BIH	DL	Kiul- Gaya	2015-16	124	1200	100
138.	ECR	UP	DL	Karaila Road-Mahadia section	2015-16			0
139.	ECR	JHA	DL	Ramna - Windhamganj section	2015-16			0
140.	ECR	UP	DL	Billi-Chopan (Renukut- Chopan)	2015-16	7.89	93.29	20
141.	ECR	UP	DL	Karaila Road- Shaktinagar section	2015-16	32.15	528.57	15
142.	ECR	JHA	DL	Ranchi Road- Patratu section patch doubling.	2015-16	31	348	25
143.	ECR	BIH	DL	Additional bridge and doubling between Rampur Dumra-Tal-Rajendrapul	2015-16	14	1491	120
144.	ER	WB	DL	Nimtita-Farakka (Sagardighi-Malda Town)	2015-16	25	248	20
145.	WCR	MP	DL	Satna-Rewa doubling	2015-16	50	403.49	42.68
146.	NCR	UP	DL	3rd line Mughalasari-Allahabad	2015-16			
147.	NCR	WB, JHA, UP	DL	Byepass at Sainthia, Sitarampur, Mughalsarai, Allahabad, Etawah	2015-16	35	400	1

148.	NCR	UP, MP	DL	Jhansi-Bina 3rd line	2015-16	153	2002	430.23
149.	NCR	UP, HAR	DL	Mathura-Palwal 4th line	2015-16	80	669	250
150.	NCR	UP, MP	DL	Mathura-Jhansi 3rd line	2015-16	274	3678	255.36
151.	NER	UP	DL	Rosa-Sitapur Cantt-Burwal	2015-16	180.77	1295.42	200
152.	NER	UP	DL	Ballia-Gazipur city doubling	2015-16	65.1	448	75
153.	NFR	NER and Assam	DL	Bongaigaon-Goalpara-Guwahati doubling	2015-16	176	2232.32	250
154.	NFR	NER and Assam	DL	Digaru-Hojai doubling	2015-16	102	870.96	150
155.	NR	UP	DL	Alamnagar-Utretia	2015-16	20	200	50
156.	NR	PUN	DL	Rajpura-Bhatinda	2015-16	172.64	1251.25	100
157.	NR	UP	DL	Muzaffarnagar-Tapri	2015-16	51.53	376.78	100
158.	NER	UP	DL	Varanasi-Madhosingh-Allahabad	2015-16	120	751	50
159.	NR	HAR	DL	Doubling of Rohtak-Bhiwani	2015-16			0
160.	NR	HAR	DL	Bye-Pass Ambala (Mohri-Sambhu)	2015-16			0
161.	NWR	RAJ	DL	Phulera-Digana	2015-16	108.75	611.53	201
162.	SCR	AP	DL	3rd line bet. Duvvada-Vijaywada	2015-16	335	3350	7.5
163.	SCR	TEL, MAHA	DL	3rd line of balance section bet. Kazipet-Ballarshah	2015-16	201	2063	160
164.	SCR	AP, KAR	DL	Doubling bet. Gooty-Dharmavarm-Banglore	2015-16	90.2	636.38	75

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 285

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
165.	SCR	AP	DL	Doubling bet. Kalluru-Guntakal	2015-16	41	323	52
166.	SCR	TEL	DL	Doubling of Secunderabad- Mehboobnagar	2015-16	85	728.1	50
167.	SCR	AP, KAR	DL	Byepass at Renigunta, Dharmavaram, Wadi	2015-16	21	273	10
168.	SCR	AP, TEL	DL	Byepass at Vijayawada, Kazipet	2015-16	30.15	499.29	125
169.	SCR	AP	DL	Vijaywada-Gudur 3rd line	2015-16	287	3246	100
170.	SECR	CHH, ODI	DL	4th line bet.Jharsuguda-Bilaspur	2015-16	206	1973.64	60
171.	SECR	CHH, MP	DL	3rd line bet. Pendra Road-Anuppur (Bilaspur-Anuppur)	2015-16	50.1	393.98	60
172.	SECR	MP	DL	3rd line Anuppur-Katni	2015-16	165.52	1370.94	95
173.	SECR	CHH	DL	Gevra Rd-Pendra Rd	2015-16	122	1450	200
174.	SECR	CHH,ODI	DL	Flyover/Byepass required in Jharsuguda-Bilaspur section 206 Km.	2015-16	10	299.65	50
175.	SECR	CHH, MAH	DL	Rajnandgaon-Nagpur 3rd line	2015-16	228	1908.51	248
176.	SER	ODI, JHA	DL	Bondamunda-Ranchi	2015-16	158.5	1724.2	160
177.	SER	ODI	DL	Rourkela-Jharsuguda 3rd line	2015-16	101	969.83	150
178.	SER	WB	DL	Kharagpur-Adityapur 3rd line	2015-16	132	1312.44	80
179.	SER	WB	DL	Mohishila-Kalipahari (Link) with 1 additional loop line at MOH station	2015-16	5	42.1	27
180.	SER	JHA	DL	CKP-GOL 3rd line (34 Km)	2015-16	34	354.54	50
181.	SR	TN, KER	DL	Trivandrum- Kanyakumari	2015-16	85	900	50

182.	SR	TN	DL	Madurai-Maniyachi-Tuticorin	2015-16	80	800	30
183.	SR	KER	DL	Turavur-Ambalapuzha	2015-16	50	1000	30
184.	SR	TN	DL	Maniyachi-Nagercoil	2015-16	170	1700	30
185.	SWR	KAR	DL	Hubli-Chikjajur	2015-16	190	1140.94	200
186.	SWR	KAR	DL	Arsikere-Tumkur	2015-16	96	578	140
187.	SWR	KAR, AP	DL	Yelahanka-Penukonda	2015-16	121	860.43	120
188.	WCR	MP	DL	3rd line between Katni and Bina	2015-16	278.7	2478.23	254
189.	WCR	MP	DL	Grade separator/Byepass at Katni.	2015-16	21.5	582.13	200
190.	WCR	MP	DL	Katni- Singrauli doubling	2015-16	261	1762.94	225
191.	WCR	MP	DL	Malkhedi-Mahadevkhedi	2015-16	8.7	54.32	0.0001
192.	WCR	MP	DL	ET-JBP section: Patch doubling between Sontalai-Bagra tawa station	2015-16	7	96.44	40
193.	WR	GUJ	DL	4th line Vatwa-Ahmedabad-Sabarmati	2015-16	17.9	231.43	20
194.	WR	GUJ	DL	Surendranagar-Rajkot	2015-16	116	1002.39	250.7
195.	WR	GUJ	DL	Nimach-Chittaurgarh	2015-16	56	389.98	80

CR—Central Railway, ECoR—East Coast Railway, ECR—East Central Railway, ER—Eastern Railway, NCR—North Central Railway, NER—North Eastern Railway
 NFR—Northeast Frontier Railway, NR—Northern Railway, NWR—North Western Railway, SCR—South Central Railway, SECR—South East Central Railway
 SER—South Eastern Railway, SR—Southern Railway, SWR—South Western Railway, WCR—West Central Railway, WR—Western Railway.

Major contracts to Japanese companies for Bullet train

941. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Japanese companies have got hold of all the major contracts for the \$17 billion Indian Bullet train project;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if so, whether it would be a big blow for the Government's 'Make in India' initiative; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Japanese component of the project is estimated to be about 18.6% of the total project cost. Make in India is an integral part of the project. A joint Indian and Japanese Task Force on Make in India and Transfer of Technology under Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project has been constituted to provide a platform for Indian and Japanese companies to come together and facilitate tie-ups by way of formation of Joint Venture and Transfer of Technology. The Task Force and the four subgroups constituted for civil works, track, rolling stock and electrical and System areas have held several meetings in this regard.

Ongoing projects in Himachal Pradesh

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

(a) the details of ongoing projects in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) whether the work on these projects is progressing as per schedule;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The details of ongoing projects falling fully/partially in the State of Himachal Pradesh are as under:—

(₹ in crore)						
Sl. No.	Name of Project	year	Latest anticipated cost	Expenditure on 31.03.2017	Outlay 2017-18	Status/progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Nangaldam-Talwara (83.74 km.) new broad gauge line and Taking over siding of Mukerian-Talwara (26.16 km.)	1981-82	2100	555.44	100	Section from Nangaldam to Amb Andaura (44.25 km) has been commissioned. On Amb Andaura-Chintpurni-Daulatpur Chowk (16 km) section, work has been taken up after acquisition of land. Punjab Government is being pursued for expediting land acquisition from Daulatpur Chowk to Kartoli Punjab section. Further land acquisition has been taken up.
2.	Chandigarh-Baddi (27.95 km.)	2007-08	1540.13	226.00	125	Land acquisition has been taken up.
3.	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri (63 km.)	2009-10	5000	330.78	275	The project is being executed by RVNL. Final Location Survey up to km 20 has been completed. Tree-Enumeration for Forest clearance upto km. 20 has been carried out by RITES. Contract for earthwork and bridge work up to km 0 to km 3.5 has been finalized. Final Location Survey has been taken up from km 20 to km 63.1. Land boundary pillars demarcating the land as per ROW have been fixed up to km 20. Traversing for demarcation of centerline beyond km. 20.00 has commenced.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	Una-Hamirpur (50 km.)	2017-18	3044.99	—	1.00	New works included in budget 2017-18, subject to obtaining requisite clearances. DPR is under preparation.

(b) to (d) Every railway project requires a number of clearances from various Ministries and Departments of State/Central Governments. These, *inter alia*, include clearances inherent to land acquisition, forestry clearance and permission for road, canal crossings and power line crossings, NOC for closure of level crossings etc. which are part of project execution. Process of seeking the approvals/clearances causes delay in completion of the projects. Further, Budget allotments for the projects are done on yearly basis. Many of the factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways. Hence, the timelines for completion for all the projects have not been fixed.

Upgradation of railway stations

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

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce any scheme to redevelop/upgrade railway stations in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of railway stations in Himachal Pradesh identified under the scheme; and

(d) whether any financial provision has been made under the scheme and if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Himachal Pradesh?

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 re-development 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
1.	Lokmanya Tilak (T)	Maharashtra
2.	Pune	Maharashtra
3.	Thane	Maharashtra
4.	Mumbai Central	Maharashtra
5.	Bandra Terminus	Maharashtra
6.	Borivali	Maharashtra
7.	Howrah	West Bengal
8.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
9.	Kanpur Central	Uttar Pradesh
10.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh
11.	Kamakhya	Assam
12.	Udaipur City	Rajasthan
13.	Faridabad	Haryana
14.	Jammu Tawi	Jammu and Kashmir
15.	Secunderabad	Andhra Pradesh
16.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
17.	Ranchi	Jharkhand
18.	Chennai Central	Tamil Nadu
19.	Kozhikode	Kerala
20.	Yashwantpur	Karnataka
21.	Bangalore Cantt	Karnataka
22.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh
23.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh

Out of the 23 stations mentioned above, bids were received for Jammu Tawi and Kozhikode stations only, which are under evaluation. No bids were received for 18 stations. In view of the not so-encouraging response, bids for these stations were foreclosed. The scheme has now been modified.

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. Seven stations *viz.*, Anand Vihar, Bijwasan, Chandigarh, Habibganj (Bhopal), Shivaji Nagar (Pune), Surat and Gandhinagar have been entrusted to Indian

Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment. Out of these seven stations, offers have been finalized for Habibganj and Gandhinagar and Letter of award has been issued on 07.06.2016 and 03.01.2017 respectively and works are in progress.

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). Bids for Gomtinagar have been invited on 06.01.2018.

Rail Land Development Authority has been entrusted to redevelop Safdarjung Station in New Delhi along with IRCON.

(c) No railway station from Himachal Pradesh was selected in first phase of redevelopment.

(d) The cost of station redevelopment is to be met by leveraging commercial development of vacant land/air space in and around the station. Therefore, railway funds are not required for station redevelopment projects. Such projects shall generally be cost-neutral to Railways.

Funds for safer coaches and electrification

944. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have any plan to raise funds to get safer coaches and give a boost to electrification; and

(b) if so, the ways and means Railways are going to consider to raise the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC), a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Railways has been mandated to raise market borrowings to the tune of ₹ 24,701 crore (Revised Estimate) in the current financial year to mainly finance acquisition of rolling stock *i.e.* locomotives, coaches and wagons.

The Ministry of Railways signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on 11th March, 2015 whereby LIC has agreed to provide funding assistance to the tune of ₹ 1,50,000 crore over a five

year period from 2015-16 to 2019-20 for financing Railway projects. These funds are being utilized in mostly Doubling and Electrification projects.

Upgradation of nandyal railway station

945. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways' attention is drawn to the plight of passengers and goods transporters at Nandyal railway station, which contributes ₹ 32 crore revenue in the Guntur division of South Central Railway; and

(b) if so, the action proposed to redress the grievances of commuters, and upgrade the Nandyal railway station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Nandyal is a Non Suburban Grade (NSG)-4 (earlier "B") category station. All minimum essential amenities have been provided at this station as per norms. This station has also been developed under Adarsh Station Scheme. However, 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.

Core components for bullet train

946. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in a section of the media on 18 January, 2018, Japanese companies will meet at least 70 per cent of core components for India's first Bullet train and train track;

(b) if so, whether the new venture would undermine India's new basic thrust on Make in India; and

(c) the steps proposed/planned/already taken to let Indian companies participate in the construction of the Bullet train either on their own with indigenous technology or as India-Japan JVs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Japanese component of the project is estimated to be about 18.6% of the total project cost. Make in India is an integral part of the project. A joint Indian and Japanese Task Force on Make in India and Transfer

of Technology under Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Project has been constituted to provide a platform for Indian and Japanese companies to come together and facilitate tie-ups by way of formation of Joint Venture and Transfer of Technology. The Task Force and the four subgroups constituted for civil works, track, rolling stock and electrical and System areas have held several meetings in this regard.

Zero scrap balance

947. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be please to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed a target for Zero scrap balance till March, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) the details of volume of scrap available, Zone-wise and State-wise; and

(d) the details of the value of scrap materials sold in the last three years, Zone-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Generation and sales of unserviceable/scrap railway material is an ongoing process and is monitored at highest level in Zonal Railways and in Railway Board. Railway administration takes regular and all out efforts to mobilise scrap materials and sale through e-auction. However, all the Zonal Railways and Production Units have been advised to sell all identified scrap and achieve the Zero scrap balance by 31st March, 2018.

(c) and (d) Information regarding volume of scrap available and value of scrap are given in the Statement.

Statement

Information regarding volume of scrap available as on 31.01.2018 and value of scrap sold in the last three years

Zone	State	Volume of Scrap available as on 31.01.2018				Value of Scrap sold (₹ in Crores)		
		Total Ferrous (in MT)	Non Ferrous (in MT)	#Rolling Stock (in Nos.)	Misc. (in MT)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Central Railway	Maharashtra	11500	0	136	0	222	211	196
Eastern Railway	West Bengal	2195	263	0	0	168	122	121
	Bihar	610	57	0	0	67	50	45
Northern Railway	Uttar Pradesh	1960	7	12	272	111	119	96
	Haryana	435	24	25	714	122	144	99
	Punjab	307	0	8	0	0	0	0
	Delhi	718	5	34	18	61	64	58
North Eastern Railway	Uttar Pradesh	7430	0	0	0	114	110	147
	Bihar	500	0	0	0	4	8	4
	Uttarakhand	230	0	0	0	4	4	5
Northeast Frontier Railway	Bihar	1431	0	0	400	2	1	10
	West Bengal	2718	0	4	460	1	4	10
	Assam	6604	0	161	6025	51	65	94
	Tripura	2675	0	0	0	1	1	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Southern Railway	Tamil Nadu	2864	8	0	0	186	230	177
	Kerala	2291	0	0	0	26	10	23
South Central Railway	Telangana	2248	100	18	421	107	64	60
	Andhra Pradesh	2587	40	48	43	220	138	141
	Karnataka	172	0	0	1	13	6	11
	Maharashtra	70	0	0	0	11	8	8
	Madhya Pradesh	1652	0	0	0	3	3	3
South Eastern Railway	Jharkhand	52	0	18	0	45	34	33
	Odisha	261	0	0	0	52	25	30
	West Bengal	954	92	0	247	144	131	104
Western Railway	Maharashtra	2129	93	16	102	69	58	58
	Gujarat	3495	183	10	1759	204	154	129
East Central Railway	Bihar	16237	0	0	0	66	64	51
	Jharkhand	200	0	0	0	61	38	18
	Uttar Pradesh	1291	0	0	0	42	39	13
East Coast Railway	Odisha	1387	33	11	0	37	45	59
	Andhra Pradesh	941	0	7	0	19	19	39
	Chhattisgarh	184	0	0	0	5	3	4

North Central Railway	Uttar Pradesh	4523	0	0	0	229	156	140
	Madhya Pradesh	424	0	0	0	14	4	2
	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	9	3	1
	Haryana	223	0	0	0	8	8	1
North Western Railway	Rajasthan	7321	198	29	0	122	114	125
	Haryana	359	0	0	0	12	11	6
	Gujarat	14	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Punjab	0	0	0	0	1	1	0
South East Central Railway	Madhya Pradesh	510	0	0	0	10	32	115
	Chhattisgarh	1323	4	0	0	129	112	103
	Maharashtra	2	0	0	0	15	1	12
	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Western Railway	Karnataka	5096	0	0	0	95	60	45
	Goa	0	0	0	0	18	0	3
	Andhra Pradesh	1223	0	0	0	4	6	9
	Tamil Nadu	72	0	0	0	11	2	1
	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 297

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
West Central Railway	Madhya Pradesh	721	15	1	42	144	117	111
	Rajasthan	1314	15	24	80	70	61	47
Metro	West Bengal	412	12	0	0	3	3	2
Chittaranjan Locomotive Works	West Bengal	300	15	0	0	7	7	5
Diesel Locomotive Works	Uttar Pradesh	454	18	0	124	8	8	6
Integral Coach Factory	Tamil Nadu	896	33	0	67	32	20	21
Rail Coach Factory	Punjab	935	72	0	0	25	19	15
Rail Wheel Factory	Karnataka	991	4	0	73	25	39	29
Diesel Loco Modernisation Works	Punjab	942	110	0	28	57	49	47
Modern Coach Factory	Uttar Pradesh	40	0	0	0	0	1	3
Rail Wheel Plant	Bihar	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

#Rolling Stock – condemned wagons, coaches and locos

Station development plan of baramati and pune railway stations

948. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have decided for re-development of a number of stations under Station Development Plan; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in execution of the Station Development Plan in respect of Baramati and Pune railway stations under Central Railway?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. 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. Bids were called for 23 stations in the first phase of Station Redevelopment Programme. Out of the 23 stations, bids were received for Jammu Tawi and Kozhikode stations only, which are under evaluation. No bids were received for 18 stations. In view of the not-so-encouraging response, bids for three stations were foreclosed.

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 Surat have been entrusted to Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Ltd. (IRSDC) for redevelopment. Works at Gandhinagar and Habibganj stations have commenced.

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. The following ten (10) stations have been taken up for redevelopment under this scheme, jointly by Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Building Construction Company (NBCC):-

Tirupati, Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Nellore, Madgaon, Lucknow, Gomtinagar, Kota, Thane New, Ernakulam Jn. and Puducherry.

Rail Land Development Authority has been entrusted to redevelop Safdarjung Station in New Delhi along with IRCON.

At present, Ministry of Railways is formulating revised schemes for station redevelopment on fast track. The proposals for redevelopment of important stations of Central Railway will be taken up, once the revised strategy for redevelopment of stations is finalized.

Dhansiri-Zubza rail project

949. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the Dhansiri-Zubza rail project is pending for years due to local problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to complete this rail line in a fixed time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Apart from local problems, delay in execution of Dhansiri-Zubza new rail line project was initially due to change in alignment starting from Dhansiri instead of Dimapur on the request of Government of Nagaland due to problems of reserve forest, zoological park, very high compensation demand and to connect Ganeshnagar industrial area.

Land acquisition of 8 Hectare in Karbi Anglong District, Assam is held up due to agitation of land owners. Further, land has been acquired from km. 2.75 to km. 17 and work started but land owners have stopped the work demanding higher compensation. In Sirima and Pherima villages, people are objecting to the land acquisition along the chosen alignment and asking for shifting of alignment. Matter has been brought to the notice of State Government of Nagaland.

(c) It is not feasible to fix timeline for completion of the project without complete land acquisition.

Rail connectivity with imphal

950. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of completion and progress of the rail project to connect the capital of Manipur;

(b) whether the expected momentum of progress of the project to connect Imphal by Railways has not been achieved in spite of the strong push by the Prime Minister;

- (c) the details of progress of the works in the crucial railway project; and
- (d) the details of components of the Trans Asian railway network and its progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Jiribam-Imphal new line project (111 km) has been taken up at an anticipated cost of ₹ 6571 crore to connect Imphal, the capital city of Manipur. 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 getting prolonged mainly due to law and order problems in the project area. Further, economic blockade during 2016-17 had drastically affected the progress of the work.

State Government has been requested to augment the number of security personnel deployed in the project area. Railway has also requested Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for deployment of Territorial Army (TA) for improved security at the project sites.

Jiribam- Imphal and Imphal-Moreh new railway lines are part of the Trans-Asian railway network in Indian portion.

A Reconnaissance Engineering-cum-Traffic Survey from Imphal to Moreh (111.25 km) new line has also been carried out in 2013-14. As per survey report, cost of the project has been assessed as ₹ 5216.75 crore with Rate of Return (-) 7.43%.

Survey to identify safai karamcharis

951. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have undertaken any survey to identify the number of its Safai Karamcharis during the period 2014-17;

(b) if so, how many have been contractually employed by third-party agencies;

(c) the number of contractual/non-contractual employees who are currently involved in manual cleaning of human excreta from tracks and railway stations;

(d) whether during 2014-17, Railways have conducted an audit of the third-party agencies which hire Safai Karamcharis on contractual basis; and

(e) the number of cases which have been filed against agencies who have failed to provide protective gears to Karamcharis along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Encroachment of railway land

952. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that railway land is under encroachment in all metro cities and urban areas;

(b) if so, the State-wise and Zone-wise land encroachment details in this regard;

(c) whether Government has asked Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to formulate a unified policy to deal with the problem; and

(d) the action taken and further proposal of Government for eviction, protection and proper utilization of railway land?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) As on 31.03.2017, out of 4.76 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, only approximately 862 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment. Most of the encroachments are in the approaches of the Stations in Metros and big cities in the form of slums.

The Railways do not maintain State-wise details of encroached railway land. However, zone-wise details/data are maintained by Railways and the same are as under:—

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment (in Hectares)
Central	59.21
Eastern	20.57
East Central	2.09
East Coast	14.76
Northern	205.54
North Central	40.97
North Eastern	25.63
Northeast Frontier	102.14
North Western	18.86
Southern	60.39
South Central	17.13

Zonal Railway	Land under encroachment (in Hectares)
South Eastern	150.17
South East Central	46.03
South Western	16.26
Western	41.42
West Central	34.80
Production Units	5.74
TOTAL	861.71

In order to safeguard Railway land, regular inspections are carried out at various levels. In case any trespass is noticed which may eventually lead to encroachment, it is removed then and there. The land records are regularly updated and got verified from revenue authorities. To protect railway land, Railway also takes measures like provision of boundary wall, tree plantation at vulnerable locations, etc.

Railways carry out regular surveys of encroachment and take action for their removal. If the encroachments are of a temporary nature (soft encroachments) in the shape of jhuggies, jhopris and squatters, the same got removed in consultation and with the assistance of Railway Protection Force and local civil authorities. For old encroachments, where party is not amenable to persuasion, action is taken under Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 [PPE Act, 1971], as amended from time to time. Actual eviction of unauthorized occupants is carried out with the assistance of State Government and police.

For more effective dealing with the encroachments on Government land, Ministry of Railways has advised to Ministry of Urban Development, as agreed by Ministry of Law, amendment in Section-11 of the Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorized Occupants) Act, 1971 (PPE Act, 1971) by insertion of Section-10-A in Section-11 of the Act as under:

“Section 10 – A The State Government authorities shall be responsible for eviction of the unauthorized occupants, destruction and removal of all the unauthorized constructions and unauthorized additions/alterations thereto, and /or for providing adequate assistance by way of Police and Magistrates to the concerned Central Government authorities for eviction of the unauthorized occupants, destruction and removal of all the unauthorized constructions and unauthorized additions/alterations thereto within certain time limits to be prescribed by the Estate Officer.”

Railway projects in Karnataka

953. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of new trains announced and started originating from a place in Karnataka between 2014 and 2017 along with the details thereof;

(b) the number of new railway tracks laid or the work pertaining to them started in Karnataka during 2014-17 along with the details of their progress; and

(c) the average of budget expenditure on various railway projects undertaken in Karnataka during 2009-14 and 2014-17?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways do not operate trains on State-wise basis as Indian Railways operate across State boundaries. However, during the period 2014-17, 28 pairs of trains have been introduced serving the stations located in the State of Karnataka. The details are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) During the last three years (2014-15 to 2016-17) and the current year (2017-18), 412 km. of new lines and doubling have been commissioned. As on 01.04.2017, 17 new lines (one new line taken up as part of gauge conversion project out of which gauge conversion is already commissioned) and 13 doubling projects falling fully/partly in the State of Karnataka have been included in the Budget. Out of these, works on 12 new lines and 12 doubling projects respectively are in various stages of execution.

(c) Outlay for the projects falling fully or partly in the State of Karnataka has been ₹ 2196.7 crore per year for the period 2014-15 to 2016-17 and ₹ 835 crore per year for the period 2009-10 to 2013-14.

The details of trains (on originating/terminating basis) serving stations located in the State of Karnataka during 2014-17 are as under:—

Sl. No.	Train no.	From	To	Nature	W.E.F.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	17321/17322	Hubli	Mumbai	Weekly express	01.11.2014
2.	56921/56922	Hubli	Belgaum	Daily passenger	01.11.2014
3.	56281/56282	Bengaluru	Shimoga town	Daily passenger	01.11.2014
4.	76521/76522	Bengaluru	Nelamangula	Demu 6 days	01.11.2014

1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	76523/76524	Yesvantpur	Hosur	Demu 6 days	01.11.2014
6.	56925/56926	Bengaluru	Tumkur	Daily passenger	01.11.2014
7.	56277/56278	Chikmagalur	Yesvantpur	Daily passenger	04.11.2014
8.	16577/16578	Yesvantpur	Harihar	Tri-weekly	07.11.2014
9.	16579/16580	Bengaluru	Shimoga town	Bi-weekly	07.12.2014
10.	16587/16588	Yesvantpur	Bikaner	Bi-weekly express	12.12.2014
11.	17317/17318	Hubli	Lokamanya Tilak terminus	Weekly express	14.12.2014
12.	22695/22696	Yesvantpur	Jaipur	Weekly AC express	18.12.2014
13.	16229/16230	Mysore	Varanasi	Bi- weekly express	25.12.2014
14.	82651/82652	Yesvantpur	Katra	Weekly express	07.02.2015
15.	56665/56666	Kasargod	Byndoor	Daily passenger	09.02.2015
16.	11075/11076	Bidar	Lokamanya Tilak terminus	Weekly express	17.02.2015
17.	17605/17606	Mangalore	Kacheguda	Bi-weekly express	26.02.2014
18.	16569/16570	Yesvantpur	Kacheguda	Tri-weekly express	03.03.2014
19.	11307/11308	Gulbarga	Hyderabad	Daily express	08.08.2016
20.	17419/17420	Tirupati	Vasco-da-gama	Weekly express	29.12.2016
21.	66535/66536	KSR Bengaluru	Ramanagaram	MEMU 6 days	16.01.2017
22.	66537/66538	KSR Bengaluru	Ramanagaram	MEMU 6 days	16.01.2017
23.	66539/66540	KSR Bengaluru	Ramanagaram	MEMU 6 days	16.01.2017
24.	66541/66542	KSR Bengaluru	Whitefield	MEMU 6 days	17.01.2017
25.	66543/66544	KSR Bengaluru	Kuppan	MEMU 6 days	17.01.2017
26.	16581/16582	KSR Bengaluru	Shimoga Town	Tri-weekly express	17.01.2017
27.	22679/22680	Yesvantpur	Hassan	Intercity express	27.03.2017
28.	16575/16576	Yesvantpur	Mangalore	Tri- weekly express	09.04.2017

Eviction of slum colonies from railway land

†954. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of slum colonies which could not be evicted by Railways due to lack of arrangement for their rehabilitation along with the details thereof; and

(b) whether the Ministry has discussed with States for rehabilitation of slum colonies located on railway land, if so, the State-wise details thereof for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) As on 31.3.2017, out of about 4.76 lakh hectare land available with Indian Railways, approximately 862 hectare (0.18%) land is under encroachment. Most of the encroachments are in the approaches of the Stations in Metros and big cities in the form of slums.

State Governments generally provide help for removal of encroachments if the land is required for Railway's infrastructure/project which ultimately benefit the State. For other cases States desire that rehabilitation/resettlement of encroachers should be done by the Railways. However, rehabilitation on railway land is not feasible due to railways safety constraints/operational requirements. Housing, being a State Subject, the State Government or the Urban Local Body has to provide alternative sites for rehabilitation/resettlement. Moreover, Ministry of Railways have already advised to Ministry of Urban Development that State Government may include slums in Railway Land in their plan for rehabilitation/resettlement of slum dwellers of a city. Entire cost of such rehabilitation may also be borne by State Government or Urban Local Body as Railways may not be able to contribute towards cost of land/rehabilitation.

**Implementation of railway projects in Maharashtra,
Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal**

955. SHRIMATI RAJANI PATIL:

SHIR P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI DARSHAN SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway projects under implementation in the States of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal with original project costs, revised project costs as on date, year of sanction of the projects, amount so far released and spent in each project and estimated time to be taken for their completion; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the impediments and obstacles that decelerate the implementation of each project and the steps taken in each case to sort them out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) **Projects In Maharashtra:** 36 projects consisting of 13 New Lines, 4 Gauge Conversion and 19 Doublings falling partly or fully in the State of Maharashtra are in different stages of implementation. Details of the projects are as under:—

(₹ in crore)							
Sl. No.	Name of the project	Length (in km)	Year of sanction	Original cost	Latest anticipated cost	Expenditure upto March' 17	Outlay for 2017-18
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
New Lines							
1.	Amravati-Narkher	138	1993-94	121	806	663	1
2.	Ahmednagar-Beed-Parli Vaijnath	261	1995-96	2272	2820	1167	280
3.	Baramati-Phalton-Lonand	54	1998-99	138	325	195	100
4.	Wardha-Nanded via Yavatmal, Pusad	284	2008-09	2491	2765	533	238
5.	Wadsa-Gadchiroli	50	2011-12	229	469	23	100
6.	Karad-Chiplun	112	2015-16	1200	1200	0	300
7.	Dighi Port-Roha	34	2015-16	724	724	0.14	100
8.	Indore-Manmad via Malegaon	368	2016-17	9968	4984	0	150
9.	Pune-Nashik	265	2016-17	2425	2425	0	225
10.	Vaibhavwadi-Kolhapur	107	2016-17	2750	3750	0	250
11.	Hatkanagale-Ichalkaranji	8	2017-18	160	160	0	10
12.	Jeur-Asthi	78	2017-18	1560	1560	0	10
13.	Phaltan-Pandharpur	105	2017-18	1149	1149	0	100

Gauge Conversion

1. Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi (285) and MM Katangi-Tirodi New Line (15) (Total 300 km)	300	1996-97	373	1544	1235	154
2. Chhindwara-Nagpur	150	2005-06	384	1101	998	181
3. Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola (473) with MM Fatehabad-Chandrawatiganj-Ujjain (23) (Total 496 km)	496	2008-09	1930	2265	669	230
4. Nagpur-Nagbhir	106	2013-14	401	401	0	0.1

Doubling

1. Kalumna-Nagpur	5	2007-08	21	38	33	6
2. Udhna-Jalgaon with electrification	307	2008-09	1390	2164	1732	610
3. Daund-Gulbarga Doubling (225) and Pune-Guntakal Electrification (641)	225	2009-10	694	713	461	200
4. Godhani-Kalumna Chord	6	2010-11	50	65	47	4
5. Bhusawal-Jalgaon 3rd line	24	2011-12	199	235	122	51
6. Kalyan-Kasara 3rd line	68	2011-12	793	800	176	70
7. Parbhani-Mudkhed	81	2011-12	391	380	196	71
8. Wardha (Sewagram)-Nagpur 3rd line	76	2012-13	540	561	33	55
9. Hotgi-Kudgi-Gadag	284	2014-15	1618	1618	327	140
10. Itarsi-Nagpur (Balance) 3rd line excluding Chichonda-Teegaon	280	2015-16	2450	2450	46	60
11. Kazipet-Balharshah 3rd line (balance section)	201	2015-16	2063	2063	140	160

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
12.	Pune-Miraj-Londa	467	2015-16	3627	3627	180	280
13.	Rajnandgaon-Nagpur (Kalumna) 3rd line	228	2015-16	1273	1273	150	248
14.	Wardha (Sewagram)-Balharshah 3rd line	132	2015-16	1272	1272	19	65
15.	Chichonda-Teegaon 3rd line	17	2015-16	176	176	62	12
16.	Daund-Manmad	248	2016-17	1876	2081	0	32
17.	Jalgaon-Bhusawal 4th line	24	2016-17	199	261	0	25
18.	Manmad-Jalgaon 3rd line	160	2016-17	854	1035	0	26
19.	Wardha-Nagpur 4th line	76	2016-17	912	912	0	21

PROJECTS IN UTTAR PRADESH: 73 projects consisting of 15 New Lines, 9 Gauge Conversion and 49 Doublings falling partly or fully in the State of Uttar Pradesh are in different stages of implementation. Details of the projects are as under:

New Lines

1.	Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Singrauli and Mahoba-Khajuraho	541	1997-98	304	3500	1209.91	301
2.	Hathua-Bhatni	80	2005-06	230	575	222.85	20
3.	Chhitauni-Tumkuhi Road	63	2006-07	235	535	67.28	30
4.	Deoband (Muzzaffar Nagar)-Roorkee	27	2007-08	160	700	178.42	51
5.	Unchahar-Amethi	66	2012-13	380	966	5.76	10
6.	Kapilvastu-Basti	91	2013-14	643	954	0.75	10
7.	Anandnagar-Ghugli	50	2013-14	308	468	0.68	10

8. Faizabad-Lalganj <i>via</i> Raibareilly	116	2013-14	654	1242	0.0001	0.01
9. Mau-Ghazipur-Tarighat	51	2015-16	845	1766	150.5	150
10. Sahjanwa-Dohrighat	70	2016-17	119	744	0.02	10
11. Bahraich-Shravasti-Bansi-Khalilabad	210	2016-17	1600	1600	0.024	30
12. Meerut-Panipat	104	2016-17	2200	2200	0.02	2
13. Padrauna-Kushinagar <i>via</i> Gorakhpur	64	2017-18	1345	1345	0	1
14. Etah-Kasganj	29	2017-18	277	277	0	1
15. Robertsganj to Mughalsarai <i>via</i> Madhupur, Sukrit, Ahrora	70	2017-18	1260	1260	0	1

Gauge Conversion

1. Gonda-Baharaich	60	1997-98	48	246	233.26	40
2. Kanpur-Kasganj-Mathura and Kasganj-Bareilly-Lalkuan including MM for extension from Bareilly to Lalkuan and Mandhana-Brahmavart	553	1997-98	609	1819	1668.82	10
3. Bhojipura-Tanakpur <i>via</i> Pilibhit	102	2007-08	250	313	330.36	50
4. Lucknow-Pilibhit <i>via</i> Sitapur, Lakhimpur	263	2011-12	714	1061	143.18	250
5. Indara-Dohrighat	34	2016-17	120	120	0.01	15
6. Bahraich-Mailani including bypass at Mailani	230	2016-17	1900	1900	0.01	17
7. Pilibhit-Shahjahanpur	83	2017-18	623	623	0	1
8. Nanpara-Nepalganj Road	20	2017-18	150	150	0	1
9. Mathura-Vrindavan	11	2017-18	98	98	0	1

Written Answers to

[9 February, 2018]

Unstarred Questions 311

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Doubling							
1.	Utretia-Zafrabad (Balance 148 km) and MM for Raibareilly-Akbarpur (47 km) and Sultanpur-Amethi (29 km), Sultanpur-Kadipur (39 km)	263	2006-07	367	2434	557.11	209
2.	Lahota-Bhadoi	39	2009-10	139	191	88.19	10
3.	Phapamau-Allahabad with new MM for bypass line between Northern Railway and N.E. Railway	14	2009-10	94	185	91.25	100
4.	Bhadoi-Janghai	31	2010-11	139	174	123.62	20
5.	Aurnihar-Manduadih	39	2011-12	161	240	176.93	15
6.	Utretia-Raibareilly	66	2011-12	286	342	130.68	60
7.	Bhimsen-Jhansi	206	2012-13	793	1266	636	403
8.	Meerut-Muzaffarnagar	55	2012-13	377	377	273.41	96
9.	Chhapra-Ballia Patch Doubling	65	2012-13	295	544	160.33	110
10.	Raibareilly-Amethi	60	2013-14	286	385	45	42
11.	Ghazipur-Aurnihar	40	2014-15	183	198	71	99
12.	Ballia-Ghazipur	65	2015-16	448	448	164	75
13.	Rosa-Sitapur Cantt-Burhwal	181	2015-16	1750	1750	0	200
14.	Alamnagar-Utretia	18	2015-16	133	200	31	50
15.	Muzaffarnagar-Tapri	52	2015-16	377	377	100	100

16. Varanasi-Madhosingh-Allahabad	122	2015-16	751	751	150	50
17. Ramna-Singrauli	160	2015-16	1600	1600	150	25
18. Doubling of Billi-Chopan (Renukut-Chopan)	8	2015-16	93	93	20	20
19. Jhansi-Bina 3rd line	153	2015-16	1162	1162	56	430
20. Mathura-Jhansi 3rd line	274	2015-16	2488	2488	250	255
21. Mathura-Palwal 4th line	80	2015-17	524	669	74	250
22. 3rd line Mughalasari-Allahabad	152	2015-16	2388	2380	0	
23. Bypass at Sainthia, Sitarampur and Mughalsarai, and Allahabad, Etawah	56	2015-16	400	400	0.0001	1
24. Domingarh-Gorakhpur-Gorakhpur Cantt-Kusumhi 3rd line	21	2016-17	187	187	0.01	20
25. Jhansi-Khairar-Manikpur and Khairar-Bhimsen	411	2016-17	3000	3000	0.0001	10
26. Yamuna Bridge-Agra Fort with major Bridge at Yamuna river	2	2016-17	108	108	0.0001	10
27. Iradatganj-Kunwadiah-const. of flyover	23	2016-17	1839	1839	0.0001	10
28. Naini-Iradatganj-Const. of flyover	13	2016-17	676	676	0.0001	10
29. Jeonathpur-flyover	13	2016-17	739	739	0.0001	10
30. Mathura-Murhesi Rampur-flyover	12	2016-17	210	210	0.0001	7
31. Flyover at Aligarh	25	2016-17	1458	1458	0.0001	7
32. Lalitpur-Birari with flyover at Lalitpur	16	2016-17	260	260	0.0001	7
33. Burhwal-Gonda 3rd line	62	2016-17	602	602	0.01	20

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
34.	Shahganj-Bhatni-Phephna-Indara, Mau-Sahaganj excluding Mau-Indara	150	2016-17	1029	1029	0.01	30
35.	Bhatni-Aurnihar with RE excluding Mau-Indara	117	2016-17	936	936	0.01	40
36.	Aurnihar-Jaunpur	68	2016-17	600	600	0.01	39
37.	Barabanki-Akbarpur	161	2016-17	1200	1200	0.01	5
38.	Janghai-Pratapgarh-Amethi	88	2016-17	700	700	0.01	7
39.	Jaunpur-Tanda	94	2016-17	831	831	0.01	1
40.	Delhi-Shamli-Tapri including Saharanpur bypass	175	2016-17	1500	1500	0.01	11
41.	Karchana-Iradatganj Construction of flyover	13	2016-17	1135	1135	0	10
42.	Chord line between Jaunpur Jn. and Jaunpur city	2	2017-18	86	86	0	1
43.	Janghai-Phaphamau doubling with electrification	47	2017-18	357	357	0	1
44.	3rd Down line between Naini and Chhoekri with additional Platform.	2	2017-18	23	23	0	1
45.	4th line between Bhaupur-Panki connecting Dn Loop of Bhaupur to shunting neck of Panki	11	2017-18	82	82	0	1
46.	3rd and 4th Line between Barabanki-Malhaur (16.42 km)	33	2017-18	324	324	0	1
47.	Third line between Varanasi-Mughalsarai (16.72 km) with substructure of two lines on Malviya Bridge	17	2017-18	2005	2005	0	1
48.	Malhaur-Daliganj doubling with electrification	13	2017-18	111	111	0	1
49..	Allahabad Division. Construction of Kanpur fly-over	30	2017-18	1790	1790	0	1

PROJECTS IN WEST BENGAL: 63 projects consisting of 18 New Lines, 4 Gauge Conversion and 41 Doublings falling partly or fully in the State of West Bengal are in different stages of implementation. Details of the projects are as under:—

New Lines

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Howrah-Amta, Bargachia-Champadanga-Tarakeshwar, Amta-Bagnan and new MM for Janghipara-Furfura sharif (12.3 km)	111	1974-75	30	1026	183	1
2.	Eklakhi-Balurghat (87.11 km) , Gazole-Itahar (28 km) and new MM for Raiganj-Itahar (21.8 km) and Itahar-Buniadpur (39 km)	87	1983-84	36	714	264	25
3.	Tamluk-Digha, Deshpran-Nandigram with new MM for Kanthi-Egra (26.2 km); Nandakumar-Bolaipanda (27 km) NL and Nandigram-Kandhimari (Nayachar) (7 km) NL	168	1984-85	74	1428	485	3
4.	Laxmikantapur-Namkhana-Chanda Nagar(61.5km) with new MM for Kakadwip-Budakhali (5 km) and Chandanagar-Bakhali (17.2 km)	83	1987-88	41	853	130	0.01
5.	Rampurhat-Mandarhill via Dumka (130 km) with new MM for Rampurhat-Murarai (29.48 km)-3rd line	159	1995-96	184	1350	1120	27
6.	New Moynaguri-Jogighopa NL with GC of New Mal-Moynaguri Road and New Changrabanda-Changrabanda (3 km)	303	2000-01	733	3010	2182	75
7.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur with Ext up to Dhaniakhali, Arambagh-Irphala and new MM for Irphala-Ghatal (11.2 km) and Arambagh-Champadanga (23.3 km)	154	2000-01	276	2532	783	55
8.	Azimganj-Murshidabad (Jiyaganj) including Railway Bridge over river Bhagirathi	7	2001-02	67	113	111	15

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9.	Sivok-Rangpo	44	2008-09	1339	4086	646	250
10.	Jalalgarh-Kishanganj	50	2008-09	283	370	2	100
11.	Hasnabad-Hinalganj	14	2010-11	172	269	7	0.1
12.	Tarakeshwar-Magra (51.95 km) incl. MM for Tarakeshwar-Furfurasharif (21.75 km)	74	2010-11	366	527	2	0.01
13.	Bowaichandi-Arambagh	31	2010-11	206	434	41	1
14.	Digha-Jaleswar (41 km) with new MM for Digha-Egra (31 km)	72	2010-11	255	1009	0.1	2
15.	Balurghat-Hilli	29	2010-11	171	471	46	250
16.	Kaliyaganj-Buniadpur	33	2010-11	205	231	34	240
17.	Bhadutola-Jhargram <i>via</i> Lalgarh	54	2011-12	290	760	0.13	0.10
18.	Haldibari-International Border new line	03	2016-17	67	75	10	30
Gauge Conversion							
1.	Bankura-Damodar valley with Bowaichandi Khana (22 km), Rainagar-Chinchai (20.9 km) Bankura-Mukutmonipur (57 km) and MM Mukutmonipur-Uparsol (26.70), Bankura (Kalabadi)-Purulia <i>via</i> Hura (65) and Mukutmonipur-Jhilmili (24 km)	305	1998-99	100	2373	9	0
2.	New Jalpaiguri-Siliguri-New Bongaigaon NL along with Branch lines and new MM for Chalsa-Naxalbari (16 km) NL and Rajabhatkhowa-Jainti (15.13 km) NL		1998-99	381	1428	1072	10

3. Katihar-Jogbani with ext. upto Radhikapur, Katihar-Tejnarayanpur and new MM for Raiganj-Dalkhola (43.43 km) NL	280	2000-01	100	1426	926	50
4. Burdwan-Katwa (51.52 km) with new MM for Katwa-Bazarsau (30.59 km)-DL, Katwa (Dainhat)-Mateswar (34.4 km), Negun-Mangalkot (8.60 km) and Mateswar-Memari (35.6 km) NL	161	2007-08	245	1960	548	86

Doubling

1. New Alipur-Akra and Budge Budge-Pujali with new MM for Pujali-Uluberia (Birshivpur) (10.25 km) and Pujali-Bahrahat (9.75 km) NL	41	1996-97	118	857	31	0
2. Habra-Bongaon Phase-I (Habra-Chandpara) and Machlandapur-Swarup Nagar	37	2000-01	40	147	46	0
3. Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar with Krishnanagar-Shantipur-Nawadwipghat-GC and Krishnanagar-Chartala and new MM for Krishnanagar-Chhapra NL, Naihati-Ranaghat-3rd line and Nabadwipghat-Nabadwipdham with extension to BB Loop	127	2000-01	43	1814	301	45
4. Sonarpur-Ghutiarisharif (Ph.I) (14.96 km) with new MM for Kalikapur-Minakhan via Gatakpur (38 km) NL	53	2000-01	36	398	37	0
5. Chandpara-Bongaon with extension to Chandabazar and new MM for Bongaon-Poramaheshtala (20 km) and Chandabazar-Bagdah (13.86 km) NL	55	2003-04	27	470	54	21
6. Pandabeswar-Chinpai (21.41 km) and Ikra-Churulua-Gurundi with new MM between Barbani-Churulua (9 km) NL	30	2004-05	56	452	141	6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Chinpai-Sainthia and Prantik-Siuri NL (33.98km) MM Chaurigacha-Sainthia <i>via</i> Kandi (56.50Km)	122	2005-06	80	1396	104	21
8.	Panskura-Kharagpur 3rd line (44.7 km) with new MM for Panskura-Ghatal (32.8 km) NL	78	2008-09	195	851	347	5
9.	Dakshin Barasat-Lakshmikantapur (19.68 km), New Line from Joynagar-Raidighi (20 km) and New MM for Joynagar-Durgapur (32 km)	72	2009-10	89	674	117	10
10.	Ghutiari sharif-Canning with extension upto Bangankhali and new MM for Bangankhali-Basanti (14.3 km) and Basanti-Jharkhali (23 km) NL	57	2009-10	62	638	154	5
11.	Liluah-Dankuni 3rd line (10.13 km) with extension to Furfura Sharif	30	2009-10	257	415	93	0.1
12.	Magrahat-Diamond Harbour (19.67 km) with new MM for Sangrampur-Krishanchandpur (25 km), Diamond Harbour (Gurdasnagar)-Bahrahat (21 km)- NL and Diamond Harbour (Gurudasnagar)-Kulpi (17.25km) NL	66	2009-10	98	1256	142	5
13.	Dankuni-Chandanpur- 4th line (25.41 km) as 1st phase of Dankuni-Saktigarh 4th line with new MM for Baruipara-Furfura (12.3 km) NL	38	2010-11	190	300	96	40
14.	Kalinarayanpur-Shantipur (15.85 km) with new MM for Ranaghat (Aranghata)-Duttapulua (8.17 km) NL	24	2010-11	100	187	70	0.1
15.	Sealdah Div.-2nd passenger line bet. Mile 5 B and New Alipore (1.67 km)	2	2010-11	46	67	4	10

16. Sondalia-Champapukur (23.64 km) with new MM for Bira-Chakla (11.5 km)	35	2010-11	147	534	121	32
17. Azimganj-Manigram	20	2010-11	135	144	114	16
18. Katwa-Patuli (17.7 km) with new MM for Ahmedpur-Katwa (51.92 km) GC	70	2010-11	127	985	553	15
19. Bandel-Boinchi - 3rd line (30.53 km)	31	2011-12	288	288	167	40
20. Boinchi-Shaktigarh 3rd line	26	2011-12	176	176	73	30
21. Princepghat to Majherhat doubling of Circular Railway	5	2011-12	300	281	0.12	0.1
22. Sainthia-Tarapith 3rd line	21	2011-12	193	204	182	20
23. Tarapith-Rampurhat-provision of 3rd line	7	2011-12	62	58	48	6
24. Ambari Falakata-New Maynaguri	37	2011-12	258	312	326	50
25. New Coochbehar-Samuktala Road	29	2011-12	190	210	421	50
26. Dankuni-Bhattachanagar (3.70 km) via CC line- doubling with one additional Loop at Bhattachanagar.	4	2011-12	60	62	67	13
27. Plassey-Jiaganj	54	2011-12	248	283	222	25
28. Andul-Baltikuri	7	2012-13	44	53	45	6
29. Bazar Sau-Azimganj Jn.	42	2012-13	256	77	12	65
30. Monigram-Nimtita	34	2012-13	259	261	21	50
31. Kharagpur-Narayanagarh 3rd line	24	2012-13	113	291	129	45
32. New Coochbehar-Gumanihat	29	2012-13	278	284	155	40

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33.	Sagardighi- Azimganj cabin doubling	16	2012-13	81	81	51	35
34.	Kharagpur(Nimpura)-Adityapur 3rd line	132	2015-16	1312	1312	11	80
35.	Mohishila-Kalipahari Link doubling with one additional loop line at Mohishila	3	2015-16	43	43	9	27
36.	Sagardighi-Malda Town (26 km) taken up as Nimtita-New Farakka (25 km) doubling	25	2015-16	190	248	1	20
37.	Sainthia, Sitarampur, Mughalsarai, Allahabad-Etawah Bypass doubling	35	2015-16	400	410	0	01
38.	Damodar-Mohishila doubling	9	2016-17	76	76	0	35
39.	Narayangarh-Bhadrak 3rd line	155	2016-17	2381	2381	0	20
40.	New Moynaguri-Gumanihart Doubling of remaining port doubling	52	2016-17	556	556	0.01	10
41.	Radhanagar siding line of Adra Division to Barachak and Y connection line to Sitarampur	20	2017-18	312	312	0	1

Till 2013-14, due to overall limited availability of funds, many projects were not progressing satisfactorily. Since 2014-15, based on physical progress of projects, last mile connectivity projects and projects for decongesting the existing routes have been given priority and allotted sufficient funds. For this purpose, funds for capacity enhancement projects have been arranged through institutional financing by tying up loan with M/s Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited for ₹ 1.5 lakh crore for assured funding of viable projects. The completion of railway projects requires clearances from various departments of State Government and Central Ministries like acquisition of land, forestry and wild life clearances, cutting of trees, shifting of services, construction of road over bridges and road under bridges by road maintaining agencies, NOC from State Irrigation Department and Power Corporations, law and order issues etc. which are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways. Therefore, it is not feasible to fix time lines for completion of all the projects. To sort out various coordination issues, regular coordination meetings are being held by Zonal Railway officers with different functionaries of the State Government.

Extension of eastern dedicated freight corridor

956. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any plans to extend the Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor from Sonnagar in Bihar to Dankuni in West Bengal;

(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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Dankuni-Sonnagar Section (542 kms) of Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor has been approved for execution through Public Private Partnership (PPP). Preparatory work for the project including land acquisition and forestry clearances etc. has been taken on hand.

Assistance from ISRO for safer train journey

†957. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are contemplating to take assistance of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to make train journey safe;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard, so far; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SAC/ISRO (Space Application Center/ Indian Space Research Organization) Ahmedabad and Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO) Lucknow was signed for development and implementation of Satellite Communications (SATCOM) and Satellite Navigation (SATNAV) based system for Indian Railways. As a part of this MoU, a pilot project has been undertaken on 5 Level Crossing Gates to enhance safety. The pilot project is in progress.

Identification of railway stations under Nirbhaya fund

958. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise number of railway stations identified under the Nirbhaya Fund where an Integrated Emergency Response Management System was to be installed and the number of stations where the system is operational; and

(b) the State-wise number of railway stations that provide all of the following services under the scheme—Security Control Rooms of Railways with 182 Security Helpline, Medical Facilities, RPF and police and CCTV cameras?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) State-wise details of stations are given in the Statement (*See* below). The system is under implementation.

(b) All India Security Helpline 182 has been made functional through 70 Divisional Security Control Rooms (DSCR) of Railway Protection Force (RPF) of respective Zonal Railways. RPF personnel manning the Security Helpline attend calls and particulars obtained from the passenger are swiftly forwarded to concerned RPF/ Government Railway Police (GRP) for rendering necessary security related assistance to passengers. Security helpline 182 is planned to be upgraded by making it automated.

Regarding medical facilities, first aid boxes containing essential drugs and dressing materials are provided with the guards of all passenger carrying trains. In addition, augmented first aid boxes with wide range of medicines, disposable medical material, etc. have been provided with the Train Superintendents/ Guards of Rajdhani/Shatabdi Express trains and some nominated trains. Front line staffs deployed on trains are also trained in rendering first aid. The Station Masters of all stations have details of doctors, clinics and hospitals, both Government and Private, in the vicinity of the station, so that their services could also be availed in emergencies. Ambulance services of both Railway hospitals and State Government are utilized as and when required.

Security has been identified as one of the priority areas by railways for

strengthening and upgradation. 394 railway stations have so far been provided with close circuit television (CCTV) cameras for round the clock surveillance at these stations. All out efforts are being made in coordination with GRPs of respective States to strengthen security over Railways.

Statement

State-wise Details of Stations for the provision of Video Surveillance System under Nirbhaya Fund

Sl. No.	Name of State	Number of Stations
1.	Andhra Pradesh	59
2.	Assam	8
3.	Bihar	53
4.	Chhattisgarh	13
5.	Delhi	4
6.	Goa	1
7.	Gujarat	34
8.	Haryana	16
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	14
12.	Karnataka	32
13.	Kerala	24
14.	Madhya Pradesh	41
15.	Maharashtra	128
16.	Odisha	19
17.	Punjab	10
18.	Puducherry	1
19.	Rajasthan	39
20.	Tamil Nadu	111
21.	Telangana	19
22.	Uttar Pradesh	76
23.	Uttarakhand	9
24.	West Bengal	269
25.	Tripura	1
TOTAL		983

Installation of bio-toilets

959. SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH MAHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of bio-toilets installed in passenger coaches as against respective yearly targets during last three years, year-wise and zone-wise; and

(b) the details of funds allocated and utilised for installation of bio-toilets in passenger coaches during last three years, year-wise and zone-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The details of number of bio-toilets installed in passenger coaches *vis-à-vis* yearly targets and details of funds allocated/expenditure booked for installation of bio-toilets for the years 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 are as under:—

Zonal Railway	No. of bio-toilets installed in passenger coaches		Funds (₹ in crore)	
	Target	Achievement	Allocated	Expenditure booked
1	2	3	4	5
For the year 2015-16				
Central	1412	280	11	0.11
East Coast	620	572	6	4.88
East Central	324	88	4	2.36
Eastern	352	143	1	2.38
North Central	268	81	2	1.6
North Eastern	412	478	17	4.1
Northeast Frontier	396	32	6	2.94
Northern	800	848	7	5.14
North Western	560	168	6	3.91
South Central	776	294	8	2.83
South East Central	244	258	12.4	2.02
South Eastern	568	36	6	2.11
Southern	1376	595	9.5	11.87
South Western	232	244	3	2.94
West Central	3188	2097	4.5	13.41
Western	780	71	8	0.6

1	2	3	4	5
For the year 2016-17				
Central	2000	2164	22	16.31
East Coast	850	958	21	48.63
East Central	1200	358	6	6.99
Eastern	1200	1281	11	9.62
North Central	500	230	3	5.69
North Eastern	800	2008	17	9.96
Northeast Frontier	850	788	14	8.16
Northern	1800	2159	29	13.42
North Western	850	790	22	10.26
South Central	1400	2036	19	15.6
South East Central	400	87	24	7.13
South Eastern	1050	561	9	10.86
Southern	1950	3211	44	23.33
South Western	850	1814	14	6.83
West Central	2850	2951	35	26.15
Western	1450	859	10	15.8
For the year 2017-18				
Central	2400	2195	34.5	16.51
East Coast	2400	3032	34.5	38.96
East Central	3600	934	52	5.3
Eastern	2800	1971	40	8.44
North Central	1200	164	17	3.74
North Eastern	2000	764	29	8.86
Northeast Frontier	2800	1505	40	6.69
Northern	4000	3069	57	13.01
North Western	2000	1273	29	9.23
South Central	3600	2497	52	15.63
South East Central	800	40	37.5	5.46
South Eastern	1600	1353	23	9.96
Southern	4000	4391	57	24.94

1	2	3	4	5
South Western	2400	2391	34.5	5.1
West Central	1600	3075	23	28.31
Western	2800	1503	40	15.89

Loco running staff

960. SHRI C.P. NARAYANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of loco running staff in Railways at present;
- (b) their average work load per week;
- (c) the maximum hours of continuous work they have to do in a week;
- (d) how much increase in their emoluments have been given during the last three years; and
- (e) how do they compare with emoluments of other railway staff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) As on 01.04.2017, over Zonal Railways, total number of employed staff in loco running category is 87196.

(b) and (c) As per the provision of the Railways Act, 1989 and the Railway Servants (Hours of Work and Period of Rest) Rules, 2005, Loco running staff on the Railways are classified as 'Continuous' and as such, their rostered hours of work is 54 hours a week on an average in a two-weekly period of 14 days.

(d) and (e) After the Seventh CPC (Central Pay Commission) recommendations, the basic pay of the non-running staff has been increased by a multiplication factor of 2.57 with effect from 01.01.2016 and then fixed in the appropriate cell of the relevant level in the Seventh CPC pay matrix, while for the running staff the multiplication factor of 2.945 was used. Further, the actual raise in the pay of the running staff has been ensured at a minimum of 14.29 per cent with the Ministry of Finance (MoF) concurrence. This has resulted in an effective multiplication factor of around 3.01 for Running Staff. The running staff also get allowances like Dearness Allowance and House Rent Allowance on the basic pay enhanced by 30%.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. The House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

The House then adjourned at four minute past twelve of the clock.

*The House reassembled at thirty one minutes past two of the clock,
THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL) in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी (आंध्र प्रदेश): सर, मेरा एक मुद्दा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): एक मिनट ठहरिए।

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आज ढाई बजे से पांच बजे तक Private Members' Business था, किंतु जैसा सभी दलों ने मिलकर तय किया है कि बजट पर चल रही चर्चा जारी रहे।

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, we do not accept that. The House has to agree, whether this way or that way. It is our right to ask...
...(Interruptions)...

श्री विजय गोयल: मैं वह proposal रख रहा हूँ।

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): Sir, we could defer it to the next Session. ... (Interruptions)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): उन्हें कह लेने दीजिए, फिर आप बोलिए।

श्री विजय गोयल: सर, जैसी कि एक आम सहमति थी कि बजट पर चर्चा पूरी कर ली जाए, तो मैं इस बात से सहमत हूँ कि Private Members' Business, जब दोबारा संसद बैठेगी, तो उस में इसे in the same order शुक्रवार के दिन लिया जाए और आज जब तक बजट पर वित्त मंत्री का जवाब हो, तब तक जैसा हम लोगों ने तय किया था, बजट पर चर्चा आरंभ की जाए।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, मेरा एक मुद्दा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): पहले इसे dispose of होने दीजिए। इस पर सभी पार्टी के नेता अपनी राय दें। ठीक है। अब सभी पार्टियाँ इस से सहमत हैं कि Private Member's Bill अगली बार की बैठक में लिया जाएगा और आज जो विषय है, उसे लिया जाएगा। इसलिए अब बजट पर चर्चा होगी।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, मैंने रूल 188 के तहत एक प्रस्ताव दिया है, उसे आप please consider करें।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): उसे चेयरमैन साहब consider करेंगे। नीरज शेखर जी, अपना भाषण शुरू कीजिए।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, यह privilege का motion है। ... (व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, आपने अपनी बात कह दी।

THE UNION BUDGET 2018-19 — Contd.*

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने जो बजट देश के सामने रखा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह बजट देश के किसान, देश के नौजवान और देश के हरेक नागरिक को ...**(व्यवधान)**... * देने वाला बजट है। इस बजट में इस देश के लोगों को * किया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... महोदय, मैं पहले इस देश के किसान की बात करना चाहूंगा कि इस सरकार ने किस तरह * दिया है। सरकार ने कहा है कि हम किसान को उस की लागत का डेढ़ गुना एम.एस.पी. देंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह इन्होंने किसान को * करने के लिए किया है। महोदय, आज किसान आत्महत्या कर रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... किसान अपनी उपज को मार्केट से कम दाम पर बेच रहा है और ऐसा इसलिए हो रहा है क्योंकि इन्होंने जो एम.एस.पी. का वायदा किया है, आज से दो साल पहले, इसी सरकार ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट में हलफनामा दिया था और कहा था कि हम एम.एस.पी. से डेढ़ गुना दे ही नहीं सकते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... और जब यह सरकार वर्ष 2019 में चुनाव सामने देख रही है, तो यह पलट गयी है। यह ऐसा किसानों के लिए नहीं बल्कि अपने लिए कर रही है ताकि चुनाव में इन्हें फायदा हो और ये फिर से चुनाव जीत सकें। महोदय, पूरे देश में इन का विरोध हो रहा है, इसलिए इन्होंने एम.एस.पी. का वायदा किया है और वह भी एक तिकड़म है, जिसे किसान समझ न पाए, वह यह सरकार कर रही है। सर, इस के लिए तीन तरह का फॉर्मूला है — A2 actual paid out cost होती है, दूसरा है A2: +FL, that is, actual paid out cost plus imputed value of family labour और तीसरा है, जिसे लागू करना चाहिए, C2 — comprehensive cost including input, rental value of owned land and interest on value of owned capital assets, महोदय, यह सरकार किसानों को * दे रही है जबकि किसान को C2+50 per cent मिलना चाहिए। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि वह इस स्थिति को स्पष्ट करें कि वे किसान को क्या दे रहे हैं? डेढ़ गुना बोलने से कुछ नहीं होगा, किसान के लिए यह साफ होना चाहिए। इस देश के 70 करोड़ लोग खेती पर निर्भर हैं और उनके साथ * यह सरकार हर चीज में * कर रही है, हर व्यक्ति के साथ * कर रही है। इन्होंने कहा कि ये किसानों के लिए 'प्रधान मंत्री फसल बीमा योजना' लाए हैं। इससे बड़ा * किसानों के साथ और कोई नहीं हो सकता है। बीमा क्या है, इन्होंने 2016-17 में 22,345 करोड़ प्रीमियम कलेक्ट किया और किसानों को कितना दिया? इन्होंने किसानों को 6,625 करोड़ दिया, तो बाकी प्रीमियम कहां गया? आपने किसानों से तो पैसा ले लिया और किसान अभी भी जो 55 फीसदी मांग रहा है, जिसके लिए प्रीमियम दिया है, जो उसको नुकसान हुआ है, उसके बारे में कोई बात नहीं है। यह सारा पैसा कहां गया, किसी को कुछ पता नहीं है। इसी तरह से ये कर रहे हैं। ये 'स्वास्थ्य योजना' लेकर आये हैं, यह वही है। इसमें प्रीमियम के लिए कलेक्ट होगा, बड़ी-बड़ी इंश्योरेंस कम्पनियों को फायदा होगा और आम आदमी को पांच हजार तो क्या पांच रुपए भी नहीं मिलेंगे।

दो साल पहले इसी तरह की सरकार योजना लेकर आई थी कि ये एक लाख रुपया 'स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना' में देंगे। उस योजना का क्या हुआ? दो साल में वह योजना कहां है? सरकार और वित्त मंत्री जी बताएं कि यह योजना कहां है? यह योजना कहीं नहीं है। यह योजना पेपर्स में आई और पेपर्स में ही खत्म हो गई। लोग उस योजना को ढूँढ़ रहे हैं। इसलिए मैं इस सरकार

+ Further discussion continued from the 8th February, 2018.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

से यह कहना चाहता हूं और मैं यह भी जानता हूं कि ये लोग नहीं सुनेंगे। जो बीजेपी में, सत्ता में बैठे हुए लोग हैं, इनकी आंखों पर अहंकार का पर्दा पड़ा हुआ है। इन लोगों में अहंकार है, तो मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से अपने देश के नागरिकों से यह कहना चाहता हूं, देश के नौजवानों से कहना चाहता हूं और देश के किसानों से कहना चाहता हूं कि इनको पहचानिए। मैं एक बात में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी की प्रशंसा करना चाहूंगा, लोग मुझसे मतभेद कर सकते हैं, प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि पकौड़ा बेचना भी एक रोजगार है। मैं इस बात को सौ फीसदी स्वीकार करता हूं। महात्मा गांधी ने कहा है कि आप चाहे कोई भी काम करिए, सब बराबर हैं। आप देश के प्रधान मंत्री हो, चाहे आप स्वच्छता वाले हो, चाहे आप पकौड़ा बेचें, सभी लोग समान हैं, क्योंकि dignity of labor होनी चाहिए। इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सही कहा है, लेकिन मैं माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जब एक पकौड़ा बेचने वाला अपना पेट काटकर अपने बच्चे को पढ़ाता है, उसको इंजीनियर बनाता है, उसको डॉक्टर बनाता है, उसको CA बनाता है, तब क्या वह चाहता है कि उसका बेटा भी उसकी बगल में खड़ा होकर पकौड़ा बेचे? चाय बेचने वाले का बेटा प्रधान मंत्री बन सकता है, लेकिन प्रधान मंत्री यह चाहते हैं कि पकौड़ा बेचने वाला बेटा पकौड़ा बेचने वाला ही बने। मैं जानता हूं कि प्रधान मंत्री जी एक पिता की पीड़ा को नहीं समझ पाएंगे, लेकिन आदरणीय अमित जी तो जान सकते हैं। मैं माफी चाहूंगा, अमित जी तो इस देश में एक ही हैं, एक भाई शाह जी तो जान सकते हैं कि पिता की क्या पीड़ा होती है। जो आदमी अपना पेट काट कर बच्चे को पढ़ा रहा है, आज उसको क्या हो रहा है? आज जब कहीं किसी नौकरी के लिए जगह निकलती है, अगर कहीं पर किसी सफाई कर्मचारी की नौकरी के लिए जगह निकलती है, तो उसके लिए CA पढ़ा व्यक्ति जाता है, MBA पढ़ा व्यक्ति जाता है। जब यह बात इस देश का प्रधान मंत्री कहे कि आप पकौड़ा बेचिए, तो उस नौजवान के ऊपर क्या बीतती होगी? जो नौजवान पढ़ा-लिखा है, उसके आत्म-सम्मान का क्या होता होगा कि MBA करने के बाद उसको कहा जाए कि आप पकौड़ा बेचिए, डॉक्टरी करने के बाद उसको कहा जाए कि आप पकौड़ा बेचिए। उसके आत्म-सम्मान का क्या होगा? प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कम-से-कम उनसे यह कहा होता कि घबराओ मत, मैं तुम्हारे साथ हूं, मैं तुम्हारे साथ खड़ा हूं। आज उनको आपका साथ चाहिए। आज आप उनको हतोत्साहित मत करिए और आप उनके आत्म-सम्मान को ठेस मत पहुंचाइए। अगले साल देश के 13 करोड़ नौजवान वोट देंगे और वे आप लोगों को देख रहे हैं और वे देख रहे हैं कि आप लोगों की क्या सोच है। आप लोग उस नौजवान के लिए क्या चाहते हैं, वह सब देख रहा है। आप लोगों को वह ही बताएगा कि क्या सम्मान होता है और आप इस देश की आत्मा के साथ किस तरह का खेल खेल रहे हैं। श्री अमित शाह जी ने, जब उनका पहला भाषण था, अपने उस पहले भाषण में उन्होंने कहा था कि मैंने गरीबी को पास से देखा है। आदरणीय अमित शाह जी, गरीबी को देखना नहीं है, गरीबी को महसूस कीजिए। अगर आप गरीब नहीं रहे, तो गरीब को देखिए मत, बल्कि उसकी गरीबी को महसूस कीजिए। आप गरीबी को तभी महसूस कर सकते हैं, जब उसकी जगह अपने आपको खड़ा करके देखेंगे। आपने कहा कि हम लोगों ने स्वच्छ भारत मिशन में 6 करोड़ टॉयलेट्स बना दिए हैं और उसके लिए और पैसा दिया है। उसमें तो आपने बजट कम कर दिया है, लेकिन क्या आपने उन 6 करोड़ टॉयलेट्स को देखा है कि उनका हाल क्या है? आप एक टॉयलेट बनाने के लिए 12 हजार रुपये देते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): सी.एम. रमेश जी, हो गया है, बस, अब आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर: क्या 12 हजार रुपये में टॉयलेट बन सकता है? शौचालय बन सकता है? आप उन शौचालयों को जाकर देखिए। मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों से यह चाहूंगा, जो वहां — ये लोग गांव तो कम जाते हैं, लेकिन मैं चाहूंगा कि आप उन शौचालयों में जाकर एक बार अंदर खड़े होइए, दरवाजा बंद कीजिए और बस दो मिनट खड़े रहिए, आप लोगों को शौचालय समझ में आ जाएगा कि यह शौचालय क्या होता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या है, आप बताएं? उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मंत्री जी कुछ इशारा कर रहे हैं।

संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री तथा सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री विजय गोयल): मैं उनसे कह रहा हूँ कि उन्हें ऐसे पीछे नहीं खड़े होना चाहिए। ऐसे तो वे हर वक्त पीछे आकर खड़े हो जाएंगे। सॉरी, मैं उनसे कह रहा हूँ, आपसे नहीं कह रहा हूँ।

श्री नीरज शेखर: मुझे लगा मंत्री जी कुछ कहना चाहते हैं। मैं भी यही कहना चाहता था।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री वि. विजययाई रेड्डी, आप बैठिए।

श्री नीरज शेखर: मैं यही कह रहा था कि क्या आप 12 हजार रुपये में शौचालय बना सकते हैं? आप इसको 6 करोड़ मत बनाइए, इसको 3 करोड़ ही बनाइए, लेकिन उसको 25 हजार रुपये दीजिए, ताकि उसमें कुछ काम हो सके, उसमें पानी का इंजाम हो सके। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि उसमें यह हो रहा है कि वह कुछ दिनों के बाद स्टोर बन रहा है।

मैंने समाचार-पत्र में एक घटना पढ़ी कि एक व्यक्ति ने घर के लिए आवेदन किया था, लेकिन उसको घर का कब्जा तो मिला नहीं, टॉयलेट का मिल गया। वह उसी में रहा है। यह वाक्या आश्चर्यचकित करने वाला है। यह सरकार लोगों को कैसे-कैसे* कर रही है। मैं यही कहना चाहता हूँ। मेरे एक और साथी बोलने वाले हैं, इसलिए मैं जल्दी-जल्दी, दो चार चीज़ें कहना चाहूंगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं पेट्रोलियम प्रोडक्ट्स पर कहना चाहता हूँ। माननीय चिदम्बरम जी ने यह विषय उठाया था। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह 140 डॉलर प्रति बैरल है, तब भी हम लोगों को 75 रुपये में मिल रहा है और आज, जब 68 डॉलर प्रति बैरल है, तब भी हम लोगों को 75 रुपये में मिल रहा है। यह कौन-सा अर्थमेटिक है? मैं यह माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से दसवीं बार, वह भी सदन में पूछ रहा हूँ कि अगर आप लोगों ने इसको मार्किट से जोड़ दिया है, तो यह कौन-सा अर्थमेटिक है? मैं माननीय पेट्रोलियम मिनिस्टर से पूछ चुका हूँ। आप इस देश की जनता को कम-से-कम यह तो बताएंगे कि यह कौन-सा अर्थमेटिक है? यह कौन-सी मार्किट वैल्युएशन है कि जब यह 140 डॉलर प्रति बैरल है, तब भी 75 रुपये में हम लोग पेट्रोल खरीद रहे हैं, किसान डीज़ल खरीद रहा है? आज भी वही स्थिति है। ये इसके बारे में बता दें। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से हाथ जोड़कर विनती कर रहा हूँ, इस देश के लोग जानना चाहते हैं कि यह कैसा अर्थमेटिक है।

महोदय, मैं दूसरी बात उज्ज्वला योजना के बारे में कहना चाहूंगा। क्योंकि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने वह बलिया से शुरू की थी, हम लोगों को बहुत अच्छा लगा कि यह बड़ी अच्छी योजना

है। मैं मानता हूँ कि कई लोगों को गैस सिलेंडर मिले हैं, लेकिन उस सिलेंडर का फायदा क्या है? माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी यह बता दें कि वह अगली बार कितनी बार रिफिल हुआ है? लोगों ने वह चूल्हा ले लिया है, वह चूल्हा भी उनको 16 सौ रुपये में मिला है, लेकिन उन लोगों को यह नहीं बताया गया कि आपको यह पैसा बाद में, हर गैस सिलेंडर के साथ धीरे-धीरे देना पड़ेगा। आपको यह स्पष्ट करना चाहिए। आप लोगों को * मत कीजिए। आप 3 करोड़ से 8 करोड़ कर दीजिए, सबको गैस चूल्हा मिल जाए, हम लोग यह चाहते हैं, लेकिन यह सब कुछ स्पष्ट होना चाहिए। जो भी नीति बनाए, वह स्पष्ट नीति बनाए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री नीरज शेखर जी, आपकी पार्टी की तरफ से बोलने के लिए एक और सदस्य हैं।

श्री नीरज शेखर: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं दो चीजें और बोलना चाहता था। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): जल्दी समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, मैं नेशनल हाईवे के बारे में बोलना चाहता था। मैं बार-बार सुन रहा हूँ। ये पूरे देश में नेशनल हाईवे बना रहे हैं। यह 32 किलोमीटर, 33 किलोमीटर, 40 किलोमीटर रोज बन रहा है। हमारे यहां माननीय मंत्री, आदरणीय नितिन गडकरी जी ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज से डेढ़ साल पहले ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): बैठिएगा अभी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर: उन्होंने नेशनल हाईवे 31 का शिलान्यास किया था, लेकिन आज डेढ़ साल गुजर चुके हैं, उस पर एक रोड़ी तक नहीं आई है, उस पर न डीपीआर हुआ है, न कुछ हुआ, न उसका अधिग्रहण किया गया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या ये सारी योजनाएं ही ऐसी हैं? माननीय नितिन गडकरी जी लखनऊ गए और वहां, उत्तर प्रदेश को 2 लाख करोड़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... 2 लाख करोड़ ...**(व्यवधान)**... तय किया गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): नीरज शेखर जी, तुरंत समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री नीरज शेखर: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मेरा आखिरी प्वाइंट है। सर, दो मिनट दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): तुरंत खत्म कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, मुझे कल नहीं बोलने दिया गया, मैं कम-से-कम ...**(व्यवधान)**... पांच ...**(व्यवधान)**... घंटे यहां बैठा रहा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, आप घड़ी में देखिए कि आपका टाइम कितना हो गया है।

श्री नीरज शेखर: आधा घंटे था। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आपके एक और सदस्य हैं। घड़ी की गड़बड़ी के कारण प्रॉब्लम है, इसलिए close it.

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी रूरल इलेक्ट्रिफिकेशन के बारे में बार-बार कहते हैं कि हम 18 हजार गांवों में इसे लाये हैं। मैं इसके सही आंकड़े जानना चाहता हूँ, क्योंकि यह काम राजीव गांधी विद्युतीकरण योजना में हुआ है। जब से आपकी यह दीनदयाल उपाध्याय योजना आई है, मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि उसमें क्या काम हुआ है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं बलिया जिले के बारे में जानता हूँ, यहां पर कहा गया कि आप दीनदयाल उपाध्याय योजना में एस्टीमेट बनाइए। वहां चार सौ करोड़ का एस्टीमेट बना और पैसे कितने मिले? 55 करोड़ रुपए मिले। वे 55 करोड़ रुपए किस चीज पर खर्च हो रहे हैं? वे गांव वालों के घरों में मीटर लगाने के लिए खर्च हो रहे हैं। यहां गांव का मजदूर, किसान दो हजार बीस रुपए नहीं दे पा रहा है, वहां अब हर महीने उसको लगेगा, ...**(व्यवधान)**... हजार से डेढ़ हजार रुपए का मीटर लग जाएगा। सरकार लोगों को इसके बारे में क्यों नहीं बताती? दीनदयाल उपाध्याय योजना में बस मीटर लग रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये मीटर कब तक लटके रहेंगे? इस तरह आप गरीबों और किसानों की बात करते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): नीरज जी, आप समाप्त करें। मैं अगला नाम लूंगा।

श्री नीरज शेखर: अंत में, महोदय, मैंने एक प्रश्न माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से एनपीए के बारे में पूछा था कि बड़े उद्योगपति घरानों के जो एनपीए हैं, उनके बारे में सरकार क्या कर रही है? माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी बार-बार यह कह रहे हैं कि यह यूपीए का पाप है, जो हम उठा रहे हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह पाप यूपीए और एनडीए में बंट जाए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि 2014 के बाद आपने कितने ऋण उद्योगपतियों को दिए हैं? 2014 से पहले इनके पाप और 2014 के बाद आपके पाप, ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह बात स्पष्ट हो जाए। यह डिटेल माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी नहीं बताते हैं। उनको बताना चाहिए, ...**(व्यवधान)**... भई, पाप बंट जाएगा, तो पाप बिल्कुल अच्छी तरह उठा लेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो 2014 के बाद पाप किया है, वह आपने किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद। श्री मुत्तुकरुप्पन। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठ जाइए।

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, हम लोगों का तीस मिनट का समय था, आपने काट कर 14 मिनट कर दिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): हमने नहीं किया। यहां आपके 11 मिनट हैं और दो सदस्य बोलने वाले हैं।

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, ये नहीं बोल रहे हैं। मैं जनधन योजना के बारे में जानना चाहूंगा। पूरी सरकार कह रही है कि हमने 31 करोड़ जनधन में एकाउंट खोल दिए और उनमें 71 हजार करोड़ रुपए आ गए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये रुपए लोगों ने जमा किए हैं। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि 8 नवंबर, 2016 के बाद उन जनधन खातों में सरकार ने कितने रुपए डाले हैं? क्योंकि उन खातों में पंद्रह-पंद्रह लाख रुपए आने वाले थे, तो उनमें सरकार ने कितने डाले हैं? यह भी मैं जानना चाहूंगा। हमारे नेता जी बैठे हुए हैं, आदरणीय राम गोपाल यादव जी, इन्होंने हमसे कहा था कि आदर्श गांव योजना में हम लोगों ने नहीं आना है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा, हम लोग बार-बार इस बारे में पूछ रहे हैं कि प्रधान मंत्री आदर्श गांव में यह सरकार हम लोगों

को क्या दे रही है? हमें पूरे उत्तर प्रदेश में एक गांव चुनना है, ...(व्यवधान)... एमपीलैड तो दूसरा है। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अभी मैं दूसरा नाम लूंगा, आपका बंद हो जाएगा। कृपया खत्म कीजिए।

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, खत्म तो करने दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आपके पांच मिनट ज्यादा हो गए हैं, अब ठीक नहीं है। मैं अगला नाम पुकारूंगा, श्री मुत्तुकरुप्पन।

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, he should be given time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please conclude your speech.

श्री नीरज शेखर: सर, मैं कंक्लूड कर रहा हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You are not concluding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नीरज शेखर: महोदय, मैं एक मिनट का समय लूंगा। मैं केंद्र सरकार से यही चाहता हूं, आग्रह कर रहा हूं, हाथ जोड़ कर विनती कर रहा हूं कि आप इस देश के न किसान को भ्रमित करिए, न नौजवान को भ्रमित करिए, न इस देश के अल्पसंख्यकों को भ्रमित करिए। इस देश में आज स्थिति यह हो गई है कि हमेशा लड़ाई का माहौल लगता है, कभी यह हो रहा है कि ट्रिपल तलाक के लिए लड़ाई हो रही है, कभी ऐसा लगता है कि हम लोग पाकिस्तान से लड़ रहे हैं। इस तरह इस देश में कभी स्थिरता नहीं दिख रही है। हमेशा लगता है कि हम लोग किसी लड़ाई में रह रहे हैं, हमेशा युद्ध का माहौल सा रहता है। मैं सरकार से चाहूंगा कि लोगों के मन में शांति रहे, सद्भाव रहे, ऐसा काम सरकार करे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, धन्यवाद।

श्री नीरज शेखर: मैं आपका आभार व्यक्त करता हूं। धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Now, Shri S. Muthukaruppan.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, please give me two minutes.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अगर आप बैठना चाहेंगे, तो मैं टाइम दूंगा, नहीं तो नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... Again, you should not make protest.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, the Members of Telugu Desam Party are also part of the ruling dispensation. The BJP and the Telugu Desam Party together have formed the Central Government. Their demand is that they want justice. From

[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

whom are they demanding justice? ...*(Interruptions)*... They are in power in the State of Andhra Pradesh; they are in power at the Centre. From whom are they demanding justice? It is they who have to do justice for this country and for the State of Andhra Pradesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, yesterday, hon. Chairman gave a ruling that one Cabinet Minister can give a suggestion to another Cabinet Minister. That was the ruling which was given. I would like to know from the Chairman whether there is any rule under which a Minister can give an assurance to another Minister, especially considering the fact that both of them are Ministers of State in their respective ministries.

My second point is that yesterday the Minister of State in the Ministry of Science and Technology began his speech by saying, “on behalf of the Government” and he ended his speech with a request to the Government to do justice. Is he part of the Government? If they are part of the Government, let them resign from the Government and ask for justice. First, they should resign from the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Then only, justice will be done. The justice, which they are demanding, can be done to the State of Andhra Pradesh only after they submit their resignation. Thank you, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Thank you. Now, Shri S. Muthukaruppan.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): * Hon’ble Vice Chairman Sir, I am very happy to make my speech in my mother tongue Tamil, for the first time, in this august House of historical importance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You have four minutes.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, my Party was allotted 38 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Till now, we have taken only 10 minutes. So, 28 minutes are still left. ...*(Interruptions)*.. Why are you restricting our time unnecessarily?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): I am telling that there are four minutes for you.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: No, Sir. It cannot be accepted. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, 38 minutes were already allotted to the AIADMK Party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

*English translation of the Tamil Speech.

Our senior member, Shri Balasubramoniyam spoke for only ten minutes, and, you are saying that only four minutes are there for me. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have 28 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is my right to speak in the House.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): In today's three hour discussion, the AIADMK has got eight minutes' time and there are two speakers from your party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: No, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... AIADMK's time was 38 minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the other Member has already left.*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You can take eight minutes only if one speaker is there. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please go ahead.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: This is violation of justice. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this happening? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, 38 minutes were allotted to AIADMK Party. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only our senior colleague, Shri Balasubramoniyam has spoken for ten minutes. Rest of the 28 minutes we are having. You are restricting it to four minutes, five minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please start your speech.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN:* Hon'ble Vice Chairman Sir, I am elated to make my speech in my mother tongue Tamil, for the first time, in this august House of historical importance. I am overjoyed to inform this to you. In the Budget 2018-2019, there are many welcome measures. But Tamil Nadu has been neglected in various issues. I would like to point out that sufficient fund is not allocated to Tamil Nadu. I would like to point out this briefly. As far as BJP Government is concerned, during the time of our late Chief Minister, goddess of our heart, Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma, we have worked as an unwritten ally of the BJP Government. We have assisted them at many circumstances. Moreover, we have supported the BJP Government at crucial times. But, the fund that is due to be allocated to Tamil Nadu, is not allocated. It is my duty to point out this, through our Hon'ble Chairman, to Hon'ble Member Mr. Amit Shah, who is the National President of Bharathiya Janata Party. Now, I would like to submit the details of Union Budget 2018-2019.

This Budget aims to strengthen the basics of New India. This Budget had paid attention to various sectors from agriculture to infrastructure. On the one hand, this Budget mentions about the health schemes to eliminate the sufferings of the poor and

*English translation of the Tamil Speech.

[Shri S. Muthukaruppan]

the middle class. On the other hand, this Budget also has included certain schemes for enhancing the income of small scale industrialists. Therefore, on behalf of All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (AIADMK), we welcome this Budget. This Budget 2018-2019's total expenditure is more than ₹ 24.42 lakh crore. The total receipt for this year is estimated to be more than ₹ 24 lakh crore. We are proud to say that Tamil Nadu occupies the second place, in the list of highest revenue yielding States to India. But, at the same time, we are not satisfied that sufficient fund is not allocated to Tamil Nadu and the Tamil people. This entire country knows about the arduous struggle of our Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma to get sufficient funds from the Centre for Tamil Nadu. It is really distressing that the same situation continues even today. It is my duty to point out this expressively to the Hon'ble Government.

For example, during the last December, 2015, Tamil Nadu experienced an unprecedented rainfall and flood. There was severe loss of materials. All the agricultural crops were destroyed. Farmers were severely affected. Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma met Hon'ble Prime Minister of India twice and demanded that ₹ 25,912.45 crore has to be allocated to Tamil Nadu for undertaking relief and rehabilitation measures. But, then, the Central Committee presented a field report. One year had passed after the report was submitted. But the relief package was not given even after one year. Therefore, the Union Government had to accept the demand of Tamil Nadu Government and relief fund had to be provided immediately. I would like to submit this demand to the Hon'ble Prime Minister and the Hon'ble Ministers.

Next, Vardah cyclone devastated Tamil Nadu in December, 2016. Thousands of trees were uprooted in coastal districts of Tamil Nadu including Chennai. Electrical poles were mangled. Business and Industry became inoperative. There was huge financial loss to Tamil Nadu and to the people of Tamil Nadu. The Government of Tamil Nadu requested the Union Government to allocate ₹ 22,573 crores for relief. But it is distressing that not even a single rupee was given to Tamil Nadu.

At the same time, due to the severe drought that affected Tamil Nadu last year, 32 districts of Tamil Nadu were announced as drought hit districts. It was announced that out of 16,682 revenue villages, 13,305 villages were drought hit. We requested that the Centre has to come forward to provide ₹ 39,565 crore as drought relief package. But the Centre did not heed to our demand. It causes agony to us.

Sir, therefore, I reiterate and request that the Union Government under the leadership of Mr. Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, had to give due financial assistance to Tamil Nadu without further injustice and without further delay. Tamil Nadu is the state that gives maximum revenue to the Centre.

3.00 P.M.

Cauvery Delta is the life line of Tamil nadu. Farming has become very difficult there. Once upon a time, at Thanjai Delta Region, crops are threshed with the help of elephants as threshing with the assistance of cows was not enough. But today, the farmers of Thanjai Delta are in a position not to undertake agriculture.

Water is essential for agriculture. Irrigation facilities have to be given to all parts of the country. To implement this, interlinking of national rivers is a must. Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma had persuaded the Centre for nationalization of all rivers and particularly for interlinking of South Indian rivers. A permanent solution to river water disputes of south India states, will be obtained only if south Indian rivers are interlinked.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Only one minute is left.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, we have 28 minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): I am talking about the time that I have given. Only one minute is left.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: *As per the request of Goddess of our Heart, Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma, the Union Government had to take steps to interlink south Indian rivers under South Indian River Development Project. This is the first step in protecting the welfare of Tamil Nadu farmers.

Cauvery river is the livelihood of lakhs of farmers of Tamil Nadu. The entire world knows about the legal battle waged by Hon'ble Puratchithalaivi Amma and the grand success she had achieved in obtaining Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu from the state of Karnataka. Puratchithalaiv Amma was hailed by people as the "Cauvery Mother who retrieved Cauvery" as she was responsible for notifying the final order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal in the gazetteer of Government of India.

In Cauvery river water issue, as per the interim order of Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal, Karantaka did not release the due share of Cauvery water to Tamil nadu during cropping seasons. The Supreme Court of India had ordered many times that Cauvery water had to be given to Tamil nadu and that Cauvery Management Board had to be set up immediately without further delay. But the Union Government had taken an opposite stand with regard to this issue. Tamil nadu farmers consider this as the greatest injustice done to Tamil nadu and to Tamil nadu farmers. Therefore, the Union Government had to take proper steps to implement setting up of Cauvery Management Board, as per the Supreme Court Order. The Supreme Court had already

* English translation of the Tamil Speech.

[Shri S. Muthukaruppan]

issued an order that Cauvery Management Board should be set up in four days. But, in the third year, Attorney General of India had filed a revision petition at the Supreme Court challenging this order. In the release of Cauvery Water, politics is being done.

Sir, I request, through the Chairman of this House, that due water from Cauvery has to be released to Tamil Nadu from Karnataka.

श्री उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): समाप्त करिए। Thank You.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: * I request the Hon'ble Members from Karnataka that lakhs of hectares of agricultural land in Delta region is drying in Tamil Nadu. Due share of Cauvery Water to Tamil Nadu should be released immediately by the Karnataka Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Thank you. समाप्त कीजिए। धन्यवाद।

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: * I request the Hon'ble Members from Congress Party as Congress is ruling the State Government of Karnataka, to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): I will call other Member's name. Ask him to stop. It cannot go on record. Now it will not go on record. You conclude it.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, just give me one minute.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You conclude it immediately.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: *I request the Hon'ble Members of Parliamentary Affairs to take proper steps. I once again request the Hon'ble Members here not to make politics in Cauvery issue. Tamil nadu farmers are dying. Lakhs of hectares of land in affected. I request the Hon'ble Members to support Cauvery Delta farmers, cutting across party lines. Cauvery water has to be released to Tamil Nadu immediately. I thank the Chairman for giving me this opportunity. Thank you. Vanakkam.

श्री उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद। Shri Derek O'Brien, you have eight minutes.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, our opening speaker made his maiden speech. Whenever you think I am not making sense or not making an interesting point, you ask me to sit down, and I will sit down. Whenever you think so, I will sit down. I will not argue with you.

Sir, 12 is a very important number. क्योंकि अगले साल तक, 12 ...(Interruptions)... I completely sympathise with the situation today in Andhra Pradesh. ...(Interruptions).. I completely sympathise with Andhra Pradesh. ...(Interruptions)... My friends, we are with you. ...(Interruptions)... We are with you. We know that you have been deprived. Do not deprive me by making this loud noise in my turn. We can work it out together. I have openly said that we are with you. If you still want to speak, that is your democratic right. Twelve is an important number. क्योंकि इस साल से पहले तक 12 घंटे बजट स्पीच होती थी। मेरी हिन्दी खराब है और बांग्ला ठीक है, लेकिन मैं आज हिन्दी में बोलने की ट्राई करूंगा। पहले 12 घंटे बजट स्पीच होती थी और लगभग 12 घंटे ही रेलवे बजट पर चर्चा होती थी। अब तो रेलवे बजट आउट हो गया है। मैं बजट पर कम बोलूंगा और रेलवे बजट, जिस पर पहले 12 घंटे डिस्कशन होता था, मैं उसके ऊपर बोलूंगा।

महोदय, ओपनिंग बैट्समैन, अपोजिशन के श्री पी. चिदम्बरम जी से मैं एक्सपीरियंस लूंगा, क्योंकि उन्होंने 12 प्रश्न फाइनैस मिनिस्टर से पूछे। मैं उसी सत्र को पकड़ कर 12 प्रश्न रेल मंत्री से पूछूंगा, because the Railway Minister has to answer these questions. These are hard questions. There will be no politics. There will be no rhetoric. मेरा पहला प्रश्न यह है कि आपने जो operating ratio publish किया है, तो उसमें operating ratio 95 per cent दिखा रहा है, लेकिन यह operating ratio गलत है, क्योंकि सुरेश प्रभु जी ने जब बजट प्रेजेंट किया था, तो उनका revenue का टारगेट ₹ 1,90,000 crore था और जब जेटली जी ने next time बजट present किया, तो ₹ 1,72,000 crore बोला है, लेकिन actual figure घट कर ₹ 1,59,000 crore हुई। तो यह गलत फिगर आ गयी थी, अभी पक्का हो गया है। My first question is this. I challenge this figure of 94 for operating ratio. The figure is in excess of 100 per cent. I am willing to be proved wrong on the floor of this House.

दूसरा प्रश्न capital expenditure के बारे में है। महोदय, expenditure दो किस्म का होता है— एक capital expenditure और दूसरा revenue expenditure. मैं एक सिम्पल उदाहरण दूंगा। हावड़ा से डानकुनी रेलवे लाइन रिपेयर होनी थी। A line has to be repaired. Then, the GM can repair the line because if he does not repair the line, there may be an accident. So, for the revenue expenditure, this money is used.

इसके आगे 5,000 करोड़ का Depreciation Reserve Fund नामक एक फंड था। वहां से यह खर्चा होता। उस 5,000 करोड़ वाले फंड के बारे में मेरा प्रश्न है कि क्यों इसे 5,000 करोड़ से घटाकर 500 करोड़ कर दिया गया? Why has the Depreciation Reserve Fund been reduced from ₹ 5,000 crore to ₹ 500 crore? Chances of accidents are there. But, now, you have to get it approved from Delhi. This is a serious issue. Let me know. They may be using the Sanraksha Account of ₹ 20,000 crore there. I don't know. I am asking this question. Please answer this question.

मेरा तीसरा प्रश्न वर्ष 2000 से 2014 तक रेलवे के CAGR (Compounded Annual Growth Rate) के बारे में है। यह साल 2014 में 6 प्रतिशत था। मैंने कैलकुलेट किया, तो यह CAGR

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

(Compounded Annual Growth Rate) लास्ट साढ़े तीन साल में घट कर अब 2 per cent हो गया। तो यह 2 per cent क्यों हुआ, आप यह हम लोगों को बताइए, हम लोग सुनेंगे।

मेरा चौथा प्रश्न है कि people always say here that all Rail Budgets would be political, that they would make political statements. It may be so. The BJP came and told us that it is not; you merge the two Budgets and there would be no politics. लेकिन यह पोलिटिक्स तो होनी है। जब पोलिटिक्स कर रहे हैं, तो कम से कम बता दीजिए कि पोलिटिक्स कर रहे हैं। आप यह देख लीजिए कि उत्तराखंड का budget allotment extra 170 per cent है। Rajasthan is 30 per cent plus over last year. यह गुजरात का देखिए। ठीक है, गुजरात को हमेशा मिलता है। यह 20 per cent है। We are happy. मध्य प्रदेश का 20 per cent है। अब Opposition-ruled States का देखिए। मैं तीन States के बारे में बताऊंगा— Delhi, Kerala and West Bengal. It is not plus, not zero; it is minus 40 per cent, minus 23 per cent and minus 40 per cent. क्यों? यह मैं पोलिटिक्स नहीं कर रहा हूं, मैं solid numbers से दे रहा हूं। मैं बैठ कर आंसर भी सुनूंगा।

Sir, then, I come to my fifth question. इतना डेवलपमेंट हो रहा है, रेलवे-रेलवे कहा जा रहा है, तो इसमें मेरी तीन फिगर्स हैं। आपने एक साल में 800 किलोमीटर new railway lines का promise किया, लेकिन आपने कितना पूरा किया-400 किलोमीटर। Gauge conversion के बारे में आपने 900 किलोमीटर का प्रॉमिस किया, लेकिन आपने 550 किलोमीटर पूरा किया और doubling के बारे में आपने 1,800 किलोमीटर पूरा किया और doubling के बारे में आपने 1,800 किलोमीटर का प्रॉमिस किया, लेकिन आपने 900 किलोमीटर पूरा किया। तो यह 50 per cent का shortfall क्यों हो रहा है? मैं पूछना चाहता हूं।

Next is my sixth question. Is the Railway on the Union List or is it on the State List or is it on the Concurrent List? यह तो 7th Class में Civics पढ़ने वाला कोई बच्चा भी बता देगा कि it is on the Union List. My sixth question is: Why then is the Railway asking the State Governments to bear the cost of infrastructure? What happens to the North-East States? What happens to the poor States? यह 'फेंकू फेडरलिज्म' नहीं चलेगा। यह नहीं चलेगा, because simple point is that the State Governments must not bear. It is a Central subject. Next you will ask the Bengal Government to provide you for the Defence Budget also.

सर, मेरा सातवां प्रश्न बुलेट ट्रेन्स के बारे में है। All of us want technology. हम सब को बुलेट ट्रेन्स चाहिए। मुम्बई से अहमदाबाद नहीं चाहिए, लेकिन अमित भाई हैं, इसलिए he will be happy that it is from Mumbai to Ahmedabad. It does not make us so happy but it does not matter. Someone is happy. That's good. But where is the point in respect of the Bullet Train? We want the Bullet Train. Why are we opposed to the Bullet Train? We are not opposed to the Bullet Train. We are opposed to the alternative. To build one kilometre of Bullet Train, 180 करोड़ रुपये लगते हैं, ये conservative estimates हैं। जबकि dedicated freight corridor बनाने के लिए, जिसके जरिए आलू जाएगा,

सब्जी जाएगी, चीजें जाएंगी, लगभग 23 करोड़ रुपए लगते हैं। आप बताइए कि यह डिजीजन क्यों लिया to make the bullet train first and not take up the dedicated freight corridor. You might tell me because Japan gave a loan to us. We can have another debate on how bad that loan was.

मेरा प्रश्न संख्या 8 है about policy. हमारी पार्टी तृणमूल की clear policy है। Railway में social responsibility, commercial viability — ये दोनों साथ चलते हैं। इस बारे में आपकी policy क्या है, वह बताइए, क्योंकि पूरे बंगाल में और यह सिर्फ बंगाल ही नहीं, हर स्टेट ने विट्टी लिखी है and said that they would stop eight Railway routes in Bengal. Why, because they are not profitable routes. Please look through. All the other MPs check your own States. My direct question is this. What is the policy of this Government on commercial viability? Will they not take into account social responsibility?

Sir, my ninth question is this. Everyone is talking about jobs.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You have only two minutes. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, if you ask me to sit down, I will sit down now. ...(*Interruptions*)... Because I have some points. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Yes, go on. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We are waiting. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is very unfair. ...(*Interruptions*)... So many Members are waiting since yesterday. ...(*Interruptions*)... You just cannot curtail the time like that. ...(*Interruptions*)... We are prepared to sit late like yesterday. ...(*Interruptions*)... Kindly do not curtail the time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Others are waiting. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let the debate go on. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Yes, we will go on. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: All of us are waiting. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We will wait till 10 o'clock. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Yes, we would like to wait. ...(*Interruptions*)... Do not curtail the time. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am in my flow. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, my ninth question is about safety. We are talking about jobs. Everyone wants jobs. Why are

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

the Railway Minister, the Finance Minister, the Pradhan Mantri not trying to generate jobs? Sir, 1,25,000 safety jobs are vacant in the Indian Railways. ...(Interruptions)... उन्हें तो कम-से-कम भर दो, as 1,25,000 jobs are vacant.

My tenth question is about Swachh Bharat. It is a good idea. In Bengal, we call it something else but it is doing very, very well. It is the best in the whole country. If you like Swachh Bharat so much, Mamata Di had given a Vision 2020 document. She wanted bio-toilets. My direct question to the Railway Minister, the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister is this. In your reply, please tell us how many bio-toilets in the Indian Railways you have started and in the next three years, that is, 2022 when you will finish because everything is for 2022.

Sir, my eleventh question to the Railway Minister, the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister is this. When you give zero allocation to a project, does that mean the project is over? We need to know that because there are many projects across the States which have zero allocation.

Sir, my last point is twelfth point. Then, I have one more point and then I am done. ...(Interruptions)... We are all with you with Andhra Pradesh. You have to move now from that side. Come over to this side soon. You will be better but we will talk ...(Interruptions)... I should not ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Your time is going by.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we have done some study for Bengal but Bengal is only one State. I would request all the hon. MPs, senior to me also, to study not the figure which has been given to you कि कितना मिला, percentage of total project cost जो है, उसकी तुलना में क्या मिला, because that is where all the jugglery is happening. In Bengal, you might say, 'Oh! You have got ₹ 4,500 crores or ₹ 5,000 crores this year.' In is only eleven per cent of the total allocation. I would request all the States not to be cheated by this *feku* federalism. You have to look at the percentage. The way this is happening, on this transport, I would say one line, "Please do not do to the Air India, what you have already done to the Indian Railways." Otherwise 5-7 साल बाद, again we will be discussing Air India, which is a great treasure of this country. Do not sell Air India. Do not sell it, you must improve it.

Sir, my last point, before I end, is this. We told you about demonetization, we warned you about GST. You were sitting there – not you Sir – the BJP was sitting there. They opposed GST. They came here and they are for GST. That is okay. We are always in the middle; that is why, we are consistent. The serious point on GST, Sir, is this. The Trinamool has always been for GST right from our manifesto in

2004 but here are the three points on the GST and, then, I conclude. We told you in July not to implement GST but *jabardasti* you wanted to do GST. You did the GST. Now, what is the situation? These are three crucial numbers on GST after my twelfth question. The first number; we have the Finance Minister – I have left the Railway Minister alone, let him go into his homework and come back through the Finance Minister and answer— and there are three questions to the Finance Minister. You kept a provision of ₹ 55,000 crores of money to be compensated to the States and you can allow 10 per cent this way or that way. Now, here is the bad number. आपने बजट में 55,000 करोड़ रुपये का प्रोविजन रखा है। अगर छः महीने में compensation की figure ₹ 40,000 crores plus हो गयी, तो मेरा असान-सा prediction यह है कि next छः महीने में वह 40,000 और 40,000 मिला कर 80,000 करोड़ हो जाएगा, लेकिन आपने बजट में केवल 55,000 करोड़ का प्रोविजन रखा है। इसलिए मेरा प्रश्न है कि बाकी के 25,000 करोड़ आप कहां से नोट छाप कर लाएंगे? ...(समय की घंटी)... Right.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, समाप्त कीजिए।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, there are two more points on GST. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please finish. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, there are two more points on GST. ...(Interruptions)...

I am looking for answers. I am not doing any political speech but I am making a... ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Yes, you are making genuine points.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Now, the next point is on e-way bill. सर, e-way bill का concept क्या है? Truck, when it goes into the State, it should have the e-way bill and drive through the whole State, no checkpoint. बंगाल में कोई चेक प्वाइंट नहीं है, because 100 per cent ...(Interruptions)... I will send you because you have lots of answers to do. बंगाल में कोई चेक प्वाइंट नहीं है, क्योंकि वहां 100 परसेंट e-governance होने के कारण 100 परसेंट e-way bill जाता है। It is self-declared. In Bengal, it is self-declared. Now, all the truck operators are getting very upset because the e-way bill concept it not working. The only way to do this is by following the full e-way system. ...(Interruptions)... I end by giving you figures on GST. जीएसटी, जितना हायर नम्बर रहेगा, उतना खराब और जितना लोअर नम्बर होगा, उतना अच्छा। तो loss due to GST, हमारे बंगाल में lowest loss 580 करोड़ है, जबकि गुजरात का loss 1,100 करोड़, बिहार का loss 1,000 करोड़ और कर्नाटक का loss 2,000 करोड़ है। So, the system is not ready for GST. I have asked the Finance Minister and the Prime Minister, with the help of the Railway Minister, to answer my twelve questions and I have given you some points. ...(Time Bell rings)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Now, please finish it ...**(Interruptions)**... No, it is way too much ...**(Time Bell rings)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I am finishing. ...**(Interruptions)**... My last thought is, we were told by this BJP Government that they were elected four years ago and for 55 years, the Congress Party didn't do anything and that is why, they got elected. We use to say the same thing in West Bengal. For 34 years, the CPM didn't do anything and that is why, they got elected. Okay, they will elect you once. For 2016, when we got re-elected, we got re-elected on our work. You have to, if you want the people to believe you. For the first time, it is easy but you have to show development, real development and get re-elected on your work.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, धन्यवाद। अब आप बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री देरेक ओब्राईम: धन्यवाद, सर।

रेल मंत्री (श्री पीयूष गोयल): सर, बाकी तो इन्होंने काफी चीजें कहीं, लेकिन जनता को गुमराह करने की ...**(व्यवधान)**... कोशिश हो रही है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Don't interfere. ...**(Interruptions)**... He is not yielding also. ...**(Interruptions)**... आप बाद में बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... You speak after him. ...**(Interruptions)**... Yes, silence please. ...**(Interruptions)**... वे खड़े हैं। उनके बैठने के बाद intervene कर सकते हैं, बीच में नहीं कर सकते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बैठ जाइए।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I only have one request.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You sit down. ...**(Interruptions)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I have raised twelve questions. At the right time, I am willing to listen, even wait till 11'o clock in the night, for the answers. I have not done any politics. I have asked twelve questions, answer my twelve questions, answer Shri Chidambaram's twelve questions. ...**(Interruptions)**... That will be twenty four questions, a lot of homework to be done. आप आंसर दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद। ठीक है, अब आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: सर, हर बात का जवाब है, कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, पर एक स्पेसिफिक इश्यू, जिसमें लोगों को गुमराह करने की कोशिश की जा रही है, उसके बारे में मैंने सोचा कि वह जरूर बता दूं। इन्होंने यह एक विषय उठाया कि वेस्ट बंगाल में कोई आठ ट्रेनें बन्द कर दी गई हैं। यह विषय उठाया गया है और ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): उन्होंने नहीं बोला है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I did not say. ...**(Interruptions)**... I did not say. ...**(Interruptions)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): No, no. Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: मैं यह विषय खत्म तो कर दूँ। यह पब्लिक एकाउंट्स कमेटी जो मेरी बनाई हुई नहीं है, यह एक पार्लियामेंट की कमेटी है। इस कमेटी ने इन लाइनों को non-viable पाया और चूँकि इस कमेटी ने एक रिपोर्ट में इन लाइनों को non-viable कहा, तो लोकल जनरल मैनेजर, ने उसकी जानकारी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को देकर कहा कि इन रूटों में ट्रेन संचालन से हो रहे नुकसान में राज्य सरकार कुछ पैसा कंट्रीब्यूट करे तो उन ट्रेनों को चलाने में सुविधा होगी? यह परम्परा कोई मैंने या इस सरकार ने शुरू नहीं की। माननीया ममता बनर्जी जब रेल मंत्री थीं, तब भी ऐसी चिट्ठियाँ इश्यू की गई हैं। यह एक प्रक्रिया है पार्लियामेंट की, जो पी.ए.सी. की रिपोर्ट के ऊपर जनरल मैनेजर इश्यू करता है और उसके ऊपर मेरे colleague मनोज सिन्हा जी ने वहाँ जाकर आश्वस्त किया कि कोई ट्रेन बंद नहीं हो रही, तो बिना बात के इश्यू उठाकर कोई लाभ नहीं है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, धन्यवाद। Now, I have an announcement to make.

Hon. Members, on 7th February, Shri Derek O'Brien Member had raised an issue of not showing on Rajya Sabha T.V. first four to six minutes of his speech in Rajya Sabha on the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address and demanded that the matter be inquired into. He was supported by some other Members and the Leader of the Opposition. The Chair assured the agitating Members that the matter will be inquired into. Accordingly, a preliminary inquiry was conducted and it was found that there was a break in the live transmission of the Rajya Sabha from ...*(Interruptions)*... 1314 hours to 1318 hours—four minutes, when Shri Derek O'Brien was speaking due to power failure. After the transmission resumed, the incident was regretted by the Rajya Sabha T.V. through a scroll. It was also flashed that the entire speech of Shri Derek O'Brien would be telecast in the evening at 2015 hours. Accordingly, the entire speech of Shri Derek O'Brien was telecast on the Rajya Sabha T.V. at 2015 hours. Hon. Chairman has, however, ordered a detailed inquiry into the matter.

Now, Shri Narendra Kumar Swain; not present. Shri C.P. Narayanan. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN: Sir, I want to speak only on four points.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You have four minutes.

SHRI C. P. NARAYANAN (Kerala): Sir, in the Centrally-sponsored schemes, the Central Government's share has been reduced and the State Governments are given the burden. ...*(Interruptions)*... Every State is being burdened with, whether it is education, health or other areas. This is one point that I want to mark. The second point is, for SC/ST, we used to allot from the Budget an amount proportional to their population in the country. Now, when the Five Year Plan has gone, NITI

[Shri C. P. Narayanan]

Aayog has brought a different scheme and because of that, every year, the allocation for SC/ST is going down very steeply affecting various programmes, which have to be implemented in their favour. My third point is regarding education and health. We claim that we are a country which has got the maximum number of young population. This is an advantage for us. But unless we educate them, feed them and keep them in good health this youth will become a burden on us. This is what is happening. The Right to Education Act, which is being implemented since a decade, has become very ineffective because every year budget allocation for the education is proportionately decreasing. Because of that, our claim that we can develop our youth as our major source of income, major source of wealth of the country in the coming decades has become a complete failure.

Regarding agriculture, my esteemed colleagues have spoken. Even though the Budget allocation is more than ₹ 13 lakh crores, actually it is ₹ 2.38 lakh crores only. More than ₹ 11.25 lakh crores are in the form of loans only. This amount has not been reflected in the Budget. It is the money given by the various banks but it is shown as given in the budget to the people. It is happening. Actually, the allocation for agriculture in the Budget is getting decreased year after. Because of these reasons, the farmers' suicides are increasing in various parts of the country. Unless we correct these mistakes our future will be very bleak. So, I think, a complete reversal of the policies of the Government regarding the Budget allocation is necessary. With these words, I conclude my speech. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद। श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण।

You have got three minutes, but I will give you five minutes.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Thank you so much, Sir. the senior Members have already made very eloquent points on economics, agriculture, railways, health plan, etc. Sir, with the limited time available, I will constrain myself only to dedicate my intervention for the children of the country, who are important stakeholders of India. Sir, this is for five reasons; one is the children under the age of 18 constitute 40 per cent of our population. They are voiceless. They are the hope of tomorrow. Last but not the least, I feel, it would be a befitting thing to do for all of us here on the 50th Anniversary of the Convention of Child Rights to which India is a signatory. In the Budget, there is always a hope that 6 per cent of the GDP is used for the education sector. However, it never happens. In spite of the reduced meager outlay, the Government has made some very welcome steps. But there are also some announcements which have been made which put us to doubt whether these will really see the light of the day. At the outset, I would like

to congratulate the Government for having taken steps to treat education holistically without segmentation from pre-nursery to class two. Sir, during the discussion on the National Education Policy, the Nationalist Congress Party was very emphatic that the Right to Education should have a backward and forward extension; backward from 0 to 6 because that is when the brain really develops, and later from 14 to later, we are all grassroot workers, we have realized that when the girl child finishes her primary education, 7th standard, most of the time, in the Government schools, she is married off. Once she is married off we know that she becomes a mother, and the child is malnourished, she becomes anaemic, and then, the entire family is pushed into impoverishment. Personally for me, the merging of primary and secondary education is one of the biggest highlights of the budget and, therefore, I would like to congratulate the Government. But it is worrying to see that though this holistic approach has been taken, there are different outlays for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and Rashtriya Madyamik Shiksha Abhiyan. Actually, if the intention of the Government was to merge the two, then the Budget provisions should have been together.

Secondly, the Government has announced the Eklavya Model Residential School. Surprisingly, they are not able to find the budgetary allocation in the school education budget. The Model Schools would see the light of day in 2022. As somebody has said before, whatever is not to be done is projected to be done in 2022. So, we really don't know whether it would see the light of day. On the one hand, the Budget talks about setting up of this chain of schools; on the other side, it cuts allocations of Kendriya Vidyalayas and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas. In fact, as far as the higher education space is concerned, the total budgetary allocation for IITs has been decreased from ₹ 8,244 crores to ₹ 6,326 crores in 2018-19. There is a cut in the allocations for IIMs and the UGC. Education spending of the present Government in terms of total share of Central Budget has come down in the last four years. In 2015-16, it was 5.44 per cent; it came down to 4.68, then to 3.71 and now, this year, to 3.48 per cent, which is very, very alarming.

Then, Sir, the Government has laid stress on the use of technology in schools, leading us from blackboards to digital boards. It is, indeed, a welcome step. But if we do a reality check, the study reveals that only 62 per cent of all schools have electricity connections; 24 per cent have functional computers and nine per cent have an electricity connection and functional computers. Sir, one wonders how the operation of digital boards would take off. Even here, the School Education Budget document makes no mention of how this would be funded. In fact, it would be interesting to note that the budget for Digital India, e-learning, has come down from ₹ 518 crores to ₹ 456 crores.

Sir, I wish to say that while pushing technology, we have to realize that we cannot

[Shrimati Vandana Chavan]

take the place of teachers who are in flesh and blood. On the one side, we see the use of technology and, on the other we see that today one million teachers' posts are lying vacant, nine lakh in elementary school and one lakh in secondary schools.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You have one minute left.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Teachers' training programmes have not taken off. Therefore, this needs to be looked into. We talk about inclusive education but, unfortunately, our teachers have not been trained to identify the disabled, children with learning disabilities and so on.

Sir, if you keep looking, I really feel under pressure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Also, Sir, it is very important that we have to be aware and sensitive about children's safety and the provisions of POCSO. Today, there are so many offences which are taking place against children, and it is very important that teachers know about provisions of the POCSO.

Sir, I would not touch upon health because I know I am running out of time, but here too, there is something that we really need to do because the budgetary allocation for health is merely five per cent higher than the earlier year.

I want to touch upon protection of children from abuse. This is very important. Sir, India is witness to increasing cruelty, abuse and violence against children. We know that the allocation for the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), which is mandated to investigate into instances of physical and psychological abuse, has been slashed...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): The time allotted to you is over.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Just one minute, Sir. Their Budget has been slashed down to 32 per cent.

Sir, I would just touch upon two points. Sir, the situation in the Observation Homes is very poor. They need our attention. I think the whole House has to join and make sure that the situation of the Observation Homes improves.

Climate change is one last issue which I feel has not been addressed by the Finance Minister. The Government should have made provisions because these children are the citizens of tomorrow and they need to live healthy lives. Thank you very much.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद, वंदना जी।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आज एक सदस्य बीमार हो चुके हैं। जो माननीय सदस्य खड़े हैं, उनमें से एक महिला सदस्य भी हैं, ऐसे तो ये बीमार हो जाएंगी, आप इस पर कोई decision लीजिए। यह अच्छा नहीं लगता है, आप इस समय चेयर पर बैठे हुए हैं और इस तरह से अन्य सदस्य खड़े रहें। ठीक है, उनकी अपनी पीड़ा है, आप उनके स्टेट के साथ ज्यादाती कर रहे हैं, तो उनके साथ ...(व्यवधान)... आप कुछ भी करिए। अगर किसी की तबीयत खराब हो गई ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): मैंने रमेश जी से कहा है कि कम से कम बहन जी बैठ तो जाएं। मैंने उनको बैठने के लिए कहा है। मैंने यह भी कहा है कि खड़ा रहना ठीक नहीं है और आप अपनी सीट पर बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: लेकिन ऐसे अगर कोई बात हो गई, तो जिन्दगी में इसका दोष आपके ऊपर जाएगा, क्योंकि चेयर पर आप बैठे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): हां, ठीक है।

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आप अपने ऊपर दोष क्यों ले रहे हैं? आप इसका कोई समाधान निकालिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री राम कुमार कश्यप आपके पास बोलने के लिए तीन मिनट का समय है।

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने एक फरवरी को बजट प्रस्तुत करना था, उससे एक दिन पहले मैं विचार कर रहा था कि वित्त मंत्री जी बजट में क्या लाने वाले हैं। मेरे मन में अचानक विचार आया कि कई सालों से एम.पी.जे. के वेतन का मामला अटका पड़ा था, मैंने मन बना रखा था कि अबकी बार एम.पी.जे. के वेतन और भत्तों के बारे में, मैं सदन में मांग रखूंगा। माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने पहले ही एम.पी.जे. के वेतन और भत्तों का प्रावधान कर दिया है और इसके लिए मैं वित्त मंत्री जी को सैल्यूट कर दिया है, यह इसलिए नहीं कि उन्होंने वेतन और भत्तों का प्रोविजन किया है, बल्कि उन्होंने कितने अच्छे तरीके से प्रोविजन किया है कि हर पांच साल बाद एम.पी.जे. की सैलरीज रिवाइज हो जाएगी। वह तो इसको दूसरे तरीके से भी कर सकते थे कि इतना एम.पी.जे. का वेतन होगा, इतना उनका भत्ता होगा, जैसे कि राष्ट्रपति जी के बारे में किया है, परन्तु वित्त मंत्री जी ऐसी घोषणा करते, तो हमारे मीडिया के जो साथी हैं, वे उसको इतना उछाल देते, वे मोटे-मोटे अक्षरों में लिख देते कि एम.पी.जे. ने अपना वेतन बढ़ा लिया और किसी को कुछ नहीं दिया है। इसके लिए मैं वित्त मंत्री जी का धन्यवाद करता हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, राष्ट्र के निर्माण में किसानों का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। यह किसानों की ही मेहनत है, जिसके कारण आज हम अनाज के मामले में आत्मनिर्भर हैं, परन्तु खुद किसान की आर्थिक स्थिति कमजोर हो गयी है, क्योंकि आज खेती करना घाटे का सौदा हो गया है। बीज महंगा हो गया है, खाद महंगी हो गयी है, डीजल महंगा हो गया है और यहां तो बेमौसम बरसात से फसल खराब हो जाती है, इससे भी किसान की दयनीय स्थिति हो जाती है। किसान

[श्री राम कुमार कश्यप]

को उसकी फसल का उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलता है, इसलिए भी उसकी आर्थिक स्थिति खराब हो गयी है। वैसे तो माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी ने किसानों की खुशहाली के लिए, उनको राहत देने के लिए कई घोषणाएं की हैं, उसमें सबसे मुख्य बात यह है कि सरकार ने किसानों की उत्पादन लागत का डेढ़ गुना समर्थन मूल्य देने का वायदा किया है। यह जो वायदा किया है, आने वाली गर्मियों में जो फसलें आएंगी, जो खरीफ की फसल है, उसके लिए वायदा किया है। मैंने अखबारों में पढ़ा है कि जो समर्थन मूल्य है, जो सर्दियों की फसलें हैं, जो रबी की फसलें हैं, उनको समर्थन मूल्य बढ़ाने का काम तो पहले ही कर दिया है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह जानना चाहूंगा कि हमारी जो सर्दियों की फसलें हैं, क्या उनको भी डेढ़ गुना समर्थन मूल्य दे दिया गया है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहूंगा कि आने वाले समय में धान का समर्थन मूल्य क्या होगा, जैसे पिछले साल धान का समर्थन मूल्य 1,590 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल रेट था, अगर पिछले साल की ही लागत को मान लिया जाए, तो अब आने वाले समय में जो डेढ़ गुना समर्थन मूल्य देने का वायदा किया गया है, वह कितना हो जाएगा? जैसा कि भूपेंद्र यादव जी कहा कि जो भूमिहीन किसान खेत को ठेके पर लेकर, लीज पर लेकर खेती करते हैं, उनको 30,000 से लेकर 50,000 तक में ठेके पर लेना पड़ता है, उनको भी समस्या आती है। इस बार यह प्रावधान किया गया है कि उनको सस्ते ऋण की सुविधा मिलेगी, यह सरकार का बहुत अच्छा फैसला है। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस प्रकार से किसानों को क्रेडिट कार्ड मिलते हैं, क्या भूमिहीन किसानों को, लीज पर खेती करते हैं, उनको भी उसी प्रकार से क्रेडिट कार्ड मिलेंगे?

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं हरियाणा से संबंध रखता हूं। हरियाणा में जो एसएलवाई है, उसकी बड़ी समस्या है। आप जानते हैं कि फसल के उत्पादन के लिए पानी की बहुत जरूरत होती है। अगर फसल को समय से पानी नहीं मिलेगा, तो फसल पैदा नहीं हो सकती है। हरियाणा को एसएलवाई का पानी नहीं मिलने से किसान परेशान हैं, एसएलवाई का पानी दक्षिण हरियाणा के किसानों को नहीं मिल रहा है। हरियाणा में लगातार भूजल का स्तर गिरने से पानी का संकट उत्पन्न हो गया है। हरियाणा एक ऐसा राज्य है, जो गेहूं एवं धान के मामले में पंजाब के बाद सबसे बड़ा योगदान कर रहा है। लेकिन पानी की विकट समस्या के कारण हरियाणा का किसान स्वयं को लाचार महसूस कर रहा है। एसएलवाई पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट का फैसला आने के बाद भी पंजाब हरियाणा के कि का पानी नहीं दे रहा है। अतः मेरी इस मामले में केंद्र सरकार से अपील है कि वह इस समस्या का हल निकाल कर हरियाणा के हिस्से का पानी दिलवाने का काम करें ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, आप समाप्त करिए।

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: ताकि हरियाणा के किसानों को खेती के सिंचाई के लिए पानी मिल सके। महोदय, एक मिनट और लूंगा। महोदय, वित्त मंत्री जी ने 600 रेलवे स्टेशनों को आधुनिक बनाने की घोषणा की है। मैं उन्हें धन्यवाद देता हूं और चूंकि मैं कुरुक्षेत्र, हरियाणा से आता हूं, उनसे मांग करता हूं कि कुरुक्षेत्र रेलवे स्टेशन को भी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय लेवल की सुविधा दी जाए क्योंकि कुरुक्षेत्र एक धार्मिक और ऐतिहासिक जगह है। यहां पर भगवान कृष्ण ने गीता का उपदेश दिया और कौरव पांडवों का युद्ध हुआ। यहां पर ब्रह्म सरोवर है, जोकि एशिया का सबसे बड़ा तालाब है और यहां सूर्य ग्रहण के समय लाखों श्रद्धालु स्नान करते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद।

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: सर, अंत में एक कविता की कुछ पंक्तियां उद्धृत करना चाहूंगा—

“पसीने की स्याही से जो लिखते हैं इरादों को,

उनके मुकद्दर के सफेद पन्ने कोरे नहीं होते।

ख्वाहिश बस इतनी सी है कि लोग मेरे लफ्जों को समझें,

आरजू यह नहीं कि लोग वाह-वाह करें।”

धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री डी. राजा। आपके लिए 3 मिनट का समय है।

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, if you do not want me to speak, I will not speak. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आप बैठिए।

SHRI D. RAJA: You take the sense of the House. ...(Interruptions)... You take the sense of the House. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: सर, मैं आंध्र प्रदेश के agitated Members की बात कर रहा हूँ। सर, जब आपने यह परंपरा बनायी है कि आप disturbed House में बहस करा रहे हैं, तो कम-से-कम इन्हें कुर्सी allow करा कर नई परंपरा शुरू कर दीजिए।

SHRI D. RAJA: You take the sense of the House. ...(Interruptions)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, बैठिए। श्री डी. राजा जी, बोलिए।

SHRI D. RAJA: Thank you, Sir. Before I speak on the Budget, I would like to make it very clear that my party expressed its solidarity with the people of Andhra Pradesh. Politically, morally I am obliged, I am committed to support the demand of the people of Andhra Pradesh. Sir, the Prime Minister made a speech in this House and he has admitted that the Government is a continuing one. If that is so, the present Government should honour the promises, assurances given by the previous Government, given by the then Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, at the time of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh, now the newly-emerged State of Andhra Pradesh. So, I express my solidarity; I give my support. Sir, coming to the Budget, this Budget is the reflection of Government's thinking, how the Government is going to generate revenue, how the Government is going to distribute, redistribute the wealth that is being created in this country. Sir, I find this Government suffers from ideological,

[Shri D. Raja]

philosophical bankruptcy and it suffers from ideological, philosophical hypocrisy. Why and how, I give the reasons. Sir, this is the Economic Survey given by the Government. Page 10 of the Economic Survey talks about IT. Now the IT sector is confronting governance challenges as its model of providing low cost programming for foreign clients comes under threat from rapid technological change. If they have stopped there, I have no problem, but, they go beyond that. So, one might say that India has moved from crony socialism to stigmatized capitalism. What is crony socialism, Sir? What is stigmatized capitalism? Does the Government have any understanding of it? This is why I am saying that you are suffering from ideological bankruptcy; you are suffering from ideological hypocrisy. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is what I am saying. If you talk about stigmatized capitalism, what do you mean by stigmatized capitalism? It is you who are building crony capitalism, corporate capitalism in this country. That is what your Budget reflects. ...*(Interruptions)*... You listen to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Mr. Raja, you talk to me ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't tell them.

SHRI D. RAJA: Okay. This is my first observation about this Budget. What is the revenue generation? What is the attempt by this Government for revenue generation? That is the primary objective of Budget. Budget is meant for revenue generation. What is the Government's approach? The Government says—corporate tax will be reduced to 25 per cent for companies which have a total turnover of ₹ 250 crores.' It means, by this, the revenue foregone is ₹ 7,000 crores. It does not end there. Revenue foregone means, it is a profit to the corporate houses. Sir, there are companies and industries, that got benefitted by the corporate income tax, excise duty and customs duty, which do not invest in labour intensive or job creating activities, but still the Government continues to dole them out of concessions. Sir, this is despite the fact, there is no reduction in corporate income tax or excise duty or customs duty. So, the revenue foregone would be definitely more than ₹ 2,45,000 crores. This goes to corporate houses as concessions. If you want to challenge me, you challenge in Parliament or outside Parliament. If you want to challenge, we will challenge each other and this is what you are doing. Revenue foregone means what? You are doling out concessions to the corporate houses and you are making them move further. Sir, this is my first accusation. This is the wrong number one this Government is committing. The former Finance Minister, Shri Chidambaram talked about triple *jhumlas*. I am talking triple wrongs. The first wrong is... ...*(Interruptions)*... This is what I am saying.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Rajaji, only six persons are there. You have got three minutes. Already five minutes are over.

SHRI D. RAJA: Yes, Sir, we will extend. Take the sense of the House if you are so keen. Since yesterday we have been waiting.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): It is true, but I am telling you your time.

SHRI D. RAJA: I agree, Sir. I respect the Chair. You are very seasoned, senior Parliament Member. That is why I am asking. If I don't speak sense, you tell me; I will sit down.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You complete in two minutes.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, the second blunder I consider is, for revenue generation, this Government talks about disinvestment of public sector undertakings. Already the Finance Minister has pointed out 24 public sector undertakings. Sir, it means privatization. You talk about developing infrastructure, but you are talking about privatization of Railways, many key operations of Railways will be privatized under PPP model and you are talking about privatization of Air India and Air India can emerge as one of the best airlines in the world. It has expertise. It has experienced manpower and it has infrastructure, but why do you want to sell Air India which is the pride of the nation. It is a national air carrier and you want to sell it off and you want to break it into four and you want to sell it one by one. What is this approach? That is where I think this Government's approach is very flawed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

You talk to the Chair. If you have any point, talk to the Chair. I am addressing the House.

श्री तपन कुमार सेन (पश्चिमी बंगाल): आपने घाटा देखा है, हिसाब किया? ...*(व्यवधान)*... किसको घाटा बोलते हैं, कुछ समझते हैं? ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आपस में बात नहीं करनी है, इनको बोलने दीजिए।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I am not talking about infrastructure only. What is the Government going to do with Railways, Air India, Defence and other infrastructure? I want to ask you about FDI in Defence production. How does it strengthen the national sovereignty? I am asking you about FDI. What about the Indian corporate houses? They are allowed to go out and invest wherever they can for their profit. But, you are begging before foreigners to come and make in India. You are pleading

[Shri D. Raja]

with other foreign companies, that too in Defence production! You are closing down all our Ordnance factories! You are closing down all our Defence units! And, you are inviting FDI into our Defence production! Is it alright? I am asking the Government. Sir, it just does not stop there. You are privatizing education! You are privatizing healthcare! What is the National Health Protection Scheme you are talking about? Is it not to help foreign and private insurance companies? You are not investing enough money on public health and on public education. What is the condition of our schools? What have you allocated for these in this Budget? You think it over. I am asking the hon. Finance Minister. What is the allocation in the Budget for education as a whole? It has gone down. And, what is the allocation for school education? What is the allocation for higher education? What is the allocation for public health? I am asking you. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... We are talking about our people becoming poorer and poorer because they have to spend more on education and healthcare. Is this what we are talking about?

Sir, finally, I wish to speak about the youth of this country. The Government talks about employment. As per the ILO Report, 77 per cent of workers in India will have vulnerable jobs by 2019; I am not talking about 2020 or 2022 which the Government talks about. I am talking about the next year — 2019. Sir, 77 per cent of workers in India will have vulnerable jobs. The Report further says that 18.9 million people will be unemployed by 2019. Added to that, if 77 per cent workers have vulnerable jobs, it would be an alarming situation. Do you understand the gravity of the situation? It is not just unemployment; it is also a question of under-employment. This Budget did not address these issues!

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद।

SHRI D. RAJA: I come to economic inequality. The hon. Prime Minister went to Davos to address the World Economic Forum. I felt happy. Sir, the Indian Prime Minister, for the first time, went to the World Economic Forum and addressed it. I felt happy. I have no problem with that. But, the problem here is this. The annual Oxfam Survey released recently. What it says? This is what the Government should understand. It says that richest 1 per cent cornered 73 per cent of wealth generated in this country. Why this inequality? Why is this economic inequality?

THE VICE-CHIRMAN (SHRI BASAVARAJ PATIL): Okay, Mr. Raja. Please, conclude. I have extended your time thrice.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I will finish. Oxfam India CEO, Ms. Nisha Agrawal, says that it is alarming that the benefits of economic growth continue to concentrate in fewer hands. She also said that the billionaire boom is not a sign of a thriving

economy but a symptom of a failing economic system. Those working hard, growing food for the nation, building infrastructure, working in factories are struggling to fund their children's education, buy medicines for family members and manage two meals a day. The growing divide undermines democracy and promotes corruption and cronyism. ...(*Interruptions*)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद डी. राजा जी।

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, this is what the Budget is all about.

Finally, I wish to speak about SC/ST. Allocation to SC/ST is not as per the directives of the erstwhile Planning Commission and the accepted norm. On the one hand, the Government claims that it is spending more on SC/ST, but, on the other, allocation to Scheduled Caste Component Plan and the Sub-Plan is very meager. And, there is no law and there is no directive from the Government to provide them adequate money which they need. This is what I am asking. This Budget is not a growth-oriented Budget. This Budget is a failure. This Budget is anti-poor. It does not help India to move forward and progress. This is my observation. Let the hon. Finance Minister reply. I will ask the hon. Finance Minister what he is going to say on all these issues. Thank you.

श्री राजीव शुक्ल (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सबसे पहली बात तो यह है कि बजट भाषण के सारे प्वाइंट्स तो राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण की चर्चा में ही डिस्कस हो गए हैं। राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में जो बातें नहीं थीं, जैसे किसानों के लिए जो एक योजना घोषित हुई थी और दूसरी हेल्थ स्कीम की योजना थी, ये दोनों बातें राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में नहीं थीं, बजट में थीं। राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण की चर्चा में इन बातों पर बहस हो गई और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने भी उनका जवाब दे दिया। इसलिए ये योजनाएं मिक्स, गड्डमगड्ड हो गईं। इन दोनों पर समझ में नहीं आ रहा कि क्या बोलें, क्या न बोलें!

महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं भी उन्हीं मुद्दों को उठाना चाहूंगा, जो चिदम्बरम जी, जयराम रमेश जी और दूसरे बाकी सदस्यों ने उठाए। आज की तारीख में किसान की हालत बहुत खराब है, आप कुछ भी कहें। आप कितना भी कहें कि यह कर दिया, वह कर दिया, लेकिन हालत यह है कि न तो किसान को उसकी उपज की कीमत मिल रही है, न उसको खाद-बीज उचित कीमत पर मिल रहा है और न उसकी एग्रीकल्चर से कमाई हो पा रही है। उसके लिए जो प्रभावकारी उपाय हैं — वे प्रभावकारी उपाय, जैसे खाद की कीमत को सस्ता करना, बीज की कीमत को सस्ता करना, सिंचाई की सुविधाएं बढ़ाना, उस तरफ इस बजट में कोई एलोकेशन नहीं है। इन्होंने जो कहा है कि हम डेढ़ गुना कर देंगे, उसकी लागत के ऊपर उसको पचास प्रतिशत देंगे, तो सवाल जो उठाया था, उसको मैं आम आदमी की भाषा में कहता हूँ कि उसकी लागत कौन तय करेगा? लागत तो ऑफीसर्स तय करेंगे, ब्यूरोक्रेट्स तय करेंगे, सरकार तय करेगी और वे कह देंगे कि आपकी लागत तो चार रुपए है, तो किसान कैसे बताएगा कि नहीं, साहब, लागत चार रुपए नहीं बल्कि दस रुपए है! आप तो चार रुपए के हिसाब से बढ़ा कर छह रुपए दे देंगे, जबकि

[श्री राजीव शुक्ल]

उसकी एक्युअली लागत तो आठ से दस रुपए के बीच में आएगी, तो वह कैसे दिखाएगा? यह एक बहुत बड़ा* है, जिसको वित्त मंत्री जी को स्पष्ट करना चाहिए कि जो लागत है, उसका बेस प्वाइंट क्या होगा, किस आधार पर उसका मूलभूत आधार बनेगा, यह तय होना चाहिए। हम तो कहते हैं कि आप सीधी घोषणा कर दो, जो आपके लिए बहुत आसान है कि जो मनमोहन सिंह जी की सरकार समर्थन मूल्य दे रही थी, वही हम देंगे। उससे किसान खुश हो जाएगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप ऐसा करने से बच रहे हैं, ऐसा करने से आप डर रहे हैं। यूपीए सरकार ने जो समर्थन मूल्य तय किया था, अगर आप कहेंगे कि वह हम करेंगे, तो आपकी भी वाहवाही हो जाएगी। इसमें कौनसी इज्जत घट जाएगी? ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह घोषणा आप वित्त मंत्री जी से करवा दें, क्योंकि आपका जो यह कृषि का है, मैं तो योजना आयोग में रहा हूँ, जो पहले 2.38 परसेंट था, वह 2.36 परसेंट होकर बजट में कम हो गया है, तो आप कहां से करेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): शुक्ल जी, आप ऐसा बोलिए कि यह सरकार कहां से करेगी! आप करके बोलेंगे, तो लगेगा कि आप उधर बात कर रहे हैं।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: महोदय, आपकी तरफ देखकर बोलूंगा। चार प्रतिशत जो ग्रोथ होनी थी, वह तो सपना हो गया। एग्रीकल्चर की ग्रोथ तीन प्रतिशत से नीचे की हो गई है, जिसको बढ़ाने का काम सरकार को करना चाहिए।

महोदय, हेल्थ स्कीम की योजना बहुत अच्छी योजना है। यदि यह सच में लागू हो जाए, तो उसका बहुत फायदा मिलेगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बोलो, लेकिन यहां न तो अमित शाह जी बैठे हैं, न मोदी जी हैं, कोई मंत्री नहीं बनाएगा, क्यों अपना टाइम बरबाद कर रहे हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मुझे चुपचाप सुन लीजिए। जब वे हों, तो बोलो, हम भी आपकी मदद करेंगे। अभी दोनों यहां नहीं हैं, न दोनों टीवी देख रहे हैं, इसलिए क्यों अपना गला खराब कर रहे हो? ख्वामखाह में टोरेक्स, कोरेक्स खानी पड़ेगी। इसलिए अभी आराम से बैठो। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): राजीव शुक्ल जी, अभी आपका एक मिनट है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: नहीं, एक मिनट कैसे हो सकता है? महोदय, तीन मिनट को तेरह मिनट। हमारा तो बहुत टाइम है, उसमें हमारा पंद्रह मिनट लिखा हुआ है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अभी आपका एक मिनट है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: राजा जी को तीन मिनट के तेरह मिनट दे दिए। मेरा जो पंद्रह मिनट है, उसके पैंतालीस मिनट होने चाहिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आप राजा जी से कम्पेयर मत कीजिए।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: कम्पेयर क्यों न करें? ऐसा मत कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मिनट में तो हमारी बात ही नहीं हो पाएगी। फिर हम भाषण देने के लिए क्यों खड़े हुए हैं? हमारा कांग्रेस पार्टी का टाइम बहुत बाकी है। आप देखिए, 31 मिनट बाकी हैं। आप क्या बात कर रहे हैं?

4.00 P.M.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आपके सात सदस्य बोलने को बाकी हैं।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: महोदय, इस तरह तो सारा टाइम बरबाद हो रहा है। तो यह जो स्वास्थ्य योजना है, एक अच्छी स्कीम है, लेकिन इसमें समस्या यह है कि इसका फायदा कहीं नर्सिंग होम्स न ले लें, कहीं डॉक्टर्स न ले लें, क्योंकि इसमें प्राइवेट नर्सिंग होम मिला हुआ है। या तो गवर्नमेंट हॉस्पिटल्स के लिए होता कि उनको वह पैसा जाएगा, तो काम हो सकता था। इसमें प्राइवेट नर्सिंग होम्स फर्जी बिल्स लगाएंगे और इसका पूरा फायदा बीमा कंपनियों से मिल कर लेंगे। इसलिए इसमें भी प्रीकॉशन लेने की बहुत जरूरत है। यदि संभव हो, तो इस पैसे को सीधे उसके खाते में ट्रांसफर किया जाए, जिससे उसका फायदा होगा, वर्ना क्या होगा कि दस करोड़ लोगों को अगर एक लाख रुपए भी देने पड़े तो दस लाख करोड़ रुपए का प्रोजेक्ट चाहिए। वह कहां से आएगा? इसलिए मुझे इसमें भी संदेह लग रहा है। फिस्कल डेफिसिट के बारे में सरकार की घोषणा थी कि तीन परसेंट से ऊपर कभी नहीं जाने देंगे, जो इस बार 3.5 परसेंट बजट में दिखाया गया है, इसके बारे में वित्त मंत्री जी कुछ स्पष्टीकरण दें, तो अच्छा रहेगा।

महोदय, महंगाई का जहां तक सवाल है, सभी यह सवाल पूछ रहे हैं, जैसा नीरज जी ने और सभी ने पूछा, कि विश्व बाजार में जो पेट्रोल और डीजल का दाम गिरा, उसका फायदा क्यों नहीं मिल पा रहा है? सर, आज की तारीख में इस समय दिल्ली में पेट्रोल की कीमत 75 रुपए प्रति लीटर है और डीजल 64 रुपए प्रति लीटर है। इससे महंगाई रुक ही नहीं सकती, क्योंकि इसका सीधा असर महंगाई पर पड़ता है। इसके लिए सरकार ने इतने दिनों में कुछ न कुछ किया, लेकिन अब consumer को कितना फायदा pass on होता है, वित्त मंत्री जी को यह बताने की कृपा जरूर करनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि exports क्यों down हो रहे हैं? अभी दावोस में भी प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने promise किया, लेकिन इसके बाद भी हमारा export 30 मिलियन से 23 मिलियन तक आ गया। यह क्यों down हो रहा है? इसकी वजह से बहुत समस्या आएगी। इसलिए इस तरफ भी सरकार को देखना चाहिए।

सर, एक बात, जो हमने बीच में वित्त मंत्री जी से पूछी थी कि फिक्की के सम्मेलन में Morgan Stanley ने कहा था कि 6 हजार entrepreneurs बाहर चले गए, यहां से परेशान होकर, क्योंकि उनको इतना तंग किया जा रहा है, विभाग के अधिकारीगण उनके पीछे इतना पड़े हैं, इतने notices दिए जा रहे हैं कि इसकी वजह से वे चले गए। अगर entrepreneurs बाहर चले जाएंगे, तो नौकरियां कौन देगा? रोजगार तो सीधे-सीधे उनसे जुड़ा है, गवर्नमेंट तो दे नहीं सकती। इसलिए private entrepreneurs में जो डर या भय है और वे बाहर जा रहे हैं, तो रोजगार कौन देगा, इसके लिए भी कदम उठाने चाहिए।

यह सही है कि Corporate Sector के 250 करोड़ तक के turnover पर 25 परसेंट टैक्स कर दिया है, जो अच्छी चीज है, लेकिन अब जो cess लगाया गया है, उसका कितना impact आएगा, अगर इस मामले में भी वित्त मंत्री जी स्थिति स्पष्ट कर सकें, तो बहुत अच्छा है। ...**(समय की घंटी)...**

[श्री राजीव शुक्ल]

सर, GST को लेकर एक समस्या यह आ रही है कि लोगों को कर्ज लेकर GST अदा करना पड़ रहा है। अगर आप इसका कुछ निदान निकालें कि किस तरह से जो व्यापारी और दुकानदार हैं, अगर उनको समय-सीमा की कुछ ऐसी सुविधा हो, ताकि उनको वह दिक्कत न हो, तभी मुझे लगता है कि सुधार हो सकता है और GST को लोग स्वीकार कर लेंगे, वरना अगर बैंक से कर्ज लेकर GST देना पड़ा, तो लोगों को बड़ी दिक्कत आएगी।

सर, आज एक बड़ी अच्छी चीज हुई है, हम तो इसकी तारीफ करेंगे। यह Money Bill के जरिए हुई, लेकिन चूँकि वह वित्त से सम्बन्धित है, इसलिए मैं इसका ज़िक्र कर रहा हूँ कि judiciary की बात सुन कर और उनकी मांगों को मान कर जजों की तनखाह 2.5 लाख रुपए कर दी गई है। हाई कोर्ट तक के जजों की तनखाह 2.5 लाख रुपए कर दी गई है। चलो, अच्छी बात है, हम स्वागत करते हैं कि यह अच्छी चीज है। अब उनकी तनखाह तो 2.5 लाख कर दी गई है, लेकिन आप judicial reforms तो लाइए। हर चीज में reforms हो रहे हैं, क्रिकेट में हो रहे हैं, हॉकी में हो रहे हैं, मेडिकल काउंसिल ऑफ इंडिया और सबमें reforms हो रहे हैं, लेकिन judiciary में कोई reform ही नहीं हो रहा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): राजीव शुक्ल जी, आप समाप्त कीजिए। अब अगला नाम आएगा।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: देखिए, 3 मिनट वाले को आपने 13 मिनट दिए, तो आपको मेरे साथ क्या problem है?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अभी आपके 7 और लोगों को बोलना है।

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: नहीं, नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है। मैं अभी और बोलूँगा।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप judiciary के लिए कोई reform ही नहीं रखते हैं, आप कोई बात ही नहीं करते हैं, सरकार भी नहीं करती है। एक NJAC बना, उसके बाद उसमें कोई प्रगति नहीं है। अगर इसके बारे में भी मंत्री जी स्पष्टीकरण दें, तो बहुत अच्छा होगा।

अब मैं एक मिनट समय रेलवे पर लूँगा, क्योंकि इसमें रेलवे का बजट मिला दिया गया है और इससे रेलवे पर चर्चा होनी बंद हो गई है। अब कोई रेलवे की बात ही नहीं करता, बजट में इसकी कोई चर्चा ही नहीं करता। रेलवे का जो बजट है, मुझे लगता है कि लोग उससे खुश नहीं हैं, क्योंकि पहले दिन उसका सूचकांक 5 परसेंट गिर गया। इसकी operational cost 95 प्रतिशत बताई गई है। इसका मतलब है कि रेलवे में सुधार करने के लिए, infrastructure बनाने के लिए और बाकी काम करने के लिए सिर्फ 5 परसेंट का cushion है। यह कैसे हो पाएगा, क्योंकि हाल यह है कि सारी रेलों का refurbishment करना है और नई रेल लाइनें बिछानी हैं। इसके लिए पैसा कहां से आएगा? Quality services provide करने के लिए पैसा नहीं है। अभी Civil Aviation का data आया है कि यह almost बराबर हो रहा है, air passengers और railway passengers में थोड़ा ही अंतर रह गया है। लोग अब जहाज से चलना ज्यादा prefer कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उनको रेलवे में सुविधा नहीं मिल पा रही है, पैसा ज्यादा देना पड़ता है, टाइम की बर्बादी भी बहुत हो रही है और समय से trains भी नहीं चल पाती हैं। इसलिए यह जो अंतर पहले बहुत होता था, अब कम होता जा रहा है। अभी 400 जहाज और order हुए हैं। अगर वे

आ गए, तो रेलवे बहुत बुरी स्थिति में फंस जाएगी, क्योंकि लोग जहाज से जाना ज्यादा prefer करेंगे। मान्यवर, खाना ट्रेन के अन्दर भी खराब है और प्लेटफॉर्म का भी खराब है। पीयूष गोयल जी काफी मेहनती मंत्री हैं और सुधार में लगे रहते हैं, लेकिन ये बुनियादी चीजें हैं, policy की चीजें हैं। इनके लिए प्रावधान चाहिए, पैसा चाहिए। वे कहते हैं कि पैसे की कमी नहीं है। अगर पैसे की कमी नहीं है, तो सुविधाएं ठीक क्यों नहीं हो पा रही हैं? Freight भी गिर गया है। रेलवे की journey तो इतनी अच्छी होती है कि विदेश में इससे कितना फायदा हो रहा है। शहर का जो सेंटर होता है, वहां रेलवे स्टेशन होता है। लोग एक जगह से दूसरी जगह जाएं, आराम से जाएं, उनको कोई दिक्कत न आए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... लेकिन इसके बाद भी रेलवे का profit क्यों गिरता जा रहा है और passengers कम क्यों होते चले जा रहे हैं? रेलवे सुरक्षा के लिए काकोदकर कमिटी की जो recommendations थीं, उनके लिए जो बजट का प्रावधान करना चाहिए था, वह प्रावधान अभी तक इसमें नहीं दिखाई दे रहा है। इसलिए उनको इसके लिए प्रावधान करना चाहिए।

सर, अभी मेरे पास बहुत points हैं, लेकिन आप कहते हैं कि दबाव और pressure है, तो मैं क्या बताऊं, मैं बोल ही नहीं पा रहा हूँ और इसलिए मुझे अपनी बात समाप्त करनी पड़ रही है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री संजय सेठ। आपके पास 2-3 मिनट का समय है।

श्री संजय सेठ (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपको बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे बजट पर बोलने का मौका दिया।

महोदय, यह जो बजट है, यह बहुत ही निराशाजनक दिख रहा है, क्योंकि आम जनता को इस बजट से बहुत उम्मीदें थीं। इस बजट में जो सबसे इम्पोर्टेंट चीज़ रही है, वह है दस करोड़ लोगों के लिए पांच लाख रुपये का बीमा, लेकिन माननीय मंत्री जी ने इसको दो भागों में बांट दिया। इसमें पहला था स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए लोगों को अपने नज़दीक ही स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं मिलें और दूसरा था ...**(व्यवधान)**...

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आजाद): वाइस चेयरमैन साहब, कल तक बजट पर चर्चा के लिए छः घंटे बचे थे, लेकिन पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स मिनिस्टर साहब ने unilaterally उसको घटा कर तीन घंटे कर दिया। मैंने सुबह भी कहा था कि अगर पार्टीज़ का समय काटना है, तो दूसरी पार्टीज़ का समय मत काटो। इसकी वजह से सारा टाइम-टेबल गड़बड़ हो गया है। जहां हमने एक-एक मेम्बर को बोलने के लिए 10-10 या 15-15 मिनट रखे थे, अब वे तीन मिनट में कन्वर्ट हो गए हैं।

اُفتاد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد): وائس چیئرمین صاحب، کل تک بجٹ پر چرچا کے لئے چھ گھنٹے بچے تھے، لیکن اب پارلیمنٹری افیئرس منسٹر صاحب نے اس کو unilaterally چھ گھنٹے کر دیا۔ میں نے صبح بھی کہا تھا کہ اگر پارٹیز کا وقت کاٹنا ہے، تو دوسری پارٹیز کا وقت مت کاٹئے۔ اس کی وجہ سے سارا ٹائم ٹیبل گڑبڑ ہو گیا ہے۔ جہاں ہم نے ایک ایک ممبر کو بولنے کے لئے دس-دس یا پندرہ-پندرہ منٹ رکھے تھے، اب وہ تین منٹ میں کنورٹ ہو گئے ہیں۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अब जैसा है, ठीक है।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद: जब सदन बड़े आराम से और शांति से चल रहा था, ऐसे में अगर सदन दो घंटे और चल जाता, तो क्या फ़िक्र थी? आज के लिए हमारे पास छः घंटे बचे थे, उस पर आपने एकदम slab लगा दिया और पूरे तीन घंटे कम कर दिए। कल सदन तकरीबन 6-7 घंटे चला था, इसलिए आज छः घंटे और बाकी थे। इसकी वजह से पूरा गड़बड़ हो गया है।
 اُجناب غلام نبی آزاد : جب سدن بڑے آرام سے اور شانتی سے چل رہا تھا، ایسے میں اگر دو گھنٹے اور چلا جاتا، تو کیا فکر تھی؟ آج کے لئے ہمارے چھ گھنٹے بچے تھے، لیکن اس پر آپ نے ایکدم slab لگا دیا اور پورے تین گھنٹے کم کر دیئے۔ کل سدن تقریباً چھ-سات گھنٹے چلا تھا، اس لئے آج چھ گھنٹے اور باقی تھے۔ اب اس کی وجہ سے پورا گڑبڑ ہو گیا ہے۔

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अब जो हो गया, ठीक है। संजय जी, आप आगे बोलिए।

श्री संजय सेठ: माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बजट को दो भागों में बांटा है, जिसमें एक भाग स्वास्थ्य के लिए है। इसमें पहला है, स्वास्थ्य केंद्रों को बढ़ावा देना, जिसमें लोगों को स्वास्थ्य संबंधी सुविधाएं नज़दीकी केंद्रों में उपलब्ध हों। दूसरा है, 10 करोड़ गरीब लोगों को पांच लाख रुपये के बीमे की सुविधा देना। मैं दूसरे बिंदु के ऊपर बोलना चाहता हूं, जो बहुत ही प्रचारित किया जा रहा है और कहा जा रहा है कि यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बिंदु है। महोदय, अगर इसके आंकड़े देखे जाएं, तो इस साल स्वास्थ्य के लिए जो बजट एलोकेट किया गया है, वह 52,800 करोड़ रुपये है, जबकि पिछले साल इसके लिए 51,580 करोड़ रुपये का बजट था, यानी इस बजट में केवल 1,250 करोड़ रुपये ही बढ़ाए गए हैं।

दूसरी तरफ एजुकेशन सेस के नाम पर जो तीन प्रतिशत टैक्स लिया जा रहा था, उसको बढ़ाकर अब 4 प्रतिशत कर दिया गया है और उसका नाम रख दिया गया है, 'हेल्थ एंड एजुकेशन सेस'। इसका मतलब तो यह है कि आप जनता से एक प्रतिशत लेंगे और फिर उसी चीज़ को गरीबों में बांटेंगे। इस सरकार ने अपनी तरफ से इसमें कोई कांट्रिब्यूशन नहीं दिया है, जनता से वसूल करके जनता को ही वापस करने की बात है और वह भी किसी हालत में पूरा नहीं हो सकता है।

तीसरा, इसमें डेढ़ लाख वेलनेस सेंटर्स बनाने के लिए कहा गया है, जिसके लिए 1,200 करोड़ रुपये एलोकेट किए गए हैं, यानी एक सेंटर बनाने के लिए केवल 80,000 रुपये एलोकेट हुए हैं।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी जो सेंटर्स चल रहे हैं, उन सारे के सारे सेंटर्स में न तो उचित रख-रखाव है, न उनमें कर्मचारी हैं और न ही मेडिकल का सामान है। उन सारे सेंटर्स को छोड़कर अब ये नये सेंटर्स बनाए जाने की बात कही जा रही है। इसमें मेरा यह कहना है कि जो सेंटर्स पहले से चल रहे हैं, उन्हीं को आप ठीक कराएं और उन्हीं पर पैसा लगाएं। नई चीज़ करके क्या फायदा होगा? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

महोदय, अब बीआरडी मेडिकल कॉलेज, गोरखपुर में दुर्घटना हुई और वहां एक साथ सैकड़ों

बच्चे मर गए। वहां पर ऑक्सीजन की कमी है, साथ ही पैसे भी नहीं दिए जा रहे हैं। देश की जनता के स्वास्थ्य के लिए इस तरह की चीजों पर ज्यादा ध्यान देना चाहिए, बजाए इसके कि आप लुभावनी चीजें दिखाएं और उनको पूरा भी न कर सकें। दो साल पहले के बजट में भी इसी तरह का एक प्रोविजन था, जिसमें उन्होंने एक लाख रुपये का बीमा करने की बात कही थी, लेकिन आज तक 30,000 रुपये के बीमे से ऊपर नहीं दिया जा रहा है।

तीसरा, वित्त मंत्री जी ने अपने बजट भाषण में कहा है कि प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना के अंतर्गत एक करोड़ घरों का निर्माण किया जाएगा। राष्ट्रपति महोदय ने अपने अभिभाषण में यहां तक कहा कि एक करोड़ मकानों में से 93 लाख मकान बन चुके हैं, लेकिन मुझे यह बात समझ में नहीं आ रही कि इनके पास ये आंकड़े आ कहां से रहे हैं? इस संबंध में लोक सभा में जब एक सवाल किया गया था, तो उसके जवाब में इन्होंने बताया कि अभी तक केवल 21 लाख मकान बने हैं। महोदय, इस तरीके से बताया जा रहा है कि 93 लाख मकान बन चुके हैं, लेकिन वास्तविकता तो यह है कि अभी तक केवल 21 लाख मकान ही बने हैं। ये सारी चीजें असत्य हैं। इसमें कुछ नहीं है और जनता को सिर्फ गुमराह किया जा रहा है।

महोदय, दूसरी बात इन्होंने अपने बजट भाषण में रीयल एस्टेट के प्लॉट में यह बताई कि जमीन के दाम सर्कल रेट के हिसाब से होंगे। उसमें अगर इन्कम टैक्स में 5 परसेंट का डिफरेंस होगा, तो वह मान लिया जाएगा। अगर दिल्ली को देखें, तो यहां जमीनों के दाम बहुत कम हो चुके हैं, लेकिन सर्कल रेट बहुत ज्यादा है। अगर किसी भी शहर का सवेक्षण कराएं, तो यही हाल मिलेगा। अब गरीब आदमी या कोई भी आदमी मकान खरीदे, तो उसके लिए स्टाम्प-ड्यूटी ज्यादा दे, उसके बाद इन्कम टैक्स भी ज्यादा दे, तो यह ठीक नहीं है।

श्री उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): अब आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री संजय सेठ: इसलिए इसमें कोई प्रोविजन ऐसा होना चाहिए था कि उसका एक सर्वे करा के उसे 5 से 10 परसेंट कर दिया जाए, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Thank you. Now, Shri N. Gokulakrishnan; you have only two minutes to speak.

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, बजट पर चर्चा चल रही है और न वित्त मंत्री हैं, न राज्य मंत्री (वित्त) उपस्थित हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विजय गोयल: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यहां राज्य मंत्री (वित्त) उपस्थित हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है। वित्त राज्य मंत्री उपस्थित हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अच्छा, आपस में बात मत कीजिए। बैठ जाइए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... Naqviji, please, no cross-talk. ...**(Interruptions)**... Jairamji, no cross-talk please. You are one of the best parliamentarians.

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN (Puducherry): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, due to paucity of time, I would cut down all my points on the General Budget and come straightaway to the issues concerning Puducherry.

[Shri N. Gokulakrishnan]

Sir, talking about grant of Central assistance to States and Union Territories, a share of the total tax collected at the Centre is given to the State Governments based on the Finance Commission's recommendations. In the case of Union Territories without Legislatures, the entire budget requirement is met by the Government of India after taking all receipts from the Union Territories. In the case of Union Territories with a Legislature, like Puducherry, normally the entire gap between their budgetary requirement and their resources is met by the Government of India all along.

Sir, the Union Territory of Puducherry has implemented the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations and has requested the Government of India for additional funds to the tune of ₹ 750 crores. But, so far, the Government of India has not given even a single rupee to Puducherry for implementing the recommendations of the Seventh Central Pay Commission. The Central assistance allocated to the Union Territory of Puducherry for the current financial year is ₹ 1,476 crores; for the previous year it was ₹ 1,411 crores. But, in recent years, this has been stopped and instead, Central assistance with a four per cent increase over that of the previous year has been fixed.

Sir, the Union Territory's resources have been affected considerably by various factors like GST, ban on bar licence on highways and ban in the real estate sector. On the one hand, expenditure has increased due to the implementation of the Seventh Pay Commission recommendations and, on the other hand the income has come down. Thus, the Union Territory of Puducherry is not able to carry out development programmes since the entire receipts are being used for committed expenditure like salaries, pension, payment of interest and repayment of loan. I appeal to the hon. Finance Minister to increase the share of Central assistance to the Union Territory of Puducherry at least by 20 per cent every year.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please conclude now.

SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Sir, I would take just one more minute.

Sir, I wish to invite the kind attention of the hon. Union Railway Minister to a long-pending demand of the Union Territory of Puducherry for a railway link from Tindivanam to Cuddalore *via* Puducherry. A lot of commuters visit places of pilgrimage like Karaikkal, Nagoor and Velankanni from Chennai. Connecting Tindivanam and Cuddalore through a railway link would lessen their travel time. Sir, I appeal to the hon. Union Railway Minister to look into this long-pending demand for immediate consideration. Similarly, I appeal to link Peralam with Karaikal, which is also a long-pending demand. In fact, I raised this matter and discussed in detail about the

viability when I attended the Railway Committee meeting organized by the General Manager of South Zone of Railways at Madurai last month. With this, I conclude my speech and I welcome the welfare schemes announced by the hon. Finance Minister and I also appeal to him to consider my demands favourably. Thank you.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, धन्यवाद। श्री नरेश गुजराल जी, आपके तीन मिनट हैं।

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: No, Sir. I am the leader of my group. We have 18 Members. I must have 10 minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Your Party has ten minutes in total and there are three Members to speak. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: I am sorry, Sir, I won't speak; somebody else to speak. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: सर, यह बहुत गलत है। *...(व्यवधान)...* *

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आप बैठिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* नरेश गुजराल जी, आप बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* शुक्ल जी, आप अपनी जगह पर जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* Shuklaji, please go to your seat. *...(Interruptions)...*

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

श्री राजीव शुक्ल: * *...(व्यवधान)...* *

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आप सब लोग बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* You sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* I will take care. *...(Interruptions)...* आप क्यों ऐसा कर रहे हैं? *...(व्यवधान)...* आप बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* नरेश गुजराल जी, आप बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* बैठ जाइए, बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* टाइम वेस्ट जायेगा, बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* गुजराल जी, बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Sir, first of all, I would like to start by expressing my sympathies with my fellow Members who are here. Commitments were made to Andhra Pradesh in this House which, unfortunately, collectively have not been kept and I feel sorry that their demands are not being met and I hope that the hon. Finance Minister will look at their demands favourably.

Sir, having said that, I feel that this is the most challenging Budget for the hon. Finance Minister since this Government came to power. Why is it challenging? It is because oil prices have hardened and are today in the vicinity of 65 to 70 dollars a barrel. For four years, you had the cushion of soft oil prices with which

[Shri Naresh Gujral]

you could pursue giving money to the social sector. Secondly, Sir, there is an acute farm distress in the country. Thirdly, there is an under-utilised capacity in manufacturing and the power sectors which are not creating fresh jobs. At the same time, he has to maintain fiscal discipline because the country wants to send the message to international investors that we are fiscally responsible so that FDI keeps coming to India. Having said that, I congratulate the Finance Minister that he has taken a holistic view by pumping in money to the rural sector, and I call it a paradigm shift in the way we look at agriculture and agriculturists in this country. Sir, it was very strange that despite the fact that 65 per cent of India's population was dependent on the farm, 49 per cent of the jobs were created in the agriculture sector. Yet, we were short-changing our farmer by not giving him adequate prices for his produce. What were we doing? We were saying, let's not give him a high price because that will create inflation. So, the poor farmer was suffering. Every time international prices went up, we would put a ban on export because again we wanted to protect a constituency in India which was the urban constituency and the farm sector kept suffering. So, I congratulate the Finance Minister that he has said and kept the promise that the farmer will get 150 per cent of his cost which means cost plus fifty per cent. Now, Mr. Chidambaram, Mr. Neeraj Shekhar and many others have raised a question about formula. Is it A2 plus FL or C2? Sir, I am not getting into any formulas. Yesterday, one of the Congress Members, Mr. Chidambaram probably, said that in their tenure they doubled the prices of the farm sector in ten years. Neerajji, that works out to six per cent compounded per annum. This is what the farmer was getting when the inflation rate was in double digits. So, every year, the poor farmer was forced to commit suicide. Thank God, now the Finance Minister has said that the farmer will get just deal. So, by not getting into the details of which formula it is, I will only urge the Finance Minister that the next crop is coming in two months. We have raised the hopes of the farmer of this country. They are expecting a new deal, a big deal. Please, do not let down the farmer of India because if you do, you will see the kind of despair, suicides and frustration that this country has never seen before. So, as I said, I am not getting into the formula, but I do hope that the farmer will finally get a proper deal. Sir, secondly, how does a farmer get so poor and eventually commit suicide when he is so frustrated? Number one, he does not get adequate price for his produce. Number two, the healthcare cost. Somebody falls ill in his family, he begs, borrows at high interest rate and then gets the patient treated. And, third is marriage expenses. This Budget has taken care of the first two. Adequate farm prices and be making sure that the poor in this country will be treated by the Government up to 5 lakhs per family which I think is a phenomenal announcement. But, again, he must be

honoured in letter and spirit. Only then will the poor of this country feel satisfied. And, I would also urge the Prime Minister the way he has carried the campaign of 'Swachh Bharat', I hope something is done that we curtail expenses on marriages in this country and some kind of a social campaign needs to be unleashed because that will help the farmer.

Sir, having said that, jobs have to be created. Now, the Finance Minister has said, we will pump money into the farm sector. Six lakh crore is going into the infrastructure sector, he is making sure that the textile sector, which is the second largest generator of jobs after the farming sector, will get its due and jobs will be created there. And also he has tweaked the labour laws; till now, it was that you could hire but not fire, but by giving fixed term contracts, this will ensure that industry starts to hire more people. Sir, I am an optimist. The way the BJP, the NDA has followed economic policies, I am convinced that we will see double digit growth very soon and the proof of that is the way FDI is coming into India. They are not fools. They know that this country will have the market, this country is growing and this country is following the right economic policies and that is why they are coming to India. And, this is very important, Sir, because our domestic rate of savings is now stagnant at 29 per cent for a very long time. We need the FDI investment. This year it is about 60 billion dollars and I think it will increase as our market becomes better. Because what happens is when there is a demand, only then factory starts working into full capacity. And this is what this Finance Minister is doing. He is creating the demand. And this will set in motion a virtuous cycle. When factories start working to full capacity, they will have to hire more people; when more people are hired, that will create more demand and when there is more demand, only then private sector investment will start coming in and I have no doubt in my mind that the NDA will ensure that this economy gets regenerated. This Budget has given it a kick-start and I am convinced that going forward, this country will soon see double-digit growth and I congratulate the Finance Minister for that. Thank you very much, Sir.

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, before I talk, I am distraught for the simple reason, we seems to have thrown to the winds the very rules of this House. And now the Chairman comes and says that if anybody is standing in the Well, it means disorder of the House and it cannot be tolerated. Yet, we allowed. Then we seems to have forgotten the political idiom when we talk. That is also something which has really hurt most of us, being in this House or outside in other Legislatures. But, the question today is about the Budget. I am very much interested in talking about the Budget, but what has really provoked me most is the action of

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

my friends from Andhra, for whom we have all expressed sympathies. In fact, I was the first man, when a Private Member Bill was taken up here, who spoke here and went in their support, if not rescue. It is Mr. Jairam, who wrote this Bill. I really sympathies with that one man, who could neither become friends with us nor with them, wrote the rules and also the law objectively. He was the most harassed man in those fifteen days, and I said this here in this House earlier.

Today, the Prime Minister goes on record to say on the floor of the House that bifurcation was done unscientifically. I don't understand it because I know very little English. I have not still understood as to what exactly he means by unscientific bifurcation of a State. I can understand my friend, who was with me, who is now the Chief Minister of Andhra today. He was with me as a junior Minister when I was a Cabinet Minister. He seems to know more about language, as Mr. Chidambaram was saying that we have added new words to the English language, like *jumlas*, etc. Now, tell me, what exactly do we want? We are all for it. That is one. But now, what are they trying to say about Telangana? I think, my sister, Renukaji, will excuse me when I say this. I am with them, as far as their demand is concerned. If they want the implementation of the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, I had No objection to it. Earlier also, I had said this to Mr. Jairam Ramesh, who is very much here, who is the author of the Act. But, today, while agreeing with them, when they say that something wrong had been done in the Act, I would like to say that they should understand that the Parliament has not done anything wrong. They are casting aspersions on the Parliament which has passed this Act. Have they ever thought about this aspect? Only because we are keeping quiet, only because all Members are supporting them, do they think what they are doing is good for the Parliament? This Parliament has passed this Act, not one House, but both the Houses - the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha. After that, we had discussions for fifteen days about framing the rules. The very Member, who is sitting here, had called them for framing rules. They got all that they wanted. Today, most of the Members are here. I don't want to repeat this. We have been exploited for sixty years. We did not bother much because all that we wanted was a State. Now, it is a reality. But today, if there is any work at all, in my Telangana, it is not me who does it; it is you who are giving the contracts there; it is you who are purchasing all the land there; it is you who were purchasing, only the day before yesterday, all the plots there. I have never complained about it. But, today, you come and find fault. We did not have water. Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, you are aware. When you went out from Telangana to become part of Karnataka, we did not have any fight at all. The Prime Minister came and said yesterday in Lok Sabha that when they had carved

out three States, there were no problem. Sir, we were divided. My own State was divided into three parts. There was no hue and cry. A part went to Maharashtra. A part went to Karnataka. Nothing happened because we all are hard-working people not vested groups. One was not exploiter; one was not the sufferer. Forget about that now, I am trying to close that chapter. But, the other question today is: there are two rivers. They flow only from Telangana. Two-third of these rivers flows in Telangana. Total Krishna – Godavery catchment is in Telangana. Eighty-three per cent catchment is in Telangana. But only eighteen per cent of its is used here. When the earlier Government had constituted a Committee, we fought and got whatever we could, but we thought that we would discuss it later right here on the floor of Rajya Sabha. The present Chairman of Rajya Sabha, Shri Venkaiah Naidu, who was then an opposition Member, asked for a few concessions to Andhra. He asked for seven concessions. The Prime Minister of the day agreed to that. First, he said that he would look into them, and then he agreed to them, and a Cabinet Note was also prepared. Nobody objected to it. But what is that we are asking now? Please, think again. I am not opposing you. You should get more. What is wrong if the Centre gives you more money? What is wrong if the Centre gives you ten industries more? Get more but don't grouse over the others. Do not have grievance against others. If something is not given to you, fight for it. But did not forget, we are still subject to exploitation, which I was subjected to twenty years back. This thing should be kept in mind by all the people. I know, you have been rich; there is nothing wrong in that, but do not exploit. And, if there is a chance, we will also try to come up, the way we are doing.

Yesterday, the Minister replying for a question said – I am asking all my other Members to know – we all know that none of you were also objecting to it. But let it not be felt as if they have been denied and the other man is getting it. Sir, according to the statement given by the Finance Minister yesterday, the break-up of the moneys released to Andhra Pradesh is ₹ 4,400 crore in 2014-15; ₹ 2,000 crore in 2015-16; ₹ 4,500 crore in 2016-17; ₹ 2,500 crores in 2017-18, and the total is something like ₹ 13,000 crore. All right. This must be understand out because not a single paisa except ₹ 2,000 crore came to Telangana. All that Mr. Jairam Ramesh said in those days was – 'equality'. Whatever it is, "if we are getting AIIMS, you are getting it. If we are getting IIM, you are getting IIM. If we are getting the university, you will get the tribal university". Did not you say that? You set up thirteen institutions. Did you give me one? You gave them three. We kept quiet. We thought we will have to fight. We don't go with the begging bowls to those people as long as people are with us. What is the question today? That is why, when the Government came or even the Chairman came and said about 2,000 crore

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

of rupees, I said, "hell with this; who are you to give." It is my money. I give ₹ 30,000 crore every year to the Central pool. Nobody is giving me something out of charity. This should be understood. Yesterday, when the Prime Minister came and said, हमने तो तीन स्टेट किया, कोई गड़बड़ी नहीं है। हमने तो तीन स्टेट करवा लिए, कोई गड़बड़ी नहीं हुई। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, केशव राव जी।

डा. के. केशव राव: नहीं साहब, जरा सुनिए। मैं कभी इस चीज को लाता ही नहीं था, मैं उनका साथी हूँ। कल रात रमेश साहब मेरे पास आए थे और मुझसे बोले थे कि साहब, हम यह रेज़ कर रहे हैं। मैंने कहा रेज़ करिए। But do not try to act like that बिकॉज किस तरीके से हम रूल करते हैं, आपको मालूम है। हमारी पॉपुलैरिटी पर एक अंगुली भी मत उठाइए। आपने 5 मर्तबा कंटेस्ट किया, डिपॉजिट लूज़ कर दिया, वह भी याद रखेंगे। कल कंटेस्ट करेंगे तो डिपोजिट लूज़ कर देंगे, वह भी याद रखेंगे। जो भी हो, चाहे आप हों या आपके दोस्त हों, जब डिपॉजिट आएगा तो हम छोड़ देंगे, पार्टी छोड़ देंगे, क्लोज कर लेंगे, अगर डिपॉजिट आ गया। तो ठीक है, वह बात नहीं बोल रहा हूँ।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद।

डा. के. केशव राव: मैं डेवलपमेंट की बात कर रहा हूँ। नीरज जी, मैं तो ओपन कर रहा हूँ, हर वक्त तो वही बोलता हूँ ना उनके प्रेजिडेंट आए तो भी हम लोग बोलेंगे। ये सब बातें क्यों कर रहे हैं? ज़रा कंटेस्ट करने के लिए बताइए, वह बतला देते हैं। वह नहीं है, मैं क्यों बोल रहा हूँ। We are with you but this is something else. How can you be allowed to stand there? One of my friends asked for a chair for you to sit. All that we wish is to ask the Finance Minister, ask the Government to sort out these issues. If all of us feel that something wrong has been done to Andhra, if we feel that something has gone wrong, let the Government sit and sort it out. You have not done that during those 12 days when the Reorganisation Act was passed. Within 12 days, they completed the rules. We thought that if something is still left, we will sort it out.

So, here is a question of money. They say that they have already given you 12,000 or 13,000 crores of rupees. If more needs to be given, let them give it but let them not do this. यह मैच फिक्सिंग को आप लोग बस करो। नहीं तो एक आदमी को आप रूम से निकाल देते हैं, सस्पेंड कर देते हैं, एक आदमी को कुर्सी देते हैं और बोलते हैं क्या हो रहा है यह? मज़ाक हो रहा है इस पार्लियामेंट का? अब तेलंगाना के बारे में बताइए। हम लोगों ने क्या नहीं किया? हमने आपसे नहीं पूछा है। आपने आज तक इस बजट में एक भी चीज तेलंगाना के बारे में नहीं कहा। महोदय, आप जानते हैं इसलिए मैं बोल रहा हूँ। चूंकि आप तेलंगाना जानते हैं इसलिए मैं बोल रहा हूँ। हम इंडिया की one of the biggest irrigation projects, Kaleshwaram, build कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... बाद में पूछा कि कुछ पैसे दे देते

तो अच्छा होता। जरूर यह तो नेशनल प्रोजेक्ट है, एक मॉडल है, शायद मेरा इतना अच्छा हिन्दी नहीं है, उनकी हिन्दी अच्छी होगी। शायद उनकी हिन्दी मेरे जैसी नहीं होगी, उनकी हिन्दी अच्छी होगी, जिसे मैं नहीं समझ सकता हूँ, वह अलग बात है। उन्होंने कह दिया कि यह मॉडल बन जाएगा। हमने बाद में उनसे कहा कि आप दस हजार करोड़ रुपए दे दीजिए, लेकिन आज तक हमें एक पैसा नहीं दिया गया। हमारे पास पहले पानी नहीं था, आप इस संबंध में जानते हैं क्योंकि आपके पास पानी नहीं पहुंचना था, पानी के बिना तो कोई स्टेट नहीं चल सकती तो हमने क्या किया — हमने पहली मर्तबा lift irrigation से ...(समय की घंटी)... महोदय, एक मिनट। Lift irrigation से one crore acres of land we have covered. We have already covered three projects. Within three months we have completed the project in Bhadrachalam. Like that be, we are trying to do it. आपने अपने दिल में रख लिया है कि ये तो अपने नहीं हैं, चलिए, हम लड़ लेंगे। हम लोग लड़ेंगे भी — आप उसकी फिक्र मत कीजिए।

अब मैं आपके बजट की बात करता हूँ। आपके बजट में 10 ट्रेन के लिए हम लोग इतने साल से पूछ रहे हैं। चालीस साल से हम लोग काजीपेट में कोच फैक्टरी की मांग कर रहे हैं। ऑल पार्टी मीटिंग में तीन मर्तबा फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब बोले, no, no, this time we are going to give you AIIMS. उन्होंने announce किया, on the floor of the House. But no AIIMS. वह हवा में आ रहा होगा या शायद लॉरी में आ रहा होगा, लेकिन वह एम्स बहुत जल्दी आएगा। महोदय, उन्होंने हमें दो रेल लाइन्स दीं, एक-एक बोल देता हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): केशव राव जी, अब समाप्त कीजिए।

डा. के. केशव राव: महोदय, मैं लास्ट में एक सबसे बड़ी चीज़ बोलना चाहता हूँ। आप एकट छोड़ दीजिए, बातें छोड़ दीजिए, promises छोड़ दीजिए, वहां पर जो तारीफें करते हैं, हर सेंट्रल मिनिस्टर तेलंगाना आकर कहता है कि इतना बड़ा हमने सोचा ही नहीं। आप उसे भी छोड़ दीजिए। Constitution में लिखा हुआ है कि every State shall have one High Court. वहां पर आज तक हाई कोर्ट नहीं आया है। At some place, you start giving it. But in our case, no sympathy has ever come from you. आप इस बारे में सोचना शुरू कीजिए, वहां हाई कोर्ट दीजिए। वहां पर कौन suffer कर रहा है — हम लोग suffer कर रहे हैं, लेकिन इस बारे में कोई बात ही नहीं हो रही है। तो कुछ भी हो ...(समय की घंटी)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, केशव राव जी, धन्यवाद। श्री शमशेर सिंह मन्हासा।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, it is there in the Act and the Government has delayed ...(Interruptions)... This is completely inexcusable. ...(Interruptions)...

डा. के. केशव राव: महोदय, मैं एकट के बारे में नहीं बोल रहा हूँ, मैं तो Constitution की बात कर रहा हूँ। Constitutional provision होने पर भी आप नहीं करते तो गवर्नमेंट कैसे चलेगी?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): ठीक है, केशव राव जी, धन्यवाद।

डा. के. केशव राव: महोदय, मैं इतना कहते हुए, अगर आपने मुझे चांस दिया तो मैं दो चीजें कहना चाहता हूँ, मुझे यह issue join करना था, वरना as far as the Budget is concerned, सब लोगों ने डिटेल् में बातें कह दी हैं, उस संबंध में मैं बात नहीं करना चाहता हूँ। आप कुछ बोल रहे हैं। ये economic stability की बात कर रहे हैं। उन्होंने 12 सवाल पूछ लिए हैं, हमारे देरेक साहब ने दस सवाल पूछ लिए हैं, मैं उन questions को छोड़कर दूसरे questions आपसे पूछना चाहता हूँ। आप macro stability, fiscal consolidation और slippages की बात कर रहे हैं। उसका मतलब क्या है? On the other side, I don't know whether there is any economist, but I can ask Mr. Jairam Ramesh or Gujralji. Tell me what this slippage means. It means nothing but increase in the deficit, simple economics. Or it means increase in inflation, simple economics. Is it not true? Now, the second question is, गुजराल जी ने कहा कि यह बहुत difficult challenge है, सख्त challenge है। It is true because post demonetization, you had your problems. But what did you do to ...*(Interruptions)*... In the demonetization, ...*(Interruptions)*... आपको टाइम अभी दिखाई देता है साहब। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आपको और कुछ दिखाई नहीं दे रहा है, अब आपको सिर्फ टाइम ही दिखाई दे रहा है। अब आपको टाइम बराबर दिखेगा। महोदय, मैं आपके थ्रू मंत्री जी से पूछता हूँ कि you got funds after demonetization. It must go to Jan Dhan account holders or whatever it is. We thought it would go because the economic prudence suggests that. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... But what did we do? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Keshava Raoji, please conclude it within one minute.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Anyhow, I would not say everything is wrong in this Budget because I am not going to join issue with them, nor am I trying to make a point there. इसमें one-upmanship नहीं है। There are fundamental difficulties which are overlooking those things. There were twelve questions from there and ten questions from here. A few of them you might answer well, a few of them you will ...*(Interruptions)*... वह आप देखिए, वरना the big opportunity that you got is missed. I would say in the Budget, you had a good opportunity, which you have missed.

श्री शमशेर सिंह मन्हास (जम्मू और कश्मीर): आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, कल से मैं इस बजट पर चर्चा सुन रहा था। बजट पर चर्चा सुनते-सुनते कुछ महानुभावों ने इसको questionnaire बना दिया। किसी ने 12 प्रश्न पूछे, किसी ने 14 प्रश्न पूछे, किसी ने 8 प्रश्न पूछे। इसका मतलब यह है कि हम इतने सक्षम हैं कि हमसे आप कुछ उम्मीदें लगाकर बैठे हैं कि हम कुछ अच्छा करें। इसलिए मैं आपसे यह निवेदन करता हूँ कि हमारे देश को आजाद हुए 70 वर्ष हो गए हैं और आजादी के उपरान्त 55 वर्ष तक कांग्रेस ने, जिसमें से 40 वर्ष एक ही वंश ने राज किया है और 15 वर्ष उनके जो बाकी साथी थे, उन्होंने किया है। ये कुल मिलाकर 15-16 हजार दिन बनते हैं।

में जिस प्रदेश से आता हूँ, वह प्रदेश जम्मू-कश्मीर बड़ा संवेदनशील है। हमारे LOP साहब, यहां पर होते, हमारे आज़ाद साहब यहां पर होते, तो मैं उनसे पूछता कि वे कौन सी जगह से आते हैं, किस प्रकार का वह जंगल है और वहां कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं प्राप्त हैं? आज अगर देखा जाए तो वहां पर बिजली नहीं है, वहां पर पानी नहीं है, वहां पर सड़क नहीं है, बाकी की बात तो आप छोड़ दीजिए। यहां तक कि वहां पर बच्चों के रहने के लिए जगह तक नहीं है। उनके पास एक ही कमरा है और वह भी पूरा लकड़ी का बना हुआ, जिसमें पूरा परिवार रहता है। वे मूलभूत सुविधाओं से वंचित हैं, तो वे पिछले 60 सालों से मूलभूत सुविधाओं से क्यों वंचित हैं? 55 वर्ष राज करने के उपरान्त क्या कांग्रेस ने उस दिशा में विचार नहीं किया? आज़ाद साहब वहां के मुख्यमंत्री भी रहे हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि वहां पर आज तक जो कुछ होना चाहिए था वह क्यों नहीं हुआ? आज तक भी वहां सड़क नहीं है। मैंने वहां एक गांव adopt किया है, जिसे आदर्श गांव में रखा गया है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि 24 किलोमीटर steep चढ़ाई है, जो आप 10 घंटों में भी नहीं चढ़ सकते हो। आज भी सड़क के नाम पर पगडंडी है, जंगल से आते हुए किसी प्रकार की सुविधा नहीं है। आप dispensary को छोड़िए, स्कूल को छोड़िए, वैटरनेरी हॉस्पिटल को छोड़िए यहां तक कि वहां पर पंचायत घर तक नहीं है। आप अंदाजा लगा सकते हैं कि किस प्रकार से वहां पर लोग रहते होंगे? जंगलों से लकड़ियां काटकर उन्होंने अपना मकान बनाया हुआ है, पक्की छतों के निर्माण की बात तो आप छोड़ दीजिए, उनके बारे में कौन सोचेगा और कौन विचार करेगा? पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी ने कहा था कि जब तक दूर-दराज कंदराओं में बैठे हुए व्यक्ति को, हर प्रकार की सुविधाएं न मिल जाएं, तब तक हमको कार्य करना पड़ेगा। हम उसी राह पर चल पड़े हैं और उसी राह को आज हम देख रहे हैं। इस प्रकार से जितनी भी योजनाएं बनाई जा रही हैं, हमारी सरकार उन योजनाओं को क्रियान्वित कर रही है। जिस प्रकार का 55 वर्ष तक आपका राज रहा और 15 वर्ष एक ही वंश का राज रहा है, पिछले 70 सालों में वहां पर क्या हुआ है? मैं अपने प्रदेश की बात कह रहा हूँ और मैं उससे बाहर नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ, अगर मैं पूरे देश की बात करना चाहूंगा, तो पूरा देश इसी हालत से गुजर रहा है। चाहे आदिवासी क्षेत्र रहा हो, चाहे नार्थ-ईस्ट रीजन रहा हो, चाहे तमिलनाडु का क्षेत्र रहा हो, पूरे देश में सुविधाएं नहीं पहुंच रही हैं। वहां पर वे सुविधाएं कौन पहुंचाएगा? वहां पर कौन सी सुविधाएं होनी चाहिए? जो लोग वहां पर रहते हैं क्या उन्हें जीने का हक नहीं है? क्या वे लोग नहीं चाहते हैं कि उनको भी सुविधाएं मिले? वे भी BA कर सकें, MBA सकें, Medical College में पढ़ने जा सकें? वहां पर तो एक छोटा सा स्कूल तक नहीं है, तो वे क्या पढ़ पाएंगे? इसलिए इन सब चीजों के लिए, छोटी-छोटी बातों के लिए, आज हमारे नरेंद्र भाई मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में वित्त मंत्री जी ने जिस प्रकार का बजट पेश किया है, उस राह पर चलने का प्रयास किया है और ईमानदारी से किया है जिससे कि यह देश आगे बढ़ सके। उन लोगों में यह कैसे विचार हो सकता है? उन्होंने कहा है कि जिस प्रकार से हमारे 40 प्रतिशत लोग बीपीएल के अंतर्गत आते हैं, करीब 10 करोड़ परिवार आते हैं, 50 करोड़ की आबादी आती है, जिनके लिए कोई सुविधा नहीं है। स्वास्थ्य के माध्यम से अगर देखा जाए, तो किसी को किडनी फेल्योर होता है, किसी को हार्ट अटैक होता है और किसी को दूसरी बीमारी लगती है, इनके इलाज पर बड़े-बड़े खचे आते हैं। जो लोग कंदराओं में रहते हैं, उनके पास जीवन यापन के लिए साधन नहीं हैं, तो वे लोग कहां से चार लाख रुपये, पांच लाख रुपये इलाज करवाने के लिए देंगे, स्वास्थ्य को ठीक

[श्री शमशेर सिंह मन्हास]

करवाने के लिए देंगे, वे कैसे अपने स्वास्थ्य को ठीक करवाने के लिए जाएंगे, वे कैसे आपरेशन करवाने के लिए जा पाएंगे? इसीलिए सरकार की ओर से उनके लिए पांच लाख के स्वास्थ्य बीमा की योजना बनायी गयी है, जो कंदराओं में रहते हैं। हम तो केवल सोचते हैं, विचार करते हैं और विचारों को क्रियान्वित भी करना पड़ेगा। इन योजनाओं को नीचे तक पहुंचाने के लिए हम जो प्रयास कर रहे हैं, वे पूरी ईमानदारी से कर रहे हैं। बंधुओं, जिस प्रकार से पहाड़ों पर किसानों होती है, आपने देखा होगा कि वहां पर ट्रैक्टर नहीं चलता है, वहां पर हल से जुताई नहीं हो सकती, वहां पर सिर्फ कुदाल से कुदाली करानी पड़ती है और धीरे-धीरे वहां पर किसान अपनी खेती-बाड़ी प्रारम्भ करते हैं— चाहे माता हो, चाहे बहन हो, चाहे बूढ़ा हो, चाहे बच्चा हो, वह कुदाल लेकर सुबह से शाम तक कुदाली करता है, फिर चार-चार, पांच-पांच महीने बाद एक फसल पैदा होती है। वहां पर सात महीने तो बर्फ रहती है, इसलिए वहां पर ज्यादा कुछ नहीं होता है। वहां पर एक कमरे के अंदर लोग अपना जीवनयापन करते हैं। इस प्रकार के लोगों के बारे में बात होनी चाहिए, उनके जीवनयापन के लिए आज तक क्यों कुछ नहीं हुआ, 70 साल में भी लोग वहां पर ऐसे ही पड़े हुए हैं, उनके बारे में पहले से क्यों नहीं सोचा गया? हम हवाई जहाज की यात्रा तो कर सकते हैं, ऊपर से हेलिकॉप्टर के माध्यम से भाषण देने के लिए जा सकते हैं, अपने लिए वोट मांगने के लिए जा सकते हैं, किन्तु बंधुओं, उनके बारे में ईमानदारी से सोचा जाए और उनको मूलभूत सुविधाएं उपलब्ध करवायी जाएं।

वहां पर पशु रखे जाते हैं और पशुओं के लिए वेटरनरी अस्पताल होने चाहिए, लेकिन वहां तो वेटरनरी डिस्पेंसरी तक नहीं है। अभी मैंने जिस गांव को गोद लिया है, प्रधान मंत्री ग्राम सड़क योजना के अंतर्गत जिस गांव को लिया है, उसमें अभी विकास का काम शुरू करवाया है। वह काम भी तीन वर्षों के बाद पूरा होगा, फिर वहां पर लोग आसानी से जा सकेंगे। इस प्रकार की सुविधाओं से वंचित रहकर ये सारी चीजें हो रही हैं। इसीलिए मैं चाहता हूं कि आने वाले दिनों में केवल हम क्वेश्चनेयर ही नहीं बनाएं, पूछताछ न करें, बल्कि मैं कहता हूं कि आपने हम पर उम्मीदें लगायी हैं और हम आपकी उम्मीदों पर पूरे खरे उतरेंगे। आने वाले समय में हम इन सारी चीजों को पूरा करने के लिए तत्पर हैं, चाहे स्वास्थ्य का मामला हो, चाहे शिक्षा का मामला हो, चाहे कृषि का मामला हो, चाहे किसान का मामला होगा, चाहे पढ़े-लिखे नौजवानों का मामला होगा और हम बेरोजगारी को दूर करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं। अभी वहां पर किसानों के लिए फूड प्रोसेसिंग के माध्यम से 1400 करोड़ रुपया दिया गया, जिससे कि वहां पर अच्छी तरह से फूड प्रोसेसिंग हो सके। इससे पहले इसके लिए 200 करोड़, 250 करोड़ रुपये देते थे और वह जाता कहां था ? आप जानते हैं कि अगर पिछले घोटालों को निकाला जाए, तो पूरे 12 लाख करोड़ रुपये का घोटाला था। वह पैसा कहां गया? अगर वह पैसा देश के विकास में लगता, उन कंदराओं में लगता, तो अपने देश का अच्छा विकास होता। आज यह देश सोने की चिड़िया बनने जा रहा है। यह सोने की चिड़िया बनने की ओर अग्रसर हो रहा है। हमारे प्रधान मंत्री जी द्वारा जिस प्रकार की राह दिखाई गई है, उस राह को हमें देखना होगा, उस राह पर हमें चलना होगा। अगर हम ईमानदारी से इस राह पर चलेंगे, तो पूरा देश आगे बढ़ेगा।

दूसरा, बॉर्डर एरिया डेवलपमेंट प्लान के अंतर्गत वहां पर इस प्रकार से योजनाएं बनायी गयी हैं कि बॉर्डर पर रहने वाले बंधुओं को सुविधाएं मिल सकें। पिछले दिनों में उनको केवल गोली

मिलती थी, जिसके कारण वे वहां से उजड़कर 10 किलोमीटर, 15 किलोमीटर, 20 किलोमीटर पीछे आते थे और उनको बसाने में 10-15 वर्ष लग जाते थे। आज जैसे ही वे बंधु बॉर्डर एरिया से वहां पर आते हैं, उसी दिन से उनके लिए मकानों का किस प्रकार से निर्माण हो सके, किस प्रकार से उनको बसाया जाए, इसके लिए हम प्रयास करते हैं। ये सारी योजनाएं कौन बना रहा है, किसके अंतर्गत बन रही हैं? अगर बॉर्डर एरिया डेवलपमेंट प्लान के अंतर्गत इस प्रकार की योजना न बने, तो वे बंधु उजड़कर रह जाएंगे। सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से देखा जाए, तो कश्मीर में 1990 से आज तक किस प्रकार के हालात बने हुए हैं, किस प्रकार का वातावरण बना हुआ था? मैं दावे के साथ कह सकता हूं कि आप मेरे साथ श्रीनगर में आइए, मैं पूरा कश्मीर घुमाकर लाता हूं, आपको बिल्कुल सुरक्षित और आराम से सारे टूरिस्ट स्पॉट्स दिखाकर लाऊंगा। इस प्रकार का वातावरण किस ने खड़ा किया? यह हमारी सरकार ने किया है। हमारे गृह मंत्री ने किया है। महोदय, इस प्रकार का वातावरण बनाने के लिए हमें आगे बढ़ना होगा। अगर इस प्रकार की बातों को लेकर हमें केवल questionnaire प्राप्त करना है, हमें पूछताछ करनी है, हमें नुक्ताचीनी करनी है, टीका-टिप्पणी करनी है, तो आप टीका-टिप्पणी करते रहिए, लेकिन हम वहां आगे बढ़कर लोगों की सेवा करते रहेंगे क्योंकि लोगों की सेवा करना हमारा कर्तव्य है, हमारा दायित्व है, हमारा फर्ज है। यह देश मेरी मां है और मैं इस का पुत्र हूं और पुत्र होने के नाते मैं हमेशा मां की सेवा के लिए तत्पर रहूंगा। मैं इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ अपनी वाणी को विराम देता हूं। भारत माता की जय, धन्यवाद।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी (आंध्र प्रदेश): महोदय, आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे भी बोलने का मौका दिया है। आप जानते हैं कि जब देश में बजट पेश किया जाता है, तो ऐसा नहीं कि उस पर देश के मशहूर Economists बैठकर सोचते हैं, वे आंकड़े और दिशा जरूर बनाकर देते हैं, मगर भारतवासी और मेरे जैसी गृहस्थ महिला भी बजट की ओर देखती है कि हमारी जिंदगी पर इस का आने वाले साल में क्या असर पड़ने वाला है? हम कहां पैसे की बचत करें? वह कैसे परिवार की प्रोग्रेस देखे, बच्चों को कैसे शिक्षित बनाए और अगर एक सामान्य किसान का परिवार है, तो उसे कई बातों को सोचना पड़ता है। इसलिए जब बजट पेश होता है, तो सिर्फ बातों से हवा महल की तरह बात करेंगे, तो कुछ नहीं मिलता है।

महोदय, ये मेरे colleagues यहां इतनी देर से खड़े हैं, ये इतने दिनों से आवाज उठा रहे हैं और हमारे respected colleague Dr. K. Keshava Rao जी बहुत गर्म होकर बोले हैं। वास्तव में तेलंगाना और आंध्र प्रदेश हमारे जुड़वां बच्चे थे, लेकिन आज एक तेलुगू दूसरे तेलुगू से लड़ रहा है, खून बह रहा है, वहां नदी-तालाब सूख गए हैं। एक नया राज्य बनना था, मगर हुआ क्या? अगर कोई फैसला इस घर में होता है, तो क्या सरकार की जिम्मेदारी नहीं बनती कि उसे निभाया जाएगा? अगर सरकार बदल जाती है तो क्या वायदा निभाया नहीं जाता है? Why has Andhra Pradesh not been given their status as a special category status? Why have they not been given? इन को मना करने का क्या कारण है आपके पास? You had said that you will allocate funds. What is the percentage that you have actually allocated? Do you know what is happening in Telangana as well? Under PMGSY, you have given us tokenism. हम tribal welfare development के लिए जरूर budget heads के नीचे गए हैं। मेरा जिला खम्मम है, जहां तेलंगाना में सब से ज्यादा tribals रहते हैं। हमारे तंडागुडम में, हमने

[श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी]

जो उसे नाम दिया है, वहां हमें चलने का अधिकार नहीं है। वहां हमारे घरों से सड़क तक पहुंचने में तीन-तीन दिन लगते हैं। महोदय, यह बहुत बेरहम सरकार है और ये सिर्फ दिखाने के लिए बजट में बड़ी-बड़ी बातें बोलती है। वास्तव में हो क्या रहा है? आपने किसानों को बहुत उम्मीद दिलायी कि आप किसान का बजट पेश कर रहे हैं। हमने भी सोचा कि शायद ऐसा होगा। मैं आपकी मजबूरी समझती हूँ। आज आप को देश भर के किसानों की आह लग रही है। यह बात आपको समझ आ गयी है और अगले साल चुनाव होंगे, इसलिए आप जल्दबाजी में किसान का बजट लेकर आए। इस में आपने उन्हें कितने पैसे दिए हैं? What is your overall percentage that you have increased in the allocation? यह मुझे समझाइए। आप एम.एस.पी. देंगे। आप समझते हैं कि एम.एस.पी. क्या चीज है? आप और आप के बाबू लोग ए.सी. कमरों में बैठकर, जिन्होंने कभी जमीन को जोता नहीं, जब आपने कभी देखा ही नहीं, वह तकलीफ आपको महसूस ही नहीं हुई जब हम खेत में खड़े रहते हैं और हमारी फसल सूख जाती है या bumper crop लेकर हम मार्केट चले जाते हैं और अच्छा rate रेट नहीं मिलता है, तो क्या आप जानते हैं कि वह तकलीफ कैसी है? क्या आप जानते हैं कि जो हम महिला किसान होती हैं, तो हमने अपना मंगलसूत्र तक गिरवी रखा है, ताकि हमारी फसल अच्छी पैदा हो? ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमें समझ में आ गया कि आपको जानकारी नहीं है। आपके सवालों से समझ में आ जाता है कि आपको बिल्कुल जानकारी नहीं है। आप और ज्यादा मत बोलिए, नहीं तो सारी पोल खुल जाएगी। इसलिए मैं कहती हूँ कि आप सोच-समझकर कदम उठाएं। किसान का आक्रोश खत्म होने वाला नहीं है, यह तो शुरुआत है, मेरे भाई! हम इलेक्शन तक देखते रहेंगे कि MSP क्या है और किसान का ABC क्या है, आपको समझ में आएगा। आप कह रहे हैं कि हम इसको extension of MSP देते जा रहे हैं बाकी crops के लिए, तो इसका फैसला कौन करेगा? इसका फैसला नीति आयोग करेगा मगर यह नहीं कहा गया कि इसका खर्चा और कर्जा कहां से आएगा। इसके लिए कोई Budget allocation ही नहीं है और Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare के लिए कोई allocation नहीं है, तो फिर आप Revised Estimate में क्या लेकर आए हैं? मुझे यह बात समझ में आ रही है, लेकिन इन नए राज करने वालों की समझ में नहीं आ रही है। आपके यहां तो कह देते हैं कि लाल किले से भी लोग बोलते हैं, मगर होता क्या है कि घूम-फिर कर आप राज्य सरकारों के ऊपर खर्चा डाल देते हैं और हमारी राज्य सरकारें यह खर्चा उठा नहीं सकती हैं। मगर आप ड्रामा तो बहुत अच्छा करते हैं। आप देखते रहिए, आज के दिन जब किसान मार्केट चला जाता है, तो क्या आप उसको ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मेरी बात विनम्रता से सुनिए। आपको सच सुनने का हौसला भी रखना चाहिए, क्योंकि सच बहुत कड़वा होता है। मैं जानती हूँ कि कभी-कभी यह सच चुभ जाता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपने हाउस में आकर कह दिया, We are forced to bring up the price of farmers. महोदय, आज कम से कम यह सरकार किसानों के बारे में बोल रही है और ये कम से कम उनका नाम तो ले रहे हैं। पहले तो यह भी नहीं होता था। But, what are the outlays for the market intervention and price support scheme? जो बहुत जरूरी है। ये क्या करें, उसमें गिरावट है। From ₹ 950 crores of Revised Estimate of last year to 200 करोड़। आप हमें 200 करोड़ में किसान का भविष्य दिखा रहे हैं, वाह रे वाह! यह मुझे समझ में नहीं आया। आपने जो यह NPA write-off industry के लिए दिया है, इससे किसी की एक दमड़ी की भी नौकरी नहीं लगी। जब आपने industry में relief दिया है, तो हमारे किसानों को कर्ज में relief नहीं देंगे? किसान की debt relief के लिए आपने आज

5.00 P.M.

तक दो कौड़ी भी नहीं दी है। हमारे किसान हर रोज आत्महत्या कर रहे हैं। आज मुझे यह कहते हुए ज्यादा दुख हो रहा है कि मेरे क्षेत्र खम्मम में भी एक किसान ने आत्महत्या की है। उसने दो बोर वैल खोदे, लेकिन उनमें से एक बूंद पानी भी नहीं निकाला। हम वहां कपास bumper crop उगाते हैं, पैडी उगाते हैं और मिर्च उगाते हैं। एक बार कर्ज के रूट पर चले गए, तो किसान को कोई यू टर्न नहीं मिलता है। इन tenant farmers की क्या हालत है? आप लोगों ने कभी जमीन कोल पर ली है, क्योंकि हमारे पास इतनी हैसियत नहीं है कि अपनी जमीन रहे। जब हम कोल पर जमीन लेते हैं और फसल बोते समय नुकसान हो जाता है, मैंने अपने बजट में बड़े गौर से देखा है, इनके लिए एक भी लफ्ज नहीं है, एक सोच नहीं है और एक विचार नहीं है कि कोलदार का क्या हाल होगा? ...**(समय की घंटी)**... महोदय, माफ कीजिए। आप मेरी तरफ देखकर घंटी मत बजाइए। आप देखिए कि सूइसाइड करने वालों में तेलंगाना और ओडिशा में जितने भी कोलदार tenant farmers हैं, इनके लिए तो कोई सहूलियत नहीं है और इनके लिए इस बजट में कोई सपोर्ट भी नहीं है। महिला किसान का — वैसे तो इस हाउस में हमने महिला की गरिमा और मर्यादा देख ली है, मगर क्या आप जानते हैं कि महिला किसान के हालात कैसे होते हैं? There is no gender-desegregated land record. क्या कोई एग्रीकल्चरल क्रेडिट मिल रहा है? जब कभी नेचुरल डिजास्टर हो जाती है तो क्या हमें SHG loans की कोई छूट मिलती है? आपके बैंक्स वसूली तो बड़ी अच्छी कर लेते हैं, लेकिन आप यह बताइए कि आपने आज के दिन में एग्रीकल्चरल क्रेडिट में कितना खर्च किया है? आपके बैंक्स हमारे गरीब किसान के घर से, जब उसके घर पर कुछ और नहीं बचा होता तो उसके घर की चौखट तक लेकर चले जाते हैं। उसके बाद बड़ी-बड़ी इंडस्ट्री वाले लोग अपनी Mercedes-Benz में देश भर में घूमते हैं। क्या आपको पता है कि मर्सिडीज़ लगज़री कार की ईएमआई ट्रैक्टर की ईएमआई से सस्ती है? ट्रैक्टर का क्या दाम है और क्या क्वालिटी है? क्या आपने कभी चलाकर देखा है? आज के दिन देखें, तो ट्रैक्टर का वजन कम हो गया है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... जब हम खेत जोतने जाते हैं तो हमारा ट्रैक्टर उठ जाता है, क्योंकि उसके गेज में कमी आ गई है। आप देखिए कि आपने महिला किसान को कुछ नहीं दिया है। landless women, especially, Dalit women, expansion of higher maternity and ...**(Interruptions)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Renukaji, I have given double time to you. Please conclude. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, बस एक मिनट। मैं कनक्लूड कर रही हूं। अब मैं स्वास्थ्य के बारे में क्या बताऊं? सरकार तो तंदुरुस्त लगती है, मगर पीछे से कुछ कहने के लिए तो आपने कुछ कह दिया है कि देश भर में इतने सारे इंशरेंस होंगे, लेकिन आप भी जानते हैं कि यह होने वाली बात नहीं है।

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती अनुप्रिया पटेल): होगा, होगा।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: आप बोलिए, लेकिन हमें झूठी उम्मीदें मत दीजिए, क्योंकि हम अपने मदों से आटे के डिब्बे में छिपाकर, दमड़ी-दमड़ी जोड़कर पैसों की जो बचत करते हैं, हम वह पैसा भी यह सोचकर खर्च कर लेंगे कि सरकार हमारा सहारा बनेगी। महोदय, यह होने वाली बात नहीं है। आप मुझे सारी स्कीम्स के आंकड़े दें। आपने घंटी बजा दी है, इसलिए मैं मजबूर हूं

[श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी]

कि मैं इस पर संक्षेप में बोलूँ, पर आप मुझे बताइए कि PMRPRY, इस स्कीम के अंदर आपने एक पैसा allocate नहीं किया। "प्रधान मंत्री राष्ट्रीय पकौड़ा योजना" में कहीं भी एक पैसा नहीं दिया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: मुझे ऑब्जेक्शन है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: महोदय, मुझे skill development पर यह कहना था कि हमें इस head के नीचे कहीं भी कुछ पैसे नहीं मिले, मगर this is the crucial part. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Renukaji, please conclude.

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: महोदय ...(व्यवधान)... Sir, I am concluding. ...(Interruptions)... इसका फिस्कल टारगेट ...(व्यवधान)... 3.2 परसेंट से उतर गया है। You have failed to deliver on the 3.2 per cent target for next year's balance. उस तरफ से अभी एक भाई साहब कह रहे थे कि हमने Food Park दिया। क्या आपको food processing पर जानकारी है कि उन दिए हुए 42 Food Parks में से 4 चलते हैं, वे भी लंगड़ाते-लंगड़ाते। आपके आंकड़े देने से तो वे चार भी नहीं चल रहे हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): रेणुका जी, मैं दूसरे सदस्य का नाम ले लूंगा, आप समाप्त कीजिए।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: सर, एक मेन मुद्दा है। महिलाओं के निर्भया फंड में भी कटौती हो गई। निर्भया फंड में भी कटौती हो गई, हालांकि निर्भया क्या है? एक औरत के साथ बलात्कार होने के बाद उसको कुछ सहूलियत और छूट देने के लिए कुछ व्यवस्था रखते हैं, मगर मैं सोचती हूँ कि इस निर्भया फंड को हटा ही दें, क्योंकि बलात्कार की शिकार महिला की मर्यादा का सवाल है। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): मैं अगला नाम बोलता हूँ, श्री अनिल देसाई।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: * और गृह मंत्री, जिनको हमारी रक्षा करनी चाहिए, जिन्हें कानून बनाना चाहिए, वे भी ट्वीट करते हैं। अगर इस हाउस में ये हालात हैं, तो सड़क पर ...(व्यवधान)... क्या इशारा ...(व्यवधान)... हो गया है? आप किस बात पर बोल रहे हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... आप महिला सुरक्षा के लिए क्या कहते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... महिलाओं के लिए ...(व्यवधान)... क्या करते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... आप आंकड़े देते जाते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... आंकड़े दिखाते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... महोदय, इन आंकड़ों से कुछ नहीं होगा। ...(व्यवधान)... आपका इरादा होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... महिलाओं की मर्यादा होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... अगर आप यह नहीं दे सकते हैं, तो * से इस बजट का ड्रामा मत कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्री (श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नकवी): माननीय सदस्या ने माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी के लिए जो बात बोली है ...(व्यवधान)... वह unparliamentary है। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): जो अनपार्लियामेंटरी शब्द हैं, मैं उन्हें निकाल दूंगा।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: उनके लिए जिस तरह की भाषा बोली गई है, उसको expunge किया जाए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): expunge किया जाएगा। श्री तिरुचि शिवा, आप बोलिए।

श्रीमती रेणुका चौधरी: उपसभापति जी ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): देशखए, आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... I will remove. I will expunge that thing from the topic. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: ये किस तरह की भाषा बोल रही हैं? ...(व्यवधान)... अगर इनको आईना दिखाया जाएगा ...(व्यवधान)... तो उस आईने में ...(व्यवधान)... अगर आपकी कांग्रेस का ...(व्यवधान)... है तो हम क्या कर सकते हैं? ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री तिरुचि शिवा जी, आप बोलिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): You sit down. ...(Interruptions)... If it is unparliamentary, it will be removed. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. If it is unparliamentary, it will be removed. ...(Interruptions)... Sit down. देखिए, आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मुख्तार अब्बास नक़वी: महोदय, ज्यादा चर्चा की जरूरत नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... किस तरीके से ये बोल रहे हैं। अगर इनको आईना दिखाया जाएगा, तो उस आईने में ...(व्यवधान)... तो हम क्या कर सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am happy and proud to participate in this debate as a representative of the DMK Party which has been a pioneer in social justice. Not only that, we have been a forerunner in implementing the social welfare schemes, first ever in the country which has been taken as a cue by the Union Government in this Budget. Sir, the Health Insurance Scheme, the Maternity Benefit Scheme, the Farmers' Market, the LPG connections to the poor have all been implemented first ever in Tamil Nadu. So also in the Budget, the Government has assured that in the year 2022, whole of India and the rural parts will be electrified. Sir, way back in 1972 itself, 50 years before when our leader, Dr. Kalaignar was the Chief Minister, all the rural villages in Tamil Nadu had been electrified. So, Sir, I am very happy that we have been pioneer and forerunner in implementing the welfare schemes. The second is we are also happy that regional parties have become the guiding force to the national parties whenever they brought such schemes.

[Shri Tiruchi Siva]

Sir, I would like to thank the Finance Minister on this occasion, before going to the bitter part of my speech, that he has reduced the GST for the food products in the hotels from 18 per cent to 5 per cent, which has been represented by us, and he has agreed to that. We are thankful to him for that. So also, he has exempted tractors from commercial vehicles and retained them as agricultural part. The third is, Sir, today, we have received a letter from the Finance Minister that the proposal for borewells, which are used for the irrigation purposes, to be exempted from the GST, is to be placed before the GST Council which is to sit next time.

I come to the main part of the Budget Speech. The Economic Survey has stated that the major part of our economy is decided by the informal sector, that is, 87 per cent. Out of the 87 per cent, only 12 per cent of the firms are registered under the GST but do not provide social security. Less than 0.1 per cent provide social security but are not registered under the GST. Sir, the Government when it assured that the workforce in the formal sector will be given adequate benefits, equal to the informal sector, I would like to say that because of demonetisation the social security scheme in the informal sector has suffered a lot. Sir, in the Budget, the Finance Minister has said, time and again, that the demonetisation has done good for the country. Yesterday, my good colleague, Shri Bhupender Yadav, spoke also said that they have shelled out the black money. It is very surprising. Sir, I would like to say that when demonetisation was announced on 16th November, 2016, the total amount of SBN, that is, Specified Bank Notes, of ₹ 1000 and ₹ 500 denominations was valued at ₹ 15.4 lakh crore, that is, 86.9 per cent of the total value of the currency in the circulation. Later the Annual Report of the RBI stated that subject to future corrections based on verification process when completed, the estimated value of SBN, Specified Bank Notes received as on 30th June, 2017, that is, within six months after the demonetisation was announced, ₹ 15.28 lakh crore, which constitutes 98.96 per cent of the currency. So, twelve lakh worth of currency has not come into the mainstream. I have little knowledge about it. I would like the Government to clarify and enlighten me from where it has shelled out the black money. If the total amount of money in circulation was only 15.4 lakh crores of rupees, and the money that has been deposited back is ₹ 15.28 lakh crores, from where does this black money come? Nothing has been shown. So is the case with the fake currency. The fake currency was supposed to be only forty-three...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Sivaji, your five minutes are over. I request you to conclude.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, we have been waiting. One or two Members from the 'Others' category are not present. I just want a little time more.

Our former Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, had already speculated and stated that the GDP growth rate would decline by two per cent. It was very vivid and clear in the 4th quarter of 2016-17, when the GDP had declined from 7% to 6.1%. Also, unemployment would be increasing.

Sir, the third very important issue is the condition of our agriculture. The Government has assured that in the year 2022 the income of farmers would double, and that the MSP would be 150 % more or so. But, first, I would like to ask whether it is an Annual Plan or a Five-Year Plan. The Budget is considered to be an Annual Plan. But all those announcements are about a further period of not just one or two years, but about a period of five years. Sir, let me say that we should not basically forget that India is an agricultural country. And agricultural land has been declining year after year. We should also recollect that during the economic recession, which started from US and spread to the whole of Europe, India had not been affected, and this was mainly for two reasons. One was that the agricultural sector was sound; we were not in food deficit; the second was the public sector undertakings. And now you do not care for both these things! If, at all, you say that fiscal deficit has been brought under control, it is mainly because of, one, the slide in oil prices and, two, by way of disinvestment of even profit-making PSUs. Sir, steel plants are making profits. BHEL is making profit. They are all in Navaratna and Maharatna categories. But they are all being disinvested. One can understand if you are disinvesting some loss-making PSUs; but you are disinvesting even profit making PSUs, and with that money, you are balancing fiscal deficit and saying that you are capable of running the Government with some economic wisdom. No, Sir! I am very sorry to say, Sir, that statistics show that agricultural land has been reduced by 3.16 million hectares. Agricultural land has been diverted from 'agricultural use' to 'non-agricultural use'.

Sir, population has been increasing. Food requirement has been increasing. But agricultural land has been decreasing. Farmers are on the streets. When they were there at the Jantar Mantar, no one took care of them. They have been committing suicides; no one is taking care of them. During the demonetisation period, people died at the gates of banks; pensioners suffered without getting money from the banks; women who had saved some money without the knowledge of their men at homes, suffered. So, the farmers are not being taken care of, but, still, you are assuring that they would be safe! When agricultural land has been shrinking, when farmers are on the streets, and when they are committing suicides, how are you going to save the agricultural sector in this country? It is the largest employment-provider.

Now, some announcements have been made in the Budget...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Please conclude in one minute.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I would just conclude. What are the allocations? What is the increase and what is the decrease? The decrease is very much to be seen and felt, and the increase is not sufficient when compared to the required level.

Let me talk about the rural electrification scheme. What is that Pradhan Mantri...? I don't know because it is in Hindi. The amount allotted is ₹ 3,500 crores, whereas the amount that should have been allocated should have been ₹ 8,720 crores; so, it is 59 per cent less than what was required. So also on the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan, it was recommended that ₹ 86,796 crore be allocated but only ₹ 56,719 crore has been allocated. I should say that only by looking at the announcements made by the Finance Minister and his statistics, one may assume that a little increase of money has been there but it is not to the required level.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): धन्यवाद, शिवा जी, आपके 10 मिनट हो गए हैं। I have given you double the time. Please conclude. I will have to call other names also.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, kindly extend the time. If you insist, I am prepared to sit down right now. *...(Interruptions)...* Kindly permit me to speak for a few more minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Kindly conclude in two minutes.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: The demand of the Ministry of Human Resource Development was ₹ 55,000 crore. The amount allocated is ₹ 26,129 crore. Already there are nine lakh vacancies of teachers across the country. HRD is the most important portfolio of the Department in this country. It had demanded for ₹ 55,000 crore and the allocated money was 52 per cent less than the amount that should have been allocated. Sir, these are the issues that we have to focus. On these issues, you have to consider very seriously. The Budget which is being focused as pro-poor is not so. All those welfare schemes which you have given in the Budget, I would say that there are too many promises but there is not even a smallest, single guarantee as to how they would be implemented. What are the resources? How will it be done? They are only announcements on paper. At the very beginning itself I had said that we wanted to appreciate. But demonetisation has not benefited the country; the GST has taken the country to a very bad level. So many sectors are suffering because of shortcomings in the GST implementation. The Council is sitting again and again to reconsider GST rates. Above all these things, the agricultural sector is neglected, the educational sector is neglected, the employment issue has not been

tackled to the level it should have been tackled, but the Government says that one who is wearing a *hawai chappal* too can fly in the aircraft. But I am sorry to say that he may even fly with a *hawai chappal*, but he will not be able to fly with a bare body and an empty stomach.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BASAWARAJ PATIL): Now Dr. Vikas Mahatme ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी का रिप्लाई 5.00 बजे होना था और हम लोगों की 7.00 बजे की फ्लाइट है। या तो आप पहले वाली परम्परा को फॉलो कीजिए कि सब लोग बोल लें और रिप्लाई न हो, ताकि हम लोग भी जाएं। अगर रिप्लाई होना है, तो कितने बजे होना है? आज लास्ट डे है, लोक सभा एड्जर्न हो चुकी है, आप यहां बैठे हैं और हाउस को 10.00 बजे तक चलाने के मूड में हैं। हम लोग कोई 10.00 बजे तक थोड़े ही बैठे रहेंगे। हमें अपने क्षेत्र में वापस जाना है। हम परमानेंट राज्य सभा वाले नहीं हैं, हमें अपने-अपने क्षेत्रों में वापस जाना होता है। माननीय संसदीय कार्य मंत्री जी इसका जवाब दें।

श्री विजय गोयल: महोदय, सदन सदस्यों की राय से चलता है और आज यही राय बनी थी कि तीन घंटे में हम इस चर्चा को समाप्त कर लेंगे, इसलिए मेरी पार्टी की तरफ से हमने चार वक्ताओं के नाम विद्‌ड्रॉ कर लिए थे, क्योंकि मुख्य वक्ता के माध्यम से सारी बातें आ जाती हैं। अगर दूसरी पार्टी भी ऐसा कर सकें और खास तौर से मैं कांग्रेस पार्टी से निवेदन करूंगा कि अगर वे ऐसा कर सकें, तो कर लें और अगर नहीं कर सकें, तो अपनी बात को थोड़े शब्दों के अंदर रखें, ऐसा मेरा अनुरोध है। ऐसे में वित्त मंत्री जी जल्दी जवाब दे पाएंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री नरेश अग्रवाल: आप वित्त मंत्री का रिप्लाई करवाइए, क्योंकि बातें तो वही रिपीट हो रही हैं।

श्री विजय गोयल: यह बात आप उधर समझाइए ना। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री भूपेंद्र यादव (राजस्थान): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आप समय तय कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... सब मेम्बर्स के लिए निश्चित समय तय होना चाहिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Why are they insulting by asking us not to speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक मिनट, आप मेरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रिपुन बोरा (असम): यह सही बात नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विजय गोयल: प्रमोद जी, एक मिनट, मैं अपनी बात पूरी कर लूं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... एक मिनट के लिए आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्रमोद जी, एक मिनट बैठिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आनंद भास्कर रापोलू जी, वे बोल रहे हैं, अभी आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप भी नाम आएगा।

श्री विजय गोयल: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा निवेदन है कि सदन सदस्यों के लिए है। जैसी आपकी राय बनेगी, वैसा करेंगे। अगर वित्त मंत्री सायंकाल 6.00 बजे जवाब दें, तो इसके लिए आप सब लोग एग्री करें, तभी ऐसा हो सकता है और उसी के हिसाब से समय का आवंटन कर लें, क्योंकि इसमें सभी सदस्यों का सहयोग चाहिए।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, अभी कांग्रेस पार्टी की तरफ से बोलने के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण और वरिष्ठ वक्ता रह गए हैं। इसलिए कांग्रेस पार्टी insist करती है कि हम बोलेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): आप लोग बोलिए, लेकिन जितना टाइम दिया है, उतने टाइम में बोलिए। मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं है।

श्री प्रमोद तिवारी: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके प्रति पूरा आदर व्यक्त करते हुए कहना चाहता हूँ कि जितने टाइम में और लोग बोले हैं और जितना टाइम आपने और सभी माननीय सदस्यों को दिया है, उसी रेश्यो में हमारे वक्ता भी टाइम लेंगे।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): डा. विकास महाम्ने।

डा. विकास महाम्ने (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, यह बजट मुझे बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण लगता है, क्योंकि इस बार के बजट में सारे भारतवासियों को भरोसा और विश्वास हुआ है कि अब भारत आगे बढ़ सकता है। थोड़े ही सालों में भारत एक विकसित देश बनने वाला है। चूंकि मैं डाक्टर हूँ और मेडिकल फेकल्टी से आता हूँ, इसलिए मैं ज्यादातर 'आयुष्मान भारत' के बारे में बताना चाहूंगा।

महोदय, 'आयुष्मान भारत' पूरे वर्ल्ड की एक ऐसी सबसे बड़ी स्कीम है, जिसके माध्यम से देश के 50 करोड़ से ज्यादा लोगों को फायदा होने वाला है। अमेरिका में जैसे 'ओबामा केयर' को जाना जाता है, वैसे ही मुझे लगता है कि यह योजना सोशल मीडिया पर 'नमो केयर' कर के जानी जा रही है। इसी प्रकार से आगे भी इसकी पहचान होगी। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर विपक्ष ने काफी सवाल उठाए थे। श्री जयराम रमेश जी का इसके बारे में कहना था कि यूनिवर्सल हेल्थ केयर होना चाहिए न कि केवल 50 करोड़ लोगों को ही इसका लाभ मिले। मुझे भी लगता है कि यूनिवर्सल हेल्थ केयर होना चाहिए, लेकिन इसकी शुरुआत तो कुछ लोगों से ही हो सकती है। जैसे अभी 50 करोड़ लोगों से इसकी शुरुआत हो रही है, वैसे ही बचे हुए 70 करोड़ लोगों को हम कुछ ही साल में यह सुविधा दे पाएंगे। इस प्रकार देखें, तो इस देश में यूनिवर्सल हेल्थ केयर लाने के बारे में इस सरकार ने और हमने सबसे पहले कदम उठाया है।

महोदय, जैसा कहा गया कि इसमें प्राइमरी हेल्थ केयर की भी आवश्यकता है, मैं उससे सहमत हूँ, लेकिन मैं आपके जरिए सदन और देशवासियों को बताना चाहूंगा कि यह सरकार देश में लगभग डेढ़ लाख वेलनेस सेंटर्स खोल रही है। इससे मुझे लगता है कि प्राइमरी हेल्थ केयर भी उसमें आने वाली है। इन वेलनेस हेल्थ सेंटर्स के जरिए हम प्राइमरी हेल्थ केयर का समाधान पूरी तरह से करेंगे। इस प्रकार से इन सेंटर्स के जरिए हम प्राइमरी हेल्थ केयर के साधन जनता तक पहुंचाएंगे।

महोदय, देश के लोगों और विपक्ष को भी लग रहा है कि इस योजना से प्राइवेट इंड्योरेंस कंपनियों को फायदा होगा। मुझे भी इसका डर है, लेकिन मुझे लगता है कि ऐसा नहीं होगा, क्योंकि देश में गवर्नमेंट की चार इंड्योरेंस कंपनीज हैं, जो ये इंड्योरेंस ले सकती हैं और इसका

इम्प्लीमेंटेशन पूरे भारत में कर सकती हैं। इसलिए मेरा कहना है कि यदि इस स्कीम का इम्प्लीमेंटेशन सरकार की इन चार कंपनियों के माध्यम से होता है, तो इसमें कोई परेशानी नहीं होगी। यह परेशानी शायद अमेरिका में हो सकती है, लेकिन भारतवर्ष में नहीं होगी।

महोदय, काफी लोगों का यह सवाल भी था कि इस योजना से प्राइवेट प्रेक्टिशनर्स को लाभ होगा, लेकिन मुझे बताइए कि प्राइवेट प्रेक्टिशनर्स के बगैर, भारत में हेल्थ के बारे में एक भी स्कीम को सक्षेपुल तरीके से नहीं चला सकते हैं, क्योंकि भारत में आज जो भी डाक्टर्स हैं, उनमें से 80 प्रतिशत डाक्टर्स प्राइवेट हेल्थ केयर में काम कर रहे हैं। देश में जो भी हेल्थ सर्विसेस प्रोवाइड होती हैं, वे केवल 20 प्रतिशत ही सरकारी क्षेत्र में दी जाती हैं, बाकी प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में दी जाती हैं। इस प्रकार मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम जो काम 70 साल में नहीं कर सके, वह एक ही साल में नहीं हो पाएगा, इसलिए प्राइवेट डाक्टर्स की हैल्प लेना बहुत ही जरूरी है।

महोदय, श्री जयराम रमेश जी ने यह भी कहा था कि out of pocket expenses का क्या होगा और वे काफी ज्यादा होते हैं? मैं भी उनसे सहमत हूँ, लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि out of pocket expenses दवाओं और investigations पर ज्यादा होता है। Out of pocket expenses जो दवाओं पर खर्चा होता है, उसके लिए सरकार की तरफ से जन-औषधि योजना बाजार में लाई गई है। उससे आज 70 से 80 प्रतिशत दवाओं की कीमत कम हो गई है और मुझे लगता है कि उससे out of pocket expenses कम हो जाएंगे। वैसे ही इन्वेस्टिगेशंस तभी ज्यादा होते हैं, जब मरीज भर्ती होता है। इसके लिए जो भी टॉप अप या खर्चा लगता है, वह स्टेट गवर्नमेंट भी कर सकती है। इसमें सबसे इम्पॉर्टेंट और एक अच्छी बात जो है, मुझे लगता है कि हम इसकी तरफ नहीं देख रहे हैं। वह यह है कि हमें पता है कि भारतवर्ष में सभी डॉक्टर्स माने जाते हैं, world over माने जाते हैं और बाहर के देशों से भी बहुत सारे लोग मेडिकल ट्रीटमेंट के लिए भारतवर्ष में आते हैं। वैसे ही नर्सिंग की बहुत डिमांड है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... बाहर के देशों में भी भारतीय नर्सिंग की डिमांड बहुत ज्यादा है। तो अभी जब इतनी बड़ी स्कीम 'आयुष्मान भारत' आयेगी, 'नमो केयर' आयेगी, तो काफी मात्रा में पैरा मेडिकल्स लगेंगे। हम स्किल सेंटर्स के जरिए ये पैरा मेडिकल्स भी बहुत अच्छे से तैयार कर पायेंगे। यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हमारे जो 10वीं-12वीं पास लड़के हैं, youths हैं, उनको हम इसमें समाविष्ट कर लेंगे और इसमें उनको जॉब्स की अपॉर्च्युनिटी है। मुझे लगता है कि हेल्थ केयर में इनके जरिए सब लोगों तक, 50 करोड़ लोगों तक पहुँचने के लिए, एक जो जॉब का प्रश्न है, यह उसे अपने आप ही हल करने वाली स्कीम होगी। इसीलिए मुझे लगता है कि यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हम इसे जान लें।

काफी बार यह कहा जाता है कि यह जो बात है, यह भी एक जुमला है, क्योंकि इसमें कुछ भी होने वाला नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके पहले कांग्रेस का भी एक नारा था— 'गरीबी हटाओ'। क्या वह जुमला नहीं था? क्या आज तक गरीबी हटाई गयी है? उन्होंने इलेक्शन के वक्त उस जुमले का कई बार उपयोग भी किया है। मुझे लगता है कि इसे जुमला नहीं कहा जाए, क्योंकि यह जो 'नमो केयर' है, यह भारतवर्ष के लिए बहुत ही अच्छा रहेगा, यह भारतवासियों के लिए अच्छा रहेगा और गांवों में रहने वाले गरीब लोगों के लिए भी अच्छा रहेगा। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... वैसे ही जब हम गांव की मूलभूत सुविधाओं के बारे में सोचते हैं, तो हमें इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के बारे में भी सोचना चाहिए और पहली बार इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के लिए बहुत ज्यादा आवंटन किया गया है। जैसे इसके पहले भी अटल जी की सरकार में 'प्रधान मंत्री

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

ग्रामीण सड़क योजना' से काफी लाभ हुआ था, वैसे ही माननीय नितिन गडकरी जी के जरिए गांव को शहर से जोड़ने का काम बहुत अच्छे ढंग से हो पायेगा। मैं सभी को यह बताना चाहूंगा कि नितिन गडकरी के यहां उन्होंने एक पोस्टर लगाया है, जिसमें यह लिखा है कि ...**(व्यवधान)**...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री बसावाराज पाटिल): श्री महात्मे जी, समाप्त कीजिए।

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: "American roads are good not because America is rich. But America is rich because American roads are good." So, we need good roads in villages also. इसके जरिए जो भी अनाज है, उसे मार्केट तक पहुँचाने के लिए यहां रोड्स बहुत जरूरी हैं और यहां के रोड्स की वजह से रोजगार भी उपलब्ध हो सकता है। मुझे यह लगता है कि असंगठित क्षेत्र में रोड्स के लिए लोगों को रोजगार मिल सकेगा। वैसे ही बहुत जरूरी है कि आईटी सेक्टर का भी इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर तैयार हो। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मुझे यदि एक किलो चावल फ्लिपकार्ड या एमेज़ॉन के जरिए ऑनलाइन परचेज़ करना है, तो मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि वह कितने दिन में कहां आयेगा, कितने बजे मेरे घर पहुँचेगा, यह सब मुझे पता चलता है और कौन से गोडाउन से निकलेगा, कौन सी गाड़ी से आयेगा, यह भी मैं ऑनलाइन देख सकता हूँ। लेकिन आज यदि किसान को अपना अनाज बेचना है, तो उसके लिए यह बहुत मुश्किल है कि मार्केट कहां है, वहां तक वह कैसे पहुँचाए और कहां वह गोदाम में रखे। तो यह जो इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर है और हम जो रोबस्ट आईटी फ्रेमवर्क उनको दे रहे हैं, हम साथ में सॉफ्टवेयर भी देंगे, तो मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि उनको अब मार्केट में कठिनाई नहीं होगी और हम जो उनकी आय दोगुनी करना चाहते हैं, उसके लिए यह बहुत बड़ा कदम है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

मुझे पता है कि समय की बहुत कमी है। काफी मुद्दे हैं, लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि यह जो बजट है, यह सभी भारतवासियों का हौसला बढ़ाने वाला है। हम नये भारत, नयी दिशा के लिए जा रहे हैं और हम एक नये भारत का निर्माण करेंगे, ऐसा विश्वास उत्पन्न हो रहा है। इसलिए मैं इसका समर्थन करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री राज बब्बर (उत्तराखंड): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सबसे पहले मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आपने मुझे बजट पर होने वाली महत्वपूर्ण चर्चा में बोलने का समय दिया। सारे सदन की भावना सुनने के बाद, मुझे लगा कि हमारे विद्वान साथियों ने लगभग सभी बिन्दुओं को सदन में रख दिया है। इसलिए मैं अपनी बात को सिर्फ दो ही विषयों तक सीमित रखूंगा और बहुत ज्यादा गम्भीर बातें करने की बजाए सिर्फ हल्की-सी बात ही करूंगा।

बजट में आई गिनतियों पर यहां काफी चर्चा हुई और गिनतियां बताई गईं। मैं गिनतियों से ही आरम्भ करूंगा, क्योंकि मुझे लग रहा है कि यह बजट आम जनता के साथ एक खूबसूरत छलावा है। यह बजट देश के अरबों देशवासियों के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि अरबपतियों के लिए है। इससे देश के जनमानस को आंकड़ों के हेरफेर में उलझाया जा रहा है। इस बिन्दु पर चर्चा करने से पहले, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि — 'सत्येन धार्यते पृथ्वी, सत्येन तपते रविः, सत्येन वाति वायुश्च, सर्वं सत्ये प्रतिष्ठितम्'। चाणक्य ने कहा है कि सत्य से भागने से कुछ नहीं होगा। सत्य ही पृथ्वी को संतुलित रखता है।

महोदय, 2014 में चुनाव से पहले आंकड़ों और data की भाषा नहीं बोली जाती थी। आपने 450

से ज्यादा मीटिंग्स की होंगी और जो शब्द बार-बार बोले जाते थे, वे थे — jobs, बेरोज़गारी, यूथ, हर साल 2 करोड़ बेरोज़गारों को नौकरियां, किसानों की बदहाली, सेना के जवानों की शहादत का बदला, काला धन, हर नागरिक के account में 15 लाख रुपए आदि-आदि।

महोदय, इस बजट में चार बार गिनने के बाद, समझ में आया कि कुल 18,000 शब्द हैं और इन 18,000 शब्दों में job शब्द सिर्फ 6 बार आया है। इससे आसानी से अंदाज़ा लगाया जा सकता है कि युवाओं के लिए रोज़गार के अवसर पैदा करने के लिए कितना संजीदा मौजूदा बजट है। मैं बहुत ज्यादा आंकड़ों में जाना नहीं चाहता, हमारे सभी साथियों ने, सभी विद्वानों ने इन्हें समझाने की कोशिश की है — अगर समझ में आ जाए तो। एक यूथ शब्द है, जिसे इन्होंने लाइन में लगा दिया। यूथ शब्द पूरे बजट में सिर्फ तीन बार आया है। रोज़गार के अवसरों के लिए कोई नया विचार नहीं है, सिर्फ स्टार्टअप्स, स्टैंडअप्स हैं — जिनकी सफलता संदिग्ध है। आप 55 सालों की कांग्रेस की सरकार की स्थिति की बात करना छोड़ दें, सिर्फ उनकी चर्चा करें, जो वायदे आपने जनता से किए थे। आपने 2 करोड़ नौकरियां देने की बात कही थी। डिटेल आपको बता दी गई है। अब EPF का data गिनाया जा रहा है। जान-बूझकर उलझाए हुए आंकड़े दिखाए जा रहे हैं। अपनी ही सरकार की लेबर मिनिस्ट्री के आंकड़े आप देख लीजिए, जो चिल्ला-चिल्लाकर कहते हैं कि पिछले चार सालों में जहां 8 करोड़ नौकरियां मिलनी चाहिए थीं, वहां मात्र 4-5 लाख नौकरियां मिली हैं। हालात सुधर सकें, इसके लिए बजट में कोई नई योजना नहीं है।

[उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री तिरुची शिवा) पीठासीन हुए]

आदमी को जीवनयापन करने के लिए, जिन्दा रहने के लिए, खाने के लिए data नहीं आटा चाहिए। बेरोज़गार नौजवान, जिसकी परिभाषा हमारे एक आदरणीय साथी ने दी है, jobs का मतलब आपको समझ में आ गया होगा। देश के बेरोज़गार नौजवान को regular रोज़गार चाहिए लेकिन यहां से regular भाषण मिलता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

महोदय, दुर्भाग्य है कि इस देश के नौजवानों को नफरत की अफीम पिलाई जा रही है। ऐसा नहीं है कि इस हकीकत से ये वाकिफ न हों। ये अच्छी तरह, भली-भांति परिचित हैं और जानते हैं, लेकिन अपनी असफलता, गवर्नर्स की चुनौतियों से भागते हुए नौकरी नहीं दे पाने की वजह से, ये उसकी भरपाई करते हैं और नौजवानों के हाथ में डंडे देते हैं। कल हमारे साथी ने बोला कि बांस फाइबर में आता है। इनके लिए वह फाइबर में नहीं आता है, डंडों के लिए आता है, इसलिए उसमें छूट देकर उसे घास में लाने का काम किया है। आपकी बातों में आकर युवा आज की तारीख में न तो समाज के काम आ रहा है और न ही अपने परिवार के काम आ रहा है। वह सिर्फ एक वोट बैंक की राजनीति का शिकार हो चुका है। यूपी के कासगंज के चंदन की मौत की वजह ही यही है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जिस दिन झण्डारोहण हो और झण्डा फहराने की बहस के अंदर नौजवान की जान चली जाए, इसके सवालों के जवाब इनको देना होगा। इसका कारण यह है कि नौजवान को रोज़गार नहीं मिल रहा है, जिसकी वजह से वह एक आक्रोश में निकला हुआ है। महोदय, नौजवानों के बारे में बहुत सारी बातें कह दी गई हैं। उनसे संबंधित योजनाओं के बारे में कह दिया गया है, इसलिए मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहूंगा।

महोदय, अब रहा किसान, तो किसान को भी इन्होंने सिर्फ लॉलीपॉप देने का काम किया है। मुझे अच्छी तरह याद है कि वर्ष 2014 में इनका घोषणा पत्र निकला था, जिसके पन्ना नम्बर-44

[श्री राज बब्बर]

के ऊपर इन्होंने उस वक्त किसान की लागत का डेढ़ गुना देने का वादा किया था। चार साल बीत जाने के बाद, अब इनको किसानों की याद आई है। वह भी न आती, लेकिन गुजरात का चुनाव और राजस्थान के उप-चुनाव के अंदर जब किसान की नाराजगी खुल कर वोटों के रूप में सामने आई, तब बात इनकी समझ में आई। यही वजह है कि इन्होंने इस बार अपने बजट में फार्मर का नाम, किसान का नाम 30 बार किया है। शायद यही वजह हो सकती है कि 18,000 शब्दों वाले बजट में इन्होंने 30 बार किसान का नाम लिया।

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री गजेंद्र सिंह शेखावत): पिछली बार रेट बढ़ा कि नहीं बढ़ा? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राज बब्बर: आप पढ़ लेते, तो शायद समझ में आ जाता कि तब भी कुछ नहीं दिया और आज भी कुछ नहीं दे रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... किसान भोला जरूर है ...(व्यवधान)... हमने बहुत समझाया ...(व्यवधान)... किसान भोला जरूर है, लेकिन...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Raj Babbarji, please conclude.

श्री राज बब्बर: सर, अगर आप कहेंगे, तो मैं बैठ जाऊंगा। लेकिन, मुझे केवल दो प्वाइंट कहने हैं, मैं उनको कहूंगा और बैठ जाऊंगा। मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लूंगा। मैंने खुद ही अपना सब कुछ कम कर दिया है, मैं बोल ही नहीं रहा हूं। ...(व्यवधान)... मगर, किसान से समझदार कोई दूसरी कौम हमारे देश में नहीं है। उसे बताने की जरूरत नहीं है, वह समझ गया है कि यह आंकड़ों की बाजीगरी है और बहुत सारे साथी उनके यहां भी समझते हैं कि जब वे अपने क्षेत्र में जाते हैं, तो उनको समझ में आता है कि आखिर ये आंकड़ों की बाजीगरी का मुकाबला कैसे करेंगे? अगर ईमानदारी होती, तो बजट में किसान की लागत को तय करने का जो फॉर्मूला है, उसमें ये बदलाव नहीं करते। मैं ज्यादा नहीं कहूंगा, बहुत सारी बातें कह दी गई हैं। लागत में बीज, खाद, फैमिली लेबर को तो शामिल रखा है, लेकिन...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Raj Babbarji, four more Members have to speak. Kindly make it fast.

श्री राज बब्बर: लेकिन, जमीन के रेंट के बारे में कोई बात नहीं की है। जमीन का रेंट नहीं है। क्या किसान बिना खेत के खेती करेगा? किसान के पास अगर जमीन नहीं होगी, तो वह खेती किसमें करेगा? इन लोगों ने फैमिली लेबर को तो include किया है, लेकिन किसान को झांसा देना, वह आपकी फसल बीमा योजना में पहले ही बहुत झांसे खा चुका है। उस बेचारे को इतना झांसा मिला कि उसकी रकम, उसके पैसे उसके एकाउंट में से अपने आप फसल बीमा के लिए कटते गए, लेकिन उसको वह नहीं मिला। ...(समय की घंटी)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude.

श्री राज बब्बर: मैं उत्तर प्रदेश से आता हूं, जहां से 73 सांसद आते हैं और मुझे खुशी होगी कि उन सांसदों के बीच मैं एक बार तीन सवाल करना चाहता हूं। उनकी जानिब से कि इस सरकार ने अपना ही वादा पूरा करने में चार साल क्यों लगाए हैं, क्या वह इसका जवाब किसान को देगी? उन चार सालों में आपका दिया हुआ वादा लागू करने की वजह से किसान को जो

नुकसान हुआ है, उसकी भरपाई उसको मिलेगी? तीसरा, इन चार सालों में कम से कम, जो लोगों का अनुमान है और जो साथियों ने बताया है कि अगर उनको लागू कर दिया गया होता, तो किसानों की जेब में 1 लाख करोड़ रुपये जाते।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude, Raj Babbarji.

श्री राज बब्बर: इन बातों का जवाब अपनी बजट स्पीच में देंगे तो बड़ा अच्छा होगा। महोदय, वैसे तो जुमलेबाजी की जुगलबंदी है यहां। प्रधान मंत्री कोई जुमला कसते हैं, अध्यक्ष महोदय बताते हैं कि वह 15 लाख वाली बात जुमला था। अभी यहां आए तो प्रधान मंत्री जी इम्प्लीमेंटेशन जी.एस.टी. के लिए कुछ फाल्टी बता रहे हैं और यहां अध्यक्ष जी आकर कह रहे हैं कि लाजवाब जी.एस.टी. है, कमाल की जी.एस.टी. है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Kindly conclude please.

श्री राज बब्बर: सब कहते हैं कि प्रधान मंत्री जी बहुत अच्छा बोलते हैं। मैं भी कहता हूं कि बहुत अच्छा बोलते हैं, लेकिन यह तो ये लोग भी मानेंगे कि अटल जी से बेहतर नहीं बोलते। अगर मैं गलत कह रहा हूं और अगर आपको लगता है कि अटल जी से बेहतर बोलते हैं तो बता दीजिए, मुझे टोक दीजिएगा। मैं यह मानता हूं कि अटल जी से बेहतर नहीं बोलते।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): There are four more speakers from your party. Please conclude.

श्री राज बब्बर: अटल जी की सरकार 2004 के अंदर थी। फिर यूपीए की सरकार आई और इसलिए इस बार इस बात को ध्यान रख लें कि बोलने से सरकारें नहीं बनतीं और चलने से पहले एक बार कह देता हूं,

"कैसी मशाल लेके चली तीरगी में आप,
जो रोशनी थी, वो भी सलामत न रही।"

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much. Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. I hope you will stick to the time limit.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, on behalf of my party, YSR Congress Party, and my Party President, Shri Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, I thank you for having given me the opportunity. Sir, there is a great amount of injustice that has been meted out to the State of Andhra Pradesh in this Budget and also in the commitments that had been made in the Reorganisation Act. The first and the foremost thing is the Special Category Status which had been assured by none other than the then Prime Minister of this country, in 2014. Sir, I would like to bring to your notice that the Special Category Status for the Residuary State of Andhra Pradesh is a lifeline and there cannot be any substitute for the Special Category Status. A special package is no alternative for Special Category Status. Therefore, unless and until Special Category Status is granted to the Residuary State of

[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

Andhra Pradesh, it can't develop equally with the other States. It has already been left as agrarian State, and, in future also it will continue to be an agrarian State, if Special Category Status is not granted.

Sir, the next point is railway zone. There, the Railway Minister, yesterday or day-before-yesterday came to the floor, and, then, misled the House. I have no hesitation in saying that the Railway Minister has misled the House. The Act does not contemplate consultation with the other parties. The Act has, specifically, provided that a railway zone would be created/constituted. When the Act is so specific, why is the Government delaying constitution of a separate railway zone? Now, the Railway Minister says that he has to consult the other States and he has also to consult the other stakeholders. Why is it? So, that is one of the provisions that has been incorporated and that has to be implemented. The Integrated Steel Plant at Kadappa, a port at Dugarajapatnam, Vizag Petrochemical Complex, Vizag Chennai Industrial Corridor and Metro Rail at Visakhapatnam and Vijayawada — these are all important issues. Apart from this, in Schedule XIII, there is a list of 11 Central institutions, out of which 9 have been established only in temporary premises and adequate allocations in the last four Budgets have not been made. Therefore, I request the Government of India to address this issue. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... Sir, how many minutes left now?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You have two more minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, I will address only two important issues. First is farmers' distress. Sir, agriculture accounts for 16 per cent of India's GDP, and 49 per cent of India's employment comes from the agricultural activities. Sir, the National Sample Survey, 2013 Report shows that 51.9 per cent of the farm households in India are indebted. So, this indebtedness by the farmers is to be addressed by the Government of India. Insofar as Minimum Support Price is concerned, many Members have spoken about that. I will only say one thing. The Finance Minister while presenting the Budget of 2017 had categorically stated that he will ensure that the farmers' income would be doubled in next five years by 2022. Therefore, if at all this is addressed and this can be accomplished, the farmers across the country would be delighted and they will remember the Ruling Party — whichever Party does it — forever.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: One more minute. Sir, I am not touching upon the Minimum Support Price. It is only the cost of production. What is the cost? Even the Finance Minister, when he stated in his Budget Speech that he is increasing the

Minimum Support Price by 150 per cent of the cost, has not defined what is that cost. I want to know whether it is A2 or A2+FL or C2. What is that? That has to be spelt out by the hon. Finance Minister. Sir, there are last two issues which are very important issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): How many last issues?

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Two issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please conclude.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, one is about the farmer producer companies. To the best of my knowledge, any income from agriculture is exempted from the tax under Section 2, Sub-section (1) of the Income Tax Act. It is undoubtedly a happy thing that the Finance Minister has pointed out that a number of farmer producer companies have been set up in India and these companies are basically set up by the group of farmers. Now whether they constitute partnership firm or company or they do it individually, it doesn't make any difference. Agricultural income is an agricultural income which is exempted from tax. *...(Time-bell rings)...* Sir, the Finance Minister has exempted this income by these farming companies with a rider, with a sunset clause in the proposal. Why is this sunset clause? The sunset clause says that the income of the farmer producer companies is exempted only for a period of five years. Why five years? When agricultural income is totally exempted from the tax, why five years' tax holiday with a sunset clause? Therefore, I hope the Finance Minister will positively consider exempting it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: One more point, Sir. Secondly, even these farmer companies have to pay dividend distribution tax which is totally unreasonable and unwarranted for India's condition.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Yes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: One last point.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): How many last points? *...(Interruptions)...* Please conclude.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: This is very important. Sir, the CAG Report, the Comptroller and Auditor General Report, on Government accounting found that the Government has deferred the payments amounting to more than ₹ 1.87 lakh crores in 2015-16. I request the hon. Finance Minister to address this issue.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you Mr. Vijayasai Reddy. Now Prof. Rajeev Gowda.

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir.

Sir, I want to actually start my speech on the Budget by congratulating the Government and the Finance Minister on funding Suburban Rail Service for Bangalore City. This is something that the Karnataka Government has been very proactive about. As an activist, I have been fighting for this for many years. Across party lines, we are in unity in terms of support for the suburban rail. It will go a long way in clearing the traffic challenges that Bangalore city faces. ...*(Interruptions)*...

I also want to congratulate the Government for adopting many of the innovative programmes set up by the Government of Karnataka under Shri Siddaramaiah. In this Budget announcement, there were multiple such examples. For example, the Electronic National Agricultural Market place is a national application of our Rashtriya e-market place. The Programme to lend and rent out farmer equipment is the national equivalent of the Krishi Yantra Yojana of Karnataka Government. The solar pumps initiative is a replica of the Surya Raitha programme of the Karnataka Government, and the programme for pregnant and lactating women is a national application of the very successful and impactful Mathru Purna Scheme, which would go a long way in addressing the health of women and children and in addressing issues of low birth rate, and bring down infant mortality, maternal mortality, stunting, etc.

Sir, after complimenting the Government, let me now focus on points where I need to show the Budget and this Government are falling short of our expectations of any good Government. First of all, there is an extraordinarily excessive reliance on cesses. The real problem with this is, a cess is supposed to be earmarked for a particular purpose, but already we have seen, in recent times, that the Coal Cess that was supposed to go to the National Clean Energy Fund instead is being used to compensate States for GST losses. What is the logic for that and how can you say that this is a cess that was targeted for a particular reason when you are directing it somewhere else? The problem with cesses is that like indirect taxes they are regressive, and they hurt the poor more than they hurt the rich.

Sir, the total cess collection from this Government is expected to be three lakh crore rupees. Compare that with the capital expenditure for the financial year, 2018-19, which is also three lakh crore rupees. It appears as if this Government is not going to raise revenues other than through such iniquitous methods such as cesses. This brings me to the education cess. Here again, there is going to be uncertainty on how much is actually going to be raised further, in States, you find that cesses

are being allocated for funding programmes which absolutely need targeted revenue allocated to them.

Sir, I am also outraged by one move of this Finance Minister, where he has played a game, a sleight of hand, on the front of petrol and diesel excise duties. When the Centre collects Excise Duty on petrol and diesel, it becomes part of the divisible pool and 42 per cent goes to States. What has this Government done? It has cut Excise Duty by six rupees per litre with an additional two rupees per litre—cut on excise on diesel and petrol, and to balance this cut and to ensure that the Centre's revenues do not come down, they have imposed an eight rupees per litre Road and Infrastructure Cess. As I mentioned, the cess monies will go only to the Central Government and the States are shafted. Now, how much is this loss? I did a little quick calculation. If you look at the receipt budget... *...(Time-bell rings)...*

Sir, this is important stuff. This is for your State and mine and every one else. Our money is being taken away. Let us pay attention.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Okay.

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: So, basically, if they are aiming to raise ₹ 1.13 lakh crore in this year from this item, well, at eight rupees per litre it is about 14,125 crore litres. 42 per cent of the two rupees per litre would be 84 paise. If you multiply that, States together lose ₹ 11,885 crore. For what – just so that the Centre can take away money that should have come to each of our States. This is outrageous and I demand that the Finance Minister makes a change in this provision before the Budget or the Finance and Appropriation Bills are actually passed.

Sir, like Mr. Vijayasai Reddy, I have two-three last points to make. So, give me two-three minutes more.

Sir, education is my pet subject. That is my old profession. This Budget has seen the lowest allocation to education as a proportion of the total Budget in the last eight years. That is shameful. UPA had an average of 4.5 per cent of the Budget and NDA is averaging only 3.6 per cent. What are they trying to do to the people of India? They promised in their manifesto six per cent of GDP on education. Instead we see 3.4 per cent of GDP allocated this year. And, this also means that there is another cess there. They have pooled the education and health cess together and there is no clarity on how much would go to health and how much would go to education. We don't know that. There are other programmes – one lakh crore rupees allocated for Revitalizing Infrastructure and Systems in Education and there again, there is no roadmap on how it is going to be expended.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you.

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: No, Sir. There are two or three more urgent issues.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You already said you have two or three more issues when I last told you.

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Sir, if you are a little patient, you would find that this is most important.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): We are patient, but please conclude.

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Sir, you know when the ship is sinking, the slogan is "Women and children first". When this Government's ship is sinking, they go after the programmes and funding for women and children first. Okay. That is a shame. What have they done? For children, the allocations were 4.6 per cent of the Budget in 2012-13 and it has now come down to 3.23 per cent. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE (Maharashtra): Time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Who are you? ...*(Interruptions)*... You are not the Vice-Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Sir, they should learn from Karnataka Government which has a rock solid Karnataka State Child Protection Policy. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Budgetary allocation for the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has come down; it is 30 per cent lower than the Revised Budget Estimates for FY 2017-18. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Economic Survey had a pink cover. That is it. There is nothing in the Budget to match the symbolism of the cover of the Economic Survey and the Government's commitment to women. Sir, allocations to the maternity benefit scheme has come down by ₹ 300 crore; allocations to the National Commission for Women has seen a decline; their Nirbhaya Funds Scheme has come down and girls' education has seen 20 per cent reduction. सर, "बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ" क्या है? Why 20 per cent reduction for that? Finally I come to disabled people. I know your own concerns for people who are minorities of various kinds and the disabled is generally rejected. And here, you will see that the increase in Budgetary support is inadequate and there is a variety of failed promises in terms of escalators in the Railways, etc. Sir, I just want to end now. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: What is this? ...(Interruptions)... Who is he? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Who are you? ...(Interruptions)... I am speaking to the Chair. ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... I will take care. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Sir, I want to conclude. ...(Interruptions)... May I conclude? ...(Interruptions)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): By this time, you would have concluded. ...(Interruptions)... By this time, you would have concluded. ...(Interruptions)... Don't waste the time. ...(Interruptions)..., Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री नीरज शेखर: बीजेपी के लोगो, महिलाओं का सम्मान करना सीखिए। वे इस सदन की सब से वरिष्ठतम महिला हैं।

PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: I want to point out one thing. In the other House the Prime Minister quoted Basavanna, our great social reformer from Karnataka. Sir, in one of his famous Vachanas, Basavanna says:

kalabeda kolabeda

husiya nudiyalu beda

'Husiyā nudiyalu beda' means 'do not utter falsehoods'. Sir, this Government's promises during their election campaigns, their actual practice during the Budget, their statement outside and their statement inside, are all falsehoods. They will come face to face with the truth in the coming elections starting from Karnataka. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, we will show them. ...(Interruptions)... Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you, Rajeev Gowdaji; now, Shri Joy Abraham; not present. Dr. Sushil Gupta; this is your maiden speech. You will be given fifteen minutes. Kindly conclude within time.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय और सदन में उपस्थित सभासदो, मैं इस सदन में पहली बार बोल रहा हूँ और संसदीय जीवन के हिसाब से मेरी सब से कम उम्र है, इसलिए मैं कुछ गलत कह जाऊँ, तो आप सब मुझे excuse करें।

महोदय, मैं मानता हूँ, मुझे मालूम नहीं कि मंदिर, मस्जिद, गिरिजाघर और गुरुद्वारे में परमात्मा, अल्लाह, वाहे गुरु हैं या नहीं, परंतु मुझे मालूम है कि इस दुनिया में जितने भी जीव हैं, उन के अंदर परमात्मा का अंश है। अब अगर वह अंश निकल जाए तो मानव का शरीर

[श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता]

6.00 P.M.

biological degradable body बनकर रह जाता है, जिसे हम घर के अंदर दो घंटे से अधिक नहीं रख सकते। इसलिए इंसान का शरीर चलता-फिरता मंदिर है और इस मंदिर की सेवा जिस तरीके से हो सकती है, उस में सब से पहले health sector आता है।

मैं सब से पहले health के विषय पर बात करूंगा। भारत सरकार का health के ऊपर टोटल बजट का 2.24 परसेंट बैठता है, लेकिन दिल्ली सरकार ने, मेरे नेता अरविंद केजरीवाल ने health के ऊपर बजट का 12 परसेंट लगाया है ताकि हम मानव जीवन को सब से अधिक सुरक्षा प्रदान कर सकें, मानव जीवन की सब से better care कर सकें। महोदय, मुझे यह कहते हुए दुख होता है कि भारत सरकार 50 करोड़ लोगों के लिए 5 लाख रुपए की बीमा पॉलिसी ला रही है परन्तु उस बीमा पॉलिसी के लिए हेल्थ केयर सेन्टर्स कहां हैं? दिल्ली सरकार ने मोहल्ला क्लिनिक खोले, लेकिन वह केवल 158 मोहल्ला क्लिनिक ही खोल पाई, क्योंकि दिल्ली के उपराज्यपाल महोदय ने permission न देकर, उसको अटका दिया। मैं यूएनओ का धन्यवाद करना चाहता हूं कि उसने मोहल्ला क्लिनिक योजना को एप्रिशिएट किया। मैं आज वित्त मंत्री जी को भी धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने वेलनेस सेन्टर के नाम पर मोहल्ला क्लिनिक की नकल की और मोहल्ला सेन्टर के नाम से पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में मोहल्ला क्लिनिक खोलना तय किया। मैं इसके लिए इनको धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूं और मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आप जो यह बीमा योजना ला रहे हैं, इसकी बजाय दिल्ली सरकार ने जो नियम अपनाया है कि गरीब रोगी, जो महीनों तक व सालों तक सरकारी हॉस्पिटलों में नम्बर न आने की वजह से अपना ऑपरेशन नहीं करा पाता, तो दिल्ली सरकार एक महीने के बाद उनके ऑपरेशन के पैसे स्वयं देती है। भारत सरकार भी ऐसे गरीब रोगियों के इलाज के लिए स्वयं पैसे दे और उनका प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल में इलाज करवाए। यानी बीमा कम्पनियों को पैसा देने के बजाय गरीब व्यक्ति का सीधा इलाज हो और वह प्राइवेट हॉस्पिटल्स के अंदर जाए। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अरविन्द केजरीवाल जी ने जो हार्ट केयर सिस्टम दिल्ली के अंदर चलाया है, उसके तहत मोहल्ला क्लिनिक के अंदर 100 से अधिक किस्म की दवाइयां, दो सौ से अधिक किस्म के टेस्ट मुफ्त किए जाते हैं। मैं आप से भी निवेदन करता हूं कि जो आप वेलनेस सेन्टर्स बना रहे हैं, उनके अंदर भी इसी प्रकार की योजनाएं लाएं, ताकि गरीब से गरीब व्यक्ति अपने घर के नजदीक, जो प्राइमरी हेल्थ सेन्टर्स आपको बनाने चाहिए थे, उनको नहीं बनाया तो, उनके अंदर जाकर अपना इलाज करा सके।

मैं इसके साथ ही साथ यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि देश की आजादी को 70 वर्ष हो चुके हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के संविधान को लागू हुए 68 वर्ष हो सकते हैं, हमारे संविधान के पहले पृष्ठ पर लिखा है कि हिन्दुस्तान संप्रभुता सम्पन्न देश, जिसमें पंथनिरपेक्ष समाज को धार्मिक समानता होगी। मैं कहता हूं कि आज भी देश की महिलाओं को साढ़े छः बजे के बाद घर से निकलने से पहले सोचना पड़ता है कि घर से निकलूं या न निकलूं, तो इस देश की सरकार ने कैसी समानता दी है? आज भी सदन के अंदर और सदन के बाहर महिलाओं का उपहास किया जाता है, तो फिर कैसी समानता देश के संविधान निर्माताओं ने दी है? मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि आज भी देश के बॉर्डर पर सैनिक मरता है, हम चुनाव के समय कहते हैं कि हम एक के बदले दस सिर लेकर आएंगे, जबकि वास्तविक स्थिति इसके विपरीत होती है, हमने उनकी रक्षा के लिए क्या कुछ किया है? क्या हमने उनके लिए कोई ठोस नीति बनाई है? मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि इसका

एक सुगम तरीका है कि आप हिन्दुस्तान को शिक्षित करें और शिक्षा के ऊपर अधिक से अधिक बजट लगाएं।

महोदय, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान सरकार का जो शिक्षा के ऊपर बजट है, उसमें वह 2013-14 में साढ़े चार प्रतिशत था, जो 2016-17 में घटकर 3.65 प्रतिशत रह गया। 2017-18 में यह 3.71 परसेंट हो गया और इस बजट में आपने साढ़े तीन परसेंट का प्रोविजन रखा है। इसके विपरीत दिल्ली सरकार ने अपना बजट 24 परसेंट शिक्षा के ऊपर रखा है।

मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि शिक्षा और चिकित्सा एक ऐसा माध्यम है, जो हिन्दुस्तान के सौ परसेंट लोगों के काम आता है। हिन्दुस्तान का बजट ऐसा नहीं बनना चाहिए कि पांच या दस परसेंट चन्द अमीर लोग उसके ऊपर निर्भर होकर देश की सारी सम्पत्ति को खा जाएं। आज 68 वर्ष बाद भी कैसी समानता सरकारें दे रही हैं? 2016-17 के अंदर देश का 53 परसेंट पैसा कुल मिलाकर एक प्रतिशत से कम लोगों के पास था, लेकिन जो 2017-2018 के अंदर बढ़कर 73 परसेंट पैसा एक परसेंट लोगों के पास चला गया। आप लोग संविधान के दायरे में यह कैसी समानता लाना चाहते हैं? मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार चाहे कोई भी आए, पार्टी चाहे कोई भी आए, परन्तु देशहित सबसे ऊपर होना चाहिए। अगर आपको देशहित सबसे ऊपर लाना है, तो शिक्षा को ऊपर लाना पड़ेगा और हिन्दुस्तान को शिक्षित करना पड़ेगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार का शिक्षा के ऊपर साढ़े तीन परसेंट बजट है, आप उसको बढ़ाकर दिल्ली सरकार की तरह 24 परसेंट कीजिए। पूरे हिन्दुस्तान के इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर की ये शिक्षित हिन्दुस्तान के नौजवान अपने आप तकदीर बदल देंगे और, हम अपने आप दुनिया के पहले नम्बर पर जाएंगे, फिर हिन्दुस्तान को आगे बढ़ने से कोई रोक नहीं सकता है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज भी आप हिन्दुस्तान सरकार के राइट टू एजुकेशन एक्ट को देखिए, हर एक किलोमीटर के ऊपर प्राइमरी स्कूल होना चाहिए और हर तीन किलोमीटर के ऊपर एक मिडिल स्कूल होना चाहिए। आज भी बीस-बीस, पच्चीस-पच्चीस किलोमीटर पर स्कूल नहीं है। क्या हम इस देश के अंदर ऐसी स्थिति लाना चाहते हैं? अगर यह आर्थिक असमानता रही, शिक्षा का अभाव रहा, तो वह दिन दूर नहीं, जब इस देश के अंदर अपराध बढ़ेंगे, इस देश के अंदर गरीब लोग अमीर लोगों को लूटकर खाएंगे और यही कारण है कि असंतोष है। आपने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा कि हजारों अमीर लोग, जो करोड़पति और अरबपति थे, वे हिन्दुस्तान छोड़कर जा रहे हैं। हिन्दुस्तान का पैसा — क्या सरकार ने कभी यह सोचा है कि ये लोग क्यों जा रहे हैं? हिन्दुस्तान का यह पैसा कहां जा रहा है, किस रास्ते से जा रहा है? क्या आपने कभी उसको रोकने का प्रयत्न किया? मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ, मैं उनसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि शिक्षा के नाम पर आज भी सब कुछ ठीक नहीं है। अगर आप पड़ोसी राज्यों की बात करें, तो हरियाणा में 25-25 किलोमीटर दूर तक स्कूल और colleges नहीं हैं। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने पिछले दो साल के अंदर 25 हजार सरकारी स्कूल बंद किए हैं और 40 प्रतिशत बच्चे आज भी कुपोषण से ग्रस्त हैं। क्या इस हिन्दुस्तान को देखने के लिए इन शहीदों ने शहादतें दी थीं? क्या इस हिन्दुस्तान को देखने के लिए भीमराव बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर ने संविधान बनाया था कि हम हिन्दुस्तान के लोगों को बराबरी का यह दर्जा देंगे?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Mr. Gupta, because of the time constraint, hon. Chairman has instructed to restrict the time. Kindly take two more minutes.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं पहली बार बोल रहा हूँ, मैंने निवेदन किया है, मेरी मेडन स्पीच है। मैं पहली बार बोल रहा हूँ। देश की कानून व्यवस्था को बनाने के लिए एक ऐसा स्तर होना चाहिए, जहाँ सब ठीक चले। दिल्ली की व्यवस्था को देखिए, यहाँ चुने हुए लोगों के हाथ में सत्ता न देकर माननीय लेफ्टिनेंट गवर्नर महोदय के हिसाब से दिल्ली पुलिस चलाई जा रही है। दिल्ली के अंदर अपराध बढ़ते हैं, दिल्ली के अंदर सरेआम कत्ल हो जाता है और दिल्ली पुलिस नागंवारा। अगर लेफ्टिनेंट महोदय के पास न विधायकों से, न मुख्य मंत्री से मिलने का समय होता है। अगर दिल्ली की कानून व्यवस्था को चलाना है, तो चुनी हुई सरकार को अधिकार मिलने चाहिए। अगर चुनी हुई सरकार इसको चलाएगी तो बेहतर रहेगा। मैं माननीय श्री अरविंद केजरीवाल को फिर भी धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि वे हर घर के अंदर जाकर बहुत कोशिश करते हैं। इस तरीके से नहीं — जिस प्रकार दिल्ली के तीन तरफ हरियाणा लगा है — आपने थोड़े दिन पहले की कानून व्यवस्था देखी, आपने रामपाल जी का केस देखा, राम रहीम जी का केस देखा, एक आंदोलन देखा। इस आंदोलन के तहत लोगों की संपत्तियां जलीं। कोई आदमी बोलने के लिए तैयार नहीं था, सरकार अपना राज धर्म निभाने में इसको भूल गई, सरकार कानून व्यवस्था को एक उचित दायरे के अंदर लाना भूल गई। अभी मैंने पिछले दिनों अखबारों में पढ़ा कि हरियाणा के अंदर 13 जिलों के अंदर लगातार रेप cases हुए। महिलाओं के साथ बलात्कार किया गया और मुख्य मंत्री महोदय उस पर कुछ बोलने में लाचार थे। यदि आज मध्य प्रदेश की बात करें तो नेशनल क्राइम रिपोर्ट के हिसाब से मध्य प्रदेश के अंदर 13 रेप cases प्रतिदिन होते हैं, जो हिन्दुस्तान का सबसे भयंकर गंदा रिकॉर्ड है, जो कि अनुचित रिकॉर्ड भी है। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को कहीं न कहीं इस बात पर ध्यान देना चाहिए कि देश की कानून व्यवस्था मजबूत बने, देश के लोगों को बेहतरीन तरीके से सुरक्षा व्यवस्था मिले। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले चार वर्षों से यह growth-oriented Budget नहीं है। हमेशा deficit के अंदर Budget जाता है।

महोदय, इस देश के अंदर नोटबंदी, फिर जीएसटी और अब दिल्ली के अंदर सीलिंग। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार की इन व्यापारियों से क्या दुश्मनी है? कश्मीर से लेकर कन्याकुमारी तक लोग कहते हैं कि हमारे इधर मंदा है, व्यापार है, नौकरी नहीं है, बेरोजगार है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ सरकार और अखबार कहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान तरक्की कर रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान तो तरक्की कर ही रहा है, लेकिन देश का 73 प्रतिशत पैसा, इन सब लोगों की जेब से निकलकर 1 प्रतिशत से कम लोगों के पास चला गया है, चंद घरानों के पास चला गया। क्या हम हिन्दुस्तान को यह सामाजिक और आर्थिक समानता देना चाहते हैं?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much, Guptaji.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार को अपना सारा धन समेटकर अरबपतियों को देने की बजाय... जिस दिन आपने बजट पेश किया, उस दिन देश का जो इंडेक्स था, देश का जो शेयर बाजार था, उसमें लोगों के अरबों रुपये, करोड़ों रुपये तबाह हो गए, क्योंकि देश के मध्यमवर्गीय लोगों ने जिंदगी भर पैसा कमाकर अपनी कैपिटल शेयर बाजार में लगाई थी। आपने एक राहत कही कि हम इसके ऊपर लांग टर्म कैपिटल गेन्स लगाएंगे और शेयर बाजार धड़ाधड़ गिरता चला गया। आपने इस सदन के अंदर कहा कि हम एक्साइज ड्यूटी घटाकर, देश के अंदर न्यूनतम पेट्रोल की कीमत घटाएंगे, लेकिन उसी दिन, उसी रात में बाजार

के अंदर पेट्रोल महंगा हो गया, आपने उसका बाजार भाव बढ़ा दिया। हम देश की जनता को क्या संदेश देना चाहते हैं? मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदय यहां पर बैठे हैं, आप एक ऐसी योजना लेकर आएँ, जिससे देश का व्यापारी शिक्षा के माध्यम से, चिकित्सा के माध्यम से, एक अतिरिक्त टैक्स के माध्यम से अपने आपको इस देश के अंदर सुरक्षित महसूस करे। उसका व्यापार बढ़े और दिल्ली में सीलिंग से मुक्ति मिले। व्यापारियों के साथ-साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे जो नौकरी पेशा हैं, हमारे जो सर्विस क्लास के लोग हैं, उनके लिए आपने 2014-15 से टैक्स फ्री इनकम ढाई लाख रुपए रखी है। जब आप विपक्ष में रहकर प्रतिपक्ष के नेता थे, इसी सदन में आपने कहा था कि टैक्स फ्री इनकम पांच लाख रुपए होनी चाहिए और आपने यही बात अपने अमृतसर के चुनाव के दौरान भी कही थी। महोदय, मैं आपसे करबद्ध प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश के सर्विस क्लास लोगों के लिए आप इस टैक्स फ्री इनकम की सीमा को बढ़ाइए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): One moment, please. I do not want to interrupt your maiden speech but considering the situation and time constraint, please take one more minute and conclude.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: ठीक है, महोदय। मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपने 40,000/-रुपए की स्टैंडर्ड डिडक्शन तो दी, लेकिन उसके विपरीत आपने घुमाकर उसे वापस भी ले लिया, क्योंकि आपने मेडिकल, ट्रांसपोर्ट चार्ज की डिडक्शन की छूट वापस ले ली और साथ ही 4 परसेंट का सेस भी लगा दिया। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस 40,000/-रुपए की छूट को बढ़ा कर 75,000/- रुपए करें। माननीय महोदय के माध्यम से मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस ढाई लाख रुपए की टैक्स फ्री इनकम को आप पांच लाख रुपए करें, ताकि देश के नौकरी पेशा लोग अपनी मेहनत की कमाई से यह फील कर सकें कि हम इस देश के अंदर आराम से रह रहे हैं।

महोदय, मैं रोजगार की बात करना चाहता हूँ। हमें नए रोजगार के लिए साधन खोजने चाहिए। बजट के अंदर ऐसा प्रोविजन होना चाहिए कि देश का पढ़ा-लिखा नौजवान, युवा बेहतरीन नौकरी पा सके। आज जो यहां पर जुमला बना — पकौड़ा रोजगार योजना या और कोई योजना, मैं उनकी बात नहीं करना चाहता, मैं सीधे-सीधे सरकार से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि आप ऐसे संसाधन उत्पन्न करें, जिनसे देश के लोगों को रोजगार मिले। रोजगार न मिलने से युवक गुनाह के रास्ते पर चल पड़ते हैं और जब युवक गुनाह के रास्ते पर चलेंगे, तो उसका खामियाजा आज के पूरे हिन्दुस्तान को ही नहीं, आने वाली जेनरेशन को भी भुगतना पड़ेगा और फिर उनको उस रास्ते से वापस लाना मुश्किल होगा। अंत में, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश के किसान को यूरिया, खाद्यान्न के समर्थन मूल्य की बात करते हैं, बीमा फसल की बात करते हैं, लेकिन यथार्थ में कुछ नहीं मिलता। आप उसको यथार्थ में लाइए, ताकि देश का किसान, जो हमारा अन्नदाता है, उसको हौसला मिले।

महोदय, मैं एक मिनट और लूंगा। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि चुनाव के दौरान यह कहा गया था कि पाकिस्तान अगर हिन्दुस्तान के जवान का एक सिर काटेगा, तो उसके बदले में हम दस सिर काट कर लाएंगे। आज उसके विपरीत माहौल दिख रहा है। देश की सेना का मनोबल ऊंचा करने के लिए अगर कोई जवान शहीद होता है, तो उसके परिवार को एक करोड़ रुपए मिलने चाहिए और बजट में यह प्रोविजन भी होना चाहिए कि उसके बच्चे को भी नौकरी मिलेगी, ताकि देश के जवान सीना चौड़ा करके अपनी ज्यूटी निभाएं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Kindly understand the situation and conclude in one minute. Please wind up.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली के विकास की बात होती है और आए दिन धमकी दी जाती है, कभी दिल्ली का पानी पड़ोसी राज्य रोक देता है, दिल्ली के डीडीए में एक ऑर्गेनाइजेशन बना दी गई, जो बीस साल का मास्टर प्लान अंतिम साल में पूरा करती है और अंतिम साल के अंदर कहते हैं कि यह समय पूरा हो गया, नया मास्टर प्लान बनेगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You are speaking well but there is no time. I have to call the next speaker.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि दिल्ली के अंदर लाखों लोग मलिन बस्तियों के अंदर अपनी जिंदगी गुजार रहे हैं। देश की राजधानी का चेहरा हम क्या बनाना चाहते हैं? उनको पक्के मकान बना कर देने होंगे।...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Shrimati Viplove Thakur.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: यह काम भारत सरकार करे।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): It is enough.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं अंतिम बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि उनको आप चार मंजिले पक्के मकान बना कर दें। इससे आपको 75 परसेंट जमीन खाली मिलेगी। उसके बाद उनकी शिक्षा के, चिकित्सा के लिए काम हों।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You have conveyed enough. Thank you, Mr. Gupta. Please conclude.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ, आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया। मेरे पास दिल्ली के विषय में, देश के विषय में बोलने के लिए काफी था, मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी विनती करूंगा कि इन विषयों पर गौर करें, ताकि देश का भला हो सके, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you. Now, Shrimati Viplove Thakur.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, जब देश का बजट आने वाला होता है, तो लोगों में बहुत उत्सुकता होती है। लोग बड़े ध्यान से और दिल लगा कर टीवी के सामने इसलिए बैठे होते हैं कि पता नहीं, हमें क्या मिलने वाला है, हमारी क्या भलाई होने वाली है, हमें क्या फायदा होने वाला है, हमें क्या उन्नति मिलने वाली है। यह जो बजट है, यह हर मोर्चे पर विफल रहा है, कोई भी वर्ग इससे खुश नहीं है। न तो किसान खुश हैं, जिनके लिए इन्होंने इतना बड़ा कहा है - farmers, farmers, farmers. आज farmers भी खुश नहीं हैं, महिलाएं भी खुश नहीं हैं, बच्चे भी खुश नहीं हैं, व्यापारी भी खुश नहीं हैं, कोई भी वर्ग इस बजट से खुश नहीं है, क्योंकि इस बजट में है ही कुछ नहीं।

मैं ज्यादा कुछ नहीं कहना चाहती हूँ, लेकिन मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से एक बात जानना चाहती हूँ

कि इन्होंने किसान की परिभाषा क्या रखी है? क्या किसान सिर्फ वही है, जो गेहूं, ज्वार, मक्की, धान बोता है या किसान वह भी है, जो हिमाचल प्रदेश के पहाड़ी इलाकों में रहता है, जो वहां पर सेब की फसल करता है, fruit की फसल करता है, उसे उगाता है? उसको जो नुकसान होता है, क्या उसकी भरपाई के लिए भी इन्होंने कुछ रखा है? कुछ नहीं रखा है। जितने hill areas हैं, उनके लिए स्पेशल बजट चाहिए, चाहे वह नॉर्थ-ईस्ट है, चाहे हिमाचल प्रदेश है, चाहे जम्मू-कश्मीर है, चाहे उत्तराखंड है, क्योंकि अगर यहां पर एक सड़क बनानी है, तो अगर मैदानों में इसके लिए एक करोड़ लगता है, तो पहाड़ों में इसके लिए 5 करोड़ लगता है। लेकिन इसके लिए कोई प्रावधान नहीं है। आज हिमाचल प्रदेश का जो सेब है, fruits हैं, सब्जियां हैं और जो वहां off season सब्जियां उगाई जाती हैं, उनके लिए भी किसी तरह का कोई प्रावधान नहीं रखा गया है। इस बजट से कोई खुश नहीं है।

महिलाओं की तो बात ही क्या करनी है! ये बहुत महिला-महिला करते हैं, उसके सशक्तिकरण की बात करते हैं, लेकिन इन्होंने उसका बजट भी कम कर दिया है। महिला के हेड में 2,700 करोड़ से 2,400 करोड़ कर दिया गया है। कुपोषण के लिए जो बात होती है, तो 1.2 करोड़ बच्चे हैं, जिनके लिए 8 हजार करोड़ चाहिए, अगर हम उनको सेहत देना चाहते हैं। इसके लिए भी कहीं प्रावधान नहीं है।

बड़ी बातें की जाती हैं। अभी गुप्ता जी ने कहा, मैं भी पिछले पेपर्स देख रही थी, जब पाकिस्तान से कहा जाता था कि एक सिर आएगा, तो हम 10 सिर देंगे। आज यहां मेरी बहन स्मृति इरानी जी नहीं बैठी हुई हैं, इन्होंने कहा था कि चूड़ियां भेजी जाएंगी। स्मृति जी, अब तो आप इस कैबिनेट में हैं, भेजने की जरूरत भी नहीं है, इनको चूड़ियां पहना ही दीजिए, जो अभी इस तरह से काम कर रहे हैं। कहां हैं वे? मैं बात नहीं करना चाहती हूं। आज रोज हमारे यहां किसी न किसी शहर में हमारे फौजी के शव आते हैं, ताबूत में डले हुए आते हैं और हम कुछ नहीं कर सकते, कुछ बोल नहीं सकते।

जम्मू-कश्मीर के हालात देखिए। अभी मेरे भाई जम्मू-कश्मीर के लिए बोल रहे थे कि क्या हुआ, क्या किया, लेकिन मेरे भाई, 2000 से लेकर 2009 तक इतनी बुरी हालत नहीं थी, जो आज हो रही है। कहां हैं वे? कहां हैं वे बातें? क्या वे केवल जुमले ही थे? आज इतना कुछ दिया गया है, ये सिर्फ बातें हैं, बातों के अलावा कुछ नहीं है।

हमारी कौन सी विदेश नीति है? हमारा कौन सा neighbour है, पड़ोसी देश है, जो हमसे खुश है? नेपाल था, हमने उसको भी गंवा दिया। श्रीलंका हमसे नाराज है, म्यांमार हमारे साथ नहीं है, बंगलादेश को देख लीजिए, चीन हमें डरा रहा है, पाकिस्तान रोज हमसे कहता है और हम विदेश घूम रहे हैं। खूब विदेश जा रहे हैं। कौन सी FDI आ गई है विदेश से, मुझे बताएं? जितना खर्च विदेशों में जाने में हुआ है, उसी से हम अपने देश का और भी भला कर सकते थे, उसको और भी उन्नत कर सकते थे। हमारी कोई नीति नहीं है।

मेडिकल कॉलेज खोले जा रहे हैं। नड्डा जी यहां बैठे हैं, एक मिनट, हमारे यहां जो मेडिकल कॉलेज खोले जा रहे हैं, चाहे वह नाहन में है, चाहे हमीरपुर में है, चाहे मंडी में, जब MCI की टीम आती है, तो कहां से faculty के प्रोफेसर्स लाए जाते हैं? कभी इंदिरा मेडिकल कॉलेज से जाते हैं, कभी टांडा से जाते हैं। नड्डा जी, हमें ऐसे मेडिकल कॉलेज नहीं चाहिए, जहां पर faculty के लिए प्रोफेसर्स ही न हों। आप कौन से बच्चों को डॉक्टर बनाना चाहते हैं, जहां सुविधाएं ही नहीं हैं?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you, Viploveji.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: नहीं, ऐसा नहीं है, मैं बोल रही हूँ और हमेशा मेरे साथ ऐसा किया जाता है। मैं दो मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म करती हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): One more minute, please.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: हर प्रदेश में insurance की सुविधा है। एक साल के लिए 5 लाख तक के लिए कहा गया है।

मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से कहना चाहती हूँ कि इन्होंने कहा कि अगर बैंक में minimum पैसा नहीं होगा, बड़े-बड़े शहरों में यह सीमा 3 हजार है, कहीं एक हजार है, तो उसके ऊपर penalty लगेगी। वित्त मंत्री जी, penalty के ऊपर भी GST लगा दिया गया है। अगर penalty भी लेनी है, तो एक गरीब का क्या कसूर है कि वह बैंक में एक हजार रुपए भी नहीं रख सकता और उसकी penalty के ऊपर भी आपका GST है। महोदय, प्रधान मंत्री आवास योजना की बातें हो रही हैं। जो फ्लैट लेगा, उस पर भी वह जीएसटी देगा।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thakur ji, please conclude.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: आप मुझे बताइए कि यह कहां का न्याय है? इस तरह से सरकारें नहीं चलती हैं। आप तैयार हो जाइए, क्योंकि अगर हमने गलतियां की थीं, तो हमने भुगत लीं, अब आप भी भुगतने के लिए तैयार हो जाइए। वैसे भी आपका यह बजट चार महीने का है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: आप इस फसल का इंतजार कर रहे हैं कि यह फसल आए और हम किसानों को पैसा दें, फिर अगली फसल के लिए कुछ नहीं हो।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: आप इलेक्शन जीत जाएं, यह होने वाला नहीं है। आप इस भुलावे में मत रहिएगा, क्योंकि आपको जाना ही होगा और आप जाएंगे। जनता आपसे नाराज है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you, Mrs. Thakur. Please.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: आपने राजस्थान में देख लिया, गुजरात में देख लिया, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you very much, Mrs. Thakur. Now Mr. Ashok Siddharth. Strictly you have three minutes.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मुझे पांच मिनट दीजिए। दलितों के साथ ही यह अन्याय क्यों हो रहा है?

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे केंद्रीय बजट पर बोलने का मौका प्रदान किया, इसके लिए धन्यवाद। श्रीमन्, जैसे ही बजट सत्र आता है, वैसे ही देश के आम नागरिकों में चर्चा होने लगती है कि आने वाले बजट में उनके लिए क्या होगा? इसका कारण भारत में वित्त मंत्री के द्वारा

पढ़ा जाने वाला बजट भाषण है, जो देश के नाम एक संदेश होता है। इस संदेश से जनता को यह भी पता चलता है कि आने वाले वित्तीय वर्ष में आम जनता के प्रति सरकार की सोच क्या है?

महोदय, जहां तक वर्ष 2018-19 के बजट की बात है, भले ही सरकार की चाटुकारिता करने वाले आर्थिक विशेषज्ञ इस असंतुलित बजट को संतुलित बता रहे हों, लेकिन वास्तव में यह बजट गरीबों, मजदूरों, छात्रों, नौजवानों, बेरोजगारों के हित में नहीं है और खासकर दलितों और आदिवासियों के लिए इस बजट में कोई खास प्रावधान करने का काम नहीं किया गया है। किसानों से लेकर महिलाओं की स्थिति भी वैसी ही है। इस सदन के वरिष्ठ सदस्यों ने सरकार को चेताने का काम किया है, इसलिए मैं उन बातों को दोबारा दोहरा कर सदन का समय बरबाद नहीं करना चाहता हूं। इस बजट में अपने अल्प समय में ही मैं अपनी बात रखूंगा। चूंकि मैं दलित समाज से ताल्लुक रखता हूं और एक साधारण से दलित परिवार में पैदा हुआ हूं, फिर भी बहुजन समाज पार्टी की राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्षा, आदरणीया बहन जी की वजह से मुझे देश के इस सर्वोच्च सदन में आने का मौका मिला है। इस बजट में दलितों और आदिवासियों के उत्थान की बात कहीं भी दिखाई नहीं देती है, इसलिए इसके संबंध में मैं सरकार से कुछ बातें जानना चाहता हूं। जब सरकार ने 2014-15 में अपना पहला आम बजट पेश किया था, तो बीजेपी के नेतृत्व वाली एनडीए सरकार ने उस बजट में दलितों के लिए, SCs/STs के लिए 2.8% का प्रावधान रखा था, जो चार साल गुजरने के बाद, आपके इस आखिरी बजट में घट करके 2.32% रह गया। क्या चार साल में दलितों की तरक्की हो गई या फिर उनकी आबादी कम हो गई? बजट प्रस्तुत होने के बाद से लेकर अब तक यह प्रश्न हमारे दिमाग में है, जो अभी तक अनुत्तरित है कि सरकार ने इस संबंध में क्या किया है?

मान्यवर, भोजन, पानी और ऑक्सीजन की तरह मानव जीवन के लिए गरिमा और सम्मान भी जरूरी होता है, लेकिन अगर हम इस बजट के पूरे प्रावधानों को देखें, तो कहीं भी दलितों के लिए सम्मान से जीने लायक व्यवस्था करने का काम नहीं किया गया है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... सिर्फ दो बातें कह कर मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त कर दूंगा, क्योंकि आपने स्ट्रिक्टली तीन मिनट के समय के लिए कहा है। चूंकि मैं एक अनुशासित पार्टी का अनुशासित सिपाही हूं, इसलिए सिर्फ आधे मिनट में मैं अपनी बात समाप्त कर रहा हूं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Three minutes are over.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी यहां पर बैठे हुए हैं। मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से कम से कम यह अवश्य चाहूंगा कि दलितों और आदिवासियों के लिए जो फंड का आवंटन हो, उसके लिए ऐसी नीति बनाई जाए, ताकि आज जो प्लान या नॉन-प्लान के विलय में झूल रही है, उसे वहां से हटा करके आवश्यक कानूनी रूप दिया जा सके।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): That is fine.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: मान्यवर, एक मिनट और दीजिए। प्लान और नॉन-प्लान के चक्कर में दलितों और आदिवासियों के लिए जो बजट दिया जाता है, वह एक तरह से सरकार की दया पर निर्भर है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You have made your point. Thank you.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: वह सरकार की दया पर निर्भर न हो करके दलितों और आदिवासियों के लिए इस बजट में उचित व्यवस्था प्रदान करने का काम किया जाए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Thank you Mr. Siddharth. You have conveyed your point.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: सरकार में दलित समाज के लोग भी मंत्री हैं और वित्त मंत्री जी भी बैठे हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): You have made your point. Thank you.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: वे सोचें कि आज दलित समाज के साथ जो हो रहा है, तो उनमें जो लोग बैठे हैं, उनके साथ और पूरे दलित समाज के साथ यह सरकार क्या करने जा रही है? इसके लिए उनको अपनी आंखें खोल लेनी चाहिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Brevity is the soul of wit, Mr. Siddharth.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ: मान्यवर, इसी के साथ मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूं, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA): Now, Shri Ananda Bhaskar Rapolu. You have four minutes.

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Respected Vice-Chairman, Sir, being the son of the weaving community, I express my anguish for reducing the Budgetary support to the handloom weaving sector from ₹ 600 plus crore to ₹ 300 crore. Being the son of the Other Backward Classes, I express my anguish about your insensitivity to our demand to have the OBC Sub-Plan. As you have done away with Plan and non-Plan Budgetary approaches, you have safely shelved the Scheduled Castes Sub-Plan and the Scheduled Tribes Sub-Plan. Hence, the demand for Other Backward Classes Sub-Plan is not being taken up seriously. This is the grave concern of more than 50 per cent of the population of India which needs to be addressed by the Union Government immediately. Being the son of Telangana, I would like to flag before you that Telangana is being deprived of the provisions that are supposed to be provided through the enactment and you are also not showing necessary concern towards the provision of schemes and programmes and providing institutes to the Telangana State. At this juncture, my brothers and sisters of Andhra Pradesh are in agitation. Yesterday, they observed total bandh throughout the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh. My colleagues in both the Houses are standing in the Well and agitating and expressing their anguish. Even earlier, I had pleaded with you to have two types of special status programmes for the States – one for the very sensitive hilly areas and another for such States which have real fiscal complications to cater to their necessities.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA) *in the Chair*]

Sir, Andhra Pradesh is one such State which needs to be addressed by you with a special provision of funding and you have to assuage them by giving a new type of special status to Andhra Pradesh State. Then only, the anguish and agitation will subside. Otherwise, it will take the shape of a movement which will become a bigger problem in times to come. आपके शासन काल का अब सिर्फ एक साल बाकी है और चार साल गुजर गए हैं। "कारवां गुजर गया, गुबार देखते रहे" इन चारों सालों की आपकी सत्ता देखने के बाद लोग यह भी सोच सकते हैं कि अगर वर्ष 2014 में वर्तमान प्रधान मंत्री के बदले, श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी जी यदि प्रधान मंत्री बन गए होते, तो बहुत अच्छा होता। यह सोच अभी भी लोगों के दिलों में है, लेकिन बाहर निकलने का साहस नहीं हो रहा है। आपको यह बात समझनी चाहिए। अगर श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी जी, प्रधान मंत्री बन कर इस देश की सत्ता को चलाते, तो अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी जी के असली राजधर्म का पालन होता। उसके साथ ही साथ मैं आर्य समाज पद्धति के, ब्रह्मर्षि दयानंद सरस्वती से लेकर पं. दीन दयाल उपाध्याय तक की जो-जो विचारधाराएं हैं, उन्हें मैंने पूरा पढ़ा है। इसलिए मैं बोल रहा हूँ कि आप पं. दीन दयाल उपाध्याय के बताए मार्ग पर भी चलने को तैयार नहीं हैं। आपका असली चेहरा अब सामने आ रहा है। इसलिए पूरे देश की जनता आपसे व्यथित है। वह आपके सामने है। You know that. You understand the gravity of the turmoil that is brewing all across the country. Your GDP is not being believed. Your arithmetic is not being believed. And you have the phobia for Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. Thanks to your memory, *ninda* is also a great *stuti* before the spiritual authority. If you respectfully blame somebody in the form of *ninda stuti*, it will also become a prayer. You are obsessed with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. He brought in the mixed economy. He ensured what is there today before you and what you are administering now. Have you ever bothered to look at the necessities of the Indian population? Your GDP cannot cater and it is an established fact by the well-known international economist that GDP calculation is not going to give you the necessary assessment and it will not indicate the progress and development, that is, having what you have mentioned as ease of living. It is not even ease of doing business and it is not even ease of living. In such conditions, what is supposed to be done? Recently, under the parameters of the Inclusive Development Index, seventy-four countries' emerging economies have been considered. In those seventy-four emerging economies, where is India standing?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): आनंद भास्कर जी, आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है।

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Please look at it. India is standing at number 62 in the ranking as we are not inclusive economically, as we are not inclusive socially and we are not at all inclusive administratively.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*... Anandaji, your allotted time is over. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: This has become a bigger complication as the doubts are looming large about the calculations of the GDP. I urge upon the Union Finance Minister to look into the possibility of inclusion and assessment of the model under way in the Inclusive Development Index which will show what exact inclusive nature we could attain with our people.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Thank you.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Besides that, I would like to urge upon the Union Government to have federalism in a proper form. You have mentioned about the cooperative federalism but there is nothing in practice before you as the federalism. You are not taking the State Governments on board while considering the requirements and the expectations of the State.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Please conclude.
...(Interruptions)... Now, Shri Ripun Bora. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Take the case of Telangana as well. This is reflecting your attitude towards the treatment towards a State. Economic federalism is required, cultural federalism is required, social federalism is required and then only the fusion of the political federalism is possible for which your Budget has now reflected which you could not convey.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): आनंद भास्कर जी, अब आप कन्क्लूड करिए।
Shri Ripun Bora. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: This has taken away the great opportunity before you as only one year is before you. I plead, I suggest, सह नाववतु, सह नौ भुनक्तु...। ॐ शान्ति, शान्ति, शान्ति। जय हिन्द।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Thank you. Shri Ripun Bora.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Thank you, Sir. You have given me the opportunity at the end.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Five minutes only.
...(Interruptions)... Please conclude in five minutes. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, my humble submission to you is that I am the last speaker of my party and I am the only speaker from the North-Eastern Region, the vast and neglected region. Kindly do not interrupt me. I will speak very briefly and I will not take much time. ...(Interruptions)... महोदय, मैं अपनी बात की शुरुआत हमारे

वित्त मंत्री के एक quotation से करता हूं। उन्होंने जब air connectivity के ऊपर बजट दाखिल किया था, तो एयर पोर्ट बढ़ाने के लिए बोला था। उसमें उन्होंने बोला था कि हम लोग इस बजट में हवाई चप्पल पहनने वालों के लिए हवाई जहाज उपलब्ध करायेंगे। सर, सिर्फ एयरपोर्ट बढ़ा देने से हवाई चप्पल पहनने वालों के लिए हवाई जहाज उपलब्ध नहीं होगा, जब तक उनके fares कम नहीं होंगे। सर, हवाई चप्पल कौन पहनता है? जो poorest of the poor है, वह इसे पहनता है। वे लोग तीन-चार महीने पहले कभी टिकट बुक नहीं करते हैं। तीन-चार महीने पहले टिकट बुक करने से उनको 3,000 या 4,000 में दिल्ली तक का टिकट मिलता है, लेकिन उन लोगों की मजबूरी है कि उन्हें बीमारी के इलाज के लिए चेन्नई जाने के लिए, मुम्बई जाने के लिए और दिल्ली आने के लिए 24 hours-48 hours के अन्दर टिकट बुक करना होता है। हमारे गुवाहाटी से तो 48 hours में टिकट बुक करने से टिकट का दाम कम से कम 10,000 से 25,000 तक होता है। अभी हकीकत यही है कि यह जो हवाई चप्पल पहनने वाला आदमी है, उसकी एक साल की कमाई लगभग 20,000 रुपये होती है। इसके बावजूद भी हवाई जहाज में यह जो package है, baggage है, उसमें extra baggage के लिए, 1 Kg के extra baggage के लिए extra 300 रुपये देने पड़ते हैं। इसलिए यह कोई दूसरा कुछ नहीं है, बल्कि यह भी एक सपना है। जैसे मोदी जी का 15 लाख रुपये का सपना था, वैसे ही यह भी हमारे गरीब लोगों के लिए एक स्वप्न के अलावा कुछ नहीं है। Sir, my second point is, the hon. Finance Minister in the Budget...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): You please conclude. आप नियत समय में, दो मिनट आपके पास हैं, उसमें अपनी बात पूरी करिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: No, Sir, you have given everybody more time. ...*(Interruptions)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया): आपकी पार्टी के 25 मिनट ज्यादा हो गए हैं। अब खत्म करिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*..

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, my second point is that in the Budget, the Finance Minister has very loudly and very proudly said that this is a Budget for the poor and this is a road map for the poor people; this is a road map for the farmers, he said these things. Now, Sir, my questions are: what steps has the Budget taken for increasing the purchasing power of the people? What steps has the Budget taken to control the sky-rocketing prices of all commodities. What steps has the Budget taken to fulfil the promises of the BJP Government to make the prices half if they come to power as what was at the time of the UPA Government. Sir, as a student of economics, I know that higher the circulation of money in the market, the higher the purchasing power of the people. Now, what has the Government done for increasing the purchasing power? They have cut the circulation of money by demonetization; by cashless economy; by digital economy, by imposing restrictions on bank withdrawals and by imposing service taxes in case of withdrawals from the ATMs. So, now, how will this purchasing power increase? On the one hand, we are curtailing the

[Shri Ripun Bora]

purchasing power and on the other hand, we have these sky rocketing prices. So far as the price rise is concerned, I do not want to talk about the other prices but I will only mention about the petrol prices.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Please conclude.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, just two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): No; only one sentence, the final sentence. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, you have given everybody five minutes. In 2004, in the international market, when the crude oil price per barrel was 30\$, at that time, the petrol price was ₹ 33 to ₹ 38 and the diesel price was ₹ 21 to ₹ 27 and in 2016, when the crude oil price per barrel was 30.53\$, the petrol price had gone from ₹ 59 to ₹ 66 per litre and the diesel price had gone from ₹ 44 to ₹ 52 per litre. And, now, the most unfortunate part is that, in this current year, the crude oil price has come down to the level of 2004 but in spite of that the petrol price is here approximately ₹ 73 to ₹ 75 per litre and the diesel price is ₹ 64 to ₹ 65 per litre. Now, Sir, from April, 2014 to March, 2016, prices of crude oil in the international market have fallen by 64 per cent and during this period the excise duty on petrol went up by 126 per cent. Sir, this BJP led NDA Government during their three-and-a-half years of tenure raised the excise duty by nine times and as a result, we the common people are suffering because of the sky rocketing prices. Now, Sir, the hon. Finance Minister is here; Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad is here but Shrimati Sushma Swaraj is not here and the Home Minister is not here. I want to show when during our UPA Government, there was high price, what they have done...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): All the Ministers are here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't show it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't show it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please conclude. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: No, no, Sir, Shri Arun Jaitley is here. He had started agitation all over India by showing gas cylinder...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Now, I am calling the Finance Minister.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: And, Sushma Swarajji by taking up garland of onion...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): No, not allowed. Nothing will go on record.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: *

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA): Thank you. Nothing is going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: *

(MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Nothing is going on record. Why are you unnecessarily wasting your energy? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI RIPUN BORA: *

OBSERVATIONS BY THE CHAIR

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing shall go on record, both print and electronic. ...(*Interruptions*)... वित्त मंत्री जी, एक मिनट। One minute. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Ramesh, Mr. Venkatesh, Mr. Mohan Rao and Madam, please go to your seats. Please hear my advice. Please go to your seats. Just hear what I am going to say. ...(*Interruptions*)... वित्त मंत्री जी, एक मिनट। Hon. Members, I have something to say to the House and then, the Finance Minister will reply to the Budget and he has some Resolution also to move.

I am saying this with a heavy heart. I hope everybody understands it.

We are coming to the end of the first part of the 245th Session of the Rajya Sabha today and we shall be meeting again after about a month to continue our discussions on the Budget. I must confess that I am deeply pained at the way this Session has progressed. As the Chairman, it is my responsibility because at the end of the day, I am accountable to the people. They will see how the House is conducted, how discussions have gone on. What I am deeply disturbed with is the utter disregard for the parliamentary procedure and the unruly behavior so unbecoming of the high position we occupy in the society as parliamentarians. Dear Members, the question I have been asking myself, and probably many Indians watching us on the television screens would be thinking of, is this: Can we ever make our Parliament an effective instrument of change through informed debates, constructive criticisms and orderly proceedings? I was hoping that we shall collectively strive to uphold and maintain the dignity, sanctity and supremacy of Parliament as we had pledged in 2012 to commemorate the 60th Anniversary of the sitting of the Parliament. I shall still keep hoping that we shall exercise the necessary restraint and behave

[Mr. Chairman]

with appropriate severity and dignity. I find it a sad commentary on the functioning, that we have lost nearly ten hours during this brief Session due to disruptions and forced adjournments. We could not have Question Hour on five days and there was also no Zero Hour on five days.

Dear Members, we certainly should not go in this manner any longer. I appeal to each one of you, please consider this as a sacred institution which should reflect the hopes and aspirations of 130 crore people. This is not aimed at any party—this party or that party. As far as the Chair is concerned, I am concerned about the House. It is an institution that decides the destiny and charts the direction of national development. That is why people have high hopes on us. We are so privileged to be in this House because of the people's trust on us. We must use the opportunity wisely by debating, discussing and evolving solutions to a vast number of public concerns. Let us not have slanging matches between parties and stoop down to competing with each other on unparliamentary language or behavior. When we meet again in March, it is my fervent hope and an earnest appeal to each one of you that we shall turn a new leaf in our Parliament's history through orderly, informed and constructive debates.

Hon. Members, over the last few days, I have been telling the floor leaders of the quality of the debate on the Motion of Thanks to the President, whether from this side or that side, and I am very much impressed the way the debate was initially conducted and the contribution made positively from that side and also critically from this side in their own way. They have got every right and we have such good Parliamentarians here, who are articulate and have the capacity to argue and also to put forth their point of view. That being the case, when we have such talented material on all sides, why should we lose the opportunity to have the debate? That is my only concern. All other things about individual actions and all, that I am not going to make any comment. And whatever has happened, that has been clarified in the morning. So I am not even touching that. Then, some people have given notice. That notice has been taken note of. That has been already announced. There was some mention about Rajya Sabha telecast by Shri Derek O'Brien. That also has been inquired into and a report, as has been given, has been sent to hon. Member also. There was some power failure. So, hon. Members, I only request every one of you, please keep the prestige and the decorum of this august House. We are supposed to be the Elders. So, keep that in mind and respond in such a manner so that the prestige of the House goes up. I feel that such an atmosphere, quality debates, will become a regular feature like we had in the recent past. This is the only thing.

I now ask the Finance Minister to reply to the debate, including the issues raised by the Members.

THE UNION BUDGET, 2018-19 — Contd.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIR (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for this opportunity. We had two days' detailed discussion on the Budget, and this discussion will spill over to the second part because there will be a detailed discussion on the Demands for Grants. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Karnataka): What about special assistance for Andhra Pradesh?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That also will be covered.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Several issues, like the one Mr. Derek O'Brien raised on the Railways, when the Demands for Grants of the Railways are dealt with, I think, to his greater satisfaction, will be dealt with by my colleague, Shri Piyush Goyal in that debate itself. I will, therefore, try and be very brief considering the fact that Members have gone through the two day debate, and this debate will continue in the Demands for Grants and the discussion on this Finance Bill itself.

I am very grateful to all the Members, led by Mr. P. Chidambaram who initiated the discussion. Obviously, since my friends from Andhra Pradesh have been very deeply concerned about the issues facing their State. If the hon. Members permit me, I will just make a brief statement with regard to Andhra Pradesh. Considering the fact that when the State was bifurcated into two, we were amongst the Members, who had strongly felt that as a result of the bifurcation some justice has to be done to the residuary Andhra State because it was going to lose a large part of its revenue. There were several commitments which have been made in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, in this House, and before the State Government. Some of these commitments have been implemented; and some work is in progress. Many institutions have been created in the State of Andhra Pradesh since earlier institutions went to the State of Telangana. Money for the creation of the Capital and, for the Backward Districts has been given. The agency of NABARD is funding the Polavaram project. It is a continuous process which we will continue, and work will not be allowed to be stopped at any stage itself.

There are certain pending issues, which is also work in progress. I will just read a brief paragraph to inform my friends because over the last few days also

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

meetings have been held. The Central Government had agreed to give a special assistance to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for a period of five years. Earlier this assistance was to be given by the Externally-Aided Programme. However, in the month of January, the State Government suggested an alternative method, and on the alternative method discussions have reached a very advanced stage and a solution is likely to be finalized soon.

With regard to revenue deficit for the year 2014-15, ten months of that year, a sum of ₹ 3,979.50 crores has already been given. A resolution with regard to the determination of the final amount payable has been discussed and currently discussions are going on to finalise the gap, the difference in the perception has narrowed down.

As far as other issues are concerned, Durgarajapatnam Port, Integrated Steel Plant in the Kadapa District, Petroleum Cracker Complex, separate Railway Zone at Vizag, Vizag-Chennai and Bengaluru Industrial Corridor, all the concerned Ministries have been asked to look into these matters and take an early decision with regard to each one of these areas itself. So, this is work in progress, and at a very advanced stage.

Sir, the debate was initiated by my friend, Mr. Chidambaram. For the period 2004-14, the UPA Government was in power and, out of this period, as he himself mentioned, for the initial years, particularly till 2010, there was a boom in the global economy. He, in fact, mentioned that the Chief Economic Advisor had referred to their management of the economy as a 'boom period'; that is not so. There was a boom in the global economy itself because of which India was also benefiting. Obviously, whenever any Government is in power, it has its own perception of implementing what it thinks is in the larger national interest.

Let me start off by saying that the UPA Government had started two important programmes. One was MNREGA and the other was the Right to Food. Even when the Government changed in 2014, we, in the NDA, felt that in the larger interest of the national economy it is in our own interest to continue these programmes. So, for MNREGA, last year and this year, I had already provided an amount of ₹ 55,000 crores in the Budget itself. Let me say this – and I am not making a critical comment; it is a factual analysis – that even when ₹ 40,000 crores was the maximum that the UPA would sanction, it was never able to spend that money. कभी 28 हजार करोड़ खर्च होता था, कभी 32 हजार करोड़ खर्च होता था। हम जितना बजट में sanction करते हैं – पिछले साल 48 हजार करोड़ किया तो 55 हजार करोड़ हो गया। इस साल 55 हजार करोड़ किया...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): If you allow me, Sir, I want to say something. Of course, it is not a critical issue. The fact, which we cannot deny, Arunji, is that last year the increase was forced by circumstances because, after demonetisation, a large number of people lost their jobs, their daily wages and they went back to their villages, and MNREGA saved them. This time also some...

श्री अरुण जेटली: आनन्द जी, मैं आपको थोड़ा डेटा दूंगा। आप जिस भ्रम में जीते हैं और जिस भ्रम में ये भाषण भी किए गए, factual data उसको समर्थन नहीं देता है। इस साल भी हमने 55 हजार करोड़ किया है। Right to Food यानी food subsidy इस साल 1 लाख 70 हजार करोड़ है। किसी भी सरकार में ये कार्यक्रम शुरू हुए हों, ग्रामीण सड़कों पर जो खर्च होता था, उससे कई गुणा ज्यादा है, 27 हजार करोड़ सालाना। आप किसी भी लोक सभा सांसद से पूछ लीजिए, उसके क्षेत्र में कितना खर्च हो रहा है। गांव को सड़क से जोड़ देना, गांव के भीतर घर मिल जाना, गांव के अंदर शौचालय बन जाना, स्वच्छ भारत और शौचालय का जो निर्माण हुआ है, पिछले तीन-चार वर्षों में वह जिस गति से देश में बढ़ा है, वह अपने आपमें एक नया इतिहास लिख रहा है। केवल हर गांव तक बिजली नहीं, वह तो आपके समय भी कोशिश हो रही थी कि बिजली पहुंचाई जाए, लेकिन आज हर गांव में हर घर को spot किया जा रहा है कि उस घर तक बिजली पहुंच जाए। Interest subvention — आप आंकड़ों की तुलना कर लीजिए, उसकी संख्या लगभग दोगुनी हुई है, crop insurance को उसके साथ और जोड़ा गया है। इसलिए गरीबी का उन्मूलन करने के लिए पूरे बजट में आपको कितनी entries मिल जाएंगी जो एक के बाद एक उस दिशा में आगे बढ़ने का प्रयास करती हैं। केवल इतना नहीं, एक आलोचना जो हम लोग आपकी सरकार के समय करते थे कि आपने right approach तो दे दी, लेकिन productivity बढ़ाने के लिए जो बाकी सुधार करने चाहिए थे, उनका क्या हुआ? आप पिछले 2-3 साल का इतिहास देख लें। आधार के बारे में, मैं यह जानता हूँ कि जब आपकी सरकार थी, तब भी सरकार में division था। There was a divided opinion in your Government. एक मंत्रालय चाहता था, एक विभाग PMO चाहता था, शायद कई लोग नहीं चाहते थे और इसीलिए आज तक यह स्पष्ट नहीं हो पाया कि आप उसके पक्ष में हैं या उसके खिलाफ हैं। आप लोगों ने कोशिश की, लेकिन GST को आगे लाने में सफल नहीं हो पाए, हम लोग ले आए। इसमें आपका भी सहयोग रहा है। मैं बैंकों के साथ जो हुआ उसकी अलग से चर्चा करूंगा। लेकिन जो सबसे विचित्र टिप्पणी की गई कि बजट से पहले इकोनॉमिक सर्वे में यह लिख दिया गया कि employment के संबंध में, रोजगार और कृषि के संबंध में और शिक्षा के संबंध में अभी देश में बहुत कुछ होना है because the Chief Economic Advisor is realistic in writing that we have a lot of distance still to cover in these areas, the impression was created as though these are the three problem areas created in the last four years! On the cumulative effect of resources of historical backwardness, what is the impact of Congress rule in all these years? 55 साल आप सरकार में रहे, अगर आपके नारे मंजूर कर लिए जाते, तो गरीबी तो 1971 में हट जानी चाहिए थी। इसीलिए Chief Economic Adviser ने अपने बजट में यह लिखा कि इन तीन क्षेत्रों में अभी और भी बहुत काम बाकी है, यह वास्तविकता है। हम हवा में नहीं जी रहे हैं और जब मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि हम हवा में नहीं जी रहे हैं, I was wondering to myself when this illustration is given that in the Chief Economic Advisor you have very good

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

7.00 P.M.

doctor but you have a terrible patient. Let me tell you, even if there is a bad case and if you have a good doctor, he will probably end up curing the patient. What do we do for those ten years from 2004 to 2014 when you had a terrible doctor? When you have a terrible doctor, even the healthiest patient is likely to disappear!

After this entire smug approach, I was trying to analyse. You see, during the boom period, the whole global economy was doing well. When, in 2011, we started facing challenges, honestly analyse what it is that you left behind. I am now going to give you six or seven sets of data. I will immediately yield if you correct me on a single one of these as mistake. Let us start with 2012. Why I am starting with the GDP in 2012 is because prior to 2012, the old series was applicable. So, it is unfair to compare old series with the new series.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will you release the numbers for ten years under the old series and the new series?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I am releasing. Since a number of questions were put to me, data gives the answer to each one of them. In 2012-13, what is the GDP growth under UPA? It was 5.3 per cent, lowest in the recent years. In 2013-14, what is the GDP growth? It was 6.3 per cent. We lost one quarter GDP because of GST and because people were destocking, manufacturing came down and it became 5.7 per cent, एक क्वार्टर के लिए, एक तिमाही के लिए 5.7 परसेंट हुई। एक तिमाही में 5.7 परसेंट पर हायतौबा और आप 5.3 परसेंट और 6.3 परसेंट की अवस्था में छोड़कर गए और आपके जाते ही क्या हुआ 7.5 परसेंट, 8.2 परसेंट, 7.1 परसेंट और जिसको स्ट्रक्चरल रिफॉर्म की वजह से स्लोडाउन ईयर कहते हैं, उसमें 6.7 परसेंट। Look, who is talking? ... (*Interruptions*)... आप 5.3 और 6.3 की जीडीपी ग्रोथ छोड़कर गए। I was questioned that oil price has been on the rise, what will you do with the Current Account Deficit? I heard a detailed discourse on Current Account Deficit. What is the Current Account Deficit of your last two years? It was 4.2 per cent and 4.8 per cent and 4.2 per cent and 4.8 per cent is unacceptable level of Current Account Deficit. एक तिमाही जो 2012 का था, उसमें तो शायद आपने वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड तोड़ दिया होगा, 6.8 परसेंट। In the third quarter of 2012, you had 6.8 per cent Current Account Deficit. So, Current Account Deficit was 4.2 per cent, 4.8 per cent. सरकार बदल गई, half a per cent, one per cent, one-and-a-half present. इस रेंज से बाहर आज कि Current Account Deficit नहीं गया और हमें भाषण सुनने को मिल रहा है कि आप Current Account Deficit का क्या कर रहे हो? Yesterday a big statement was made on the yields on the ten years' bonds. टेन ईयर बॉन्ड्स के जो yields होते हैं, वह इस बात पर निर्भर करता है कि सरकार किस रेट के ऊपर ऋण लेगी? जिस रेट का borrowing rate होता है, यह उस पर डिपेंड करता है। आप gone up कह रहे

हैं। जब वाजपेयी जी की सरकार गई और 2004 में आप आए थे, तो yield पर जो रेट था, वह 5.17 परसेंट, lowest ever level था और आप सरकार में रहे, यह धीरे-धीरे बढ़ता रहा। अप्रैल, 2013 में आपने नया कीर्तिमान 9.48 परसेंट का स्थापित कर लिया यानी कि कोई भी राज्य सरकार अगर उधार ले या केंद्र सरकार उधार ले, तो उसको 9.5 परसेंट, 10 परसेंट ब्याज देना पड़ेगा। गरीब की सेवा करने के स्थान पर वह ब्याज बढ़ रहा था। हम सरकार में वापस आए, धीरे-धीरे कमना शुरू हुआ और अब तो 7.5 और 7.6 की रेंज में है। डिमॉनेटाइजेशन की जो आप आलोचना करते हैं, डिमॉनेटाइजेशन के बाद बैंकों में पैसा पड़ा हुआ था और अब देश को ज्यादा उधार की जरूरत नहीं पड़ेगी, तो ब्याज दर फिर वापस 6.19 परसेंट पर आ गई। We remained in 6 per cent, 7 and 7.5 per cent. You breached the fiscal discipline, we were told. The red lines were breached. आपके आखिरी तीन सालों में fiscal deficit कितना था — 5.9 परसेंट, 4.9 परसेंट और 4.5 परसेंट था। And fiscal deficit means that you are borrowing and borrowing and borrowing to run the Government and because you are excessively borrowing, you are going to leave the next generation in debt and too much borrowing, which is not good for any economy itself. और यह apparent fiscal deficit था, — जो concealed था, मैं उस में नहीं जाता। I am not on the quality of the fiscal deficit that you left behind; हम पावर में आ गए — आप से हमें fiscal deficit 5.9 per cent, 4.9 per cent, 4.5 per cent मिला, पहले साल में 4.1, दूसरे साल में 3.9, तीसरे साल में 3.5 था, इस साल हमें 3.2 करना था, लेकिन हम 3.2 नहीं कर पाए, 3.5 पर रह गए और उस के पीछे बड़ा स्पष्ट कारण था and much is made out of this fact कि जो Indirect tax है, पहले तीन महीने तो Excise और Service tax था, अगले 9 महीने जीएसटी है, लेकिन एक महीने का कम जीएसटी इस साल मिला। अगर मेरा fiscal deficit इस साल 48,000 करोड़ रुपए का है, उस में से 36,000 करोड़ तो वह है, जो कि जीएसटी की वजह से कम मिला, तो that is a statistical slippage of the fiscal deficit. So, you maintained consistently a high level of fiscal deficit at 5.9 per cent, 4.9 per cent and 4.5 per cent. और 5.9 fiscal deficit maintain करने के बाद, आज आप हम को भाषण दे रहे हैं कि यह 3.9 क्यों नहीं हुआ? आपको मालूम है कि इस साल एक महीने का जीएसटी कम है क्योंकि मार्च का जीएसटी अप्रैल में मिलेगा।

फिर कुछेक सवाल revenue deficit पर आ गए। मैंने सोचा कि revenue deficit भी देख लें कि क्या था। आप जो अंतिम तीन सालों का revenue deficit छोड़कर गए वह 4.9 परसेंट, 3.7 परसेंट, 3.2 परसेंट और यह 3 परसेंट, 4 परसेंट से हमेशा ऊपर। It is a high, unacceptable level of revenue deficit. हम लोग सरकार में आए, revenue deficit कितना है - 2.9 परसेंट, 2.5 परसेंट और 2.1 परसेंट। यह धीरे-धीरे कम हो रहा है।

आप किस आंकड़े को मिलाएंगे? मुद्रास्फीति — तेल के दाम बढ़ गए तो आप क्या करोगे? मुझे तो अब कि कोई ऐसा अर्थशास्त्री नहीं मिला, जिसने मुझे 120 के दाम पर बतलाया हो कि दाम 30 डॉलर पर आ जाएगा और जब 30 पर आया तो किसी ने नहीं बताया था कि यह वापस 70 पर जाने वाला है। अब बहस होते-होते यह 66 पर पहुंच गया और अब 63-64 हो गया। वह fluctuating है। What is the last three years of your inflation? It was 9.4 per cent, 10.4 per cent and 9 per cent. तीनों सालों में आप का inflation figure 9 परसेंट से ऊपर

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

था और एक बार तो double digit Inflation था और पिछले तीन सालों में 2-2.5 परसेंट भी रहा, 3 परसेंट भी रहा और इस साल औसतन 3.6 परसेंट है। I do believe that some people can make very good commentators because they can write and speak their right logic. But I am not so sure whether they can make the best administrators, if this is the data that speaks for itself. और हमें यह कहा जा रहा है कि The doctor who diagnosed your illness is a very good one, but you are a bad patient. But then, let us not be under the impression that this is the data anybody is likely to forget and just appreciate this journey. It is a journey that we have covered from policy paralysis to structural reforms. It is a journey from the 'fragile five' to what is now referred to as the 'bright spot' in the economy of the world.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, one minute, please?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him complete, Anandji. Then, you can ask.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this is parliamentary practice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If he yields, I have no problem.

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES; AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): Even if it is a parliamentary practice, he has to yield.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, let him tell me one thing.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Anand Sharmaji, he has not yielded. That is the problem.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, he may just listen to me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I don't want that he does not yield and you start speaking. I don't like you both talk to each other while standing. If he yields, I have no problem. Okay; he has yielded. Now, you can make your point.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: He is appreciated. Thank you, Sir.

Sir, my question is very simple. Yes; in politics, you say, when we left, we were in 'fragile five', which we were not. I had said it the other day. I have not participated in this debate. There will be another debate in a few weeks' time. I will speak then. But, one thing is very clear. Can you deny that the GDP of India quadrupled in those ten years? You are the Finance Minister. We went from US \$ 480 billion to US \$ 2.2 trillion. This is a fact. It is a matter of fact and is on record.

Secondly, if you kindly release the old series and the new series of GDP figures, you will find that for four consecutive years we grew in double digit also.

Lastly, even during that period, post financial and economic crisis, India remained the second largest recipient of FDI. You read all the Reports — IMF or World Bank or other investment institutions. So, it is not that we fell.

श्री अमित अनिल चंद्र शाह (गुजरात): हम चिदम्बरम जी से इतना कहाँ पूछते थे?

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: इतना बुरा हाल नहीं था।

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Anandji, let us be clear that from a policy paralysis to structural reforms, from 'fragile five' to a 'bright spot' and what was becoming a basket case to the world's fastest growing economy is the journey. That is the journey of transformation. And, therefore, we can throw up questions in the air and live under a false illusion that we are the 'know all.' The fact is, our analysis can be incorrect; but, data does not speak any alternative language.

Now, a question is raised, 'What is the oil price perception that you have?' Well, it is quite obvious that India is a net buyer of oil. Therefore, higher prices of global oil don't suit us. There is oil price which is range-bound, which gives us a comfort level. Today, we are almost on the outer periphery of that comfort position. If it breaches that, it creates an adversity for us. It is no rocket science. It is a hard fact which is beyond our control.

Several other small questions have been raised. When I was referring to fiscal deficit — just two or three points — I mentioned the quality of fiscal deficit. In each one of the last two-three years, the revised targets of our Budget, under the NDA Government, ended up spending more than the Budget Estimates. And, therefore, we have achieved fiscal deficit target despite spending more. If you look at the kind of accounting you did in your last 3-4 years, you maintained the high fiscal deficit targets. Every year, you cut down by ₹ 1 lakh crores, ₹ 1.20 lakh crores. If you cut down expenditure, what do you cut down on? You cannot cut down expenditure on repayment of interest. आपको ब्याज वापस करना पड़ेगा। आपको डिफेंस और नेशनल सिक्योरिटी पर खर्चा करना पड़ेगा। सैलेरी, वेतन, पेंशन आपको देना पड़ेगा। तब कौन-सा खर्चा है, जिसको आप काटेंगे? जो डेवलपमेंटल एक्सपेंडिचर है, जो विकास पर खर्चा करना है, आप उसको काटेंगे। इसलिए हर साल उसको मेंटेन करने के लिए, जो डेवलपमेंटल एक्सपेंडिचर था, उसको काटते थे। So, not only did you not maintain fiscal deficit, but the quality of your fiscal deficit was extremely inadequate and poor. And, in each one of our cases, the Revised Estimates are more than the Budget Estimates. So, we are spending more. I can tell you. हम यह उठाते रहे कि आपने यह जो ब्लैक मनी कैंपेन चलाया, उसका क्या नतीजा निकला? उसका असर देखिए। मैंने कल ही फाइल साइन की है, मेरे पास पूरा डेटा आया, मुझे इस साल की उम्मीद थी कि इनकम-टैक्स का कलेक्शन 14 परसेंट से 15 परसेंट बढ़ेगा। कल मेरे पास 31 जनवरी कल के फिगर्स आए थे। अभी दो महीने

[Shri Arun Jaitley]

और बाकी हैं, our growth over the last year is 19.7 per cent यह जितना ब्लैक मनी के खिलाफ कैपेन है, यह डीमॉनेटाइजेशन, इसमें जीएसटी का भी रोल है, डीमॉनेटाइजेशन का भी रोल है, इस कैपेन का भी रोल है। इन सबका असर यह है कि टैक्स नेट अपने आप में धीरे-धीरे बढ़ता जा रहा है और स्वाभाविक है कि उसका एक लाभ हम लोगों को मिलेगा। अब यह कहा गया कि आपने ओएनजीसी ने भारत सरकार से एचपीसीएल खरीद लिया, यह हमने कोई लास्ट मिनट फाइनेंशियल इंजीनियरिंग नहीं की, यह तो मेरे बजट की घोषणा थी। अपस्ट्रीम और डाउनस्ट्रीम, ऑयल कंपनीज के बीच में तालमेल, यह तो पूरा एक ग्लोबल फिनोमिना है। हम लोगों ने उसके तहत ही यह घोषणा की थी।

महोदय, एक विषय उठाया गया कि क्या आपका रेवेन्यू एक्सपेंडिचर बढ़ गया है? यह रेवेन्यू एक्सपेंडिचर नहीं बढ़ा, बल्कि जीएसटी के तहत हर राज्य को कांस्टीट्यूशनल गारंटी दी गई है कि उसे 14 परसेंट की ग्रोथ मिलेगी, जिसके लिए जीएसटी के ऊपर सेस आता है। वह सेस तकरीबन साढ़े सात, आठ हजार करोड़ रुपये महीने का इकट्ठा होता है। अभी कि वह जो सेस इकट्ठा हुआ है, इस साल की उम्मीद है कि लगभग 61 हजार, 1 सौ 31 रुपये सेस की असेसमेंट है। यह, क्योंकि राज्यों को दिया जाना है और यह केंद्र के माध्यम से दिया जाता है, इसलिए उसे रेवेन्यू एक्सपेंडिचर की एंट्री में डाला हुआ है। केवल इतना है। It is not that the Revenue Expenditure of the Centre has increased, the GST cess has been put in the accounting entry, as far as the Centre is concerned. कैपिटल एक्सपेंडिचर, हम लोगों ने जितनी भी, वह चाहे नेशनल हाईवे अथॉरिटी हो, रेलवेज है, अन्य बॉडीज हैं, मार्केट बॉरोइंग्स की उनको कैपिटल एक्सपेंडिचर के लिए अनुमति दी है, इसलिए कैपिटल एक्सपेंडिचर किसी वजह से कम हो, इससे कोई कमी नहीं आने वाली है।

महोदय, एक विषय उठाया गया कि अचानक कस्टम ड्यूटी इतनी कम क्यों हो गई? जीएसटी आने के बाद जो स्पेशल सीवीडी थी, काउंटर वेलिंग ड्यूटी थी और जो एडिशनल ड्यूटी ऑन कस्टम्स है, उसको जीएसटी के अंदर सबस्यूम कर लिया गया है और कॉरिसपोंडेंगली, क्योंकि उसको जीएसटी के अंदर सबस्यूम कर लिया गया है, इसलिए वह कस्टम ड्यूटी कम हो जाती है और उसके मुताबिक जीएसटी उतना ही बढ़ता है।

महोदय, कई माननीय सदस्यों ने कई विषय रेज किए हैं। जहां कि जीएसटी का प्रश्न है, क्योंकि यह वह वर्ष था, जिसमें एक नया टैक्स सिस्टम आया, पुरानी टैक्स व्यवस्था में सेंट्रल एक्साइज, वैट, सर्विस टैक्स, जितने भी सत्रह टैक्स थे, there were 64 lakh registered dealers. कई ड्रुप्लिकेट भी होते हैं, जो दो तरह के टैक्स देते हैं, जीएसटी के लिए उसकी संख्या ऑलरेडी 1 करोड़ से ज्यादा जा चुकी है। इसलिए, पहले दो-तीन महीने चुनौतियां थीं, जीएसटी उसके बाद स्टेबलाइज हुआ, जीएसटी council में मिलकर उसके रेट स्टेबलाइज किए। सब की यह एक राय थी, कांग्रेस पार्टी को भी आरंभ से यह लगता था कि यह जो 28 परसेंट का स्लैब है, इसको जितना थिन किया जा सकता है, पतला किया जा सकता है, डीमैरिट गुड्स या लग्जरी गुड्स को छोड़कर, उसको उतना कम किया जाए। मैं मानता हूं कि इस वर्ष जो एंटी इन्फ्लेशन मेजर्स भी एक के बाद एक जोड़े जाएंगे, तो उसके बाद जीएसटी कलेक्शन पर और फर्क पड़ेगा, कलेक्शंस बढ़ेंगी। बैंक्स में एक बहुत बड़ी चुनौती रही है और मैं बैंक्स के संबंध में एनपीए के पूरे इतिहास

में नहीं जाता, लेकिन इस बार बैंक्स को रीकैपिटलाइज करने के लिए मौजूदा वित्त वर्ष में और अगले वित्त वर्ष में दो लाख बारह हजार करोड़ रुपए बैंकों में डाले जा रहे हैं, जिससे बैंक्स की लेंडिंग कैपेसिटी अपने आप में बढ़ती है और जो एक प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टमेंट में गिरावट आई थी, जिसके संबंध में चिंता व्यक्त की गई है, वह भी स्वाभाविक है कि अपने आप में थोड़ा प्राइवेट इन्वेस्टमेंट पहले संकेत आ रहे हैं उसके उठने के, लेकिन बैंक्स की क्षमता के बाद वह और उठती है। एक बहुत विचित्र विषय चिदम्बरम साहब ने उठाया, कम से कम कोई और सदस्य कहता, सीपीएम के लोग कहते, तो मैं समझ सकता था, लेकिन उन्होंने कहा कि कॉर्पोरेट टैक्स 25 परसेंट क्यों कर रहे हैं? I was extremely stunned when I heard this. Who mooted the first idea of 25 per cent corporate tax in India? There was a Direct Tax Code which was drafted when Mr. Chidambaram was the Finance Minister. For the first time, a very sound logic was given in that Direct Tax Code that our company should be able to invest more, so that there is more job creation. In order that they are able to invest more, they must have an investible surplus, and to have an investible surplus, what is the best way to do? America is reducing its taxes below 20 per cent. European economies are reducing it. Since competing economies are reducing it, the Direct Tax Code said, India should reduce its corporate tax to 25 per cent. So, it was he who had first mooted this idea. I am holding the Direct Tax Code which was drafted by him, finalized by him, which said, "Rates of income tax for companies on the whole of the total income - 25 per cent of the total income." I think in some cases where you stand depends on where you sit. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Hon. Finance Minister, just a minute please. You replied rightly that Mr. Chidambaram should not have raised that issue. But from my standpoint, I also had raised that issue. Please don't forget to reply to that also. How could you select MSMEs with 250 crore annual turnover as something which deserve concession? Earlier, MSME selection was on the basis of capital deployed. Now, are you changing the criterion? Kindly explain. I will be educated. ..(*Interruptions*)...

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, this way the reply will never be completed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What can I do?

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Do you want to say that Mr. Chidambaram did a wrong thing?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bhattacharya, after he concludes, you can speak.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Hon. Finance Minister, do you want to say that Mr. Chidambaram did a wrong thing?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I fully support him on what he suggested. I will tell you *dada*, why ₹ 250 crore was selected. You are absolutely right. There is already a legislation under consideration by which the criterion is being changed to the turnover criterion. And for the MSME, the medium scale industries, it is going to be ₹ 250 crores. That is the proposal in that. And the reason why we limited it is because it also depends on how much the Budget can afford. This covers 99 per cent of the companies. The MSME sector is the largest job-provider in the country – you are a trade union leader – and therefore if they create more jobs, it helps the working class in the country because there are going to be more jobs. The small scale and medium scale can't compete with large scale, and there is one more difference. That is why when Mr. Bhattacharya asked me, do you support what Mr. Chidambaram had proposed ...(Interruptions)... Please. I have a reason why I supported it. The large-manufacturing companies in India are all entitled to certain sectoral or regional exemptions. So, today, now 99 per cent of companies registered in India will be covered by this 25 per cent. There are 7,000 companies which will be outside this and which will be covered by 30 per cent. But the truth is that those 7,000 companies enjoy a lot of exemptions, and the average tax that they are paying is actually only 22-23 per cent. इसलिए उन कंपनीज़ पर असर नहीं पड़ता, जो वैसे ही 22-23 परसेंट टैक्स दे रही हैं। जो छोटे वाले हैं, जिनको 30 परसेंट 34 परसेंट देना पड़ता था, उनको 25 परसेंट के ऊपर लाना, ताकि job creation के अन्दर वह वाला सेक्टर अपने आपमें सहायता करे। उसके पीछे यह उद्देश्य था। लेकिन कांग्रेस पार्टी की तरफ से, Direct Tax Code वे लाए, उसमें 25 परसेंट का idea moot किया और आज कहें कि आप corporates को favour कर रहे हैं, हम इसकी घोर निंदा करते हैं। आधार पर आप अपना stand बदल लेंगे, GST पर आप अपना stand बदल लेंगे, Corporate Tax के ऊपर आप अपना stand बदल लेंगे, तो आपकी economic policy में consistency क्या है? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. If everybody rises, it will not be possible. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I am just going to ask the hon. Finance Minister one question. What proportion of the total corporate tax collection comes from these 99 per cent of the companies? It is 99 per cent of the companies. I just want to know. I am trying to understand as to what proportion of the tax comes from this.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Jairamji, I am glad you asked it. Last year I had given the exemption to companies up to ₹ 50 crore turnover. This time I have raised it up to ₹ 250 crore turnover. The total amount of revenue forego on this is about ₹ 7,000 crores. If it is to be extended to all, it would be very high. It is a different matter that most of them are, as it is, paying less than 25 per cent but that burden on the tax itself would be about ₹ 40,000 crores to ₹ 50,000 crores which will be very high, which, at the moment, the Budget can't afford to absorb and therefore

that can only be absorbed if it is accompanied by waiver of all exemptions that first go back to 30 per cent net tax and then they are entitled to it.

Sir, even with regard to other taxpayers, this time, we have a whole package as far as senior citizens are concerned. In every Budget, we always try and see that. The RBI in the policy rates tries that. Whatever are the interest rates, they are gradually being coming down. Now it is in the larger interest of the economy that interest rates come down but senior citizens depend on interest for livelihood. Therefore, we had to create avenues where they can get a fixed 8 per cent or 8.3 per cent which we have done. We have exempted a large part of that income from income tax. We have given them further income tax exemptions for medical assistance, etc., and therefore there is a whole chapter for senior citizens because that is a vulnerable section which needed to be looked after.

I have mentioned some data which shows that the salaried class is an honest taxpayer. We have made ₹ 8,000 crore tax sacrifice even in terms of trying to help them and, I am sure, bringing standard deductions back, in years to come, will help them. This will be added upon because those in professions and businesses have the facility of taking various expenses to their accounts, etc. The salaried class has no such opportunity and, therefore, there was a strong need to bring this back. So, we have tried to do that.

Sir, there is one very important item, with regard to the long-term capital gains. There was a time when it was necessary that the investment into the stock market needed to be incentivized. Therefore, I think Indian economy today is on a far sounder footing. Under this Head, the income that was exempted as of last year was ₹ 3,67,000 crore, and analysis shows that most of it concerned the wealthiest in the society, high-network individuals, corporates or foreign financial institutions. So, the equity behind the policy of exempting the wealthiest from payment of tax was itself a question and, therefore, we have put a ten per cent tax as far as long-term capital gains is concerned.

Sir, there are two issues. I think, सरकार की जो पॉलिसी है, वह यह है कि किसानों को फसल पर जो MSP मिले, उसकी जितनी चुनौतियां बताई गई हैं, वे सच में सही हैं। MSP फिक्स भी कर दें, तब भी बाज़ार में जाकर MSP नहीं मिलता है, यह वास्तविकता है। इसलिए बजट के अंदर जो प्रपोज़ल दिए गए हैं, उनके अनुसार किसान को MSP मिले और इसके लिए आज कि सरकारों का जो आधार बना हुआ है, वह यह है कि उसकी जो input cost है, जो परिश्रम की कॉस्ट है, जो लेबर की कॉस्ट है, ये सारी ऐड हों और फिर उसको उसका 50% और मिले।

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Is it C2?

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: It is A2+FL.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: It is A2+FL. I think Mr. Jairam is correct.

जब एक बार हम लोग यह परम्परा बना लेंगे, तो आरम्भ में तो कई बार लगता है कि इसका inflationary effect क्या होगा या इससे क्या फर्क पड़ेगा। जब हम Right to Food Act लाए थे, तब भी यही सारे प्रश्न उठते थे, लेकिन आज उसकी क्षमता बजट का 1 लाख 70 हजार करोड़ absorb करने की बन चुकी है। जब किसान को एक बार उसका हक मिलने लगेगा और विभिन्न क्रॉप्स के लिए जब यही परम्परा बन जाएगी, तो मुझे लगता है कि आने वाले भविष्य में जो भी सरकारें आएंगी, उनके लिए यह एक नियम सा बन जाएगा, एक बैचमार्क बन जाएगा। इस तरह आने वाले समय में हम किसान के लिए एक नया इतिहास लिख देंगे। इसलिए मैं आग्रह करूंगा...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Do I take it that the base would be A2+FL?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: That is the understanding I have from the Agriculture Ministry.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: एक मिनट, आप यह जो दे रहे हैं, जैसे मैंने हिमाचल की बात कही, तो जो फ्रूट है, क्या उसको भी MSP के अंतर्गत लाएंगे?

श्री अरुण जेटली: मैडम, ये जो चीजें हैं, इनको आप कंसर्न्ड मंत्रालय के ऊपर छोड़ दें। कुछ चीजें आप मंत्रालय के ऊपर छोड़ दें।

एक अंतिम विषय है, जहां तक सरकार की हेल्थ इंश्योरेंस की स्कीम की बात है, सारे राज्यों की स्कीम्स मैंने भी देखी हैं। इनके पीछे एक बुनियादी सिद्धांत होता है कि अगर संख्या बहुत ज्यादा भी है, तब भी हॉस्पिटलाइजेशन तो बहुत सीमित लोगों का होता है। अगर संख्या ज्यादा होती है, तो per capita premium अपने आप में कम हो जाता है। नीति आयोग ने उसका एक initial assessment बनाया है। मैं उस assessment पर अभी टिप्पणी नहीं करता हूं, लेकिन मैं मानता हूं कि अगर उस पर काम शुरू हो जाए, तो वह affordable है और बजट की सीमाओं में अपने आप में भी वह affordable होगा। यह भी हमने इस बजट के माध्यम से समाज का एक अच्छा level of ambition बढ़ाने की कोशिश की है और मुझे पूरा विश्वास है कि इस वर्ष के अंदर इसको पूर्ण रूप से लागू करने में हम लोग सफल हो पाएंगे।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, one question: Will it be 60:40 sharing, or 75:25?

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: I think we should let the *NITI Aayog* coordinate this with the States. Let me just end, since you have raised this question. My own experience of the GST Council has been an extremely positive one. There is a statutory support for this. Areas like agriculture, health and power, where there is no statutory requirement, but in larger public interest some coordination is required between the Centre and the State, could be the starting point of that coordination. I am sure every State will be interested in the effective implementation in its own State and a cooperation in this area would not only be highly desirable but would also be eminently possible. We will make every endeavour to work in that direction. With these observations, I commend the Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Derek O'Brien ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Sir, I want to ask ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I cannot allow everybody simultaneously. ...(Interruptions)... I will call the names. ...(Interruptions)... Simultaneously, I cannot entertain ten Members. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I didn't want to disturb the Finance Minister in the middle of his speech because it disturbs the flow. Sir, I have some pointed questions. Firstly, since we are on the subject of health scheme, there are States which are running their own health schemes like my State in West Bengal is running a successful health scheme – ₹ 1,200 per family for a large number. You took this decision for this health, and now you are saying 40 per cent or 35 per cent the State has to give. Did you consult any of the States? You just not impose it on us. So, you didn't have any consultation. What happens to States like mine in West Bengal which are running very successful schemes? That is my first one. ...(Interruptions)... Now I come to the second.

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

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I can talk about GST but I don't want to talk. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We can't have a debate again. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: I have asked the question on GST, but he didn't answer on GST. ...(Interruptions)... The compensation they have budgeted for was ₹ 55,000 crore, now it is going to reach ₹ 80,000 crore. Where will he get another ₹ 25,000 crore from on GST? But my main issue today is this. Sir, we are having a twelve-hour discussion; the Budget and the Railway Budget merged together. Did Trinamool Congress ask such difficult questions? Today when a young girl, since we are talking about doctors, goes to write the joint entrance exam for doctors, she can't be told to answer after three weeks.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we have asked twelve questions on the Railways. Not one question has been answered. I tell you why. You need one month. Sir, this is the Railway discussion also. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Again you cannot make a speech. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Let me finish. ...(Interruptions)... Let me finish. ...(Interruptions)... Let me ask the question. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I am asking one question. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Fifty per cent of the House is not here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am optimistic. One hundred Members are here. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I am very optimistic today. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is why I allowed you. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is your specific question? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, my specific question is this. Is it that you need twenty-five more days to answer these questions and do your spin? I didn't get a single answer on the Railways, but I am happy with the quality of the questions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Parliamentarians will give you one month, but people will not give you. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not got a single answer on twelve questions on Railways. Not one! ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Finance Minister, will you answer one after another or together? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I can answer all those questions if the House agrees. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am happy to answer all. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: I asked the hon. Members. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; that is not the system. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri C. M. Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will take care of all sides. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I asked the hon. Members. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not permitted you. It is the Finance Minister who has to answer the debate not others unless the Finance Minister seeks somebody's assistance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, through you, I request the hon. Finance Minister whatever he assured on the floor of the House should be time-bound. He has to mention about the timing of the implementation of these projects. ...*(Interruptions)*... That is very important. ...*(Interruptions)*... He is taking note of all questions and then he will respond. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, may be this is a pre-matured question. But from what I can understand, he is recommending a GST Council type structure for implementing the health insurance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: For your suggestion I need some loud thinking. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I have no problem with the suggestion but my only doubt which I want to convey to the hon. Finance Minister is this. Almost every State is running its own insurance scheme on a 75:25 basis as far as the RSBY is concerned because health is a State subject. We went through a constitutional amendment for the GST Council. So, I just want to flag the point. Is he thinking of GST Council structure? For the insurance scheme, we may have to go through a Constitutional Amendment process for this Health Insurance Scheme.

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO: Mr. Finance Minister, I am sorry for diverting the issue. Since he had to answer Andhra issue in his reply, I think, the Finance Minister realizes that when we talk of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, it means Telangana and Andhra also. You had, on the floor of the House, promised us. Will you please also take note of the demands of Telangana along with Andhra that you had promised?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, for Andhra Pradesh capital, he was supposed to provide an amount of ₹ 46,000 crore required for the infrastructure, Assembly and everything. I want hon. Finance Minister to clarify as to how he is planning to allocate this amount of ₹ 46,000 crore. Every year, he must provide ₹ 10,000 crore in the Budget.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's all right. It is not a discussion. You have to raise pointed question.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I want a clarification and clarity as to how the Finance Minister is planning to do this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth. I have to take care of all the sides.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: I just wanted a clarification on inter-linking of rivers, which was not mentioned. We were asking about it. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, how can the Finance Minister take note of the queries when everybody is speaking?

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: We have a comprehensive Health Insurance Scheme. Already we have a wonderful health insurance scheme. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ruling party Members, please. Ministers, please keep quiet. Then, I have to name the Members.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: So, now, will it hinder the present scheme run by the State Government? We were also looking for some sub-urban trains in Chennai. Chennai sub-urban trains were also not mentioned. We need all these things also to be *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not take any questions, if people are talking among themselves. What is going on in this House? I am saying it for all the sides, including ruling party and Opposition parties also. If somebody is called, he or she has to stand up and ask the questions and then Minister will answer. It is not for others to intervene in between and then make commentaries also. It is very difficult. I just made an appeal and I think it will have some effect. Please try to understand. These are very serious issues which are being raised by the different Members. Each one is having his own problems. So, please understand. Now, Shri Tapan Sen and please be brief.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, I will be very brief. It all relates to the tax management system. Successively, I have been raising this question, but I am not getting the answer. It is related to the uncollected tax assessed by your Department after all these concessions which, without any dispute, according to the statement made by the your Receipt Budget is, current year – ₹ 1.2 lakh crore; last year – ₹ 84,000 crore; year before last – ₹ 79,000 crore; and, I am telling you this pattern has evolved since the last ten years. I am not only telling your Government. I would like to understand why this patronization of not even collecting the tax without any dispute litigation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri S.R. Balasubramoniyam, I have to cover ten people yet. Please understand.

SHRI S. R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I will put only two questions. Number one is regarding the income tax slab. The Finance Minister was repeatedly telling that it would be raised from ₹ 2 lakhs to ₹ 5 lakhs. It has not been raised. He has given a standard deduction of ₹ 40,000, but by doing so, the Government will lose ₹ 8,000 crores. At the same time, he has raised the cess by one per cent, which is supposed to yield ₹ 11,000 crores. So, we are not getting any benefit from that. Number two...

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not the time to make a speech. What is your question?

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIAN: Petroleum is a very important product.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Everything is important. I can't allow that. I have already allowed two of your party Members. Everybody has to be pointed. It should be within a few seconds. It is not the second round of speech. There are a number of other Members also waiting. Now, Shri D. Raja.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, I have only three pointed questions. Number one is regarding agriculture. More than 86 per cent farmers are small and marginal farmers. Now, this present Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee Act is found to be adverse to

the small and marginal farmers. Is the Government thinking of reviewing this Act? That is number one. Number two, you have announced the fixed-term employment. According to me, the fixed-term employment will lead to modern bonded labour system, and it will further complicate...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI D. RAJA: That is why, it needs to be rejected. The Government should not go ahead with this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Shri Rajeev Shukla.

SHRI D. RAJA: Sir, this is my last question, please.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is already 7.45 p.m.

SHRI D. RAJA: I have asked two questions. The third question is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not a question of three. Only one question should be asked.

SHRI D. RAJA: Regarding SC/ST, the Centrally-sponsored schemes and...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Shri Rajeev Shukla.

SHRI D. RAJA: I think, there is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record.

SHRI D. RAJA: *

SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Sir, through you, I want to ask from the hon. Finance Minister that when the thrust of the Government is on agriculture, why the Budget allocation for agriculture has been reduced.

Secondly, regarding Railways, the operational cost of the Railways has been shown as 95 per cent. So, with 5 per cent, how would they be able to upgrade the infrastructure?

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, I wanted to ask as to what is the GST on gold and diamonds. Today, the GST on pesticides is up to 18 per cent. We used to pay VAT on it at the rate of five per cent earlier. Now, that has to be reduced immediately. Secondly, would you consider statutory Farmers' Income Commission, so that we ensure a basic living income for the small and tiny farmers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ripun Bora.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Sir, let me just complete.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not a speech, Amma. Please try to understand.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: I am just completing, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to ask a question. That's all. This is not the second round of discussion.

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: You have talked about e-NAM markets. That has not even started as yet. It is still dependent on commission agents. Shall we relook at it because e-NAM markets are not established anywhere?

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, my question to the hon. Finance Minister is that under Namami Gange, he has declared 187 projects in the Budget. I want to ask whether the Minister has any plan to take up the River Brahmaputra under these projects.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Finance Minister the justification in taxing the farmer producing companies with a sunset clause after years, and also dividend distribution tax.

श्री राज बब्बर: मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री जी से कहना चाहूंगा कि एम.एस.पी. में आपने खाद, बीज और लेबर तो लगाई, लेकिन जिन किसानों के पास जमीन नहीं होती, वे जमीन भाड़े पर लेते हैं, पट्टे पर लेते हैं और ऐसे किसान ही ज्यादा आत्महत्या करते हैं। मेरा सवाल यह है कि क्या लैंड-रेंट या जमीन का किराया इसमें लगाया जाएगा?

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU: Sir, handlooms are not being given the protection that is required. Artisan class is in distress. The GST has to be removed from the handloom and hand-woven products.

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the Finance Minister addressed all the burning issues of Andhra Pradesh. My sincere request is that let him create confidence including in the Budget. He mentioned about steel plant and Vizag Zone. All these are the burning issues. We are grateful. He has mentioned about early completion. But if these are included in the Budget, all our issues will be closed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Venkatesh. It is a positive suggestion.

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: Sir, it is a good and an educative exercise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is good if Members are peacefully asking questions and getting the answers. Now, the Finance Minister.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, the 0.1 per cent cess or surcharge is not a tax. It is one per cent surcharge, and the one per cent surcharge is one per cent on the quantum of tax. Now, this is being charged across the board. So, this comparison is inaccurate because if ₹ 12,000 crores (8,000 plus 4,000) to salaried people and to the old-age citizens and pensioners is a relief, this one per cent is not being charged

exclusively from them. Bulk of this money is coming from the large corporates because they are the largest payers of income-tax. It comes from corporates, it comes from business entities and it also comes from salaried people, and, therefore, this is necessary because if you have to fund social welfare schemes, world over in every country, where you have social security schemes, people pay for it. The Government becomes a collecting agency and, in turn, provides social security. And, therefore, if you are starting such a landmark health scheme, obviously, the money has to come from somewhere. You cannot cut down the defence expenditure and say that we are starting a social welfare scheme. So, a small contribution is a part of citizens' duty, and, if those who are in a position to pay tax, particularly, those who are large corporates, etc., if they pay one per cent of the total tax payable extra, then, I think, funding the scheme could be a sensible idea itself.

Certainly, we have the interest of Telangana in mind because they also have certain rights under the Reorganisation Act; and so does Andhra Pradesh. As I have said already, most of the issues have been implemented; in some issues, the work is in progress. We will try and ensure, as my friend, C.M. Ramesh asked, it is done expeditiously by getting the relevant ministries take a decision.

There are two issues which directly deal with the Finance Ministry. I can tell him that one of the two issues, we have more or less sorted out, and, regarding the other, as I have candidly admitted, there is some gap, which we will try and narrow down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Keshava Rao said about Telangana also.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Yes, the same thing applies to whatever commitments have been made.

As far as the model APMC Act is concerned, it has already been sent to the States for their adoption. The Centre can only draft the model Act. It is for the States to adopt it. Regarding fixed-term employment, it was offered in the textile sector, and, it is being made available in leather and other sectors. Some of these are seasonal. For instance, India is a large exporter of garments. We are not a large exporter of woollen garments; we are a large exporter of summer wear garments. And, therefore, obviously, the nature of that employment itself is seasonal, and, therefore, to generate that employment... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: It is not factual. *...(Interruptions)...* As on date, it is there in ONGC, Alliance Air... *...(Interruptions)...* Alliance Air is a subsidiary of Air India. Hundred per cent of Alliance Air employees are on fixed term for the last ten years, at least. So, the argument of seasonal nature of employment does not work here. It will make employment more fragile. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Tapan Sen ji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. I understand it. ...*(Interruptions)*... You made a point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: But, I think, in these.. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: This argument is not justified. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: There was a question about the GST on gold and diamonds. I am glad that you are concerned about the wealthy people and their commodities. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: In relation to seed and fertilizers, I was ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Let us be very clear that each one of us should not claim to be an expert on the calculation of the tax itself. When a tax is imposed, in the GST Council, which comprises of twenty-nine State Governments, six Union Territories and one Central Government, aided by experts, some element of thought goes into it. One of the considerations is what are the input costs because when you fix a final product, you have to give the benefit for input costs. In some cases, you impose the GST because you are supporting 'Make in India'; because the GST component gets added to the customs as far as foreign products are concerned.

Now, in the case of gold, one of the traditional factors was that gold almost went untaxed in this country. Twice, the UPA Government tried to put one per cent tax, and, on both the occasions, they had to withdraw it. When I put one per cent tax, there was a strong protest and when it went to the GST, the position was that there was one per cent excise duty on gold and most State Governments had one per cent VAT. As far as Kerala was concerned, Kerala had four per cent VAT. That was the position with regard to gold. Now, as far as gold is concerned, there is a certain amount of appetite India has for gold. If we will increase the quantum of tax, the argument given is that it will come through the alternative illegal route. But there has to be some accountability, and, therefore, after due consideration, the GST Council, after merging all the taxes, put three per cent tax as far as gold is concerned. Diamonds, which have become a part of jewellery itself, will be taxed at the same rate, but which are independently traded, because most of it is only for export; they come for polishing, only to keep traceability, there is a very nominal amount which is put there just to keep the traceability of the transaction which takes place. As far as Namami Gange is concerned, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: What about the pesticides? We are paying 18 per cent GST on that. It should come down.

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: At the GST Council, I will put it before the Council. It depends on what the inputs are, how much are the inputs tax. In fact, I will tell you; recently, I went to a meeting. We have exempted all medical services. Some of the medical inputs which we have exempted, and the input is zero, they have now started demanding, 'please put a five per cent tax on us', because they want the benefit of the input credits, which is zero, they don't get. So, it is a different kind of an arithmetic altogether. *...(Interruptions)...*

Now, as far as the Namami Gange is concerned, there are projects which have been identified. Some of the projects are at the fairly advanced stage; in some, work has been going on. The Water Resource Ministry now is actively pursuing this, and I am sure, we will see the change in the quality in the coming years.

Sir, many of the questions have been raised. After the break, we may be able to discuss them in the next part of this Session. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: What about the undisputed tax collection? *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: When you ask for tax, let me just tell you the Income Tax Department *...(Interruptions)...* The Income Tax Department, their tax recovery *...(Interruptions)...*

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

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I want to know about the Amaravati *...(Interruptions)...* How much amount has been *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister is on his legs. *...(Interruptions)...* You are residing in the Capital, Hyderabad, and you are asking about Amravati. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Two-and-a-half thousand crores have already been given for the Capital in Amravati. If that is the answer you wanted, it has already been given. *...(Interruptions)...* It has already been given. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Subbarami Reddyji, please. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Sir, as far as these tax demands are concerned, that some person who is capable of paying tax; money and resources are available, the Income Tax Department, if there is a tax due, is not likely to spare him. There are some cases where assessment orders have been passed, but it does not become reasonably possible to recover the tax at the moment. Either the assets are not there, the person has disappeared, or asset itself has disappeared, and despite the order being passed, they continuously keep trying. There is a large assessment order in favour of some share broker who has died, those kinds of demands *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN: I am talking about the undisputed one.
...(Interruptions)...

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

SHRI ARUN JAITLEY: Undisputed, whichever is recoverable, the Tax Department will take every step to recover it and probably not leave a penny.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now I shall put the Statutory Resolution
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANANDA BHASKAR RAPOLU (Telangana): Sir, the Minister ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Mr. Bhaskar. I have not allowed you. Please, sit down.

I shall now put the Statutory Resolution moved by the Minister on the 7th February, 2018, seeking increase in basic custom duty (BCD) on chana (chickpeas) from 30 per cent to 40 per cent to vote.

The question is:

That In pursuance of Section 8A (1) of the Customs Tariff Act, 1975, read with sub-section (3) of Section 7 of the said Act, this House hereby approves of Notification No.25/2018-Customs, dated 6th February, 2018 which seeks to increase the rate of basic customs duty (BCD) on chana (chickpeas) falling under tariff item 0713 20 00, of the Customs Tariff Act from 30% to 40%.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would like to thank all the Members for their cooperation. Now, we will take up Special Mentions.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

Demand to resolve the problems being faced by home loan customers due to poor functioning of private banks in the country

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से वित्त मंत्री जी का ध्यान दिलाना चाहूंगी कि देश में जितने भी प्राइवेट बैंक हैं, जो होम लोन देने का कार्य कर रहे हैं, उनकी ग्राहक सेवा बहुत खराब है। ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tapan Sen, you know the Parliamentary practice. You are not supposed to show your back to the Chair and also to the people in the lobby.

8.00 P.M.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: ज्यादातर बैंक अपने व्यवसाय चैनल पार्टनर के तहत करते हैं, जिनके अभिकर्ता कम पढ़े-लिखे एवं अनुभवहीन होते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... All the Ministers, please sit down. If you want, you can go. I have no problem. But you can't stand in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is all being telecast. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: यह ग्राहक को बैंक का कर्मचारी बताकर सस्ती दरों पर होम लोन दिलाने का वायदा करते हैं। जब ग्राहक इनके चंगुल में फंस जाता है तो यह तरह-तरह के नाम की फीस ग्राहक से वसूलने लगते हैं। जब ग्राहक बैंक में फोन करके कुछ जानकारी हासिल करना चाहते हैं, तो बैंक से फोन पर बात करना भी बहुत मुश्किल हो जाता है, क्योंकि ज्यादातर बैंक कॉल सेंटर द्वारा फोन सेवा प्रदान करते हैं। यदि ग्राहक को अपने लोन से संबंधित कुछ जानकारी लेनी होती है तो कॉल सेंटर डेबिट/क्रेडिट कार्ड से संबंधित कुछ जानकारी अथवा अन्य अनावश्यक प्रश्नों में ग्राहकों को उलझाये रहते हैं तथा फोन पर 30-35 मिनट तक का समय इन्हीं प्रश्नों में बरबाद करा देते हैं। उसके बाद भी ग्राहकों को सही जानकारी नहीं मिल पाती। इसके अतिरिक्त कुछ बैंक, जैसे आईडीबीआई, सम्पत्ति के सर्वे के नाम पर अपने पुराने ग्राहकों से भी (जो 5 वर्ष से 10 वर्ष तक के हैं) सर्वे शुल्क वसूल रहे हैं, जो सरासर लूट है। कृपया इस ओर आवश्यक कार्यवाही करें, धन्यवाद।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please lay it on the Table.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Okay, Sir. I lay it.

श्री आनंद भास्कर रापोलू (तेलंगाना): महोदय, मैं इस विषय से अपने आपको सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Wansuk Syiem. She is not there. Shrimati Sasikala Pushpa. She is also not there. Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey. She is also not there. Shri K.C. Ramamurthy. He is also not there. Shri Harivansh. He is also not there. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. No cross-discussion. ...*(Interruptions)*... आप लोगों को क्या हुआ है? Why are you standing? Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, please lay your Special Mention on the Table. Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, please lay your Special Mention on the Table. The Special Mentions have been laid on the Table of the House.

Demand for construction of Satluj-Yamuna-Link canal as per the orders of the Supreme Court to make water available to Haryana

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): महोदय, मैं अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण विषय सतलुज-यमुना-लिंक नहर के पानी के बंटवारे के बारे में आ रही परेशानियों की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। महोदय, पंजाब व हरियाणा के मध्य जो पानी के बंटवारे के बारे में समस्या आ रही है, इससे किसानों को काफी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। सिचाई के लिए पर्याप्त पानी की उपलब्धता न होने के कारण आज किसान परेशान हैं। रावी-सतलुज और व्यास नदियों से हरियाणा के लिए निर्धारित किया गया जल उसकी जीवन रेखा है, लेकिन खेद की बात है कि सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्णय के बावजूद भी हरियाणा को पंजाब द्वारा जो उसका हक है, उसे नहीं दिया जा रहा है।

[श्री राम कुमार कश्यप]

महोदय, एसवाईएल नहर से मुख्य रूप से दक्षिण हरियाणा सिंचित होने वाला राज्य है, जो राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र को भी प्रभावित करता है। हरियाणा में लगातार गिरते भू-जल स्तर से पानी का संकट उत्पन्न हो गया है। हरियाणा एक ऐसा राज्य है, जो गेहूं एवं धान के मामले में पंजाब के बाद महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देता रहा है, लेकिन पानी की विकट समस्या के कारण आज किसान स्वयं को लाचार महसूस कर रहा है। अतः इस समस्या का जल्द निवारण किया जाये, ताकि इससे उत्पन्न होने वाली अर्थव्यवस्था तथा सामाजिक चुनौतियों को रोका जा सके।

अतः मैं केंद्र सरकार से पुनः अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वह सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्देश के अनुसार एसवाईएल नहर का निर्माण कर हरियाणा को उसके हिस्से का पानी दिलवाने का कष्ट करे, धन्यवाद।

Demand to set up an enquiry in the alleged violation of pollution norms at SEZs in and around Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): The Andhra Pradesh Pollution Control Board is supposed to monitor the violations of pollution norms by industries. For example, as per these norms, there should be at least 3 common effluent treatment plants; a sewage treatment plant of appropriate capacity should be installed; and, along the boundary of the SEZ, there should be a green belt with a width of at least 30 metres which should be developed. However, all these norms are being flouted openly in and around Visakhapatnam District. After the formation of the SEZ in Achutapuram and Rambilli mandals, the farmers and fisherman around the areas are losing their livelihoods due to the environmental damage. Thousands of people residing in these villages have developed serious health disorders. Recently the Central Pollution Control Board too found that Visakhapatnam pollution levels have shot up and air quality is at an all-time low. Most SEZs in Andhra Pradesh are related to pharmaceuticals, textiles, food processing, chemicals bio-diesel and related industries. The effluents released during manufacturing processes are highly polluting the water and land resources around the area and, therefore, call for greater monitoring and supervision. I urge the Government to immediately start an enquiry into the matter and enable strict monitoring of the pollution norms in the SEZs. Additionally, the Government should urgently compensate the affected fishermen and farmers for the threat to their livelihoods due to environmental damage, as mandated by law. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11.00 a.m. on Monday, the 5th March, 2018.

*The House then adjourned at one minute past
eight of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 5th March 2018.*