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14 Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 4th January, 2019/14th Pausha, 1940 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, congratulations! In a new dress, you are looking very smart! The House is very happy to see you in this!

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, you are in the pink of health!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Subbarami Reddy and the Leader of the House, Shri Arun Jaitley, are 'the smart people'. Then comes Derek!

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Oh!

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Reddy, you have not heard me. You are at number one!

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, today is the birthday of the hon. Minister, Shri Vijay Goel. Let us congratulate him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us all wish the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Vijay Goel. आपको जन्मदिन की शुभकामनाएं। May God bless you.

OBITUARY REFERENCE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of **Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti**, a former Member of this House, on the 3rd of January, 2019, at the age of 93 years.

Born in July, 1925, at Pabna (now in Bangladesh), Dr. Chakrabarti was educated at the University of Calcutta and Jadavpur University in West Bengal, and the University of Washington, Seattle and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in U.S.A.

An educationist, Dr. Chakrabarti served as a Senior Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Jadavpur University and also as an Instructor and Visiting Lecturer in the Engineering Mechanics Department of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, U.S.A. He was a Member of the National Council of Education,

Bengal and was associated with several educational institutions. Dr. Chakrabarti has published several papers in reputed technical journals.

Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti represented the State of West Bengal in this House, from April, 1972 to April, 1978.

In the passing away of Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti, the country has lost an able parliamentarian and a noted educationist.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Dr. Rajat Kumar Chakrabarti.

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

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

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

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Notification of the Ministry of Communications

II. Report and Accounts (2017-18) of TCIL and BBNL, New Delhi and related papers

संचार मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; तथा रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री मनोज सिन्हा): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications), Notification No. G.S.R. 1211 (E), dated the 14th December, 2018, publishing the Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018, under sub-section (5) of Section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1093/16/19]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Performance Review of the above Company, for the year 2017-18.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10392/16/19]

- (ii) (a) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Performance Review of the above Company, for the year 2017-18.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10468/16/19]

Report and Accounts (2017-18) of NSC, New Delhi

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

- (a) Twelfth Annual Report of the National Statistical Commission (NSC), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Action Taken Report on the recommendations contained in the above-said Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10394/16/19]

Notifications of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एस.एस. अहलुवालिया): महोदय, मैं आधार (वित्तीय और अन्य सहायिकियों, प्रसुविधाओं और सेवाओं का लक्षित परिदान) अधिनियम, 2016 की धारा 55 के अधीन इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय की निम्नलिखित अधिसूचनाओं की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:—

- (1) No. 13012/79/2017/Legal-UIDAI (13) (No. 2 of 2018), dated the 31st July, 2018, publishing the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) (Sixth Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (No. 2 of 2018).

- (2) G.S.R. 1135 (E), dated the 20th November, 2018, publishing the Unique Identification Authority of India (Form of Annual Statement of Accounts) Rules 2018.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10395/16/19]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18) and (2015-16) of various companies and organisations and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI HARIBHAI PARTHIBHAI CHAUDHARY): Sir, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal India Limited (CIL), Kolkata, [Volume-I and Volume-II (Part 1, 2 and 3)], along with that of its subsidiary companies, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiary companies.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10398/16/19]

- (ii) (a) Sixty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Limited (formerly Neyveli Lignite Corporation Ltd.), Chennai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd., Lucknow, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (c) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC Tamil Nadu Power Limited (NTPL), Chennai, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (d) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiary companies.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10396/16/19]

- (iii) (a) Ninety-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), Bhadradi Kothagudem, Telangana, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10397/16/19]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO), Dhanbad, Jharkhand, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Coal Mines Provident Fund Organization (CMPFO), Dhanbad, Jharkhand, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10653/16/19]

Report and Accounts (2017-18) of PPV&FR New Delhi and related papers

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा पंचायती राज मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला): महोदय, मैं पौधा किस्म और कृषक अधिकार संरक्षण अधिनियम, 2001 की धारा 85 और धारा 62 की उप धारा (4) के अधीन निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (a) Annual Report of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority (PPV&FR), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10663/16/19]

Notifications of the Ministry of Finance

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ला): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों को सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), under sub-section (4) of Section 23A of the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976:-
 - (1) G.S.R. 6254 (E), dated the 21st December, 2018, regarding amalgamation of Madhya Bihar Gramin Bank and Uttar Bihar Gramin Bank into a single Regional Bank, which shall be called as Dakshin Bihar Gramin Bank with its head office at Patna under the sponsorship of Punjab National Bank, with effect from the 1st day of January, 2019.

- (2) G.S.R. 6255 (E), dated the 21st December, 2018, regarding amalgamation of Punjab Gramin Bank, Malwa Gramin Bank and Sutlej Gramin Bank into a single Regional Bank, which shall be called as Punjab Gramin with its head office at Kapurthala under the sponsorship of Punjab National Bank, with effect from the 1st day of January, 2019.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10546/16/19]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services), Notification No. G.S.R. 2 (E), dated the 2nd January, 2019, publishing the Amalgamation of Vijaya Bank and Dena Bank with Bank of Baroda Scheme, 2019, under sub-section (6) of Section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970; and sub-section (6) of Section 9 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1980.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10547/16/19]

Report and Accounts (2016-17) of Goa Meat Complex, Panjim and related papers

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कृष्णा राज): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

- (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013:-
- (a) Forty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Goa Meat Complex Limited, Panjim, Goa, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10689/16/19]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18) of various companies and related papers

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 MANDAVIYA): Sir, I lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:-

- (i) (a) Thirty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Bengal Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10690/16/19]

- (ii) (a) Sixty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Antibiotics Limited (HAL), Pune, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10691/16/19]

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

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Consumer Affairs) Notification No. G.S.R. 335 (E), dated the 5th April, 2018, publishing the Consumer Protection (Administrative Control Over the State Commission and the District Forum) Regulations, 2018, under sub-section (1) of Section 31 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10700/16/19]

- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution (Department of Food and Public Distribution), under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

- (1) G.S.R. 780 (E) Ess. Com./Sugar, dated the 14th August, 2018, publishing the Levy Sugar Supply (Control) Amendment Order, 2018.

- (2) S.O. 5258 (E), dated the 12th October, 2018, publishing the Sugarcane (Control) (Second Amendment) Order, 2018.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10696/16/19]

I. Notification of the Ministry of Law and Justice**II. Reports and Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of NALSA and ILI, New Delhi and various reports of Law Commission of India**

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:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department), Notification S.O. 5196 (E), dated the 10th October, 2018, publishing the Conduct of Elections (Amendment) Rules, 2018, under sub-section (3) of Section 169 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10410/16/19]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 18 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), New Delhi, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

(b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10705/16/19]

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

(i) (a) Sixty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Law Institute (ILI), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, 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. 10409/16/19]

(ii) Two Hundred Seventy-first Report of the Law Commission of India on the Human DNA Profiling –A draft Bill for the Use and Regulation of DNA-Based Technology (July, 2017).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10403/16/19]

(iii) Two Hundred Seventy-second Report of the Law Commission of India on the Assessment of Statutory Frameworks of Tribunals in India (October, 2017).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10409/16/19]

- (iv) Two Hundred Seventy-third Report of the Law Commission of India on the Implementation of 'United Nations Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment' through Legislation (October, 2017).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10405/16/19]

- (v) Two Hundred Seventy-fourth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Review of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 (Limited to Section 2 of the Act) (April, 2018).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10406/16/19]

- (vi) Two Hundred Seventy-fifth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Legal Framework: BCCI *vis-a-vis* Right To Information Act, 2005 (April, 2018).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10407/16/19]

- (vii) Two Hundred Seventy-sixth Report of the Law Commission of India on the Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting Including in Cricket in India (July, 2018).

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10408/16/19]

Reports (2015-16 and 2016-17) of Central Agricultural University, Imphal and related papers

श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला: महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 29 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:-

(a) Annual Report of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2016-17.

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

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10708/16/19]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 30 of the Central Agricultural University Act, 1992:—

(a) Annual Accounts of the Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur, for the year 2015-16, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

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

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10708/16/19]

- III. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Statement giving reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the Jammu and Kashmir Horticultural Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (J&K HPMC), Srinagar, for the years 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12, 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18, within the stipulated period.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 10712/16/19]

REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

SHRI MANISH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (2018-19):—

- (i) Forty-second Report on 'Stressed/Non-Performing Assets in Gas based Power Plants' pertaining to the Ministry of Power; and
 - (ii) Forty-third Report on 'Hydro Power' pertaining to the Ministry of Power.
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STATEMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

SHRI MANISH GUPTA (West Bengal): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Statements of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy (2018-19):—

- (i) Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Twenty-ninth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Energy on action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Twenty-sixth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for the Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2017-18; and
 - (ii) Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter-I of the Forty-first Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Energy on action taken by the Government on the Recommendations contained in the Thirty-eighth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on Demands for the Grants of the Ministry of Power for the year 2018-19.
-

REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों के कल्याण संबंधी समिति (2018-19) के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) Twenty-eighth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twenty-seventh Report (Fifteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject "Implementation of schemes for Beedi workers with particular reference to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes" pertaining to the Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- (ii) Twenty-ninth Report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twelfth Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the subject "Representation of SCs/STs in Services and Redressal of their grievances and credit facilities being provided by IDBI Bank to SCs/STs" pertaining to the Ministry of Finance (Department of Financial Services).

STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM (Meghalaya): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the final action taken Statement of the Government on the recommendations contained in Chapter I of the Twenty-first Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes regarding action taken by the Government on the Eleventh Report (Sixteenth Lok Sabha) on "Reservation for and Employment of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)" pertaining to the Ministry of Communications (Department of Telecommunications).

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY

OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty-ninth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on "*Impact of Chemical Fertilizers and Pesticides on Agriculture and Allied Sectors in the country*" pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

**MOTION FOR EXTENDING THE TENURE OF COMMITTEE ON
WELFARE OF OBCs**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): Sir, I move the following Motion:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha to suspend the para 3 of the Motion adopted by Lok Sabha on 22.07.2014 and to extend the tenure of present members of Rajya Sabha on the Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes (2018-19) upto the last day of the tenure of the present Lok Sabha, as adopted by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on 20.12.2018."

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, women Members of the House have given notice and also met me and they made a request in the House also that they may be permitted to raise the issue of lack of proper representation of women in Parliament. I would like to remind all the Members, including the hon. women Members, that this House has already approved the legislation and it has to be done by the other House. This is the fact of the matter. I have to place it on record. Secondly, if Members want to make a submission, I would urge upon every one of you to make out your case. The moment it becomes political, the purpose is lost. This is what is happening for years together. Keep that in mind. You are free. I have decided to take that up as the first issue today in the Zero Hour. We will start with Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. I will give each Member two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Central Government is not acting ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir,... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I wish to raise the issue of Sabarimala. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, kindly permit me. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. I am not allowing. ...(*Interruptions*)... I have not allowed. ...(*Interruptions*)... I will not permit you afterwards also. Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not the way. ...(*Interruptions*)... You are doing like this everyday. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, this is an important issue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow. You do whatever you want to do. ...(*Interruptions*)... This has become a practice for you. ...(*Interruptions*)... You should go through the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... I know what to do and how to do. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Chair knows how to run the House. ...(*Interruptions*)... Five-six people stand up everyday. What can I do? ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not Dasavatara and appear before everybody. ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Navaneethakrishnan, what do you want to say? ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, Mekedatu issue has become life and death for the people of Tamil Nadu. Now, the Central Government must withdraw the permission granted for preparing a DPR to construct the dam at Mekedatu. The Central Government is not acting in spite of our repeated requests. So, we urge the Central Government to withdraw the order. Since Government of India is not acceding to our request, we are staging a walkout. They are not considering our demand. This is against the orders of the Supreme Court. So, we are walking out.

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is the proper way. ...(*Interruptions*)... In Parliament, normally, either you talk-out or walkout, but don't have breakout; otherwise, democracy will be all out. That is my appeal to all of you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have also given notice. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have not admitted notice under Rule 267. I will be taking this up under other rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, the point is this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to make a point. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have called Smt. Jaya Bachchan. ...*(Interruptions)*... Women's reservation is a very important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... Every party will get an opportunity to speak.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I wish to make only a small point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Mr. Siva. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, my point is with regard to construction of dam across river Kaveri at Mekedatu. There is an agitation going on in Tamil Nadu and the people are very much disturbed. We have been urging the Government, again and again, to withdraw the order given to the Government of Karnataka to go ahead with DPR. It has created all the confusion.

So, we have been urging the Government of India, repeatedly, to kindly revoke the order given for preparing the DPR. But, the Government is not responding. So, as a mark of protest, I am walking out. Thank you.

(At this stage, the hon. Member left the Chamber)

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, we are also associating ourselves with the hon. Member. We are also walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, we are also associating ourselves with Shri Siva and staging a walkout. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I wish to raise the issue of Sabarimala. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, it is an important issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, I have not allowed it. Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, we are also walking out in protest. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*... What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... So, you don't want women's issues to be discussed! ...*(Interruptions)*... I have called Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I will not allow this kind of tendency. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI D. RAJA: *

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: *

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): *

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, we are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, we are walking out. ...*(Interruptions)*...

(At this stage some hon. Members left the Chamber)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You do whatever you want. ...*(Interruptions)*... If you want to do everything without following the rules, what can I do? ...*(Interruptions)*... You have given notice. I said that I am allowing it under different rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... Everybody wants to say something and then creates a scene. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, Shrimati Jaya Bachchan. You will get two minutes. Keep it in mind. Each party will get two minutes. The women Members decide among themselves.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, you have taken one minute of mine.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I am giving you two minutes from now on.

Lack of representation of women in Parliament

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, a lot of people who have been talking about pro-women Bill, atrocities on women, etc., standing here with placards, left the House when we are discussing the issue of reservation for women.

Sir, the first and the most important thing for me is to clarify the stand of my party. There is an unnecessary rumour going on that we are against the Women's Reservation Bill. We are not against the Bill; we are for reservation. But, we have made certain recommendations. The Women Reservation Bill, in its present form, would only benefit rich and urban, and not poor and rural women. A provision of sub-reservation for Other Backward Classes and Dalit women should be added to the Bill with 33 per cent reservation for them. Our party supports the idea of bringing greater representation of women through the Bill. But, the right to choose and decide the candidates and their seats should remain with the party and the Election Commission cannot have a say in this regard. This is the stand of my party. So, I have clarified that.

Sir, the Bill, in its present form, is cosmetic. कहने को तो बहुत अच्छा लग रहा है कि women reservation के लिए हम लोग, पता नहीं, मैं जब से पार्लियामेंट में आई हूँ, तब से सुन रही हूँ कि Women's Reservation Bill आ रहा है। मेरे सामने मुझे याद है कि जब बहुत सी women Members ने हाथ पकड़कर एक लम्बी चैन बनाई थी। उसमें मैंने तो किसी का हाथ नहीं पकड़ा था, क्योंकि हमें उसके बाद कहा गया कि your party is against the Bill. Sir, we are not against the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please continue. You have clarified that your party is not against the Bill. That's fine.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Not at all, Sir. In fact, we have already given immense reservation and immense importance to women. And, in times to come, you will see more representation of women in both the Houses from my party. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good. Ram Gopalji is hearing it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: This is an assurance which had been given by the leader of my party about two years back in a public rally in Lucknow. It was a request that was made by me and he accepted that. राम गोपाल जी ने देख कर smile किया। ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I have two more points, but I will refrain myself and will respect other women Members who would also like to speak on this issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Now, Shrimati Vandana Chavan – hon. Member not present. Shrimati Thota Seetharama Lakshmi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. When the women are speaking, men are supposed to cooperate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI THOTA SEETHARAMA LAKSHMI (Andhra Pradesh):* Hon'ble Chairman Sir, Namaskar. We support the Women's Reservation Bill. Telugu Desam Party supports this Bill because the party acknowledges the importance of women's progress across all fields. This Bill was pending since long time in Rajya Sabha. Telugu Desam Party will definitely support this Bill. We encourage for the passing of this Bill because we feel that there is a need for women to participate and lead in all the sectors. We desire that the Bill be passed and we will support this Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let me translate it for you. On behalf of the Telugu Desam Party, she is saying that her party is supporting it fully. She is appealing to all to pass the Bill. That is their stand. Now, Shrimati Shanta Chhetri.

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the kind attention of this august House to the issue of women reservation. I am happy to inform you that 35 per cent of Members from Trinamool Congress in Lok Sabha are women. In the year 2014 General Elections to Lok Sabha, Trinamool Congress gave 35 per cent tickets to women. In this august House, I would like to say that the BJP should talk about women empowerment as they had given only 9 per cent tickets to women.

* English translation of the original speech delivered Telugu.

Sir, I am also happy to inform you that 50 per cent of local body seats, in Bengal, are already reserved for women. So, the Trinamool Congress has already taken care of women reservation in the State of West Bengal. So, what West Bengal thinks today, let India think of it tomorrow.

Sir, my party, the Trinamool Congress, is the only party in India that has already implemented practically the women reservation even before the Bill is passed. There is only one elected woman Chief Minister in India, and she is Ms. Mamata Banerjee.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good. Now, Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य (त्रिपुरा): सर, मेम्बर ऑफ पार्लियामेंट, श्रीमती जया बच्चन जी ने नोटिस दिया, मैंने भी नोटिस दिया है रूल 267 के तहत। Women's Reservation Bill मार्च, 2010 में इस हाउस में पास हुआ था, लेकिन 2010 से लेकर आज हम लोग 2019 में आ गए। उसका क्या हुआ, वह हमें आज भी मालूम नहीं है। इसके लिए बहुत सारी रैलीज़ की गईं, हम लोग इसको लेकर मिनिस्टर के साथ भी बैठे हैं, कहा जाता है कि आ रहा है, आ रहा है, लेकिन वह कब आएगा, यह तो हम लोगों को मालूम नहीं है।

सभापति महोदय, हम लोग यह चाहते हैं। आप देखिए कि इस हाउस में जितने भी मेंबर्स हैं, उनमें only 12.2 per cent महिला मेंबर्स हैं और बाकी सभी मेल मेंबर्स हैं। लोक सभा में भी 11.5 per cent महिला मेंबर्स हैं और बाकी सभी मेल मेंबर्स हैं, 543 में only 11.5 per cent हैं। सर, मैं जानना चाहती हूँ कि ऐसा क्यों है? हम लोग भी पंचायत से लेकर असेंबली और असेंबली से लेकर पार्लियामेंट तक को represent करते हैं, तो हम लोगों में खामियां कहां हैं? महिला क्यों नहीं आ सकती, क्यों नहीं बोल सकती? इस कारण से रिज़र्वेशन जरूरी है। बिना रिज़र्वेशन के महिलाओं को सीट्स नहीं देंगे। महिलाओं को लोक सभा में टिकट भी नहीं मिलता है। राज्य सभा में तो पार्टी सेलेक्ट करती है, उसके बाद इलेक्शन होता है, लेकिन लोक सभा में टिकट नहीं मिलता है और not only लोक सभा, बल्कि municipal corporation में भी ऐसा ही होता है। असेम्बली में तो छोड़िए, वहां अगर 200 सीट्स होती हैं, तो 3, 4 या 5 महिला एमएलएज होती हैं। सर, ऐसा क्यों है? हम लोग इस हाउस में इसकी मांग करते हैं। यह इस हाउस में तो पास हुआ था, लेकिन लोक सभा में पास नहीं हुआ, बल्कि लाया भी नहीं गया। कहते हैं कि different political parties oppose करती हैं, यह cause है। अभी तो बीजेपी की इतनी absolute majority है। इलेक्शन पीरियड में महिला वोट्स के लिए इतना बोला गया।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: इसमें पोलिटिक्स लाने से विषय ही खत्म हो जाएगा, यह आपको मालूम है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य: इसे इलेक्शन पीरियड में इतना बोला गया।...(व्यवधान).... बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ है, तो पहले महिला रिज़र्वेशन बिल आना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth.

श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य: महिला रिज़र्वेशन पहले होना चाहिए। अभी वह नहीं है।...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want to criticise each other and want to kill the issue, the choice is yours. ...(*Interruptions*).. Everybody has been in the Government. The country knows that everybody can form the Government. This party is in Government, that party was in Government, all of us are there; so, please....(*Interruptions*).. Now, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for providing me this opportunity. I pour from the bottom of my heart that the greatest woman leader of the century and icon of the Indian politics, the iron lady of India, should be recognised as the greatest leader. So, first, we want that the Central Government should posthumously confer India's highest civilian award, the Bharat Ratna on our greatest leader, Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma. I want that recognition should be given to the greatest leader of the century who was an incomparable leader of the world. This has to be recognised by the Central Government. This is my first and the foremost demand.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: This would be the justification or first recognition to the great leader, a woman leader of the country.

The second point that I want to raise is that the Women's Reservation Bill has to be passed because about 50 per cent of the voters are women. We are equal or more than male voters. Women voters come in flock to vote and bring a new change or revolution in every democratic country. So, equal representation has to be given to women leaders. Equal representation to women should be given in Assemblies and also in local bodies. Many of the States have not recognised this yet. But in my State, Amma gave more than 50 per cent reservation to women in local bodies, Assemblies, and also in all party positions and in Parliament. In all the party positions in my AIADMK Party, there is more than 33 per cent reservation for women. So, I would urge the Central Government, 'Bring the Women's Reservation Bill now.' It is the right time. About nine years have passed since the Bill was passed in Rajya Sabha. But, now, you have to bring this Bill in the Lok Sabha and also to pass it because you have enormous majority there. Pass it in the Lok Sabha. Women should be given equal representation, not just 33 per cent. We are asking for equal representation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: So, this has to be passed, and I urge the Central Government that first recognize a greatest woman leader of this century. Dr. Puratchi Thalaivi Amma should be conferred Bharat Ratna.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are repeating the same thing.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: And then all the women representatives should have equal representation. Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. You have said it very effectively. Shrimati Sonal Mansingh.

DR. SONAL MANSINGH (Nominated): Hon. Chairman, Sir, I have very short points.

I feel the provisions in the format of the Bill, as it is, may create unnecessary misunderstandings, animosity and tension among the male aspirants. The rotational provision and a few other points deserve more attention and detailing.

My second point is, more women in both Houses will enhance grace, wisdom and harmony.

Sir, my third point is, a very short point, anyhow, when the Bills are passed in both Houses, they should not come as hands down from the male Members of any Party. It should be done with a lot of grace and "देर आए, दुरुस्त आए" should be the feeling. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now Shrimati Kanimozhi.

SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI (Tamil Nadu): Thank you, Sir. I would first like to thank you for giving us an opportunity to discuss this because the Government has not brought this Bill even in the List of Business, you, at least, allowed us to discuss this Bill here. This is a very, very curious Bill and a very peculiar Bill because the right, the left and the centre support it. But, still, the Bill has not been passed for more than nine years.

Sir, it is very unfair. When we look around — we don't have to go into the statistics — we can count the number of women in both the Houses. It is really sad that women have to bear with the decisions. I mean, throughout their life, in every sphere and phase of life, they have to put up with what men make decisions for them. Even in Parliament, in the Legislative Assemblies, we pass Bills, we make laws, we amend laws and only men are making decisions for women. I think, it is absolutely unfair because our voices are not heard, our viewpoints are not heard.

[Shrimati Kanimozhi]

How can you pass a Bill or bring a law into this country without the voices of the women being heard? We have been doing this, and I think, this has to change. I request the Government to do something in this regard. It is there in their Election Manifesto. It is a promise which they have given to the nation and we are all there with them to support them to bring this Bill. We, the DMK, have been consistently — our leader, Dr. Kalaignar, and our present leader, Mr. M. K. Stalin — supporting this Bill and we have written to the Government many times to bring this Bill and to pass it in the Parliament. We are with you. We support this Bill, and, I think, it is very, very important. We see what is happening in Sabarimala. I mean, there is so much discrimination against women in this country. So, to address that, I think, our voices should be heard and laws cannot be made without women. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Shrimati Viplove Thakur. Their three Members have asked, but since she is the senior-most Member, I thought I call her.

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सभापति जी, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने इस विषय को ज़ीरो ऑवर में स्वीकार किया। यह हम महिलाओं की एक बहुत बड़ी डिमांड है और एक बहुत बड़ी इच्छा भी है। हम चाहते हैं कि हम पुरुषों के साथ कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर चलें, लेकिन जब तक हम महिलाओं को 33 परसेंट रिज़र्वेशन नहीं मिलेगा, तब तक यह संभव नहीं है। आज हम अपने लीडर, राजीव गांधी जी को याद करते हैं, जिन्होंने Local Self Governments में 33 परसेंट रिज़र्वेशन की व्यवस्था की और कई स्टेट्स ने उसको 50 परसेंट भी कर दिया। आज गांव की म्युनिसिपल कम्युनिटीज़ की जो उन्नति हो रही है और उनकी जो भागीदारी है, उसमें उनका बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। आज अगर हम विमेन एम्पावरमेंट की बात करते हैं और विमेन को हक़ देने की बात करते हैं और जो कई ऐसे बिल्स लाए जा रहे हैं, जिनमें एक पार्टिकुलर वुमन को हक़ देने की बात है, तो हम उसके पक्ष में हैं, लेकिन हमें सभी विमेन के हक़ को देखना होगा। उनमें तब तक एम्पावरमेंट नहीं आ सकती, जब तक वे डिजीजन मैकिंग में नहीं आतीं, उनको डिजीज़स लेने का हक़ नहीं मिलता और उनको लॉ बनाने का हक़ नहीं मिलता। अभी कानीमोझी जी ने भी कहा है कि यह मेनिफेस्टो में था। जब बीजेपी ने मेनिफेस्टो दिया कि हम इतना रिज़र्वेशन लाएंगे तो मैं कहती हूँ कि यह लाना चाहिए, तभी इस भारत का विकास आगे हो सकता है। उसमें विमेन एम्पावरमेंट सही मायनों में आगे आ सकती है। मेरा आप लोगों से यही अनुरोध है कि यह हाउस पास कर चुका है, अब लोक सभा भी इसको पास करे जिससे भारतीय नारी कंधे से कंधा मिलाकर चल सके और हीन-भाव खत्म हो सके, इसी के साथ मैं आपका धन्यवाद करती हूँ।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, मैं आपका और अपनी पार्टी के नेता का शुक्रिया अदा करना चाहती हूँ। आज कोई महिला दिवस नहीं है, फिर भी आपने आज ज़ीरो आवर में महिला आरक्षण बिल पर हम औरतों की राय जानने की कोशिश की है। मैं इसके लिए आपका शुक्रिया अदा करती हूँ। हमारी जितनी भी बहनें महिला सांसद हैं, सभी ने महिला आरक्षण का समर्थन किया है और मैं भी इस बिल का समर्थन करती हूँ। मैं आपको बतलाना चाहती हूँ

कि जो महिलाओं के सशक्तिकरण की बात कह रहे हैं, हमारे बिहार में जब हमारे माननीय मुख्य मंत्री जी ने सत्ता संभाली तो सबसे पहले उन्होंने महिलाओं को 50 प्रतिशत आरक्षण नगर निकाय एवं पंचायती चुनावों में और शिक्षकों की बहाली में किया। इसका फायदा यह हुआ कि आज हमारे यहां तीसरा-चौथा चुनाव होने जा रहा है। लगभग सभी सीटों पर महिलाओं को जगह मिली और महिलाएं चुनकर आयी हैं। इससे बहुत लाभ हुआ है, जो कहा जाता है कि जिस माशरे में तालीम नहीं, जिस माशरे में तिजारत नहीं और जिस माशरे में सियासत नहीं, वह माशरा कभी तरक्की नहीं कर सकता है। इसलिए हमारे नेता ने हमारी औरतों और हमारी बच्चियों को पढ़ाने-लिखाने के साथ-साथ समाज में मुख्य धारा से जोड़ने के लिए उन्हें सियासत में लाने का काम किया है। आज हमारी बहुत सारी बहनें, जिला परिषद की अध्यक्ष से लेकर मेयर तक बनी हैं। समाज की मुख्य धारा से जुड़ने का काम किया है और विकास की गंगा बही है। मैं आपसे यह चाहती हूं कि जो महिला आरक्षण की बात हो रही है, इसमें जो नौकरियां हैं, चाहे वह किसी भी स्तर की सरकारी नौकरी हो, उस नौकरी में बिहार ने महिलाओं को जो अधिकार दिया है, उन नौकरियों में 35 परसेंट आरक्षण दिया है। मैं चाहूंगी कि आज जो चर्चा हो रही है, इसमें महिलाओं को नौकरियों में भी 35 प्रतिशत आरक्षण मिले और इसे पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में लागू कराने का काम किया जाए। मैं इस महिला आरक्षण का समर्थन करती हूं और इस बात के साथ कि...

"नहीं तेरा नशेमन क्रसर-ए सुल्तानी के गुम्बद पर,
तू शाहीं है बसेरा कर पहाड़ों की चट्टानों पर।"

बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया"।

† محترمہ کہکشاں پروین (بہار): سبھا پتی مہودے، میں آپ کا اور اپنی پارٹی کے نت یا کا شکر ہ ی ادا کرنا چاہتی ہوں۔ آج کوئی مہیلا دوس نہیں ہے، پھر بھی آپ نے آج زیرو آور میں مہیلا آرکشن بل پر ہم عورتوں کی رائے جاننے کی کوشش کی ہے۔ میں اس کے لئے آپ کا شکر ہ ی ادا کرتی ہوں۔ ہماری جتنی بھی بہنیں مہیلا سانسد ہیں، سبھی نے اس بل کا سمرتھن کا ی اور میں بھی اس بل کا سمرتھن کرتی ہوں۔ میں آپ کو بتلانا چاہتی ہوں کہ جو مہیلاؤں کے سشکتی کرن کی بات کہہ رہے ہیں، ہمارے بہار میں جب ہمارے مانٹے مکھ ہ ی منتری جی نے ستہ سنبھالی تو سب سے پہلے انہوں نے مہیلاؤں کو پچاس فیصد آرکشن، نگر نکائے و پنچایتی چناؤ میں اور شکشکوں کی بحالی میں کا ی۔ اس کا فائدہ ہ ی ہوا کہ آج ہمارے ہ یان تیسرا — چوتھا چناؤ ہونے جا رہا ہے۔ لگ بھگ سبھی سٹ یوں پر مہیلاؤں کو جگہ ملی اور مہیلائیں چن کر آئی ہیں۔ اس سے ہ ی ہوا ہے، جو کہا جاتا ہے کہ جس معاشرے میں تعلم ی نہیں، جس معاشرے میں تجارت نہیں اور جس معاشرے میں سا یست نہیں، وہ معاشرہ کبھی ترقی نہیں کر سکتا ہے۔ اس لئے ہمارے نت یا نے ہماری عورتوں اور ہماری بچیوں کو پڑھانے لکھانے کے ساتھ ساتھ سماج میں مکھ ہ ی دھارا سے جوڑنے کے لئے انہیں سا یست میں لانے کا کام کا ی ہے۔ آج ہماری بہت ساری بہنیں

[श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन]

ضلع پریشد کی ادھیکش سے لے کر م ئ یر تک بنی ہیں، سماج کی مکھ ہ ی دھارا سے جڑنے کا کام کا ی ہے اور وکاس کی گنگا بہی ہے۔ میں آپ سے ہ ی چاہتی ہوں کہ جو مہیلا آرکشن کی بات ہو رہی ہے، اس میں جو نوکر ا یں ہیں، چاہے وہ کسی بھی اسٹر کی سرکاری رکونی ،وہ سا رکونی م رابب ےن ہمیںؤلا وک وج ہدایراک دیا نا ،ےہ رکونیں و میں 35 فیدص نشکراً دیا ےہ۔ میں سو باچ گی ہک جآ وج اچرچ وہ ہری ،ےہ سا میں ہمیںؤلا وک رکونیں و میں ہی 35 فیدص نشکراً ےم روا ےسا ےروپ نانسودنہ میں وگلا ےنارک اک ماک کیا ےئاج۔ میں سا لب اک نہترمس ترکی ںوہ روا سا تاب ےک بہتاس ہک؛

بنیں تیار شنی،نم رصق ناطلسی ےک دبنگ، رپ
وت ہاشیں ےہ سیار رک ںوڑاپ کی ںوناٹچ رپ

تہب تہب رکشیہ۔

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no Bill before the House. One has to understand this. This is a proposal by different parties and different Members. We are now discussing it because our women Members wanted to have a discussion. Shrimati Sampatiya Ukey. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़): सर, दो मिनट मुझे भी मौका मिलना चाहिए।

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, आज इस महत्वपूर्ण प्रस्ताव पर बात करने का अवसर मिला। जिस तरह से हमारी और भी बहनें बता रही थी, मैं इस प्रस्ताव का समर्थन करती हूँ। जिस तरह से इस देश में माननीय प्रधान मंत्री, आदरणीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने अपने गुजरात में 33 परसेंट आरक्षण देकर महिलाओं को लोक सभा चुनाव लड़ने का और संगठन में जवाबदारी देने का अवसर दिया, जिसका जीता-जागता उदाहरण ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, this is not politics. She is talking politics. ...*(Interruptions)*.. She is talking politics. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उइके: आज जिस तरह से भारतीय जनता पार्टी ने हमारे संगठन में 33 परसेंट आरक्षण महिलाओं को दिया और जिसके चलते आज यहां पर सदन में हमारी बहनें दिख रही हैं ...*(व्यवधान)*... उसके साथ-साथ महिलाओं को ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: One minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Yes, Mr. Minister.

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, I wish to draw your attention. Everybody has been heard silently. Only when a Member ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: I am a Member of this House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... Please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: When a Member from the Ruling Party is speaking, why should you disturb? ...(Interruptions)... Nobody should be disturbed. ...(Interruptions)... Everybody is listening. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: When our Member was speaking, he had objected ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record other than what Shrimati Sampatiya Uikey says. Let her also be given a fair opportunity to say what she has to say.

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उइके: यही समझ में आ रहा है। आप लोग प्रस्ताव कर रहे हैं पर यही समझ में आ रहा है कि महिला बोल रही है, तो आप लोग महिला की बात को सुनने नहीं दे रहे हैं और ...(व्यवधान).... भारतीय जनता पार्टी में जहां 6 गवर्नर हुए और उन 6 गवर्नर में से एक आदिवासी महिला को आज गवर्नर बनाकर झारखंड में भेजा जा रहा है, यह बहुत बड़ी बात है।

श्री सभापति: आपका विषय क्या है? विषय पर आइए। आपने जो कहा है, सही है। मगर विषय क्या है?

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उइके: जिसका जीता-जागता उदाहरण माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने और माननीय रवि शंकर प्रसाद जी, जो कानून मंत्री जी हैं, उन्होंने सिद्ध कर दिया है कि महिलाओं को जिस तरह से सम्मान दिया जाना चाहिए और जिसमें तीन तलाक बिल की बात भी यहां पर सामने आई हुई है। मैं आप सब लोगों से और सदन से प्रार्थना करती हूं कि आज जिस विषय पर चर्चा हो रही है, निश्चित ही हमारी सभी बहनें कह रही थीं, चाहे वे उस दल की हों या इस दल की हों। सभी बहनें कह रही थीं कि जहां पर मुख्य धारा में निर्णय की बात आती है, वहां पर महिलाओं को सम्मान दिया जाना चाहिए। इसका हम सम्मान करते हैं और निश्चित ही ऐसा होना भी चाहिए। आप देख रहे होंगे कि इस देश के आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने जब से बागडोर संभाली है और भारतीय जनता पार्टी की सरकार जहां-जहां पर है, वहां-वहां पर ...(व्यवधान)... आज 50 परसेंट आरक्षण ...(व्यवधान)... महिलाओं को दिया गया है ...(व्यवधान)... इसका जीता-जागता उदाहरण ...(व्यवधान)... जहां पर ...(व्यवधान)... हमारी भारतीय जनता पार्टी काम करके दिखाती है। आप लोगों ने सिर्फ बातें कीं और शोषण किया ...(व्यवधान)... हमारी भारतीय जनता पार्टी ही एक ऐसी पार्टी है ...(व्यवधान)... महिलाओं को किचन से उठाकर...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)... Now I move on to the next issue. ...(Interruptions)... Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap on Delay at Toll Plazas. ...(Interruptions)... Only women Members, who have given notice and that too one from each party, were given chance. ...(Interruptions)... Please understand. There are other issues also. ...(Interruptions)... Roopaji, please sit down. ...(Interruptions)... प्लीज बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... आप बैठ जाइए ...(व्यवधान)... एक पार्टी से एक ही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

[Mr. Chairman]

प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... जया जी प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... This is not the way. ...(Interruptions)... If this had been the purpose, I would not have taken it up at all. ...(Interruptions).. Sanjay Singhji, please sit down. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): सर, हर पार्टी को ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have not given notice. ...(Interruptions)... हर पार्टी को नहीं दिया है। Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, you speak on toll plaza. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री संजय सिंह: सर, ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप महिला नहीं हैं, मुझे मालूम है ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... कृपया बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... कश्यप जी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): माननीय महोदय, मैं महिलाओं को राजनीति में आरक्षण दिलाने के लिए...(व्यवधान)... मैं और मेरी पार्टी समर्थन करती है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आपका इश्यू टोल-प्लाज़ा ...(व्यवधान)... प्लीज़, आप बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: सर, साथ में मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि ...(व्यवधान).... इसमें जो ओबीसी, एससी और एसटी की महिलाओं को ...(व्यवधान)....

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान).... आप लोग बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)....

Delay at toll plazas leading to wastage of fuel and pollution

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से जनता से जुड़ी हुई रोजमर्रा की गंभीर समस्या की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। ...(व्यवधान)... आज हमारे देश ने हर क्षेत्र में तरक्की की है और तरक्की करने के साथ-साथ सड़क पर चलने वाले वाहनों में भी काफी बढ़ोतरी हुई है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे मालूम है, क्या कहना है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: हमारी सड़कें इन वाहनों के अनुकूल न होने के कारण ...(व्यवधान)... यातायात में जनता को काफी असुविधा हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान).... प्रायः सड़कों पर जाम लगे रहते हैं। टोल-नाकों पर तो स्थिति और भी भयानक है। टोल-नाके क्रॉस करने का कोई निर्धारित समय नहीं है ...(व्यवधान)... जिसके कारण वहां पर लंबी-लंबी लाइनें लगी रहती हैं। इन लंबी लाइनों के कारण जनता का बहुमूल्य समय तो नष्ट होता ही है, इसके साथ-साथ हमारा बहुमूल्य डीजल, पेट्रोल भी व्यर्थ फुंकता है, जिससे हमारा वातावरण भी दूषित होता है। ...(व्यवधान)... इन टोल-नाकों को क्रॉस करने में घंटों लग जाते हैं। टोल-प्लाज़ाओं पर गाड़ियों के निकालने की फीस तो निर्धारित की गई है ...(व्यवधान)... परंतु गाड़ियों को निकालने का समय ...(व्यवधान)... निर्धारित नहीं किया गया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is happening? ...(Interruptions)... Nothing shall go on record, this side or that side. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर (उत्तर प्रदेश): *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whoever said anything, nothing shall go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing shall go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't you want the House to run? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: अतः मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि गाड़ियों ...*(व्यवधान)*... को निकालने का भी समय ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप: यदि निर्धारित सीमा से अधिक समय लगता है, तो ...*(व्यवधान)*... उन गाड़ियों को निःशुल्क निकाला जाए ...*(व्यवधान)*... ताकि जनता को असुविधा से बचाया जा सके। ...*(व्यवधान)*... धन्यवाद।

SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing shall go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए। रूपा जी, once your Chairman says something, you should ...*(Interruptions)*... प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर: *

श्री सभापति: मेरे मिनिस्टर नहीं हैं, देश के मिनिस्टर हैं और आपके भी मिनिस्टर हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Whoever says anything without my permission, either Minister or anybody, nothing shall go on record.

Nothing shall go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have already said it. Please, no commentary. Time is running out.

Ban on operation of boats in Ganga River in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक अति महत्वपूर्ण मामले को सदन के समक्ष रखना चाहता हूँ। उत्तर प्रदेश के वाराणसी में गंगा नदी में अस्सीघाट से राजघाट के बीच लगभग 2,000 नावें, मोटरबोट पुश्तैनी ढंग से हमेशा से चलती आ रही हैं जिनमें हजारों लोगों को रोज़ी-रोज़गार मिली हुई है। सरकार द्वारा कूज चलाए जाने के कारण पारंपरिक रूप से संचालित नाविकों की रोज़ी-रोटी बंद होने की कगार पर आ गयी है, लोग भुखमरी की कगार पर आ गए हैं। अलकनंदा काशी कूज चलाए जाने का ठेका

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

बड़े उद्योगपति को मिला है, जिसका रूट तय किया गया है, लेकिन अपने रूट पर न चलकर यह कूज़ अस्सीघाट से राजघाट के बीच अवैध रूप से संचालित हो रहा है। इसके कारण हज़ारों नाविकों की रोज़ी-रोटी प्रभावित हो रही है और उनका काम बंद हो गया है। इसकी वजह से एक सप्ताह से अधिक समय से नावों का काम बंद है और दशाश्वमेध घाट पर हज़ारों की संख्या में लोग धरना-प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। कूज़ संचालन के कारण देश-विदेश के लाखों पर्यटक और सैलानी नए वर्ष में नौका विहार नहीं कर पाए हैं। मान्यवर, वहां के नाविकों की मांग है कि:—

1. एक कूज़ के अतिरिक्त दूसरा कोई कूज़ न चलाया जाए और उसे राजघाट और सामने घाट पुल के उस पार तक सीमित रखा जाए तथा Ro-Ro ferry सेवा न चलायी जाए।
2. नौका लाइसेंस पुरानी पद्धति से नगर निगम द्वारा प्रदान किया जाए।
3. बाढ़ के समय असमय नौका संचालन पर प्रतिबंध न लगाया जाए।
4. वाराणसी जल पुलिस में मल्लाहों, निषादों को गोताखोर में नियुक्ति दी जाए।
5. गंगा पार गंगबरार की भूमि पर गरीब मछुआरों को कृषि पट्टे प्रदान किए जाएं।

महोदय, पूरे देश में, जब से सभ्यता का विकास हुआ, बड़े-बड़े शहर नदियों के किनारे बसे हैं। हमारे मल्लाह और निषाद लोग, जब पुल नहीं थे, सड़कें नहीं थीं तो सारा व्यापार नाव से करते थे। हज़ारों साल से ये लोग इस व्यवसाय को करते चले आ रहे हैं। सात दिन से वहां पर कूज़ के आस-पास नावों की श्रृंखला बनाकर वहां के लोग घेराव किए हुए हैं। महोदय, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी वहां से सांसद हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, नहीं ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: हम बता रहे हैं। वह उनका संसदीय क्षेत्र है। सात दिन से वहां पर 2,000 नावें बंद पड़ी हैं, वहां के लोग आंदोलित हो रहे हैं, लाखों लोग बेघर हो गए हैं, क्योंकि बड़े उद्योगपति आ गए हैं। जब माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने नॉमिनेशन किया था तो उन्होंने कहा था कि मां गंगा ने बुलाया है। वे लोग गंगा पुत्र हैं, असली गंगा पुत्र तो निषाद, केवट और मल्लाह हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहता हूं कि माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी का वह संसदीय क्षेत्र है, वहां सात दिन से धरना-प्रदर्शन हो रहा है। माननीय विधि और न्याय मंत्री जी यहां बैठे हुए हैं, आप तत्काल उनकी समस्या का समाधान करिए और जो कूज़ का रूट है, उसे उस पर चलवाइए। पूरे देश में जहां-जहां कूज़ चला रहे हैं, वहां इन नाविकों को पचास प्रतिशत आरक्षण दीजिए और ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: विशम्भर जी, प्लीज conclude कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: हम इनको सपोर्ट करते हैं, हम कूज़ चलने ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम चाहते हैं कि आप इनको आरक्षण देकर इनकी समस्या का समाधान कीजिए।

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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।

चौधरी सुखराम सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

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

† بانچ واجید لع یناخ (رَتا درپیش): ےدوبم میں هب یےٹنام ےئسدس
ےک رذیےع ےٹاھٹا ےٹگ ےٹشو ےس دوخ وک بھدیس اترک ےوہ۔

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

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

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Sir, we also associate ourselves with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Rebuilding efforts after floods in Kerala

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, as you are aware, Kerala had witnessed unprecedented flood which has affected lives and livelihood of the people in a very

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

[Shri K. K. Ragesh]

big way. 488 people died, 15 lakh people had to be taken into relief camps and we had to rescue 2 lakh people. 11,000 houses were fully damaged and 1.2 lakh houses were partially damaged. 60,000 hectares of agriculture land had been damaged, fully wiped away. 40,000 animals and 7.5 lakh poultry died. Roads, highways, many buildings including Government buildings, all vanished in the flood. Sir, the UN team had calculated a heavy loss of 31,000 crores and that too, without calculating the livelihood losses. If livelihood losses are also being calculated, the loss will be more than ₹ 40,000 crores. This is a very huge amount for a small State like Kerala. I am thanking hon. Chairman because you had taken a very good initiative, you had requested all the MPs to contribute from their MPLADS funds for assisting Kerala and many hon. MPs had already responded. I am thankful, on behalf of the State of Kerala, to all the MPs who had contributed and I am also requesting other MPs also to contribute in rebuilding the State of Kerala. As per the criteria, the State Government of Kerala is eligible to get more than ₹ 5,000 crores, but, unfortunately, the Central Government is not delivering that amount itself. Sir, it is extremely important to rebuild the State. The State Government had sought an additional grant of ₹ 5,000 crores and it had also requested the Central Government to increase the borrowing limit from 3 per cent to 4.5 per cent of the GSDP, but, unfortunately, on these issues, the Centre did not respond positively. The Central Government had denied foreign assistance also. If any country voluntarily offers any assistance, our policy does not permit accepting that, and the Centre denied that. Then, the Ministers of Kerala Government decided to meet the Malayali Diaspora in various countries. That has also been denied. I don't know why the Central Government is sabotaging the very limited kind of efforts that the State of Kerala is making. I am requesting the Central Government to respond positively and assist the State Government in rebuilding the State. Thank you, Sir.

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

SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri K. K. Ragesh.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri K. K. Ragesh.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whoever is raising the hand, please send a slip so that the name can be included in the associations.

**Need for opening of border at svigam in
Banaskantha district, Gujarat**

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Thank you very much, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. सर, गुजरात के अंदर साबरकांठा, बनासकांठा, पाटन और सुरेन्द्रनगर, ये सब agrarian economy के ऊपर डिपेंड हैं। यहां पर न तो तेल मिलता है और न ही गैस मिलती है। इस वजह से यहां पर gas-based industries और oil-based industries नहीं हैं। सर, यहां पर ज्यादातर किसानों की इन्कम खेत पैदाइश और cash crop के ऊपर निर्भर है। मेरे साबरकांठा इलाके में बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर टमाटर की खेती होती है। टमाटर इंडर इलाके से ले जाकर वाघा बॉर्डर के माध्यम से पाकिस्तान के अंदर भेजे जाते हैं। सर, इंडर से वाघा बॉर्डर तक की दूरी करीब 1100 किलोमीटर है और टमाटरों को ट्रक के माध्यम से वहां तक ले जाने में दो-तीन दिन लग जाते हैं। वहां पर सब process करने के बाद भी दो-तीन दिन और लग जाते हैं। यह perishable item है, उसका जितना price मिलना चाहिए, उतना नहीं मिलता है। अभी गुजरात में Vibrant Summit हो रहा है। वहां पर सरकार ने पाकिस्तान के Trade और Industry के delegation को invite किया है। सर, मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि जिस तरह वाघा बॉर्डर ओपन किया गया है, उसी तरह से गुजरात में बनासकांठा जिले के अंदर सुईगाम नाम से एक जगह है, जो पाकिस्तान बनने से पहले ओपन था। उस सुईगाम का जो बॉर्डर है, उसे commercial purpose के लिए ओपन किया जाए। सुरेन्द्रनगर, पाटन, बनासकांठा, साबरकांठा, अरवल्ली, ऐसे सब जिले हैं जिनमें टमाटर की खेत पैदाइश है और यहां से सौ-डेढ़ सौ किलोमीटर की दूरी पर ही सुईगाम का बॉर्डर है, जो पाकिस्तान के साथ लगा है। मेरी सरकार से मांग है कि उस इंटरनेशनल बॉर्डर को खोलने के संबंध में, दोनों सरकारों के साथ में मिलकर एग्रीमेंट किया जाए, जिससे किसानों को उनकी पैदाइश का पूरा प्राइस मिल सके, क्योंकि वाघा बॉर्डर यहां से 1100-1200 किलोमीटर दूर है। सर, most unfortunate चीज़ यह है कि जब मैंने यह बात गुजरात में कही तो गुजरात में भारतीय जनता पार्टी के प्रेजिडेंट ने कहा कि मिस्री जी को पाकिस्तान भेज दो। Sir, it is most unfortunate incidence where the Government ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: आप अपने issue पर ही बात कहिए। बाहर किसी ने क्या कहा, उस पर आप यहां पर चर्चा नहीं कर सकते हैं।

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY: I request that their party should take a stand and should open this gate, especially for the farmers to export their products from that area so that they can get more and more income. I hope that the Government will view it more sympathetically and take an action in this direction.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

SHRI NARANBHAI JEMLABHAI RATHWA (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by Shri Madhusudan Mistry.

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 (آندھرا پردیش): مہودے، میں بھی مائتے سدئے کے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے وشئے سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Need for constituting a Committee on clause 6 of Assam Accord

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity. I want to raise an issue which is related to the State of Assam. The State of Assam has been in the news for both, the right and the wrong reasons. The right reason, as we all know, is the huge improvement in connectivity which has taken place in that State. But, unfortunately, some of these good things have been offset by the controversies which have taken place first around the NRC, secondly around the unfortunate killing of five Bengali Hindus in Tinsukia, and some controversies around the proposed Citizenship Bill. Sir, in order to meet some of these negative perceptions, it is very welcome that the Union Cabinet has taken a decision to appoint a high-powered panel which will look into some of the questions regarding Assamese identity. Sir, I just want to mention this because this is a very forgotten section of the Assam Accord. Sir, Section 6 of the Assam Accord mentions that constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards, as may be appropriate, shall be provided to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the Assamese people. Sir, this is a very emotive question and it has been in the news and has been agitating people in Assam because today we have a bizarre situation where the Assamese language speakers are actually no longer in majority in that State. So, that demographic transformation is agitating the people. In order that no unintended consequences of various legislations may be felt, it is very important that this high-powered panel be appointed immediately and submit its report much before the election season kicks off where everything gets derailed and the problem always gets put back and will keep on multiplying. We have had unfortunate news of people joining some of the extremist organisations and this cannot go on. Assam has got peace after a long time and I think to preserve that peace, the Government should take precipitate action to go and follow up the initiatives that they have taken on their own.

† Transliteration in Urdu script.

DR. SONAL MANSINGH (Nominated): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Now, Shri Partap Singh Bajwa.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA (Assam): I only want to point out that already there is a Committee under the former Home Secretary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not supposed to answer.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: So, I want to know whether that Committee has submitted its report.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not to be given reply by anybody. This is just a Zero Hour Submission. He has just made a point.

Electric Vehicle Policy

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): सर, मेरा ज़ीरो ऑवर का जो सवाल है, जो मैंने इधर उठाया है, Sir, as winters approach Delhi, the whole city comes under pollution and smog. तो सारी दुनिया का ध्यान अपनी Capital की तरफ है। हिन्दुस्तान सारी दुनिया में एक बढ़ती हुई ताकत है। and we must find answer to the pollution and smog. इसीलिए मेरा यह कहना है कि हमारी गवर्नमेंट को कोई पॉलिसी लानी चाहिए, जो इलेक्ट्रिक व्हीकल्स हैं, आज उनकी necessity है और जल्दी से जल्दी इनको लाना चाहिए। सर, दिल्ली में जो हमारे 75 परसेंट व्हीकल्स हैं, वे टू व्हीलर्स और बसें हैं। इलेक्ट्रिक व्हीकल्स के संबंध में गवर्नमेंट को जल्दी से जल्दी अपनी पॉलिसी लानी चाहिए। Already the Government has FAME 1 currently in use. We have to bring in policy FAME 2 (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles) इसीलिए मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि एक Bloomberg New Energy Finance की रिपोर्ट है, जिसने सजेस्ट किया था कि the future of Electric Vehicles in India lies not in cars, but in two-wheelers, rickshaws and buses, forecasting about 40 per cent of the total passenger vehicle fleet to be electric by 2040. Already about 75 per cent of total passenger fleet is made up of two-wheelers. If the Government invests significantly in bringing the cost of the technology down, either through subsidies, tax breaks or industry incentives, it is possible to universalize electric vehicles for the *aam aadmi*.

I urge upon the Government to reduce the uncertainty in the industry and announce FAME 2 as soon as possible. I also urge the Government to formulate a specific policy for electric two-wheelers, and initiate plans to roll out electric buses too at the earliest. This is what I want to say.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करती हूँ।

SHRI RANJIB BISWAL (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need to release Andhra Pradesh fishermen held hostage by Pakistan

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, at least, eight fishermen from Andhra Pradesh are among 22 people who are held hostage by the Pakistan authorities. The fishermen from Srikakulam and Vizianagaram who had migrated to Gujarat were among 22 fishermen who are held hostage by Pakistan. I would like to say that every year, fishermen from coastal Andhra Pradesh go to Gujarat around the month of September and return around the month of March. Sir, the families of fishermen are worried about the safety of the fishermen who have been made hostage by the Pakistan authorities.

I urge upon the Government to take urgent steps to ensure their immediate return. The Chief Minister of Gujarat, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh and the Central Government through the Ministry of External Affairs should take steps to ensure immediate release of these fishermen. I also request the Ministry of External Affairs to contact the Indian High Commission and Pakistan authorities at the highest level to release the detained fishermen at once since they have crossed the international border by mistake. The Government should also ensure their safe return into the Indian territory. I demand a statement from the hon. Minister of External Affairs, Shrimati Sushma Swaraj, regarding the action taken in this matter.

Need for a Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak. I would like to draw the kind attention of the august House towards the much-awaited Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri, which seems to be stuck due to lack of interest of the Central Government. Sir, the State Government has already provided the basic amenities and has completed the work required to be done by the State Government. The unnecessary delay has been proving to be a trouble for both the legal professionals and the litigants. Sir, it is apparent that the Central Government

is deliberately interfering in the administrative work. Sir, the people of North Bengal have enough patience but, slowly and surely, they are being pushed to the edge.

So, while bringing to the notice of this august House the anguish of the people of North Bengal, through you, Sir, I humbly urge upon the Central Government to come up with a detailed explanation on the delay and mention a definite timeframe within which the Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri will see the light of the day. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

STATEMENT BY MINISTERS — *Contd.*

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): Sir, I make a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Two Hundred and Sixtieth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture on Demands for Grants (2018-19) pertaining to the Ministry of Shipping.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION — *Contd.*

Measures to prevent vehicle accidents due to fog on National Highways

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बड़ी महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी सदन को देना चाहता हूँ कि आज की तारीख में जो मौसम है, उसमें कोहरा भी बहुत ज्यादा है और ठंड भी बहुत है। इसके कारण कई जगहों से अखबारों में खबर आ रही है कि Express Highways पर vehicles एक के बाद एक ram कर रहे हैं। As much as 15 vehicles have rammed into each other और लोग निकल कर बाहर खड़े हो जाते हैं। कोहरे में कुछ दिखाई नहीं पड़ता है। तब तक बाहर से दूसरी गाड़ी आकर उन खड़े हुए लोगों को भी ram कर देती है। इसके कारण बहुत सारी मौतें भी हुई हैं।

[श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा]

महोदय, मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से आग्रह है कि जब कोहरे जैसी स्थितियां बनती हैं, उसकी monitoring करने के लिए तो हमारे पास meteorological department है, लेकिन गाड़ियों में यदि two-way radio system लगा हो, जैसा कि दुनिया के बहुत सारे देशों में है, तो दुर्घटना होने की स्थिति में, तुरन्त ही वह खबर सिस्टम पर चली जाती है, जिससे सबको पता लग जाता है और multiple accidents नहीं होते हैं।

महोदय, हमारे देश में, विशेषकर एक्सप्रेस हाइवेज़ पर ट्रॉमा सेंटर्स की जो सिचुएशन है, वह भी ठीक नहीं है। हालत यह है कि दुर्घटना में चोट लगने के बाद, people take the injured people for miles and miles together but there are no trauma centres. इसलिए मेरा आपके माध्यम से यह आग्रह भी है कि एक स्ट्रेटेजी बनाकर, जो एक्सीडेंट-प्रोन एरियाज़ हैं, स्पेशली कोहरे में, वहां पर स्पेशलाइज्ड ट्रॉमा सेंटर्स establish होने चाहिए।

महोदय, गाड़ियों में टू-वे रेडियो सिस्टम, जो मुझे लगता है कि जो नई जेनरेशन की गाड़ियां आ रही हैं, उन सबमें तो यह must है, क्योंकि वे बहुत हाई स्पीड गाड़ियां हैं। जब तक उन्हें पता लगता है और जब तक वे कोई कार्रवाई करते हैं, तब तक तो एक्सीडेंट हो जाता है। इसलिए मैं पुनः निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि इसे भी देखने की कोशिश करेंगे, तो बेहतर रहेगा। समय देने के लिए आपका बहुत आभार।

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

श्री सभापति: मित्रो, मेरा आप सभी से यह अनुरोध है कि यहां जिस विषय पर बोलने की अनुमति दी जाती है, तो उस विषय पर बोलना और positively विषय के ऊपर ध्यान दिलाने का प्रयास करें, तो उसमें सफलता मिलेगी। Otherwise क्या हो रहा है कि यह जिम्मेदार है, वह जिम्मेदार है, ऐसा normal रूप से Bill वगैरह में होता है, general discussion में होता है, मुझे इसमें भी कोई आपत्ति नहीं है, लेकिन जब Zero Hour में important submissions allow करें तो उस समय जो विषय दिया है, यदि उसी के ऊपर फोकस करेंगे, तो अच्छा होगा और misunderstanding नहीं होगी। अभी रूपा जी बहुत कह रही थीं कि यह कर रहे हैं, वह कर रहे हैं, लेकिन मैंने एक पार्टी के एक व्यक्ति को अवसर दिया है। मेरे ख्याल से, मेरे मन में उनका नाम बीजेपी में है। वह है या नहीं, वे तय करें, वह अलग बात है और मंत्री जी नाम-निर्देशित वगैरह बता रहे थे, मैं उस पर बाद में थोड़ा clarification लूंगा, लेकिन हम उस हिसाब से आगे बढ़ने का प्रयास करेंगे।

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

*241. [*The Questioner was absent.*]

Production and sale of coal by Singareni Collieries

*241. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Singareni Collieries has not increased the production and sale of coal;

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

(c) whether less production of coal is directly affecting the power production in the neighbouring States; and

(d) if so, the efforts being made by Government to increase the production of coal and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Singareni Collieries Co. Limited (SCCL) has increased its production of coal from 50.47 MT in 2013-14 to 62.01 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 11.54 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 0.04 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

Further, in the current year during April-December, 2018, coal production of SCCL was 45.58 MT with a growth rate of 8.6% over the corresponding period of previous year.

The Off-take/sale of coal from SCCL during last five years is given below:—

Year	Total Offtake/Sale (in MT)	Growth %
2013-14	47.94	
2014-15	52.72	10.0%
2015-16	58.72	11.4%
2016-17	60.82	3.6%
2017-18	64.62	6.2%

There has been progressive growth in offtake and sale from SCCL sources. SCCL has increased its coal offtake from 47.94 MT in 2013-14 to 64.62 MT in 2017-18 (four years) resulting in an absolute increase of 16.68 MT. Whereas the offtake for

the period between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years) had declined by 1.43 MT from 49.37 MT in 2009-10 to 47.94 MT in 2013-14.

In the year 2018-19 (till December 2018), SCCL have registered a growth of 5.2% in coal offtake by achieving a dispatch of 47.51 Million tonnes against a dispatch of 46.68 Million tonnes achieved during same period of previous year.

(c) During this fiscal upto November 2018, against the total Coal based Power Generation program of 663.60 Billion units, actual generation has been about 658 Billion units, thereby achieving 99.2% materialization of program and registering a growth of 5.5% over last year same period. Further, the generation by domestic coal based power plants was 605.01 BU, which was 101 % of program generation. This has been possible due to increased supply of coal to the power sector. During April-Nov 2018, SCCL has supplied 35.04 MT of coal to power sector in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Telangana at a growth of more than 3.5% compared to the supply of 33.87 MT in the corresponding period of last year.

As per CEA report coal stock at Power House end as on 01.01.2019 is 16.65 MT as against the stock of 13.17 MT on 01.01.2018 thereby registering an increase of 26.40%.

(d) In order to enhance coal production, the focus of the Government is on increasing domestic production of coal which includes efforts to expedite Environment and Forest clearances expeditiously, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal. In SCCL, new technologies are being introduced to increase the production of coal.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Sanjay Raut is absent. Any supplementary questions?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: I would like to know this from the Minister, Shri Piyush Goyal, who's a dynamic personality. Ever since he has taken up the portfolio for coal, he has substantially increased coal production. But recently an impression has been given that coal production has gone down, and due to this power generation is actually suffering. I would like to know whether you are still importing coal and whether you are able to sustain domestic coal production to see that power generation is not affected.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Chairman, first of all, I am delighted because this is the first time that I am getting an opportunity to answer a question in the House. Thank you very much.

Mr. Subbarami Reddy may well be aware that coal production by CIL in the current year, up to December, which was three days back, has increased by 7.4 per cent on a nine-month basis compared to previous year. In the last four years from 2014-18, we have been able to increase coal production by more than 104 MT by Coal India Limited alone, as compared to an increase of about 31-32 MT in the period of four years before that. This Government is very conscious of the growing requirement of coal and we have continuously increased the production.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: There is no shortage. The power generation is 99 per cent of what was slated and I am happy to share it with the hon. Members. As regards imports, in 2014-15, the country was importing about 217 MT. Last year, we imported 208 MT, lower than what it was earlier despite the increase..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. I said it yesterday that Ministers are also starving and they want to give additional information. Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia. *...(Interruptions)...* They are starving without any opportunity. *...(Interruptions)...* Long or wrong, that will be seen later. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I am sorry. If Mr. Jairam Ramesh would like to correct anything which is wrong in what I said, I think *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Piyush Goyal, you have to go by the Chair. *...(Interruptions)...* Did I ask him *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, he has made an allegation. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Who? *...(Interruptions)...* Nothing has gone on record. *...(Interruptions)...* People sit and talk. *...(Interruptions)...* It is not going on record. Why do you worry? *...(Interruptions)...* रिकॉर्ड में जो आता है, उसका समाधान देना है।

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Hon. Chairman, will the hon. Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the country does not have sufficient reserves of coal and needs to rely on imports to fulfill domestic needs of power sector and the steps taken by the Government to enhance production and quality of coal to improve supply of coal to power sector?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Be crisp because every Minister wants to give reply and there are 15 questions.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, but he has asked two questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are supposed to answer only one question.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, domestic requirement of coal comprises of coking coal and thermal coal. India has sufficient reserves of thermal coal, but it does not have sufficient reserves of coking coal. Most of the reserves for several decades are under fire in Jharia and Raniganj. As far as imported coal is concerned, the country will continue to import coal for many years.

As regards thermal coal, over the past many years until 2014, coal production was not growing at the pace at which demand of coal was growing and you can see how coal import started about ten years ago and continuously kept increasing. Coal production did not go up because environmental clearances were not given on time. It did not go up because land acquisition was not done on time. Various reasons were there. Because of that, in the earlier period, a number of power plants were set up which were dependent only on imported coal. They are designed for imported coal. Now, even if we increase production to a billion tonnes, there are many plants which will only require imported coal because they cannot take fly-ash coal and these plants are set up in remote areas, in the coast, where it is uneconomical to transport domestic coal. Further, there are many plants which need to blend with imported coal. So, imports was *per force* imposed on this country; for almost decades, which could have been avoided if planning was done in a better way.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, Mr. Minister. Now, Question No.242. See, we have to make a distinction between a debate and a question. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am telling all. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not going on record. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, I have to tell you that this is not the way. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please. ...(*Interruptions*)... I tell everybody.

Criteria for declaring MSP for crops

*242. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the cost of factors like land, labour, fertilizers, diesel, etc., taken into account while deciding cost of production for declaring MSP for wheat and paddy during current year, along with factor-wise cost thereof; and

(b) the total cost of production taken into account for declaring MSP for Rabi and Kharif crops during 2018 along with the MSP declared, crop-wise?

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

Statement

(a) Government fixes Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) of 22 mandated Kharif and Rabi crops including wheat and paddy and Fair and Remunerative Prices (FRP) for Sugarcane on the basis of recommendations of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), after considering the views of State Governments and Central Ministries/Departments concerned and other relevant factors.

While recommending MSPs, CACP considers a host of factors including all India weighted average cost of production of crops. The costs considered are comprehensive and include all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred in cash and kind on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc, miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

The methodology adopted by CACP is on the basis of the recommendations of different expert Committees. Based on the latest three years actual cost estimates provided by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics (DES), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare which is compiled under 'Comprehensive Scheme for studying the Costs of Cultivation of Principal Crops in India', CACP undertakes cost projection exercise crop-wise, State-wise for the ensuing season under certain implicit assumptions by utilizing statistical techniques. These projected estimates of cost of production are considered into formulation of price policy recommendations by the CACP. For recommending the MSPs of crops including wheat for the rabi season 2018-19, CACP used the latest available DES data on cost of cultivation for 2016-17. For recommending MSPs for kharif crops of 2018-19 including paddy, CACP used the then latest available data of 2015-16. The detail of these two data sets are given in Annexure-I and Annexure-II, respectively (*See below*). For its price policy recommendations for the ensuing season for which they are made, CACP makes cost projections based on Composite Input Price Index (CIPi). Based on the CIPi, the CACP projects crop-wise, State-wise cost of cultivation. Crop-wise, State-wise cost of production is then derived from these projected costs of cost of cultivation using projected yields.

(b) The all India weighted average cost of production taken into account for declaring MSP for Kharif and Rabi crops during 2018 along with the MSP declared crop-wise are given in Annexure-III.

Annexure-I*Cost of cultivation of wheat during 2016-17*

Sl.No.	Cost items	Bihar	Gujarat	Haryana	Madhya Pradesh	Punjab	Rajasthan	Uttar Pradesh	Uttarakhand
									(₹/hectare)
1.	Human Labour	10654	9193	12539	10354	6288	20270	11823	10681
2.	Bullock Labour	39	238	35	519	49	405	146	6556
3.	Machine Labour	5804	7808	9660	7273	9420	6098	7319	3909
4.	Seed	3162	4386	2461	2870	2162	3863	3668	2609
5.	Fertilisers and Manure	4050	4334	4190	3085	4837	4136	4408	2808
6.	Insecticides	36	422	991	36	1573	182	44	171
7.	Irrigation charges	4001	4439	4852	3917	585	5359	6383	1324
8.	Interest on working capital	683	780	840	661	672	756	810	604
9.	Miscellaneous	0	0	41	205	74	0	0	0
10.	Rent paid for leased-in land	0	531	105	0	5340	498	1037	0
11.	Land revenue, cesses and taxes	68	7	0	4	0	13	4	4
12.	Depreciation on implements and Farm buildings	506	136	626	561	476	568	881	309

Annexure-II

Cost of cultivation of Paddy during 2015-16

Sl. No.	Cost items	(₹/hectare)							
		Andhra Pradesh	Assam	Bihar	Chhattisgarh	Odisha	Punjab	Tamil Nadu	Uttar Pradesh West Bengal
1.	Human Labour	26648	20738	16052	15046	29247	15529	22776	19893 34388
2.	Bullock Labour	499	8368	81	3303	3156	42	163	994 1778
3.	Machine Labour	9505	3444	3801	6136	4478	6020	10617	4314 4220
4.	Seed	2005	1097	1803	1809	1196	1838	6969	3919 2055
5.	Fertilisers and Manure	8218	1426	3125	4861	4403	3648	8452	4745 6103
6.	Insecticides	3102	36	38	1008	299	4459	1559	300 1500
7.	Irrigation charges	1313	468	3625	724	164	2400	2978	5061 2942
8.	Interest on working capital	1292	619	681	780	795	857	1425	869 1111
9.	Miscellaneous	96	0	0	391	125	15	7	0 26
10.	Rent paid for leased-in land	121	348	0	0	156	5993	152	682 554
11.	Land revenue, cesses and taxes	2	50	65	3	21	0	7	3 66
12.	Depreciation on implements and Farm buildings	306	837	521	1100	670	337	347	996 971

Annexure-III

Cost of production, MSP and return over cost of major Kharif and Rabi crops during 2018-19*

(₹/quintal)

Sl. No.	Commodity	2018-19		
	Kharif Crops	Cost	MSP	% Return over cost
1.	Paddy (Common) (Grade A) ^	1166	1750 1770	50.1
2.	Jowar (Hybrid) (Maldandi) ^	1619	2430 2450	50.1
3.	Bajra	990	1950	97.0
4.	Maize	1131	1700	50.3
5.	Ragi	1931	2897	50.0
6.	Arhar (Tur)	3432	5675	65.4
7.	Moong	4650	6975	50.0
8.	Urad	3438	5600	62.9
9.	Cotton (Medium Staple) (Long Staple) ^	3433	5150 5450	50.0
10.	Groundnut in Shell	3260	4890	50.0
11.	Sunflower Seed	3592	5388	50.0
12.	Soyabean	2266	3399	50.0
13.	Sesamum	4166	6249	50.0
14.	Nigerseed	3918	5877	50.0
	Rabi Crops			
1.	Wheat	866	1840	112.5
2.	Barley	860	1440	67.4
3.	Gram	2637	4620	75.2
4.	Masur (Lentil)	2532	4475	76.7
5.	Rapeseed and Mustard	2212	4200	89.9
6.	Safflower	3294	4945	50.1

* Includes all paid out costs such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc, miscellaneous expenses and imputed value of family labour.

^ Cost data are not separately compiled for Paddy (Grade A), Jowar (Maldandi), Cotton (Long staple).

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने प्रश्न का जो जवाब दिया है, मैं उस जवाब के बारे में ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने अलग-अलग स्टेट्स में जो cost जोड़ी है, उन्होंने per hectare जो input जोड़ा है, अगर उन्होंने उसको कम-से-कम yield से divide कर दिया होता, तो पता लगता कि सही MSP क्या मिल रहा है। हमें लगता है कि इसमें जो स्टेटमेंट दिया गया है, उसमें विसंगतियाँ हैं। वे उपयुक्त नहीं हैं। स्वामीनाथन साहब ने जो सिफारिश की थी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: सवाल प्लीज़।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, मैं उसी पर आ रहा हूँ। जो input है, जो family की enterprise cost है, labour cost है, जो जमीन की cost है, जब हम उन सबको जोड़ते हैं, तो वह sufficient नहीं हो पा रहा है। सर, मैं आज ही अखबार में पढ़ रहा था।

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. This is not the way. ...(Interruptions).. You have to ask the question. ...(Interruptions)... What is your question? ...(Interruptions)... आपका सवाल क्या है? ...(व्यवधान)... उसी में समझ आएगा, फिर आपको बाद में मौका नहीं मिलेगा।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: आप agriculture को sustainable करने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, लेकिन हर साल आपका जो agricultural import है, वह बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ रहा है। 2016 में 1 लाख 40 हजार करोड़ का import था। ऐसी स्थिति में आप किसानों को खेती के ऊपर sustainable earning कैसे दे पाएँगे?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल पूछा है, उसमें उन्होंने अलग-अलग लागत पूछी है। अगर आप उसका ठीक से उत्तर देखेंगे, तो उसमें अलग-अलग लागत दी गई है। आपके सवाल में कहीं भी इकट्ठा जानकारी नहीं मांगी गई है। मैं अलग से आपको बताना चाहूँगा कि यदि आप बिहार की cost of cultivation इकट्ठा करते हैं, तो इसमें प्रति हेक्टेयर लागत दी हुई है। अगर आप सबको जोड़ेंगे, तो यह 29,002 रुपए है। अगर आप प्रति क्विंटल लागत जोड़ेंगे, तो यह 921 रुपए है और प्रति हेक्टेयर उत्पादन जोड़ेंगे, तो यह 2,400 किलोग्राम है। लेकिन आपका सवाल ही अलग-अलग लागत के बारे में था।

दूसरा, आपने स्वामीनाथन जी की चर्चा की, तो स्वामीनाथन जी ने अभी 6 अगस्त को टाइम्स ऑफ इंडिया में एक लेख लिखा है। उसमें उन्होंने लिखा है कि कृषि की आर्थिक व्यावहारिकता सुनिश्चित करने के लिए राष्ट्रीय किसान आयोग की सिफारिश के आधार पर लाभकारी मूल्य की हाल में ही की गई घोषणा महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। इस बात पर बल देने के लिए सरकार ने अपनी अधिसूचना में यह सुनिश्चित किया है कि 2018-19 के दौरान खरीफ की अधिसूचित फसलों का MSP उत्पादन की लागत का कम से कम 150 प्रतिशत होगा और मोटे अनाज के लिए MSP 150-200 प्रतिशत होगा। महोदय, मैं इनके ध्यान में लाना चाहूँगा कि 2006 में स्वामीनाथन जी ने अपनी अनुशंसा दी। 2007 में राष्ट्रीय किसान नीति घोषित की गई। उनके 201 सुझावों को माना गया, लेकिन समर्थन मूल्य के सम्बन्ध में उनके जो भी सुझाव थे, उस समय सरकार ने उनको reject किया। हमारी भी सरकार है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The second supplementary. यह डिबेट नहीं है। If it is a debate, you can give a rebate. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, it is a question. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, आप देखिए, आज ही आलू के किसानों ने अपनी जो 800-900 रुपये की बचत थी, वह चेक प्रधान मंत्री जी को भेज दिया, आपको वहां से चिट्ठी आएगी। सर, आप Market Intervention Policy पर काम कर रहे हैं और आज स्थिति यह है कि ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question please. स्थिति यही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, मैं क्वेश्चन ही कर रहा हूं। आज स्थिति यह है कि जो आलू और प्याज का किसान है, उसकी बहुत बुरी स्थिति है। सर, आपकी Market Intervention Policy की इसमें कोई जानकारी नहीं है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री सभापति: आप व्याख्या कर रहे हैं, सवाल नहीं पूछ रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, क्या Market Intervention के लिए आप अपना आर्थिक उपादान बढ़ाएंगे या कम करेंगे?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, जिन जिन्सों का समर्थन मूल्य घोषित है, ऐसे 22 जिन्स हैं, लेकिन जिनका समर्थन मूल्य घोषित नहीं है, उनके लिए "बाजार हस्तक्षेप योजना" है। जब भी किसी राज्य में उत्पादन में 10% की वृद्धि होती है, और कीमत में 10% की कमी आती है, तो राज्य के द्वारा एक प्रस्ताव आता है और 24 घंटे के अंदर हम उसकी मंजूरी दे देते हैं। उसकी आधी राशि भारत सरकार bear करती है और आधी राशि राज्य सरकार bear करती है। इसका लाभ कई राज्यों ने लिया है। अभी इस सीज़न में राजस्थान ने इसका लाभ लिया है। उससे पहले तेलंगाना, आंध्र प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र और उत्तर प्रदेश ने भी पहली बार आलू में इस योजना का लाभ लिया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh. ...*(Interruptions)*... No comments please while sitting. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह: मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया है, उसमें Annexure-III में दिखाया है कि जो Paddy (Common) है, उसमें cost of production 1,166 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है और आपने उसका MSP 1,750 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है। अगर आप व्हीट के संबंध में देखें ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह: मैं वहीं आ रहा हूं, सर। व्हीट का cost of production 866 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है और आपने इसका MSP 1,840 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है। मेरा स्पेसिफिक सवाल यह है कि जब Paddy (Common) का cost of production 1,166 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है, उसका MSP तो आपने 1,750 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है, जबकि व्हीट का cost of production 866 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल है, तो उसका MSP आपने 1,840 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया है। हालांकि आपने व्हीट के लिए यह अच्छा कार्य किया है, लेकिन paddy के साथ भी इसी प्रकार का ट्रीटमेंट क्यों नहीं किया गया है, कृपया इसके संबंध में बताने की कृपा करें।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, मैं आपके ध्यान में यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि हमने अभी जो समर्थन मूल्य घोषित किए, उसमें आप देखेंगे कि 2013-14 में धान का जो लागत मूल्य था, वह 961 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल था और उस पर 36.72 फीसदी का मुनाफा देकर समर्थन मूल्य 1,117 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल तय किया गया था। अभी इस वर्ष हमने जो मूल्य घोषित किया है, उसमें औसतन लागत मूल्य 1,166 रुपये है और समर्थन मूल्य घोषित किया गया, 1,750 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल, जो 50.9 फीसदी अधिक है। डा. स्वामीनाथन का कहना था कि समर्थन मूल्य 50 फीसदी से ज्यादा होना चाहिए, तो जहां पहले समर्थन मूल्य 36 फीसदी अधिक था, जो हमारी सरकार के आने के बाद 38 फीसदी हो गया, लेकिन अबकी पहली बार लागत मूल्य से 50 फीसदी अधिक दाम घोषित हुआ है।

श्री नीरज शेखर: लागत मूल्य भी तो डेढ़ गुना बढ़ गया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Digvijaya Singh. *...(Interruptions)...* Mr. Neeraj Shekhar, what is this? *...(Interruptions)...* आपका नाम नहीं बुलाया गया है।

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Sir, he is not replying. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not your responsibility. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: I have to ask, Sir. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You cannot without the Chairman's permission. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: So, I am asking your permission. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Digvijaya Singhji. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से खरीफ की इस वर्ष की फसल में केवल दलहन और तिलहन के बारे में पूछना चाहता हूँ। मूंग, उड़द और सोयाबीन minimum support price operation में केन्द्र सरकार ने उत्पादन का कितना प्रतिशत खरीदा?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Good, this is a specific question.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने बहुत अच्छा सवाल उठाया है। हमारे देश में दलहन और तिलहन की खरीदारी PSS Scheme के तहत की जाती है और यह काफी दिनों से हो रही है। यह जो खरीदारी है, यह नेफेड के माध्यम से होती है, मेरे पास एक आंकड़ा है कि 2010-11 से 2013-14 तक पूरे देश में 8.40 लाख टन की खरीदारी हुई थी। *...(व्यवधान)...* मैं वही आंकड़ा दे रहा हूँ और 2014-15 से लेकर 31 दिसम्बर, 2018 तक 84.22 लाख टन की खरीदारी हुई है। जहां तक current year का सवाल है, तो खरीदारी अभी चल रही है और इसके जो आंकड़े आयेंगे, वह मैं दूँगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, how much has been procured? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has already said it. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: But, Sir, to come out... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, दिग्विजय सिंह जी, आप अनुभवी हैं। *...(व्यवधान)...* this is not going on record. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Digvijaya Singhji, this is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...* You are an experienced Parliamentarian. *...(Interruptions)...* Please this is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: But, Sir,... *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What can I do? *...(Interruptions)...* There was a separate discussion and people did not allow the House to function. *...(Interruptions)...* What can I do? *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...* Except what Shri Tiruchi Siva says, other things will not go on record. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir,... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRIMATI ABMIKA SONI: *

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not going on record, please. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Tiruchi Siva, if you do not want to ask, I will go to the next speaker. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, while recommending MSPs... *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी, जवाब देने की जरूरत नहीं है। I will not allow any unauthorized question to be answered. *...(Interruptions)...* You are concerned with what the Chairman says. *...(Interruptions)...* People can stand and then... *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Tiruchi Siva. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, while recommending MSPs, the CACP considers a host of factors including all India weighted average cost of production of crops. With regard to paddy, the average cost of production for cultivation as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, for one hectare, is ₹ 55,000 as per the statement given by the Minister. The labour cost in Andhra Pradesh is ₹ 26,000 and in Chhattisgarh, it is ₹ 15,000...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to ask the question? *...(Interruptions)...* You ask the question. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: For that, I have to come to the point. But, Sir, the production of crops is not equivalent to the expenses that are incurred because of monsoon failure and various other factors. Despite that, Prof. M.S. Swaminathan has recommended that two hundred per cent of the cost of cultivation should be given to the farmers for production. When the monsoon fails, the production is not to the expected or estimated or to the extent of money spent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Government consider giving the MSP two hundred per cent of the cost of cultivation?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, सबसे पहले तो 2006 में 50 फीसदी करने की बात की गई, जो अभी इस खरीफ के सीजन से लागू हुआ है, तो पहले यह पूरा लागू हो। लागत का जो मूल्य तय होता है, देश के 16 विश्वविद्यालय 20 राज्यों के अन्दर सर्वे करते हैं और उस आधार पर सभी राज्यों के अलग-अलग लागत की कीमत भेजते हैं। एवरेज जो तय होता है, गेहूँ और धान के मामले में महाराष्ट्र और बंगाल ऐसे राज्य हैं, जहाँ जो एवरेज लागत मूल्य तय होता है, उससे ज्यादा है, तो सरकार उन दोनों राज्यों के लिए अलग से योजनाएँ चलाती है जिससे उत्पादन बढ़े, उत्पादकता बढ़े, ताकि लागत कम हो, लेकिन अभी जो डेढ़ गुना किया गया है, इसी कारण सब राज्य अभी इसे खरीद नहीं रहे हैं। अभी माननीय सदस्य पूछ रहे थे। हमने सभी राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों को पत्र दिया है। हमारे सेक्रेटरी ने सभी राज्यों के सचिवों को पत्र दिया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैंने फोन पर बात भी की। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. ...*(Interruptions)*... Don't answer other things. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, एक मिनट ...**(व्यवधान)**... कि जब भी दलहन-तिलहन का दाम नीचे आये, आप खरीदिए, हम उसकी अनुमति देते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लेकिन जो स्वामीनाथन जी ने डेढ़ सौ फीसदी कहा था, वह अभी पहली बार देश में लागू हुआ है। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने साहस किया और कहा कि देश के खजाने पर किसान का अधिकार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: हम लोग राज्यों के माध्यम से इसे कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सारे राज्यों ने इसे अभी शुरू किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जहाँ तक 200 प्रतिशत का सवाल है, तो अभी तो जो recommendation है, वही पूरे देश में ठीक से लागू हो, हम इसमें लगे हुए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

Direct Benefit Transfer in Fertilizers sector

*243. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the procedure for Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) has

been changed from disbursement of subsidy from receipt of fertilizers in the district to sale of fertilizers to farmers through point of sale machines;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the entire fertilizer industry faced immense difficulties in generating DBT bills due to systemic issues;

(c) whether it is also a fact that huge amount of subsidy bills could not be generated by the fertilizer companies by year end and a meagre amount of subsidy payment was released by Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The Department of Fertilizers has implemented Direct Benefit Transfer System across all States/UTs *w.e.f.* March, 2018. Under the DBT system, 100% subsidy on various fertilizer grades is being released to the fertilizer companies, on the basis of actual sales made by the retailers to the beneficiaries through Point of Sale (PoS) devices installed at each retailer shop and the beneficiaries are identified through Aadhaar Card, Kisan Credit Card, Voter Identity Card, etc.

(b) to (d) No, Sir. However, upon enabling of DBT bill module in the month of March, 2018, few initial hiccups were encountered which were quickly resolved with the help of National Informatics Centre (NIC). DBT bill payment system has now fully stabilized and has been functioning satisfactorily. Since then, all companies have been generating bills on weekly basis and are being paid on weekly basis. On the basis of bills generated by companies as on 31.12.2018, Government has released subsidy of ₹ 9531.6 crore for P&K fertilizers and ₹ 24,137.93 crore for Urea. However, as and when any systemic issue is countered, the same is resolved on priority with the helpdesk established by DoF in collaboration with NIC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Question No. 243. The questioner is not present. Any supplementaries? Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, this question relates to Direct Benefit Transfer. Direct Benefit Transfer was initiated in 2013 when Dr. Manmohan Singh was the Prime Minister. It meant that the benefits go directly to the beneficiary. The question is on DBT for fertilizer subsidy. I understand that DBT for fertilizer subsidy means benefit goes directly to the farmers. The answer says that DBT is being released to

the fertilizer companies. I am a little confused. DBT meant benefit to farmers but the answer is saying DBT to companies. What is the policy of the Government?

RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, DBT the subsidy policy was conceived and implemented as a pilot project by this Government. In 2016, a few States and a few districts were earmarked for this pilot project's implementation and in March, 2018, the whole country was covered for giving DBT subsidy in the first phase. The first phase envisages that the subsidy will be given to fertilizer companies when the fertilizers are sold to consumers through points of sale at two lakh odd points in the country. The second part of this programme is yet to be implemented and the idea is in the final analysis to give subsidy to the farmer directly itself. For that, the Government has constituted a Committee under the NITI Aayog, which is yet to give its report. Once this first phase is completed, the second phase will be taken up post recommendations received from the Committee that has been set up by the NITI Aayog.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 244.

Action against cellular companies for call drops

*244. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any action is taken against the cellular companies for call drops;
- (b) whether there is any law formulated against this for safeguarding interests of consumers;
- (c) whether there is any case registered against a cellular company; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

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

Statement

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) through “The Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2017” dated 18th August, 2017 has prescribed two new parameters for assessment of Drop Call Rate in a mobile network, viz. “Drop Call Rate (DCR) Spatial Distribution Measure” with benchmark value $\leq 2\%$ and “DCR Temporal Distribution Measure” with benchmark value $\leq 3\%$.

The parameters prevailing earlier assessed the performance of mobile networks for the License Service Area (LSA) as a whole. However, the revised parameters, effective from 1st October, 2017, are more stringent as they give better insight into the network performance of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) at each Base Transceiver Station (BTS) level.

In accordance with these Regulations, the following actions are taken:—

- (i) Monitoring and assessment of action-plan drawn by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) on the basis of their periodic compliance reports for further improvement in quality of service.
- (ii) Independent Drive Tests (IDTs) in Cities, Highways and Rail routes for audit and assessment of mobile service quality through independent agencies.
- (iii) Publication of status of compliance assessed for each Telecom Service Provider (TSP) on quarterly basis and results of IDTs in each instance on TRAI website namely www.traai.gov.in for information of stakeholders, thereby applying pressure on the service providers to improve their services; and
- (iv) Imposition of Financial Disincentives (FD) based on the extent to which a TSP's performance deviates from the specified call-drop benchmark(s).

As per latest report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ending September 2018, all TSPs are complying to Drop Call Rate (DCR) benchmarks despite rapid increase in traffic volume and more stringent benchmarks, except M/s Idea in four License Service Areas (LSAs) *i.e.* Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and North East; and M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in one LSA *i.e.* West Bengal.

The financial disincentives imposed on TSPs for non-compliance to the revised DCR benchmarks in 2018 are given in Annexure (*See* below).

(b) *Vide* Telecom Consumers Protection (9th Amendment) Regulation, 2015 dated 16th October, 2015, TRAI had mandated compensation to consumers of mobile services at the rate of ₹ 1/- per drop call, subject to a maximum of ₹ 3/- per day per subscriber by the concerned TSP. However, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has set aside the Regulation *vide* Order dated 11th May, 2016.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. No case pertaining to the matter of call drops is registered against any cellular company.

Annexure

Financial disincentives imposed by TRAI on non-compliant TSPs against the prescribed Benchmarks for Drop Call Rate

Quarter ending	Name of Telecom Service Provider (TSP)	Financial disincentive imposed as per notified Benchmarks (in ₹)	
		Network Quality of Service Drop Call Rate (DCR) Spatial Distribution Measure	Network Quality of Service Drop Call Rate (DCR) Temporal Distribution Measure
		Benchmark $\leq 2\%$	Benchmark $\leq 3\%$
June, 2018	M/s BSNL	Two lakh for one License Service Area (LSA)	Two lakh for one LSA
	M/s Idea	Eight lakh for Four LSAs	Four lakh for Two LSAs
March, 2018	M/s BSNL	One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA	One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA
	M/s Idea	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs	Three lakh for two LSAs
	M/s Tata	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs	Fifteen lakh for seven LSAs
	M/s Telenor	Three lakh for two LSAs	Three lakh for two LSAs

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Sir, the efforts and the measures taken for the protection of consumers are given in the answer and I am satisfied with it. But I would like to ask the hon. Minister: What were the other projects implemented in the interest of consumers in the last four years?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदय, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India समय-समय पर इस तरह के regulations बनाती रहती है। जो लेटेस्ट 2017 में regulation बनाया गया है, वह पहले की तुलना में काफी stringent है, जिसमें हमने consumer protection पर विशेष बल दिया है। पहले जो quality of call होती थी, जिसे आप drop call rate कहते हैं, उसमें पूरे LSA का average हम निकालते थे। अब हम per cell में कितना drop call है, इसे भी measure कर रहे हैं। दो criteria इस बार बनाए गए हैं, एक Drop Call Rate Spatial Distribution Measure Benchmark, जो 2 प्रतिशत से कम होना चाहिए, जिसमें 90 परसेंट cell और 90 प्रतिशत दिनों तक, मतलब कि एक quarter में 90 दिन हैं तो उसका मतलब 81 days हुआ। अगर हम 2 परसेंट से नीचे हैं तो उसे ठीक मानते हैं। दूसरा criteria बनाया गया है (DCR) Temporal Distribution Measure, जो 3 प्रतिशत से कम होना चाहिए। उसमें हम 97 परसेंट को सही मानते हैं। एक BTS में 3 cell होते हैं। पहले पूरे BTS काम करते थे लेकिन अब हर cell काम कर रहा है। मुझे लगता है कि पिछले quarter की तुलना में इस quarter में काफी सुधार हुआ है। कई service providers ने

अच्छी सेवा देनी शुरू की है और जिनकी सेवा थोड़ी खराब रही है, 4 circle में Idea की और एक circle में BSNL की, उन पर penalty भी impose की गई है।

श्री मो. नदीमुल हक: महोदय, हम सब लोग यहां call drop की समस्या से पीड़ित हैं।

† ےوہم،، مہ بس گولی راہ لاک پارڈ ک یسمسیا ےس پیڑیت ہیں۔

Sir, my question to the Minister is: What are the call drop rates of all cellular companies detail-wise and has the Government mandated the cellular companies to give compensation to consumers on incidents of call drops?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: महोदय, TRAI ने एक regulation बनाया था, जिस पर माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने स्थगन आदेश दिया है, इसलिए उस पर कोई निर्णय देना या कोई बात कहना मेरे लिए उचित नहीं है। फिर भी मैं एक बात जरूर सदन में बताना चाहता हूँ कि TRAI की रिपोर्ट्स को अगर आप देखें तो स्थिति में पहले से काफी सुधार हुआ है — यह सच है। अगर मैं एक आंकड़ा बताऊँ तो 2014 तक, मोटे तौर पर 8 लाख BTS थे जिन्हें पिछले चार-साढ़े चार सालों में बढ़ाकर 20 लाख किया गया है। Telephone infrastructure बढ़ाया जाए, यह जरूरत है, लेकिन कई लोग, विद्वान लोग जहां रहते हैं, जब वहां service providers tower लगाने जाते हैं तो वे लगाने नहीं देते हैं और खास तौर से जहां अति-विद्वान लोग हैं, वे ज्यादा विरोध करते हैं कि EMF radiation का भय है।

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, it is not related to my question.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: Yes, it is related. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is sharing information. That is also a practical problem.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI MANOJ SINHA: It is related. ...(Interruptions)... You are talking about call drops and, I think, infrastructure is a must for a good ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The matter is before the court. That is why he said that.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, दो-तीन महीने से call drop तो इतना बढ़ गया है कि स्थिति यह है कि पहले तो कॉल drop होता है, फिर करें, तो थोड़ी देर तक बात होती है, लेकिन बीच में बंद हो जाता है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके ऊपर गवर्नमेंट की कोई पॉलिसी है? वोडाफोन है, बीएसएनएल है, लोगों को बड़ी तकलीफ है। आपने दो-दो फोन्स दिए हैं, लेकिन वे चलते ही नहीं हैं। आप इसके बारे में क्या सोच रहे हैं?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, मैं तो अधिकृत रिपोर्ट पर ही जाऊंगा, ट्राई की रिपोर्ट पर ही जाऊंगा। माननीय सदस्य ने जो बात कही है, उसके लिए हम regular basis पर telecom

service providers की मीटिंग करते रहते हैं और इसके लिए हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं। हमने मंत्रालय में एक आईवीआरएस सिस्टम भी लगाया है, जिसमें 2.5 करोड़ कंज्यूमर्स को मंत्रालय ने कॉल करके कहा कि कहां-कहां frequent call drop की समस्या है, उन स्थानों को जाना है और टीएसपीज़ को निर्देश दिया है कि वे एक हफ्ते में इस समस्या का निदान करें। पिछले दिनों ऐसे लगभग 25 लाख से ज्यादा लोगों ने इसमें participate किया है और उनकी समस्या का समाधान किया गया है, लेकिन यह सही है कि इसमें निरंतर मॉनिटरिंग की आवश्यकता है।

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, I congratulate the Minister because obviously there has been a significant progress in the performance of the telecom companies. But, Sir, I want to point out one big gap in the way they are approaching call drops; it is that there is no compensation being paid out in any of these to the consumer. The consumer is the one who is suffering. Penalising the telecom company is a disincentive for the telecom company. For example, in RERA, there is compensation to the consumer. The last time it was tried by the TRAI is in 2015. The Supreme Court ruled that the TRAI did not have the powers under the Act. So, the question to the Minister is: What steps is he taking or proposing to take to amend the TRAI Act to give powers to the TRAI so that compensation to the consumer, who is the aggrieved party, is made possible?

श्री मनोज सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने स्वयं बताया है कि मामला सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में विचाराधीन है और सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने एक स्थगन आदेश दिया हुआ है। सरकार पूरी शिद्दत से उस मुकदमे की सर्वोच्च न्यायालय में पैरवी कर रही है और यह सच है कि माननीय सदस्य ने जो सुझाव दिया है, वह महत्वपूर्ण है। अगर उस दिशा में ट्राई में अमेंडमेंट करने की जरूरत हुई, तो सरकार विचार करेगी।

Establishment of concrete sleeper plant and railway apprentice training centre in Odisha

*245. **SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government on the request of Government of Odisha to establish a concrete sleeper plant in the vast land available with Railways at Kantabanji and to establish a railway apprentice training centre in the backward Kalahandi, Bolangir Koraput (KBK) region of Odisha to promote skill development and increase employability of the workforce, which in turn would contribute to the National Skill Development Mission; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS AND COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. With regard to establishing of concrete sleeper plant at Kantabanji, the request of Government of Odisha was examined and it was not considered justified as Kantabanji falls under the jurisdiction of East Coast Railway (ECoR) which has five working concrete sleeper plants having sufficient production capacity to meet the present level of demand of sleepers of ECoR.

Accordingly, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Odisha was informed *vide* letter dated 22.11.2018.

With regard to establishing railway apprentice training centre, no such proposal by Government of Odisha to establish railway apprentice training centre in the backward Kalahandi, Bolangir and Koraput region of Odisha to promote skill development and increase employability of the workforce, has been received in the Ministry of Railways.

SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: My question was whether the Railways would set up a plant at Kantabanji and establish a centre in Bolangir, Koraput districts of Odisha where the State Government has given details of the programme which would be a very viable one; on it, the Government of India has not taken any action. I draw your kind attention to intervene and go ahead in establishing these.

SHIR PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have already five plants under the East Coast Railway located at Rayagada, Garvadabilli, Pendurthi, Surla Road and Kaipadar Road. Since the existing capacity of these five plants is meeting the requirements of the East Coast Railway, we don't find the necessity of adding one more plant. It will only make that plant unviable. Therefore, at present, there is no such proposal. As the requirement and demand increases, the Railways will certainly be happy to partner with the State.

श्री सभापति: नरेन्द्र जी, क्या second supplementary है?

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार स्वैन: जी नहीं, सर।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। श्री महेश पोद्दार।

श्री महेश पोद्दार: सभापति महोदय, रेलवे में विस्तार और आधुनिकीकरण के कारण रेलवे में कंक्रीट स्लीपर्स की मांग पिछले सालों में करीब-करीब दोगुनी हो गई, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या पूरे देश में नए स्लीपर प्लांट लगाने का प्रस्ताव है ताकि इस बढ़ती हुई मांग को पूरा किया जा सके? इसके साथ ही मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या डिज़ाइन में भी परिवर्तन करने का प्रस्ताव है?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a specific question connected with the East Coast Railway, Odisha.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, it is an important thing that we keep expanding the capacity and, therefore, the hon. Member of Parliament has rightly pointed out that the demand has doubled. As we speak today, the capacity of sleepers in the country is adequate to meet the existing demand. The last shortlisting was done in 2007-08 and after that there has been a general surplus capacity. As we go forward, and expand further the Railway network, the more the demand comes in. Then, we will certainly like to bring in more plants. There are two things I would like to mention. We have changed the design now to plan for the future also even if there is a 30 ton axle load that is required in the future; currently we are using 20 and 24. We are planning now for 30 and New sleepers are designed to house rails needed to support even 30 metric ton axle load. Secondly, we are also examining whether there is a possibility of encouraging more plants to come in and increase the competition so that the Railways can get the benefit of both.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question. No. 246. Shri Oscar Fernandes. Hon. Member is not here. For supplementary questions, there is nobody. Now, we will take up Question. No. 247. Shri Rajmani Patel.

*246. [*The Questioner was absent.*]

Certification for agro products

*246. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any mechanism for certification of agro products made by different companies in the country;

(b) if so, the detailed mechanism thereof, UT/State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether any nodal officer has been appointed for the same, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The term 'agro products' includes a wide range of products used for different purpose. Government of India has put in certification mechanism as and where required. The detailed certification procedures of agro products such as

fertilizers, organic products, plants, seeds, insecticide and primary agriculture produce are given in Annexure-I (*See below*).

(c) In view of above (a) and (b), question doesn't arise.

(d) For plant Certification: Plant Protection Advisor, Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Faridabad is the nodal officer. 198 officers of Central Government, State Government/Union Territories and ICAR institutes have been notified as Phytosanitary Certificate issuing authorities as under:—

(i) Officers of Central Government: 68

(ii) Officers from State Government/Union Territories and ICAR institutes: 130

For certification of primary agriculture produce: Though there are no nodal officers appointed, however, authorized officers of Directorate of Marketing and Inspection at 11 Regional and 27 Sub Offices, are implementing AGMARK Certification.

For BIS certification: The BIS Conformity Assessment Scheme for grant and operation of licences for the use of BIS Standard Mark (ISI Mark) is implemented through its branch offices in the country.

For insecticide certification: The Central Government and State Governments have notified 182 and 10354 Insecticide Inspectors respectively to check sale of misbranded pesticides. Insecticide samples are drawn on regular basis and analyzed in 69 State Pesticides Testing Laboratories (SPTLs) and at the two Regional Pesticides Testing Laboratories, details are given in Annexure-II (*See below*). Action is initiated under the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968 against those samples which are found misbranded.

Annexure-I

Detailed certification procedures of agro products

A. Agro-Products-issues relating to Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

1. Quality Control of fertilizers

For inclusion of any product in Fertilizer Control Order, it is required to submit an application along with report of agronomic trials of one season. The same is placed before the Central Fertiliser Committee for their recommendation on inclusion of the same under FCO, 1985. After appraisal of the competent authority to the verification of CFC, specifications of fertilizers are notified under FCO. No

person shall manufacture, sell any product as fertilizer unless it is specified under the Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985.

2. Certification Mechanism for Organic Products

There are two ways of Accreditation and Certifying organic farming, one is Participatory Guarantees System (PGS-India) which is for domestic trade and second one is Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) which is third party verification and certification of organic production processes for export under Ministry of Commerce.

Participatory Guarantee System

Participatory Guarantee System, a quality assurance initiative that is locally relevant with active participation of stakeholders including producers/farmers, traders and consumers in certification system. This group certification system is supported by Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) scheme. It in a way supports domestic demand for organic produce and trains the farmers in document management and adherence to other requirements of certification process and prepares the farmers to opt for third party certification, if he wishes to go for export.

Third Party Certification

National Programme of Organic Produce notified in 2001 under FTDR Act, is primarily for regulation and certification of organic commodities meant for export. The present system of third party accreditation and certification mechanism for exports is well recognized. For international trade, NPOP has equivalence with Europe and USA. All the importing countries in South-East Asia, Europe and USA are accepting the NPOP certified products.

Any organic food either manufactured, packed, sold, offered for sale, marketed or otherwise distributed in the country is regulated as per the provisions of Food Safety and Standards (Organic Food) Regulations, 2017 which were notified on 29.12.2017 and enforced from 01.07.2018. These regulations require Organic Food to comply with the provisions of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) or Participatory Guarantee System (PGS). However, to support small original organic producer or producer organisation, those with annual turnover not exceeding 12 lakhs per annum have been exempted from certification through NPOP and PGS.

3. Phytosanitary Certificate for Plant

Phytosanitary certificate is being issued for export consignment of plant and plant products declaring that consignment is free from quarantine pests as per the requirement

of importing countries. Phytosanitary Certificate is being issued online through Plant Quarantine Information System (PQIS) website <http://plantquarantineindia.nic.in>.

4. Certification of Insecticide

The Central Government has enacted the Insecticides Act, 1968 to regulate the import, manufacture, sale, transportation, distribution and use of insecticides. The Central Government is responsible for registration of insecticides whereas, the State Governments are responsible for enforcement of the provisions relating to manufacture, sale, transport, distribution and use of insecticides. The Central Government under Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 registers pesticides after considering the data on different parameters such as chemistry, bio-efficacy, toxicity, packaging and processing to ensure efficacy and safety to human beings, animals and environment. Furthermore, as per the Insecticides Act 1968, the monitoring of pesticides quality is a shared responsibility between the Central and State Governments.

5. Primary Agricultural Produce

AGMARK is a certification mark under AP(GM) Act, 1937 for primary agricultural produce, assuring that they conform to a grade standard notified by Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.

Directorate of Marketing and Inspection (DMI) an attached office of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Agmark Certification through its 11 Regional Offices, 27 Sub Offices, 11 Regional Agmark Laboratories (RALs) and 1 Central Agmark Laboratories. Additionally, there are 98 State Agmark grading laboratories, 68 private commercial laboratories for domestic trade and 25 private commercial laboratories for exports. Till date, grade standards for 224 agricultural commodities have been notified under the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937.

The companies which meet the compliance to the requirements of General and Specific Grading and Marking Rules under AP (GM) Act are issued Certificate of Authorization (CA) for manufacturing/packaging of agro products.

6. Certification of Seed

Seed certification has been recognized as an official method of seed quality control which provides high quality seeds and planting material of notified/kind and varieties to Indian farmers and presently 25 State Seed Certification Agencies (Annexure A) are working across the Country. Seed certification is also responsible to achieve quality seed of prescribed Indian Minimum Seed Certification Standards.

The system of labelling the seed and certification has legal sanctity under Section 6 (a) and clause 17 (a) of Seed Rules of Seeds Act, 1966, which provides that seed producers/traders have the option either to produce and sell labelled seed or certified seed respectively.

In other words, seed certification has been made voluntary and is not compulsory. The Act further provides that only a variety notified under Section 5 of seeds Act can be certified and the authority of notification of kind/variety vests with the Central Government. Any variety released and notified through official Gazette under Section 5 of the Seeds Act by Central Sub-Committee on Crop standards Notification and Release of Varieties for Agricultural crops is eligible for certification.

B. BIS Standards relating of Agro-products.

7. In addition to the above, Under the provisions of BIS Act, 2016, BIS has granted licences for use of the BIS Standard Mark (ISI Mark) to manufacturing units for various agro products such as:

- (i) IS 899:1971 Tapioca Sago Sabudana
- (ii) IS 1155:1968 Wheat Atta
- (iii) IS 1319:1983 Edible Tapioca Starch
- (iv) IS 2404:1993 Malt Extract
- (v) IS 3309:1992 Soluble Coffee Chicory Powder
- (vi) IS 4684:1975 Edible Groundnut Flour
- (vii) IS 10065:1981 Roasted Groundnut (Peanut) Kernels
- (viii) IS 14613:1998, Chana Sattu

The mechanism of BIS Certification Scheme is as per the provisions of BIS Act, 2016, BIS Rules, 2018 and BIS Conformity Assessment Regulations, 2018, which is applicable to all manufacturers across all States/UTs.

Annexure A*List of Seed Certification Agencies*

Sl. No.	Addresses	Sl. No.	Addresses
1	2	3	4
1.	Managing Director Gujarat State Seed Certification Agency Beej Pramanan Bhawan, Vibagh-5, Satellite Road, Near Shyamal Raw House, Opp. Gurukul Raw House Ahemdabad-380015 Ph: 079-26794116/26734110 Mob: 09978405999 Email: gssca_ahd@rediffmail.com	6.	Director Punjab State Seed Cert. Agency Phase-IV, Mohali-160 059. Ph:0172-2970032/2970033 Mob: 9915576955 Email: directiopssca@gmail.com
2.	Director Maharashtra State Seed Certification Agency. Neel Kanth Sekhari Soot Girmi, Amaravati Road, Akola-444005 Ph: 0724-2258712/2258713 Mob: 9822331270 Email: msscakola@dataone.in	7.	Director Uttarakhand State Seed Cert. Agency, 3rd Floor, Krishak Bhawan, Mussoorie by Pass Ring Road, Nehrugram, DEHRADUN-248006 Ph: 0135-2760734
3.	Director Karnataka State Seed Cert. Agency. KAIC Premises Opp. Baptist Hospital, Hebbel, Bangalore-560024 Ph: 080-23418302 Mob: 9448990354 Email: dscbng@gmail.com	8.	Director UP State Seed Certification Agency Horticulture Complex, Kariyappa Marg, Alam Bagh, Lucknow-226005 Ph: 0522-2451256 Mob: 9235629366 Email: upseedcert@yahoo.com
4.	Managing Director MP State Seeds Cert. Agency, B-2, Block-I, 3rd and 4th Floor, Office Complex, Gautam Nagar Bhopal-462023 Ph: 0755-2600860 Mob: 9617879099 Email: mpsscaho@gmail.com	9.	Director Haryana State Seed Cert. Agency Bay No.-11-12, Sector-14, Panchkula-134109 (Haryana) Ph: 0172-2567642 Mob: 9416272554 Email: hsscaphkl@gmail.com
5.	Director, Orissa State Seed Cert. Agency Plot No. 326 Baramunda, Government of Orissa, Bhubaneswar-751003 Ph: 0647-2561783 Mob: 9437241054 Email: directorossca@rediffmail.com	10.	Director Bihar State Seed Cert. Agency Mithapur Farm, GPO, Patna-800001 Ph: 0612-6531896 Mob: 9431818707/9102699423 Email: sca.patna@rediffmail.com

1	2	3	4
11.	Managing Director, Chhattisgarh State Seed Certification Agency, Indra Gandhi Viswa Vidyalaya, Raipur-492 012. Ph: 0771-6501752 Mob: 9424100205 Email: <i>mdcsa.cg@gmail.com</i>	17.	Director Rajasthan State Seed and organic Production Cert. Agency, G.B. Pant Krishi Bhawan Bhagwan Das Road Jaipur-5. Ph: 0141-2227108 Mob: 9414007400 Email: <i>dir_rssopca@rediffmail.com</i>
12.	Director H.P. State Seeds Cert. Agency, Boiluganj, Nalagarh House Shimla-171005 Ph: 0177-2830643 Mob: 9816132705 Email: <i>hpssopca@gmail.com</i>	18.	Divisional Seed Cert. Officer, TalabTillo, Jammu Division, Department of Agriculture, Jammu-180002
13.	The Director, Office of the Project Officer, IADP, Government Of NCT, Delhi, 11th Floor, MSO Building, IP Estate, New Delhi-110002 and Sh. A.P. Saini, Jt. Director, (Agriculture), Off. Ph. No. 23319290 Mob. No. 9654153129, Email: <i>jdagridelhi@gmail.com</i>	19.	Divisional Seed Cert. Officer, Kashmir Division, Department of Agriculture, Lal Mandi, Jawahar Nagar, Srinagart-190001. Off. Ph. No. 0194-2310675 Mob. No. 9419008391, Email: <i>diragrikmr@gmail.com</i>
14.	Director of Seed Certification, Door No 1424, Govt. College of Technology, Post Thadagam Road, Coimbatore-641013, Tamil Nadu. Ph: 0422-2432984 Email: <i>dscsbe@rediffmail.com</i>	20.	Director W.B. State Seeds Cert. Agency, 238, Netaji Subhash Chander Road, Kolkata-700040. Ph: 033-24711640 Mob: 9434079468
15.	Director Assam State Seed Certification Agency, Ram Kirshana Mission Road. Ulubari, Guwahati-781007. Ph: 0361-2478805 Mob: 9706616496 Email: <i>dirassca@yahoo.com</i>	21.	Director Jharkhand State Seed Certification Agency, Krishi Bhawan, Campus, Kanke Road, Ranchi-834008
16.	Director AP State Seed Cert. Agency, 5-10-193, HACA Bhawan opp. Public Garden, Hyderabad-500004 Ph: 040-23237016 Mob: 9848153140 Email: <i>asssca@yahoo.co.in</i>	22.	Director, Telangana State Seed Certification Agency, House No. 5-1 193, 1st Floor, HACA Complex, Opp. Public Garden, Hyderabad-500029. Ph: 040-23237016 Mob: 9849402488 Email: <i>tsscdir@gmail.com</i>

1	2	3	4
23	Additional Director of Agriculture, (Crop/Production), Deptt. of Seed Certification, Vikas Bhawan, Thiruvananthapuram-667041. Ph: 0471-2304687 Mob: 09496002980	25.	Director, Puducherry Seed Certification Agency, Puducherry Administration, Puducherry-605 001. Off. Ph. No. 0413-2229699
24.	Director of Agriculture, Incharge Seed Certification, Government of Sikkim, Gangtok-737102. Off. Ph. No. 03592-232942 Mob. No. 09832017868 Email: <i>director_agri@yahoo.co.in</i>		

Annexure-II*Details of SPTLs*

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
3.	Assam	1
4.	Bihar	1
5.	Chhattisgarh	1
6.	Gujarat	2
7.	Haryana	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	2
10.	Jharkhand	1
11.	Karnataka	6
12.	Kerala	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1
14.	Maharashtra	4
15.	Manipur	1
16.	Mizoram	1
17.	Odisha	1
18.	Puducherry	1
19.	Punjab	3

Sl.No.	State/UTs	Number of Laboratories
20.	Rajasthan	6
21.	Tamil Nadu	15
22.	Telangana	2
23.	Tripura	1
24.	Uttara Khand	2
25.	Uttar Pradesh	4
26.	West Bengal	1
TOTAL		69

Details of RPTLs

1. Kanpur
2. Chandigarh

Mechanism to control prices of patented medicines

*247. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has evolved any mechanism to control prices of exorbitantly-priced patented medicines to make them more affordable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the difference between the reference pricing model and the negotiated pricing model; and

(d) the further steps taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Government notified the Drug (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013 on 15.05.2013 to control and regulate the prices of medicines in the country. The prices of drugs are fixed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) as per provisions of DPCO, 2013. DPCO, 2013 does not distinguish between Patented and Non-Patented drugs for fixing the ceiling prices of scheduled medicines.

(c) These are not defined terminology under Drugs and Cosmetics Act or under DPCO.

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

श्री राजमणि पटेल: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि पेटेंट कराई गई औषधियों की कीमत पर नियंत्रण रखने के लिए दिनांक 15.05.2013 को औषध मूल्य नियंत्रण आदेश जारी किया गया था, उस आदेश में क्या-क्या मुद्दे हैं? क्या यह बात सही है कि उस आदेश के बावजूद भी दवाइयों की कीमतों में वृद्धि हुई है? यदि हुई है, तो क्यों हुई है?

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य जी ने जो प्रश्न रखा है, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे प्रधान मंत्री आदरणीय मोदी जी ने कहा था कि मेरे देश में किसी गरीब की दवाई न मिलने से मृत्यु की नौबत नहीं आनी चाहिए। इस बात को चरितार्थ करने के लिए हमने देश में आज तक 855 medicines का प्राइस cap किया है, जिससे affordable medicine सभी लोगों को मिल सके। कई ऐसे medical devices हैं, जैसे कि stent, implants, इनके भी प्राइस cap किए गए हैं। इनके प्राइस cap या फिक्स करने से आज तक आम जनता को ग्यारह हजार करोड़ रुपए का फायदा हुआ है। जब हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री essential medicine list declare करती है और जो essential medicine list में आते हैं, हम उनका प्राइस cap करते हैं, चाहे वह पेटेंट ड्रग्स हों या नॉन पेटेंट ड्रग्स हों, लेकिन वह essential drugs के रूप में शामिल है, तो हम उसका प्राइस cap करते हैं।

श्री राजमणि पटेल: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैंने बहुत स्पष्ट प्रश्न पूछा है कि क्या मूल्य नियंत्रण आदेश के बावजूद भी कीमतों में वृद्धि हुई है? यदि हुई है, तो क्यों? इसका जवाब नहीं आया है।

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: माननीय सभापति महोदय, कोई भी मेडिसिन है या कोई और चीज़ है, उसका प्राइस कंपनी फिक्स करती है, लेकिन डीपीसीओ 2013 के अनुसार, जो medicines, essential medicines में आती हैं, उनका प्राइस हम cap करते हैं। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि selling price कोई भी cap price से ज्यादा नहीं ले सकता है। हमने ऐसी 954 medicines के प्राइस फिक्स किए हैं। कुल मिलाकर 954 medicines और जिन दो medical devices के बारे में मैंने बताया, उनका भी प्राइस फिक्स किया गया है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he is asking is: In spite of fixing up the date and MRP is there any instance where the price has gone up? That is what he is asking.

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: सर, इसका specific reply है कि हर साल essential medicines का काउंट प्लस, माइनस होता रहता है, इस आधार पर उसका प्राइज भी प्लस, माइनस होता रहता है।

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, as per the DPCO order, 2013, it does not cover all the formulations. Only 93 formulations are covered in the 2013 order and many of the essential medicines are left out. In the National Institute of Essential Medicines, all the essential medicines are not being included. So, I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government will take steps to include more essential medicines in the National Institute of Medicines and also among the DPCO order, 2013.

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: DPCO, 2013 के अनुसार, essential medicines की definition यह है कि हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री essential medicines डिसाइड करती है। हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री जो essential medicines decide करेगी, उनका price cap करना हमारी जिम्मेवारी है और उसकी प्राइस की सीलिंग हम फिक्स करते हैं। जब हम प्राइस फिक्स करते हैं, तो हम यह ध्यान रखते हैं कि ऐसी कोई भी medicine, जो essential declare हुई है, उसका मार्केट में शेयर one percent से ज्यादा हो और तब हम ऐसी medicine का data collect करते हैं और फिर उस database के आधार पर जो average price निकलता है, वह प्राइस हम फिक्स कर देते हैं। Essential medicine declare करने की जिम्मेवारी हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री की होती है और उसे वह डिसाइड करती है।

Unmanned railway level crossings

*248. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Railways for eliminating unmanned railway level crossings across the country during the last four years;

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

(c) the number of accidents which occurred at unmanned railway level crossings during the last five years, State-wise?

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

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Railways have taken action for eliminating unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) from Broad Gauge (BG) track across the country in last four years.

As per Section 131 of Motor Vehicle Act and Section 161 of Indian Railways Act, the onus for safe movement over UMLC has been put entirely on the road users, for which very stringent provisions have been enunciated in both the Acts. However, in view of the possible loss of human life at UMLCs, Railways have taken proactive measures to eliminate them through closure/merger/grade-separator/manning.

State-wise data of accidents are not being maintained. However, there is decreasing trend of accidents at UMLCs in past years, the details of which are as under:—

2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto Dec., 18)
49	52	30	20	10	3

The progress achieved in elimination of UMLCs on BG in last few years are as under:—

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (upto Dec., 18)
No. of UMLCs eliminated	1102	1148	1253	1503	1565	3451

In next few weeks, Indian Railways will be free from UMLCs on BG.

*249. [*The questioner was absent.*]

Hacking of data

*249. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether hacking of data and illegal money transfers have grown in the last three years in the country;

(b) if so, the breach of data and money siphoned off from different banks through stolen data reported since 2014; and

(c) the initiatives taken by Government for ensuring high security system thereof?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) As per information provided by Reserve Bank of India (RBI), a total of 1191, 1372, 2059 and 921 cases of frauds involving ATM/Debit Cards, Credit Cards and Internet Banking Frauds (amount involved ₹ 1 lakh and above) were reported during the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (Upto 30 Sept., 2018) respectively. The amount involved for frauds of ₹ 1 lakh and above during the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 (Upto 30 Sept., 2018) are ₹ 40.2 crore, ₹ 42.29 crore, ₹ 109.56 crore and ₹ 40.34 crore respectively.

(c) In tune with the dynamic nature of Information Technology and emerging cyber threats, continuous efforts are required to be made by owners and users to protect networks and data by way of deploying appropriate security controls.

Government has taken several measures to enhance the cyber security of digital payment systems. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats and countermeasures on regular basis to ensure safe usage of digital technologies. Regarding securing digital payments, 28 advisories have been issued for users and institutions.
- (ii) All authorised entities/banks issuing Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) in the country have been advised by CERT-In through Reserve Bank of India to carry out special audit by empanelled auditors of CERT-In and to take steps to comply with the findings of the audit report and ensure implementation of security best practices.
- (iii) Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications / infrastructure and compliance.
- (iv) Government has empanelled 76 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (v) All organizations providing digital services have been mandated to report cyber security incidents to CERT-In expeditiously.
- (vi) Government has formulated Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/ Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.
- (vii) Cyber security mock drills and exercises are being conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organizations in Government and critical sectors. 38 such exercises have so far been conducted by CERT-In where organisations from different sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS etc participated. 3 exercises were conducted in coordination with Reserve bank of India in November 2018 for senior management and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of banks.
- (viii) 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 trainings covering 746 participants have been conducted in the year 2018 (till November).
- (ix) 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.

- (x) Government has set up 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.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the hon. Minister's reply says, "State-wise data of accidents are not being maintained. However, there is decreasing trend of accidents at UMLCs in past years, the details of which are as under."

Sir, I do not understand that if cases of accidents are not maintained properly—State-wise – how can you collect data and who has given you this data? I want to know whether data given by the hon. Minister is correct.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, as the hon. Member must be aware that the Indian Railways work through Zones. We have 17 Zones in the country. Several Zones have overlapping jurisdiction over different States. And, therefore, data is compiled Zone-wise, not State-wise.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: But, Sir, the hon. Minister has not given State-wise data of accident. My question is relating to State-wise data.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I said that we do not maintain data State-wise. We have data only Zone-wise.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, my supplementary question is: Do you have any plan to construct Rail Over Bridges at all level-crossings?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, as the hon. Member must be aware and I have been publicising it quite a lot, we have eliminated almost all unmanned level-crossings in the country which is evident from the information given about the decreasing trend of accidents. As against about 50 accidents five years ago, we are down to 3 accidents in the last nine months *i.e.*, up to December. We are eliminating them by three methods. One is, we put up a man at unmanned level crossing. In some cases, there is a travelling gateman if there is not much traffic on that line. And, another method is through Road Under Bridge (RUB) and Road Over Bridge (ROB). This depends upon the technical feasibility of each area. We see where the decision on RUB, ROB and manning is taken in consultation with the State Government depending upon the availability of land for RUB and ROB.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, my question is very specific. There is no reply from the hon. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the Member is not satisfied, he has other ways to get information.

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, I have every information that the hon. Member wants.

श्री मोतीलाल बोरा: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि बिना चौकीदार वाले समपारों की संख्या आज तक कितनी है और उन्हें पूरा करने की दिशा में कितना समय लगेगा? आपने जो जानकारी दी है, उसके अनुसार, वर्ष 2018-19 में बिना चौकीदार वाले 3,451 समपार समाप्त किए गए हैं। जो राज्यवार जानकारी मांगी गई थी, वह जानकारी न देते हुए आपने कहा है कि दिसम्बर, 2018-19 में ऐसी कुल तीन घटनाएँ हुई हैं। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ घटनाएँ होती हैं, वहाँ लोगों को रेलवे विभाग के द्वारा मुआवज़ा देने की बात पहले तय हुई थी और अगर मुआवज़ा नहीं मिलता है, तो वह गरीब आदमी कहाँ जाएगा, किसके पास जाएगा? मुआवज़ा तो उसको मिलना ही चाहिए।

श्री पीयूष गोयल: सभापति महोदय, जहाँ तक यह प्रश्न है कि unmanned level crossings कितने बाकी हैं, तो मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि आज के दिन वास्तव में पूरे देश में एक मुहिम चलाई गई है कि जहाँ पहले 1,000-1,200 unmanned level crossings manned, ROB या RUB में convert किए जाते थे, वहीं हमने वर्ष 2017-18 में 1,565 और वर्ष 2018-19 में दिसम्बर तक 3,451 unmanned level crossings convert कर लिए हैं। मुझे सदन को जानकारी देते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि पहली तारीख को लगभग 27 unmanned level crossings ऐसे रह गए थे, जो CRS approval के लिए पेंडिंग थे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not for your satisfaction.

श्री पीयूष गोयल: एक unmanned level crossing ऐसा था, जो कानूनी व्यवस्था के कारण बन्द नहीं हो पाया। ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What about compensation? ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: एक ही था unmanned level crossing जो लॉ एण्ड ऑर्डर के कारण नहीं हो सका। So, we would be able to eliminate almost all unmanned level crossing on the broad gauge in the country. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Silence, please. You are all senior Members. ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री पीयूष गोयल: जहाँ तक कम्पनसेशन का सवाल है, जहाँ पर रेलवे की जिम्मेदारी होती है, वहाँ पर कम्पनसेशन/मुआवज़ा दिया जाता है। बाकी cases में रेलवे एक कानून के अनुसार ट्रेसपास माना जाता है। अगर कोई रेल पटरी पर आता है तो वह जिम्मेदारी रेलवे की नहीं होती है कि ट्रेसपासर को मुआवज़ा दिया दे। कुछ लोग कोर्ट में जाते हैं और फिर कोर्ट का जो निर्णय होता है, उसका पालन रेलवे करती है।

महंत शम्भुप्रसादजी तुंदिया: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ। मेरा यह प्रश्न पूर्व सांसदों के लिए है कि वर्तमान में सांसदों को रेल सेवा में ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. This question is about unmanned level crossings. You are talking about something else.

महंत शम्भुप्रसादजी तुंदिया: सर, मैं सांसदों के संदर्भ में पूर्व सांसदों के संदर्भ में पूछना चाहता था ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no, it is not relevant. आप अलग से मंत्री जी से मिलकर चर्चा कीजिए।

Now, next Question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 249. Shri Ripun Bora – hon. Member not present. Okay, supplementaries.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK: With the permission of the Chair, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there is any data in public domain about the hacking of all these data or whether any study has been carried out by the Government so that the individual citizens can know what data has been hacked. Secondly, can any citizen, a common man, go to any particular system where his grievance can be redressed? You have mentioned about the national level system and the other systems, but there is no answer -- if a common man, for example, an academician, loses data by way of some hacker's action -- whether there is any way out, rather than going to police.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Hon. Chairman, Sir, as far as this Question is concerned, it is substantially about financial transactions and the hacking of the data connected therewith. The RBI, in coordination with the banks concerned, makes those data available of the transactions involving rupees one lakh and above. And, in paragraph (a) and (b), I have specifically given all the numbers for the last four years. We are also working with the RBI to ensure that even the transactions involving rupees one lakh and below should also be looked into.

But, hon. Chairman, Sir, I want to convey to this House with some degree of assurance that in comparison to the number of transactions, the number of fraud or data manipulation in 2015-16 was 0.0000337 per cent; in 2016-17, it was 0.0000240 per cent; and, in 2017-18, it was 0.0000281 per cent. Therefore, it is miniscule in comparison to the nature of transactions. But, yes, we have to be alive.

As regards the question of hon. Member, as to where an ordinary person should go, there is a robust mechanism. There is a proper provision in the IT Act. There are IT cells available in all the ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: श्री राकेश सिन्हा ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, सर।

श्री सभापति: आपने हाथ उठाया है, नाम नोट किया होगा। सबको आना है, सभी पार्टियों को आना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप कम्प्लेंट कीजिए। मुझे कीजिए कीजिए, मैं उसको सीरियसली लूंगा।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो रिटेल चोरी होती है, उसमें बहुत प्रगति हुई है, 0.0001 परसेंट या जो भी है, लेकिन जो होलसेल चोरी हो रही है, गूगल, वॉट्सऐप, फेसबुक और ट्विटर पर हमारा कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है। सभी भारतीयों के जीवन के जुड़े हुए सभी पक्षों का आज पश्चिम में बैठी हुई कम्पनियाँ डेटा इकट्ठा कर चुकी हैं, यह नवसाम्राज्यवाद की एक पहल है। यदि भारत सरकार इस पर अविलम्ब पहल नहीं करती है तो यह हमारे लिए बहुत ही घातक सिद्ध होगा। जैसे ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी आयी थी, हम नहीं समझ पाए। आज गूगल भी ईस्ट इंडिया कम्पनी की तरह ...**(व्यवधान)**....

श्री सभापति: क्वेश्चन प्लीज़।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार ने इस पर क्या पहल की है, इस पर किस तरह की बैठकें हो रही हैं और किस तरह से हमारे एक्सपर्ट्स का यूज हो रहा है?

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं सम्मानित सदस्यों के गंभीर प्रश्न के उत्तर में बताना चाहूंगा कि आज का भारत किसी भी नव साम्राज्यवाद के आगे नहीं झुकेगा। मैं यह स्पष्ट कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं आपको बताता हूँ कि जैसे ही फेसबुक के बारे में शिकायत आई थी, मैंने तुरंत उसके बारे में सख्त कार्रवाई की थी और उन्होंने माफी मांगी और डेटा भी उपलब्ध करवाया। यह जो Cambridge Analytica है, मैंने उसके खिलाफ सीबीआई की enquiry की, जब उन्होंने गड़बड़ की और मैं इस सदन को आश्वस्त करना चाहता हूँ कि कंपनी कितनी भी बड़ी हो, हिन्दुस्तानियों के डेटा को manipulate करने की कोशिश की जाएगी, तो उस पर कार्रवाई होगी और सख्त से सख्त कार्रवाई होगी। अभी Whatsapp के खिलाफ जब lynching का विषय आया था, हमने सख्ती की तो उन्होंने कहा 5 से ज्यादा recirculate नहीं होगा।

दूसरा, उनका सवाल है और बहुत सही सवाल है। हम लोगों ने data protection law को finalise किया है। हम जल्द ही उसको सदन में लाएंगे और उसमें आपकी जो आशंकाएं हैं, उसका निराकरण होगा, लेकिन सभापति जी, एक बात मैं सदन को बहुत विनम्रता से कहना चाहूंगा कि भारत की आईटी ताकत, भारत की डिजिटल ताकत आज दुनिया में बड़ी मिसाल बनी है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please.

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: इसलिए उसको देखने और समझने की जरूरत है और जल्दी ही हम intermediary guidelines को भी finalise कर रहे हैं, जिसमें इस तरह के अगर उल्लंघन होंगे, तो उनके खिलाफ सख्त कार्रवाई होगी।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Husain Dalwai.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि मेरा मेल hack ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़। यह क्या हो रहा है? आपको बैठकर बोलना है और बार-बार बोलना है? हर एक क्वेश्चन के बारे में व्याख्या करते जाना, इस तरह से हम कैसे आगे बढ़ पाएंगे? प्लीज़।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: मैंने पुलिस से complaint की और मुझे मालूम पड़ा और पुलिस ने ही मुझे बताया कि जो नाइजीरियन लोग थे, उनमें से तीन लोग पकड़े भी गए हैं, लेकिन उसके पीछे मुझे बहुत लगना पड़ा। मुझे एक एनजीओ ने यह कहा कि आप एमपी हैं, इसलिए ये लोग पकड़े गए, otherwise इसमें ज्यादा कुछ नहीं होता है।

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल पूछिए।

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, पुलिस ने मुझे यह बताया कि जितने well equipped नाइजीरियन लोग hack करने वाले हैं, उतनी हमारी पुलिस यंत्रणा सजग नहीं है। आप मुझे बताइए कि सरकार पुलिस को इसके बारे में educate करने के लिए क्या करेगी?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, बार-बार सिक्योरिटी ड्रिल रखते हैं, ताकि ये चीफ सिक्योरिटी आफिसर्स हर एजेंसी में आएँ। उनके लिए हम ट्रेनिंग प्रोग्राम रखते हैं। हम लोगों ने Botnet स्वच्छता केंद्र बनाए हैं और बाकी की भी सारी कार्रवाई करते हैं। अब स्पेशल आपके केस का जो मामला है, यदि आप मुझे बताएंगे, तो मैं तथ्यों के बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त करूंगा, लेकिन एक बात मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि मैं इसकी मॉनिटरिंग करता हूँ। देश भर में आज पुलिस का साइबर सेल अपनी अनिश्चितताओं के बावजूद बहुत सक्रिय हो गया है और ट्रेनिंग बढ़ रही है, इसमें और काम करने की जरूरत है, मैं कोशिश करता हूँ कि judges की भी ट्रेनिंग हो कि उनके पास ऐसे केसेज़ आएँ, तो वे उनको किस प्रकार से डिसपोज़ ऑफ करें।

धान की खरीद

*250. **श्रीमती छाया वर्मा:** क्या उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस वर्ष धान की फसल आने के बाद सरकारी संस्थाओं द्वारा किसानों से न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य पर राज्य-वार कितना-कितना धान खरीदा गया है;

(ख) क्या यह पता लगाने के लिए कोई अध्ययन कराया गया है कि किसान गैर-सरकारी ठेकेदारों को किस-किस दर पर धान बेच रहे हैं;

(ग) किसान किन-किन कारणों से धान की फसल गैर-सरकारी ठेकेदारों को बेचने के लिए बाध्य होते हैं; और

(घ) विगत तीन वर्षों में आज की तारीख तक, किसानों से राज्य-वार कितना-कितना धान खरीदा गया है?

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) से (घ) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) से (घ) केंद्रीय सरकार, भारतीय खाद्य निगम तथा राज्य सरकार/सरकारी एजेंसियों के माध्यम से देश में धान और गेहूं के लिए मूल्य समर्थन प्रदान करती है। इस नीति के अंतर्गत किसानों द्वारा निर्धारित अवधि के भीतर लाया गया गेहूं और धान, जो भारत सरकार द्वारा पहले से निर्धारित विनिर्दिष्टियों (अच्छीह औसत गुणवत्ता मानदंड) के अनुरूप होता है, राज्यी सरकार की एजेंसियों और भारतीय खाद्य निगम द्वारा केन्द्रीय पूल के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य पर खरीद लिया जाता है। तथापि, किसान अपनी उपज को खुले बाजार में बेचने के लिए स्वतंत्र है, यदि उन्हें मूल्य और परिस्थितियां अनुकूल लगती हैं। विगत तीन वर्षों तथा वर्तमान वर्ष के दौरान सरकारी एजेंसियों द्वारा केन्द्रीय पूल के लिए न्यूनतम समर्थन मूल्य पर किसानों से खरीदे गए धान की मात्रा का राज्य-वार ब्यौरा अनुबंध में दिया गया है (नीचे देखिए)।

खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण विभाग ने किसानों द्वारा निजी कांट्रेक्टरों को की जा रही धान की बिक्री की दर का पता लगाने के लिए कोई अध्यायन नहीं किया है। तथापि, ऐसे अनेक कारण हो सकते हैं, जिनकी वजह से किसान अपने धान की बिक्री निजी कांट्रेक्टरों को करते हैं। जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ बाजार में बेहतर मूल्य की उपलब्धता, स्टॉक के निपटान की तात्कालिक आवश्यकता, भंडारण स्थान का अभाव आदि शामिल हैं।

अनुबंध**धान की राज्य-वार खरीद दर्शाने वाला विवरण**

(आंकड़े लाख टन में)

राज्य	खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2015-16	खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2016-17	खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2017-18	खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2018-19*
1	2	3	4	5
आंध्र प्रदेश	64.72	55.58	59.70	18.47
तेलंगाना	23.57	53.67	54.00	35.19
असम	0.63	0.69	0.53	0.03
बिहार	18.28	18.42	11.84	0.03
चंडीगढ़	0.24	0.19	0.21	0.19
छत्तीसगढ़	51.37	60.03	47.87	40.43
दिल्ली	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
गुजरात	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.13
हरियाणा	42.70	53.48	59.58	58.35
हिमाचल प्रदेश	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
झारखंड	3.03	2.07	2.14	0.11
जम्मू और कश्मीर	0.10	0.12	0.19	0.14
कर्णाटक	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
केरल	5.62	4.53	4.84	0.85
मध्य प्रदेश	12.67	19.61	16.35	5.73
महाराष्ट्र	3.43	4.61	2.67	2.27
नागालैंड	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ओडिशा	50.29	54.18	49.06	13.26
पुडुचेरी	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
पंजाब	139.56	164.96	176.61	169.11
राजस्थान	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
त्रिपुरा	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
तमिलनाडु	17.78	2.11	14.87	2.12
उत्तर प्रदेश	43.44	35.14	42.90	23.41
उत्तराखंड	8.93	10.54	0.57	5.98
पश्चिम बंगाल	23.06	28.28	24.60	0.44
कुल	510.24	568.22	568.54	376.26

*खरीफ विपणन मौसम 2018-19 से संबंधित आंकड़े दिनांक 01.01.2019 की स्थिति के अनुसार

Procurement of paddy

†*250. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of paddy procured by Government agencies on Minimum Support Price (MSP) from farmers after harvesting of paddy crop this year, State-wise;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to find out the rate at which the farmers are selling paddy to the private contractors;

(c) the reasons due to which the farmers are forced to sell their paddy crop to the private contractors; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the quantum of paddy procured from the farmers in the last three years till date, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAMVILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Central Government extends price support to paddy and wheat through the Food Corporation of India (FCI) and State Government/Government Agencies across the country. Under this policy, wheat and paddy offered by farmers, within the stipulated period and conforming to the specifications (Fair Average Quality norms) prescribed in advance by Government of India, are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool. However, farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market if they find the price and conditions favourable. State-wise details of the quantum of paddy procured from the farmers by the Government Agencies for Central Pool at Minimum Support Price (MSP) during last three years and current year is given in Annexure (*See below*).

The Department of Food and Public Distribution has not conducted any study to find out the rate at which the farmers are selling paddy to the private contractors. However, there can be various reasons due to which farmers may sell their paddy to the private contractors, which *inter alia* include, availability of better market price, immediate need for disposal of stock, lack of storage space etc.

Annexure

Statement showing State-wise paddy procurement

(Fig. in LMT)

States	KMS			
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19*
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	64.72	55.58	59.70	18.47
Telangana	23.57	53.67	54.00	35.19
Assam	0.63	0.69	0.53	0.03
Bihar	18.28	18.42	11.84	0.03
Chandigarh	0.24	0.19	0.21	0.19

1	2	3	4	5
Chhattisgarh	51.37	60.03	47.87	40.43
Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.13
Haryana	42.70	53.48	59.58	58.35
Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	3.03	2.07	2.14	0.11
Jammu and Kashmir	0.10	0.12	0.19	0.14
Karnataka	0.81	0.00	0.00	0.00
Kerala	5.62	4.53	4.84	0.85
Madhya Pradesh	12.67	19.61	16.35	5.73
Maharashtra	3.43	4.61	2.67	2.27
Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Odisha	50.29	54.18	49.06	13.26
Puducherry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Punjab	139.56	164.96	176.61	169.11
Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Tamil Nadu	17.78	2.11	14.87	2.12
Uttar Pradesh	43.44	35.14	42.90	23.41
Uttarakhand	8.93	10.54	0.57	5.98
West Bengal	23.06	28.28	24.60	0.44
TOTAL	510.24	568.22	568.54	376.26

* KMS 2018-19 figures as on 01.01.2019.

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूँ कि धान खरीदी का पंजीयन 31 अक्तूबर को समाप्त हो जाता है। विभिन्न राज्यों में अलग-अलग तारीख होती है। धान बेचने की तारीख तीन महीने बाद दिसंबर में होती है। इन तीन महीनों के बीच मैं किसी किसान की मृत्यु हो जाती है, तो क्या उस किसान का परिवार धान को सोसायटी में नहीं बेच पाता है? उसे उस धान को कोचिया को बेचना पड़ता है या दूसरी जगह बेचना पड़ता है, तो किसान के उस नुकसान की भरपाई और उसको राहत देने के लिए सरकार क्या कदम उठाएगी?

उपभोक्ता मामले, खाद्य और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी.आर. चौधरी): माननीय अध्यक्ष महोदय, माननीय सदस्य जी ने जानना चाहा कि धान की जो फसल है, वह 31 अक्तूबर या तीन महीने का जो भी समय है, मैं उसके बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा जो

खरीफ मार्केटिंग सीजन है, वह October से next September तक चलता है, क्योंकि कुछ स्टेट्स ऐसे हैं, जहां पर धान की दो फसल भी होती है, तो right from अक्तूबर से सितंबर तक धान की फसल होती है और एफसीआईएन जहां तक क्योंकि जब यह क्वेश्चन ही है और किसान का अनाज एफसीआई के माध्यम से और स्टेट एजेंसी के मार्फत प्रोक्योर किया जाता है, अनाज जो धान वगैरह है और जहां तक छत्तीसगढ़ का है, अभी तक 40 लाख टन के करीब धान प्रोक्योर हो चुका है और अभी तक जारी है।

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा: सर, मेरा दूसरा प्रश्न यह है कि गरीब आदमी रेग लेकर दूसरे आदमी की खेती करता है, किसानी करता है, लेकिन जो बोनस का पैसा होता है, वह खेती करने वाले को नहीं मिलता है। वह बोनस का पैसा जिसकी जमीन होती है, उसके खाते में चला जाता है। मैं पूछना चाहती हूं कि सरकार इसके लिए क्या कदम उठाएगी?

श्री सी. आर. चौधरी: महोदय, हमारा जो सिस्टम है, procurement खातेदार से किया जाता है। जो स्वयं खातेदार है, उसके मार्फत ही procurement होता है। जहां तक sub-tenant का सवाल है, उसका कोई प्रावधान नहीं है लेकिन tenant अपनी जमाबंदी के साथ, कि मेरा इतना अनाज पैदा हुआ है और इसमें से मैं इतना दे रहा हूं, तो उसी को दिया जा रहा है। Sub-tenant के नाम से कोई प्रोविजन नहीं है, लेकिन अगर दो काश्त के, tenant-2 and tenant-3 tenants हैं, एक ही खाते में चार नाम हैं तो चारों में से proportionately लिया जाता है। दूसरा जो आप बता रही हैं, उस प्रकार का प्रावधान है ही नहीं।

श्री सभापति: रामविलास जी, यह विषय थोड़ा नाजुक है, लेकिन practical है। आगे इसके बारे में आप लोग आपस में स्टडी कीजिए। Sub-tenant गांव में क्या होता है, आपको भी मालूम है।

श्री रामविलास पासवान: सर, हम लोग इस बारे में सोच रहे हैं और इस संबंध में हम लोग आपसे भी मिलेंगे।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, धन्यवाद। प्रश्न संख्या 251

Remedial measures to extend help to loss making farmers

*251. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that high yield of vegetables, such as onions, tomatoes, brinjals, etc., caused loss to farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to extend help to loss-making farmers; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal to train farmers to make value-added products from the yield, such as onions, tomatoes, brinjals, etc.?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) No Sir, high yield of vegetables such as onion, tomato and brinjal has not caused loss to farmers in the country. The demand for fresh vegetables in the country is increasing due to population growth and change in dietary habits. In order to meet the demand, production and productivity of vegetables has increased due to interventions of Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) and other schemes of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare. However, in the absence of efficient supply chain infrastructure, the perishability of produce sometimes causes losses to farmers. In order to minimize such losses, Government of India is implementing various schemes for creation of post-harvest infrastructure.

Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture for development of horticulture including creation of infrastructure for post-harvest management such as cold storages, processing units, pack houses, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere storage, reefer vans, integrated cold chain and low cost onion storage etc.

Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) for creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain from farm gate to retail outlets so, that farmers can get better prices for agricultural and horticultural commodities. Ministry of Food Processing Industries has also launched a new Scheme “Operation Greens” for tomato, onion and potato crops to promote agri-logistics and processing facilities through Farmer Producers Organization (FPOs) with professional management.

To protect the growers of perishable horticulture 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, Government is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). In addition to this, Government is working on creation of an institutional mechanism, with participation of all concerned Ministries, to develop appropriate policies and practices for price and demand forecast. This will help horticulture farmers to take informed decisions.

(c) Various institutes of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) like IIHR Bengaluru, Directorate of Onion and Garlic Research (DOGR), Pune are providing hand-on practical training to farmers for making value added products of tomato and onion. Further, Government is providing training through Mission for

Integrated Development of Horticulture and scheme of “Support to State Extension Programs for Extension Reforms” popularly known as ATMA for latest agricultural technologies and good agricultural practices in different thematic areas including value added products of crops of agriculture and allied sectors to farmers to increase farm income.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Sir, during the season time, throughout India, there is excess production of tomato, brinjal and other vegetables. Excess production is there. Sometimes we also see in the TV, in our State also, that people are throwing tomatoes in the streets. Will the Government take any steps to market that during the season?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, यह निश्चित है कि आपूर्ति श्रृंखला की बुनियादी सुविधाओं की कमी के कारण कभी-कभी किसानों को इसका नुकसान उठाना पड़ता है, इसीलिए राज्यों के माध्यम से जो बागवानी विकास मिशन है, उसके माध्यम से शीत भंडारण गृह, प्रोसेसिंग इकाई, pack house, pre-cooling इकाई आदि तथा किसानों के लिए उसमें सब्सिडी की गुंजाइश है। यह मिशन पूरे देश में प्रारम्भ हुआ है। पहले अधिकतर हम कोल्ड स्टोरेज बनाते थे, अब कोल्ड चेन बन रहा है, लेकिन मुख्य रूप से जो हमारी फूड प्रोसेसिंग मिनिस्ट्री है, उसने प्रधान मंत्री किसान सम्पदा योजना देश में प्रारम्भ की, जिसके तहत 6,000 करोड़ रुपए का आवंटन हुआ है और जो इस प्रकार के फल और सब्जियां हैं, उनकी प्रोसेसिंग के लिए, उनकी सुरक्षा के लिए, उनके स्टोरेज के लिए बड़े पैमाने पर देश भर में काम प्रारम्भ हुआ है। अभी पिछले बजट में आलू, प्याज और टमाटर के लिए एक नयी योजना चली है, जिसके तहत राज्यों के अंदर बड़े पैमाने पर — क्योंकि टमाटर, आलू और प्याज, इन तीनों की समस्या ज्यादा होती है, तो मंत्रालय का फूड प्रोसेसिंग डिपार्टमेंट है और इस दृष्टि से इस योजना का लाभ भी अब बड़े पैमाने पर राज्यों को मिलना प्रारम्भ हो जाएगा।

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: During the peak production time, the Government of India take these vegetables from one State to another State. They are transporting like that. Will any arrangement be made in the future?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: महोदय, मैंने पहले भी एक सवाल के उत्तर में बताया था कि जब उत्पादन ज्यादा होता है तो बाज़ार में हस्तक्षेप करने की एक योजना है। इसके तहत 2015-16 में आप देखेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश, आंध्र प्रदेश, मिज़ोरम, कर्णाटक, तेलंगाना — इन राज्यों ने बाज़ार में हस्तक्षेप किया और potato, oil palm, grapes, onion और areca nut की खरीदारी की। उसके बाद 2016-17 में भी कई राज्यों, तमिलनाडु, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, उत्तर प्रदेश, तेलंगाना आदि ने इस योजना का लाभ उठाया। इस प्रकार इस तरह की योजनाओं का लाभ राज्य सरकारें उठाती हैं, लेकिन राज्य सरकारें प्रस्ताव भेजती हैं।

श्री सभापति: उन्होंने ट्रांसपोर्टेशन के बारे में कहा।

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: दूसरा, राज्य सरकारें स्थान-स्थान पर ट्रांसपोर्टेशन सब्सिडी भी देती

हैं, जैसे पिछले वर्ष उत्तर प्रदेश में जब आलू का बहुत ज्यादा उत्पादन हुआ तो एक तो मंडी हस्तक्षेप योजना लायी गयी और दूसरा ट्रांसपोर्ट सब्सिडी दी। इसी प्रकार आंध्र प्रदेश, तेलंगाना और दक्षिण भारत के ट्रांसपोर्टर्स को सब्सिडी देने का काम कई राज्य सरकारें करती हैं, बंगाल ने भी किया था, उत्तर प्रदेश ने भी किया था और अधिकतर राज्य ट्रांसपोर्ट सब्सिडी देते हैं।

SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Sir, I would like the hon. Minister to clarify one or two issues. The main issue is the cost of production, and this cost of production will stop the loss to farmers as we have done in West Bengal where farmers' income has been tripled. The question that I would like to ask from the Minister is this: Is there any move of the Government to reduce the cost of production of farmers by reducing GST on pesticides and fertilizers?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a question connected with the Finance Minister. Secondly, the Question is specific about onions, tomatoes and brinjals.

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: किसी भी agriculture के उत्पाद पर कोई GST नहीं है, लेकिन value addition के बाद GST का प्रावधान है और जब भी मेरे पास agriculture-related किसी सैक्टर से इस प्रकार के सुझाव आते हैं, तो मैं उनको वित्त मंत्रालय को भेजता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: श्री संजय सिंह।

श्री संजय सिंह: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जब आपकी बाजार हस्तक्षेप नीति है, तो किसानों को अपना प्याज 50 पैसे किलो क्यों बेचना पड़ता है और उन्हें आलू सड़कों पर क्यों फेंकने के लिए मजबूर होना पड़ता है? हर वर्ष जो उत्पादन होता है, क्या उसके लिए आप पहले से आकलन करके कोई नीति बनाते हैं? अगर बनाते हैं, तो हर वर्ष ऐसी परिस्थिति क्यों पैदा होती है?

श्री राधा मोहन सिंह: सभापति महोदय, हमारे पास नीति है और हमारे पास technology है कि किस इलाके में, किस चीज का उत्पादन ज्यादा होता है। कहां किस चीज की डिमांड है, कितना उत्पादन किस एरिया में होता है, इसकी जानकारी हमें मिलती है। ऐसा मोदी सरकार के आने के बाद से हुआ है और हमने एक 'चमन' योजना की शुरुआत की है। उसकी reports को हम राज्यों के साथ शेयर कर रहे हैं। यदि यह काम पहले से होता, तो आज यह सवाल खड़ा नहीं होता।

बाजार में हस्तक्षेप के संबंध में, मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें जो लागत मूल्य होता है, इसके हर राज्य में records भी होते हैं। यदि लागत मूल्य से दाम नीचे आता है, तो उसके अंतर का आधा हिस्सा भारत सरकार देती है। इसके संबंध में राज्य सरकार प्रस्ताव भेजती है। इसके बारे में मैंने बताया है और कई राज्यों का नाम भी लिया है। जब भी किसी राज्य से प्रस्ताव आता है, तो हम उसकी 24 घंटे के अंदर मंजूरी देते हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Q. No. 252, questioner not present. The Minister may lay the answer on the Table.

*252. [*The questioner was absent.*]

**Instructions to take safety measures on spotting
crowd near railway tracks**

*252. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have come out with a set of fresh instructions for train drivers, gatemen, patrolling staff, guards, etc., to take appropriate safety measures on spotting a crowd or events related to festivals near railway tracks;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are general as well as subsidiary rules that have fixed the responsibilities of every railway staff, including loco pilots, guards, switchmen, patrolling man, gangman, etc., and these rules are in place since 1890; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) The railway area adjacent to track is duly demarcated and no gathering of people is allowed within this area near the railway track for conducting festivals and celebrations. The right to move on railway track is that of trains. However, instructions have been issued to Chief Secretaries of all States and Union Territories to take necessary precautions in co-ordination with Railway Administration and give prior information before holding of big events like Mela, Rally and gathering etc.

(c) and (d) Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Rules, 1976 have been framed under Clause (g) of sub-section (2) of section 60 read with section 198 of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989). The provision contained in Indian Railways (Open Line) General Rules, 1976 primarily lay down duties of Railways staff connected with train operations. The responsibility of ensuring proper crowd control and law and order near railway tracks lies with local district administration and State police. Generally, in such cases, intimation from local police/administration is expected to be given to Railways based on which caution/speed restrictions are imposed and Loco Pilots are issued Caution Order.

More trains with new generation coaches in NER

*253. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that North East Frontier Railway (NFR) is in the process of providing more trains with new generation coaches;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with names of the trains which would be provided with these coaches and the cost thereof; and

(c) the extent to which these coaches would provide safety and comfort to the passengers?

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

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The passenger coaches plying over Indian Railways have been designed with the necessary safety features considering the operating conditions over Indian Railways. However, with a view to providing safer and more comfortable journey to passengers, Indian Railways have decided to proliferate new generation coaches, namely, Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches, which are technologically superior, safer and have better riding and aesthetics as compared to conventional Integral Coach Factory (ICF) coaches. LHB coaches have higher carrying capacity, higher speed potential, and increased codal life as compared to ICF coaches. LHB coaches also have better safety features than ICF coaches because of a superior design that reduces the chances of derailment and reduces the possibility of grievous injury or death in case of accidents. The Production Units of Indian Railways, from the year 2018-19 onwards, are producing only LHB coaches. Replacement of trains operating with conventional coaches into Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches is being done in a phased manner. Presently, eighteen pairs of trains, owned by Northeast Frontier Railway, are being operated with modern LHB coaches. The details are as under:—

1. 12041/42 Howrah-New Jalpaiguri Shatabdi Express
2. 12085/86 Dibrugarh-Guwahati Shatabdi Express
3. 12087/88 Guwahati-Naharlagun Shatabdi Express
4. 12503/04 Agartala-Bangaluru Cantt. Humsafar Express
5. 12519/20 Kamakhya-Mumbai (Lokmanya Tilak Terminus) AC Express
6. 12523/24 New Jalpaiguri-New Delhi Express

7. 12551/52 Kamakhya-Yesvantpur AC Express
8. 15619/20 Kamakhya-Gaya Express
9. 15621/22 Kamakhya-Anand Vihar (T) Express
10. 15623/24 Kamakhya-Bhagat Ki Kothi Express
11. 15655/56 Kamakhya-Katra Express
12. 15667/68 Kamakhya-Gandhidham Express
13. 15705/06 Katihar-Delhi Humsafar Express
14. 20501/02 Agartala-Anand Vihar (T) Rajdhani Express
15. 20503/04 New Delhi-Dibrugarh Town Rajdhani Express *via* Muzaffarpur Jn.
16. 20505/06 New Delhi-Dibrugarh Town Rajdhani Express
17. 22501/02 New Tinsukia-Bengaluru Express
18. 22511/12 Kamakhya-Lokmanya Tilak Karmabhoomi Express

The average unit cost of various types of LHB coaches is as under:—

Sl. No.	Coach type	Coach Code	Unit cost in ₹ Lakh			
			ICF*	RCF#	MCF @	Average cost
1.	AC-III Tier	LWACCN	231.22	256.90	236.44	241.52
2.	AC-II Tier	LWACCW	211.1	249.94	244.19	235.08
3.	Sleeper	LWSCN	174.32	179.04	179.74	177.70
4.	First AC	LWFAC	-	251.65	-	251.65
5.	General Class	LS DD/LS	173.62	182.57	177.19	177.79
6.	Chair Car	LWSCZAC	-	247.59	-	247.59
7.	Executive Chair Car	LWFCZAC	-	246.20	-	246.20
8.	Pantry Car	LWCBAC	-	241.24	-	241.24
9.	Power Car	LWLRRM	321.28	322.93	-	322.11

* Integral Coach Factory, Chennai.

Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala.

@ Modern Coach Factory, Raebareli.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, the reply is very exhaustive. I think my question has been properly addressed. The names of trains are given. There are recent announcements for some more trains. However, my question is this: Will those decisions be implemented? If yes, by when?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Sir, it is not related to the Question. But whatever announcements have been made about trains, they will certainly be implemented. About the exact dates, I will write to the hon. Member and inform him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 254.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Sir, I have not asked my second supplementary.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You said that you were satisfied. So, I cannot go beyond satisfaction.

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: But, Sir, my second supplementary is regarding the coaches. Will new generation coaches be introduced in these trains? The reply given by the hon. Minister is that some new generation coaches have been attached to some of these trains and details have been given. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: My question is this. There is an apprehension and complaint that the new generation coaches are tried first in the trunk-lines and then, after that, it is sent to the other areas like North East Frontier Railway. ...*(Interruptions)*... Are second-hand coaches sent there, or, are the new generation coaches first introduced there?

SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I can assure the hon. Member, through you, that that would never be the case as far as any zone is concerned. operationally project. However sometimes for operational reason, if there is some urgent requirement and the production has not come in, we may have had to send some coaches which are However, I am happy to share with the hon. Member through you, Sir, that I had a review meeting of the North East Frontier Railway only about a week ago when I visited Guwahati in Assam and I had taken the view that all long distance trains which come from such far-off distances and travel twenty-thirty, hours and in one case, I have been told that it travels for more than 80 hours up to Kanyakumari. We shall be replacing all of these trains with LHB coaches so as to ensure that people get very good journey throughout the North-East.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 254 - Member not present. Question No. 255. Question Hour is over. The Questions are all exhausted, but, unfortunately, so far, six Members who have raised these questions, are absent from the House. This is not a welcome thing. Members should take care to see that if they raised a question, they are present in the House. Now, the House is adjourned to meet at 2.30 p.m.

*254. [*The questioner was absent.*]

Pathetic condition of landless agricultural labourers

*254. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minimum Wages Act is not being effectively implemented for agricultural labourers;

(b) whether landless agricultural labourers have also been provided with land during the last four years, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that landless agricultural labourers continued to languish in a state of weakness and vulnerability, if so, the steps taken by the Central Government to uplift the landless labourers and bring them to the mainstream, economically?

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

Statement

(a) According to information received from the Ministry of Labor and Employment, under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, both Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments to fix, review and revise the minimum wages of the workers employed in the scheduled employment under their respective jurisdictions. Rates fixed in the Central sphere are applicable to establishments under the authority of Central Government, railway administration, mines, oil-fields, major port or any corporation established by a Central Government. Employment other than the scheduled employment for central Sphere come under the purview of State Government and accordingly State Government wages are applicable in such employments.

Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the enforcement is secured at two levels. While in the Central Sphere the enforcement is secured through the Inspecting officers of the Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) commonly designated as Central Industrial Relations Machinery (CIRM), the compliance in the State Sphere is ensured through the State Enforcement Machinery. The designated inspecting officers' conduct regular inspections and in the event of detection of any case of non-payment or underpayment of minimum wages, they direct the employers to make payment of the shortfall of wages. In case of non-compliance, penal provisions prescribed under Section 22 of the said Act are taken recourse to.

Under the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, the wages fixed by the appropriate government are equally payable to both male and female workers and the Act does not discriminate on the basis of gender.

(b) The subject relating to Land and its management falls within the jurisdiction of States as per Entry 18 of List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution. The role of the Central Government in the field of land reforms is only of an advisory nature.

However, to address the issues in the area of land leasing, NITI Aayog has developed The Model Land Lease Act, 2016 for adoption by States and circulated to all the States. The Model Act offers an appropriate template for the states and UTs to draft their own piece of legislations, in consonance with the local requirements and adopt an enabling Act. Key elements of the Model Land Leasing Act are to Legalize land leasing to promote agricultural efficiency, equity and poverty reduction; Facilitate all tenants including share croppers to access insurance bank credit and bank credit against pledging of expected output; and Legalize land leasing in all areas to ensure complete security of land ownership right for land owners and security of tenure for tenants for the agreed lease period.

(c) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake development of perspective plans and ensures effective implementation of the programmes/ schemes. Also Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/Programmes. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures for welfare of farmers including agricultural labourers.

The Government has set a 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 and recommend a strategy to achieve doubling of farmers' income in real terms by the year 2022.

The committee has identified seven sources of income growth *viz*, improvement in crop and livestock productivity; resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; increase in the cropping intensity; diversification towards high value crops; improvement in real prices received by farmers; and shift from farm to non-farm occupations. The committee is also looking into the investments in and for agriculture e.g. increasing public investments for agriculture-rural roads, rural electricity, irrigation; the need for policy support to enable investments by corporate sector in agriculture.

The Government has been reorienting the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness which goes beyond achieving merely the targeted production. The income approach focuses on achieving high productivity, reduced cost of cultivation and remunerative price on the produce, with a view to earn higher profits from farming.

The Government is aiming to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department is, therefore, implementing various schemes to meet this objective, viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM) and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Interest subvention schemes and Kisan Credit Card Schemes. The Government is also implementing several centrally sponsored Schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for enhancing production and productivity and development of the sector as a whole. In addition, allied activities for welfare of farmers and other rural households are as follows:—

- “Har Medh Par Ped” to encourage tree plantation on farm land, along with crops/cropping system.
- “National Bamboo Mission” for value chain based holistic development of this section as a supplement to farm income.
- Bee keeping to increase the productivities of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.
- “Rashtriya Gokul Mission” to enhance milk production and productivities of bovines and to make milk production more remunerative to the farmers.
- “National Livestock Mission” to increase productivity and genetic improvement of livestock.
- Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi-dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

Joint Liability Group is an informal group comprising 4 to 10 individuals coming together for the purpose of availing bank loan on individual basis or through group mechanism against mutual guarantee. The JLG mode of financing serves as collateral

substitute for loans to be provided to the target group *i.e.* small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral lessees, share croppers, etc. It builds mutual trust and confidence between the bank and the target group and minimizes the risks in the loan portfolio for the banks through group dynamics, cluster approach, peer education and credit discipline. The objective of the JLG mode of financing is to provide food security to vulnerable section by enhanced agriculture production, productivity and livelihood promotion.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005 is an Indian labour law and social security measure that aims to guarantee the 'right to work'. It aims to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. The Schedule 1 of the MGNREGA, envisages at least 60% of the works to be taken up in a district in terms of cost, for creation of productive assets directly linked to agriculture and allied activities through development of land, water and trees.

Suicide by farmers in Andhra Pradesh

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

(a) whether it is a fact that as per a recently released report by NABARD, farmers are in deep distress in Andhra Pradesh due to loans, not getting MSP, etc., which resulted in their committing suicides;

(b) if so, the findings of report thereof; and

(c) the Ministry's view on the pathetic condition of farmers in Andhra Pradesh and how it is going to extend a helping hand to them?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) has reported that there is no information to furnish in this regard.

(c) Agriculture is a State subject and State Governments are primarily responsible for development of the agriculture sector. However, Government of India, supplements the efforts of the States through appropriate policy measures and budgetary support.

The Government of India is targeting to double the income of the farmers by the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and

Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government aims to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department is, therefore, implementing various schemes to meet this objective, viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM) and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Interest subvention schemes and Kisan Credit Card Schemes. The Government is also implementing several centrally sponsored Schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for enhancing production and productivity and development of the sector as a whole.

All these steps are implemented to reduce agrarian distress and increase the farmers' income including Andhra Pradesh.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Procurement of crops under MSP

2561. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any study or has any statistics about the quantity of his produce a farmer is selling on MSP and how much through middlemen and through distress sale;

(b) the manner in which Government is planning to avoid middlemen and implement schemes/programmes to buy produce from farmers directly;

(c) whether it is a fact that NITI Aayog has recommended to procure farm produce directly from farmers;

(d) if so, the action Government has taken on the above recommendation; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Agriculture Marketing is a State subject and concerned States/Union Territories regulate and

facilitate marketing of agriculture produce under their respective State regulations. No specific study has been conducted by Government providing statistics about the quantity of his produce a farmer is selling on MSP and how much through middlemen and through distress sale. However, National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) conducts 'Situation Assessment of Agricultural Households' from time to time to provide a comprehensive assessment of situation of agricultural households in rural parts of the country. The last such Survey was conducted by NSSO during January, 2013 to December, 2013 to collect information on consumer expenditure, income and productive assets, indebtedness, farming practices and preferences, resource availability, awareness of technological developments and access to modern technology in the field of agriculture, information on crop loss, crop insurance and awareness about Minimum Support Price (MSP).

(b) In order to provide better marketing facilities to the farmers, the Government has released a new model "The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017" in April, 2017 for its adoption by States/ Union Territories (UTs). The provisions therein provides for alternative marketing channels to facilitate farmers in marketing their produce directly at competitive and remunerative prices.

Further, in order to optimise the use of scarce resources and mitigate the uncertainty in price and marketing, the Government has formulated and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act "The State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018" in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories (UTs). The aforesaid Model Contract Farming Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock.

In addition to above, the Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 UTs have been integrated with e-NAM platform. Farmers can choose to sell their produce on e-NAM platform to buyers without going through commission agents.

As per Union Budget Announcement, 2018-19, Government has decided to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) to work as centers of aggregation and to provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers.

In order to ensure remunerative prices to farmers for their produce, the Government of India has launched an umbrella scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata

Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan' (PM-AASHA). Under PM-AASHA, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare implements the Price Support Scheme (PSS) for procurement of pulses, oilseeds and copra. For oilseeds, DAC&FW also implements the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS).

There exists a transparent and uniform policy for procurement by Government Agencies. Under this policy, wheat and paddy offered by farmers, within the stipulated period and conforming to the specifications (Fair Average Quality norms) prescribed in advance by Government of India, are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool. Coarse grains are procured by State Governments as per the procurement plan prepared in consultation with FCI and approved by the Central Government.

(c) to (e) Finance Minister in Budget Speech for 2018-19 made announcement that NITI Aayog, in consultation with Central and State Governments, will put in place a fool-proof mechanism so that farmers will get adequate price for their produce. A meeting of States/Union Territories (UTs) and Central Ministries to discuss about the mechanism of implementation of MSP to agricultural commodities was held on 9.03.2018 under the chairmanship of Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog. As an outcome of consultation with stakeholders, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare rolled out new schemes *i.e.* Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) for procurement of produce for crops notified for MSP from farmers.

Merger of CMFRI, Mumbai Research Centre with CIFE

2562. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mumbai Research Centre of Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) is likely to be merged with Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether there is a plan to merge CMFRI, Mumbai Research Centre with any other institute;

(c) whether this merger may hamper its current function of providing research support to fishermen and coastal communities of the State, if so, the details thereof, and the reasons for the proposed merger;

(d) whether fishermen of Maharashtra have opposed the merger; and

(e) if so, how the Ministry would address their concerns?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Final decision has not been taken to merge Mumbai Research Centre Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) with Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE) Mumbai.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Question does not arise.
- (d) Yes, some representations have been received.
- (e) Question does not arise.

Benefits to farmers under crop insurance policy

2563. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of farmers who have been benefitted through the crop insurance policy in the last three years, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there have been instances of farmers giving up their crop insurance;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to promote the scheme, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether crop insurance would be considered under doubling farmers' income scheme; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) After review of the ongoing crop insurance scheme and with the view to include more risks under crop insurance cover and to make it more comprehensive and affordable to farmers, the flagship scheme of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched in April, 2016. State/Union Territory (UT)-wise details of enrollments and number of farmers benefitted under PMFBY, since its inception in Kharif, 2016 to Kharif, 2017 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Both loanee and non-loanee farmers are enrolled under the scheme. Loanee farmers are those who avail the Kisan Credit Card/Crop Loan for notified crops and they are mandatorily covered under the scheme. Participation of non-loanee farmers in the scheme is voluntary.

After implementation of the PMFBY since April, 2016, enrolment of non-loanee farmers has increased from 27.81 lakh in 2015-16 under erstwhile schemes to 136.66 lakh in 2016-17 and to 138.47 lakh in 2017-18 indicating acceptance of the scheme.

Enrolment of loanee farmers declined in 2017-18 because of the reasons like farmers becoming ineligible for crop insurance due to Debt Waiver Scheme in Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, Government of Uttar Pradesh withdrawing the low risk crops like sugarcane from coverage and introduction of Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) by the Government in April, 2017 to weed out ghost/duplicate beneficiaries while helping genuine farmers through Aadhar based verification, etc.

With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability, timely payment of claims to the farmers and to make the scheme more farmer friendly, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which have become effective from 01.10.2018. To ensure optimal coverage under the scheme, the following provisions, which will facilitate higher enrolment and early settlement of claims, making the scheme even more farmer friendly, have, *inter alia*, been made in the Revised Operational Guidelines:—

- (i) Provision of 12% interest rate per annum to be paid by the Insurance Company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 10 days of prescribed cut-off date for payment of claims.
- (ii) State Government have to pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut-off date/submission of requisition by Insurance Companies.
- (iii) Increased time for change of crop name for insurance-upto 2 working days prior to cut-off date for enrolment instead of earlier provision of 1 month before cut-off date.
- (iv) Rationalization of methodology for calculation of Threshold Yield (TY) to calculate claims-Moving average of best 5 out of 7 years to be taken for calculation.
- (v) Increase in risk coverage by inclusion of risks of cloud burst and natural fire under localized calamities and hailstorm under post-harvest losses.
- (vi) Time for intimation of loss due to localized calamities and post-harvest losses has been increased from 48 hours to 72 hours.
- (vii) Stratified grievance redressal mechanism *viz.* District Level Grievance Redressal Committee (DGRC), State Level Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC).

- (viii) Detailed plan for publicity and awareness-0.5% of Gross premium per company per season earmarked for the purpose.
- (ix) Detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for settlement of claims under localized calamities, post harvest losses, mid-season adversity and prevented sowing and redressal of disputes regarding yield data including add on features.
- (x) Inclusion of perennial crops and add on coverage for damage by wild animals on pilot basis.

(d) and (e) Risk Mitigation at affordable cost is one of the tools adopted by the Government to achieve the target of doubling of farmers income by the year 2022. Overall, PMFBY has benefitted the farmers as the claims paid to farmers far exceed the farmers' share in the premium paid to insurance companies since inception of the scheme in Kharif, 2016 to Kharif, 2017, as given in the Table below:—

(₹ in crore)

Year/Session	Farmers Share in premium paid to insurance companies	Claims Paid to farmers
Kharif, 2016	2919	10483
Rabi, 2016	1297	5657
2016-17	4216	16140
Kharif, 2017	3039	16772

Statement

Details of enrollments and number of farmers benefitted under PMFBY, since its inception in Kharif, 2016 to Kharif, 2017

State/UT	2016-17		Kharif 2017	
	Enrollments	Farmers benefitted	Enrollments	Farmers benefitted
1	2	3	4	5
Andman and Nicobar Islands	0.0032	0.003	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	17.75	8.78	15.97	5.98
Assam	0.6	0.23	0.52	0.01
Bihar	27.14	2.21	11.6	1.09
Chhattisgarh	15.49	1.37	13.04	5.69
Goa	0.0076	0.0011	0.0054	0.0002

1	2	3	4	5
Gujarat	19.75	6.79	14.91	4.05
Haryana	13.36	2.19	6.39	1.92
Himachal Pradesh	3.8	1.12	1.25	0.24
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	0.86	0.14
Jharkhand	8.79	0.44	11.50	1.03
Karnataka	27.38	14.9	15.81	6.17
Kerala	0.77	0.57	0.28	0.19
Madhya Pradesh	71.81	13.18	35.85	18.69
Maharashtra	120.06	29.07	87.68	49.88
Manipur	0.08	0.08	-	-
Meghalaya	0.00089	0.00048	0.03	0.00
Mizoram	-	-	-	-
Odisha	18.2	1.68	18.28	7.41
Puducherry	0.09	0.04	-	-
Rajasthan	91.7	29.02	54.18	24.38
Sikkim	0.01	0	0.01	-
Tamil Nadu	14.11	11.85	1.46	0.34
Telangana	9.73	2.21	8.19	3.42
Tripura	0.1276	0.0085	0.0232	0.0072
Uttar Pradesh	68.43	11.52	25.00	3.96
Uttarakhand	2.62	0.62	1.42	0.50
West Bengal	41.33	5.18	23.5	2.8
GRAND TOTAL	573.16	143.07	347.76	137.90

Selection of insurer organisations under PMFBY

2564. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the list of all private and public sector banks and other such organisations, enrolled as insurers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);

(b) the criteria to select and vet the organisations listed under PMFBY; and

(c) the manner in which a farmer selects the organisation/insurance company to avail the insurance facility under the PMFBY?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) The Operational Guidelines of the scheme provides criteria for empanelment of insurance companies. The Insurance Companies engaged in agriculture/rural insurance business and having adequate experience, infrastructure, financial strength and operational capabilities are empanelled by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC and FW) for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Once Insurance Company has been empanelled by DAC&FW, it is considered as pre-qualified company to bid for the selection of Implementing Agency (IA) to undertake implementation of the crop insurance Scheme/Programme of DAC&FW. However, selection of the company as implementing agency in the State/UT is made by the concerned State/UT Government through bidding process. At present, total 18 companies, which includes all the 5 Public Sector General Insurance Companies and 13 Private Sector General Insurance Companies, have been empanelled for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) in the country. The list of empanelled general insurance companies is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Loanee farmers availing seasonal agricultural operations loans/Kisan Credit Card loan are compulsorily enrolled for notified crops in notified areas. Non-loanee farmers have to approach the insurance company or its intermediary/agent or to bank/financial institutions or Common Service Centre or directly online on National Crop Insurance Portal.

Further, as per the revised operational guidelines, L1 insurance company undertakes the insurance coverage of loanee as well as non-loanee farmers in respect of the notified crop in the notified area/cluster. However, other empanelled insurance companies, who have participated in the bidding and are keen for enrolment of non-loanee farmers in the area/cluster may also be allowed to enroll non-loanee farmers at L1 premium rates.

Statement

List of Insurance Companies empaneled for Crop Insurance Schemes

Sl.No. Public Sector Insurance Companies

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

Sl.No	Private Sector Insurance Companies
6.	Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd.
7.	Bharti AXA General Insurance Company Ltd.
8.	Cholamandalam MS General Insurance Company Ltd.
9.	Future Generali India Insurance Company Ltd.
10.	HDFC-ERGO General Insurance Company Ltd.
11.	ICICI-Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.
12.	IFFCO-Tokio General Insurance Company Ltd.
13.	Reliance General Insurance Company Ltd.
14.	SBI General Insurance Company Ltd.
15.	Shriram General Insurance Company Ltd.
16.	Tata-AIG General Insurance Company Ltd.
17.	Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Ltd.
18.	Royal Sundaram General Insurance Company Ltd.

Registration of farmers under e-NAM

2565. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for compulsory registration of all the farmers on electronic National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) platform to sell their produces without any middleman and to increase the number of regulated mandis under e-NAM platform in various States of the country, including West Bengal;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the approximate number of farmers expected to be benefitted by expansion of the programme and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) No. Sir. It is only the farmers wishing to join e-NAM platform, who need to register themselves on e-NAM portal and can sell their produce on e-NAM platform in any e-NAM mandi of their choice. e-NAM platform promotes better marketing opportunities for the farmers to sell their produce through online, competitive and transparent price discovery system and online payment facility. It also promotes prices commensurate

with quality of produce. All these contribute towards better marketing efficiency and also better prices to farmers.

Since the launch of e-NAM on 14th April, 2016 and till 27th December, 2018, a total of 1,27,57,129 farmers spread over 16 States and 02 Union Territories have been registered on e-NAM platform. The State-wise details of registration is given in the Statement (*See below*).

A total of 585 mandis have been integrated till 31st March, 2018 on e-NAM platform, which include 17 mandis, of West Bengal State. Mandis are on-boarded to the e-NAM platform based on proposals received from respective States, with an appropriate Detailed Project Report (DPR). The three essential reforms the States must carry out for consideration are: (i) e-trading, (ii) single point levy of market fee (iii) unified single trading license for the State. Government of India provides certain assistance to the States, such as free access to e-NAM platform, financial assistance for computer hardware, internet facility and assaying equipment, mandi analyst for each e-NAM mandi for a year and training to stakeholders in mandis being integrated.

To increase the number of regulated mandis under e-NAM platform in various States of the country, Government has further approved the integration of another 415 wholesale regulated markets (APMCs/Mandis) with e-NAM platform by 2019-20. The number of farmers who will benefit from this expansion of e-NAM can be estimated only when the States/UTs submit their proposal indicating the markets.

Statement

Farmers registered under e-NAM

State/UT	No. of Farmers Registered
Andhra Pradesh	9,62,633
Chandigarh	4,109
Chhattisgarh	1,10,152
Gujarat	7,14,275
Haryana	23,89,190
Himachal Pradesh	1,08,494
Jharkhand	21,506
Madhya Pradesh	19,86,297
Maharashtra	7,24,783

State/UT	No. of Farmers Registered
Odisha	47,552
Puducherry	2,506
Punjab	1,18,380
Rajasthan	9,31,690
Tamil Nadu	1,56,291
Telangana	14,16,521
Uttar Pradesh	30,27,626
Uttarakhand	26,642
West Bengal	8,464
GRAND TOTAL	1,27,57,129

Development of agriculture in Tamil Nadu

2566. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to allocate funds for the development of agriculture and agro products in Tamil Nadu, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Central Government provides adequate research and development facilities to ICAR and its related departments in Tamil Nadu;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the total amount disbursed till date by the Centre, year-wise; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by Government to increase the income of farmers in Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (d) Agriculture is a State subject. Government of India supports and facilitates the State Governments through many Centrally Sponsored and Central Sector Schemes to promote agriculture throughout country including Tamil Nadu to boost farmer's income. The Government reoriented the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness which goes beyond achieving merely the targeted production. The income approach focuses on achieving high productivity, reduced cost of cultivation and remunerative price on the produce, with a view to earn higher profits from farming.

Some of the radical agricultural reforms to alleviate the difficulties faced by farmers *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Initiating market reforms through the State Governments by amending the agriculture marketing regime.
- (ii) Encouraging contract farming through the State Governments by promulgating of Model Contract Farming Act.
- (iii) 22,000 Gramin Haats are to be upgraded to work as centers of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers.
- (iv) Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic online trading platform.
- (v) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be optimized. So far more than 15 crore Soil Health Cards have been distributed in two cycles.
- (vi) “Per Drop More Crop” initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water.
- (vii) “Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)” under which organic farming is being promoted. North-East is being developed as organic hub under Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region.
- (viii) A revised farmer friendly “Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana” have been launched. The scheme covers various types of risks from pre-sowing to post-harvest and the farmers have to pay very nominal premium.
- (ix) Under “Har Medh Par Ped”, agro forestry is being promoted. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1947 Bamboo grown outside forest area has been removed from the definition of trees and a mission have been launched to promote bamboo plantation.
- (x) Launch of PM-Aasha scheme which will ensure MSP to farmers for oilseeds, pulses and copra.
- (xi) Minimum Support Price (MSP) is notified by the Government for certain crops. Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Government has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif and Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production.
- (xii) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.

- (xiii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been implemented to enhance milk production and productivity of bovines and to make milk production more remunerative to the farmers.
- (xiv) National Livestock Mission has been implemented to increase productivity and genetic improvement of livestock.
- (xv) Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi-dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

The details of funds allocated in Tamil Nadu for the development of agriculture and allied Sector under various schemes are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Government of India provides adequate research and development facilities to ICAR and its related Departments in Tamil Nadu. Further, the Government of India provides Grants-in-aid to Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE)/Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) which further allocates funds to schemes after extensive exercise of ascertaining the need and priority areas. The details of total amount allocated to DARE/ICAR institutes for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 and total amount allocated to State Agricultural Universities for the years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of allocation under various schemes implemented by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare to the Dtate of Tamil Nadu

		(₹ in crore)	
Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Allocation (2017-18)	Allocation (2018-19)
1	2	3	4
1.	National Food Security Mission (NFSM)	51.28	58.00
2.	Integrated Scheme of Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) Now, National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP)	11.27	14.01
3.	Rainfed Area Development (RAD) Now, Rainfed Area Development and Climate Change	34.00	32.00
4.	National Project on Management Soil Heath and Fertility (NPMSH&F) Now, Soil Health Management (SHM)	0.00	4.59
5.	Soil Health Card (SHC)	11.47	12.86

1	2	3	4
6.	Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)	1.97	4.04
7.	Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms Now, Sub-Mission on Agriculture Extension (SMAE)	39.82	45.41
8.	National E-Governance Plan Agriculture (NeGP)	2.13	2.40
9.	Sub-Mission on Agriculture Mechanization (SMAM)	51.34	153.21
10.	Sub-Mission on Seeds and Planting Material (SMSP)	10.70	16.72
11.	National Horticulture Mission (NHM)	75.03	98.00
12.	National Bamboo Mission (NBM)*	0.06	0.00
13.	Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY)	224.14	169.30
14.	National Mission on Micro Irrigation (NMMI) On Farm Water Management (OFWM) Now, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY-Micro Irrigation)	285.00	300.00
15.	Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY-Other Intervention)	132.00	55.00
16.	Sub-Mission on Agro-Forestry (SMAF)	0.00	2.50

*NBM: Proposal not yet received from Tamil Nadu State during the year 2018-19.

Statement-II

*The details of total amount allocated to DARE/ICAR Institutes
for the year 2017-18 and 2018-19*

Name of the Institute	(₹ in lakhs)				
	Budget Expenditure 2017-18	Revised Estimates 2017-18	Actual Expenditure 2017-18	Budget Estimates 2018-19	Actual Expenditure 2018-19 (Upto Nov 2018)
ICAR Sugarcane Breeding Institute, Coimbatore	489.50	604.50	597.16	1195.20	487.63
AICRP on Cotton, Coimbatore	147.00	147.00	146.59	191.25	96.03
National Research Centre on Banana, Trichi	450.00	444.00	437.89	597.48	303.55
Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai	1220.50	1250.50	1250.49	1882.00	856.07
All India Network Project on Fish Health	190.00	184.00	179.14	212.00	94.66

*The details of the total amount allocated to State Agricultural Universities
for the year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19*

Sl.No.	Name of the University	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore	18.00	820.00	118.00
2.	Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, Nagapattinam	271.00	384.00	132.00
3.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai	783.00	784.00	471.00

Implementation of Recommendations of NCF

2567. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the major recommendations made by the National Commission for Farmers (NCF);

(b) the status of implementation of these recommendations;

(c) whether farmers are still facing problems despite the follow-up action taken by various stakeholders on the recommendations of the Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(e) the comprehensive measures taken by Government to address the various problems faced by the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) submitted five reports to the Government. The major recommendations of the Commission contained in the five reports were included in the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers' submitted by the Commission itself in 2006. Based on the 'Draft National Policy for Farmers', submitted by the Commission, 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.

(c) to (e) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertakes development of perspective plans and ensures effective implementation of the programmes/schemes. Also, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/Programmes.

To mitigate the problems of farmers, the Government had set a target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee in the year 2016 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 and recommend a strategy to achieve doubling of farmers' income in real terms by the year 2022.

The committee has identified seven sources of income growth *viz.*, improvement in crop productivity; improvement in livestock productivity; resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; increase in the cropping intensity; diversification towards high value crops; improvement in real prices received by farmers; and shift from farm to non-farm occupations.

Several initiatives have already been taken among each of the above mentioned strategies which, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Initiating market reforms through the State Governments.
- (ii) Encouraging contract farming through the State Governments by promulgating of Model Contract Farming Act.
- (iii) Upgradation of Gramin Haats to work as centers of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers.

- (iv) Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic online trading platform.
- (v) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be optimized.
- (vi) “Per Drop More Crop” initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water.
- (vii) “Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)” under which organic farming is being promoted.
- (viii) With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, Government has launched a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif, 2016 season. This scheme provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.
- (ix) Under “Har Medh Par Ped”, agro forestry is being promoted. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1947 Bamboo grown outside forest area has been removed from the definition of trees and a mission have been launched to promote bamboo plantation.
- (x) The Government, based on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all notified Kharif and Rabi crops and other commercial crops for 2018-19 Season with a return of at least 50% over cost of production. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it redeemed the promise of fixing the MSPs at a level of at least 50 per cent return over the cost of production as announced in the Union Budget 2018-19.
- (xi) Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme ‘Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)’. The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Government of India to protect the farmers’ income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.
- (xii) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.

- (xiii) Rashtriya Gokul Mission to enhance milk production and productivity of bovines and to make milk production more remunerative to the farmers.
- (xiv) National Livestock Mission to increase productivity and genetic improvement of livestock.
- (xv) Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi-dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

Insurance claims under PMFBY in Odisha

2568. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of farmers in Odisha covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) since its inception, Rabi and Kharif, season-wise;

(b) the details of total claim made by the farmers, claims approved and claims paid under PMFBY during the aforesaid period in Odisha;

(c) the average delay in settlement/payment of claims to the affected farmers in Odisha; and

(d) whether Government has taken some steps and remedial measures to reduce the delay, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (d) Details of enrollments, farmers/share in the premium paid to the insurance companies, estimated claims, claims approved, claims paid and farmers benefitted in Odisha under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) since its inception in Kharif 2016 to Kharif 2017 is given in Statement (*See* below).

Admissible claims are generally paid by the insurance companies within two months of completion of Crop Cutting Experiments/harvesting period subject to availability of yield data and total State share of premium subsidy from concerned State Government within time. However, payment of claims in some States/areas gets delayed due to reasons like delayed transmission of yield data, dispute raised by Insurance and Companies on yield data, delay in uploading of data and reconciliation of individual farmer's premium on portal by bank branches, late release of their share in premium subsidy by some States and NEFT related issues, etc.

The major reason for claim pendency for Kharif, 2017 season in Odisha was

discrepancy in yield data submitted by the State Government. The matter was resolved after detailed meetings with the stakeholders by the State Government and almost all the admissible claims have been settled for Kharif, 2017 season by insurance companies.

With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability and timely payment of claims to the farmers, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the scheme which have become effective from 01.10.2018. The revised operational guidelines envisage, *inter alia*, activity-wise seasonality discipline including timeliness for release of subsidy by Government to insurance companies and settlement of claims eligible farmers by concerned insurance companies.

In addition, the flowing provisions, have also been made in the revised Operational Guidelines:—

- (i) Provision of 12% interest rate per annum to be paid by the Insurance Company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 10 days of prescribed cut-off date for payment of claims.
- (ii) State Government have to pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut off date/submission of requisition by Insurance Companies.

Season-wise details of enrollments, famers' share in the premium paid to insurance companies, estimated claims, approved claims, claims paid and farmers benefitted in odisha under PMFBY

Year and Season	Enrollments	Farmer's share in the Premium paid of insurance companies	Estimated Claims	Approved Claims	Clams Paid	No of farmers Benefitted
₹ in crore						
2016-17	18,20,236	142.63	431.34	431.34	431.34	1,68,490
Kharif, 2017	18,27,839	145.09	1,729.61	1,728.11	1,728.11	740,614

Integration of mandis with e-NAM

2569. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wholesale markets/Mandis integrated with the e-market (e-NAM) platform, State-wise; and

(b) the reason and concerns expressed by States who have not joined the platform and the steps taken by the Central Government to address them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) 585 wholesale regulated markets/Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) Markets have been so far integrated with e-market (e-NAM) platform in 16 States and 2 Union Territories (UTs), who have carried out requisite reforms in their State Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee Act (APMC Act). The State-wise details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) States desirous of linking their mandis with e-NAM are required to carry out 3 marketing reforms in their APMC Act *i.e.* Single point levy of mandi fee, Unified trade license valid across all mandis of State and Provision of e-auction. After carrying out reforms, States are required to propose their wholesale regulated markets for integration with e-NAM platform based on States priorities, which are then considered by Government of India for integration.

States/UTs, which either do not have marketing regulation or have one which is not in force, must identify Institution with legally enforceable guidelines, which will develop the appropriate physical infrastructure and put in place facilitatory provisions required for e-trading on e-NAM platform including registration of traders/farmers.

Therefore, mandi integration with e-NAM platform is an ongoing process. Government of India is pursuing with rest of States/Union Territories to propose their market integration after completing requisite provisions.

Statement

State-wise list of Mandis integrated with e-NAM Platform

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Mandis integrated
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Chhattisgarh	14
3.	Gujarat	79
4.	Haryana	54
5.	Himachal Pradesh	19
6.	Jharkhand	19
7.	Madhya Pradesh	58
8.	Maharashtra	60
9.	Odisha	10
10.	Punjab	19

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Number of Mandis integrated
11.	Puducherry	2
12.	Rajasthan	25
13.	Tamil Nadu	23
14.	Telangana	47
15.	Uttar Pradesh	100
16.	Uttarakhand	16
17.	Chandigarh	1
18.	West Bengal	17
TOTAL		585

Amendment to Seeds ACT

2570. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has embarked on amendment of the Seeds Act with a view to safeguard the farmers from duplicate seeds;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the changes being included in the list of amendments and sops being given to the farmers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir, Government had introduced the Seed Bill in Parliament during December, 2004.

The changes include under New seed Bill are compulsory registration of new varieties, enhancement of penalties, labeling of expected performance, seed health test, protection of rights of farmers, compensation in the case of failure of crops and ban of genetic use restriction technology (terminator technology).

Incorporation of Bapudham Milk Producer Company Ltd.

2571. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Dairy Development Board and its subsidiary companies had arranged for incorporation of Bapudham Milk Producer Company Ltd. on 12 April, 2017 in Motihari, East Champaran, Bihar; and

(b) whether within less than 3.5 months of its incorporation, the National Dairy Development Board sanctioned an amount of ₹ 33.39 crore to the said milk producing company, including Central Government grants under the National Dairy Plan (NDP) scheme amounting ₹ 22.28 crore and subject to the condition that the said company will contribute ₹ 11.7 crore, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) The milk producers of East Champaran district of Bihar came together to incorporate a producer company which was facilitated by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and incorporated on 12 April, 2017. The Board of Bapudham Milk Producer Company submitted a proposal to seek grant-in-aid under NDP I for implementation of Village Based Milk Procurement System. The project was approved with outlay of ₹ 3263.49 lakh (including Bapudham Milk Producer Company's contribution of ₹ 1107.54 lakh). The project targets to benefit 50,000 milk producers members in 1000 villages covering East Champaran, West Chaparan and Gopalganj districts.

Investment in agricultural research

2572. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investment in agricultural research would help to reduce dependency on imports and add to the export capacity of the country;

(b) whether Government has designed an action plan to attract investment in agricultural research; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Yes, Sir. India with large and diverse agriculture is among the world's leading producers of cereals, millets, sugar, fruits and vegetables, spices and seafood products. India is supporting 17.84% world population with merely 2.4% of land and 4.0% of water resources. Hence, continuous investment efforts towards enhancing productivity, reducing pre and post-harvest losses, processing and value addition, development of technology and infrastructure is necessary for Indian agriculture. India has made substantial progress in agriculture by increasing production of cereals, oilseeds, sugarcane, cotton, fruits and vegetables and milk, and fishes over past six decades. Food grains production has increased to 284.83 million tonnes (Mt) in 2017-18 from 50.8 Mt in 1950-51, an increase of 5.6 times. Production of other agricultural commodities also increased

substantially during the period. The strong emphasis on research has contributed to a number of technology driven revolutions including the green revolution, white revolution, blue revolution and the golden (oilseeds) revolution. The increase in production is attributed to research and extension, policy support, use of inputs and public investment in infrastructure. The contribution of agricultural research in reducing dependency on import and raising self-sufficiency in food in India is well known and is cited with pride. India currently spends around 0.30 per cent of agriculture GDP on agricultural research. During the first three years of the current plan period (2017-18- 2019-20) the allocation for agricultural research has been enhanced and are; ₹ 6800.00 crores, ₹ 7800.00 crores and ₹ 8078 crores respectively.

The growth in food production induced by research in India, has not only reduced import dependency but has also added to export capacity, amounting to 17 Mt of cereals. In value terms, it comes to more than four-times the annual investment on agricultural research in the country. Further, agricultural research in India not only brought country self-sufficiency in cereals, it averted sharp increase in global grain prices, which otherwise could have adversely affected food security of a large number of low-income food-deficit countries.

India is currently exporting rice to the tune of ₹ 43,000 crores annually. R&D efforts of ICAR have also helped to increase the production to over 24.23 million tonnes of pulses per annum, making India almost self-sufficient in pulses and reducing the import bill from over ₹ 18000.00 crores per annum 3 years' ago to less than ₹ 5000.00 crores at present. Export potential of over 7 lakh tones have also been created in Sugar production mainly driven by the spread of high yielding varieties of sugarcane developed by the ICAR which have better sugar recovery. The development of sugarcane variety Co 0238 by ICAR-Sugarcane Breeding Institute (SBI) has improved average sugar recovery by 1.49 units (*i.e.* from 9.21% in 2013-14 to 10.7% in 2017-18), and average cane yield by 19 t/ha. (*i.e.* from 60 t/ha. in 2013-14 to 79 t/ha. in 2017-18). This improved yield has increased production significantly and will boost export further. The development and adoption of Bt cotton varieties has made the country second largest exporter globally and net trader of raw cotton. The export of raw cotton was 3.4 times than of its import (1162 thousand tonnes export against 341 thousand tonnes import) during the TE 2016-17. To reduce the import bill of edible oils, Government has given focused attention to the development of varieties oilseed crops which are high yielding; tolerant to drought, resistant to insect pests and diseases and high in oil per cent in mustard, groundnut and soybean. During the last 4 years 898 crop varieties/hybrids have been released of which 132 are of various oilseeds.

The export policy of the country recently approved by the cabinet envisages doubling agricultural exports from present ~US\$ 30+ Billion to ~US\$ 60+ Billion by 2022, to diversify our export basket, to include novel, indigenous, organic, ethnic, traditional and non-traditional Agri products, tackling barriers to deal with sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues and to enable farmers to get benefit of export opportunities in overseas market, which is in-line with vision of the Government to double farmers' income. Production of the large volumes of a wide range of exportable quality agricultural products require higher investments in research and development in agriculture and the current level of investment in agricultural research needs further enhancement.

(b) and (c) In addition to the normal budgetary allocation, the Government has taken efforts to attract external investments in agricultural research through schemes like National Agriculture Technology Project (NATP)/National Agricultural Innovation Project (NAIP) through world bank funding support. In addition, ICAR/DARE encourages the scientists to earn competitive grants from various national and international agencies including DBT, ICMR, DST, BBSRC, ESRC, CDC etc. for supporting agricultural research. Besides, the Government is encouraging to research institutes under ICAR to generate funding for meeting the research expenditure by providing services and selling the agricultural produce. Research institutes are given targets to generate money. There are special incentives for development of technology by private sector and encourage companies to invest in research. The protection of plant varieties and patents has been strengthened to attract private investment.

Under International Collaborations, funding for agricultural research is received from many International agencies like IRRI, CIMMYT, ICARDA, Bill Melinda Gates Foundation, IAEA etc. under approved work plans. Besides, the Government of India has enabled the conducive environment for investment by the Indian and multinational seed companies in agricultural research and annual investment of more than ₹ 700 crores are being made by private seed companies. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has attracted many multinational companies for investing in agricultural research.

Cloud seeding experiments

2573. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in 2006, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, then President of India had suggested to carry out cloud seeding experiments for 5 years to tackle drought; and

(b) if so, the reasons for not starting the experiments so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, Formar President of India in the year 2004 had suggested to explore Regional cloud seeding with the cooperation of participating states with the effective seeding techniques.

(b) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Pune is doing a scientific study on cloud seeding to propose suitable option for rain enhancement.

Promotion of vocational education in agriculture

2574. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote vocational education in agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) undertakes, aids and promotes higher agricultural education in the country.

Dependency on imported fertilizers

2575. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a steep rise in the prices of fertilizer during the last two years which had adversely affected the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that India is overwhelmingly dependent on import of fertilizer to meet the requirement of farmers, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps Government proposes to take to explore innovative ways to increase self-reliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Urea is under

the statutory price control and Government of India has notified the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of 45 Kg bag at ₹ 242 (exclusive of neem oil charges and taxes) on 1st March, 2018 which amount to ₹ 5377 per MT. There is a nominal increase of ₹ 17 per MT only compared to earlier price fixed in 2012 *i.e.* ₹ 5360 per MT.

The price of P&K fertilisers are determined by the market dynamics at reasonable level. The prices of P&K fertilisers have been increased mainly due to rising cost of input prices during last one year. The MRP of DAP have been increased from ₹ 23213.26 per MT (without tax) in 2016-17 to ₹ 26160.20 per MT in October, 2018. The MRP of Muriate of Potash (MOP) has been increased from ₹ 12734.57 per MT in 2016-17 to ₹ 17240.88 per MT in October, 2018.

(c) Government is fully dependent on import of MOP and in Phosphatic sector it is dependent on imports upto approximate 50% for its DAP requirement. In case of urea, the gap between requirement and indigenous production is met through imports. During the year 2017-18 around 19.08% of urea was imported.

(d) Government of India has announced New Investment Policy, 2012 to facilitate fresh investment in urea sector and to make India self-sufficient in the urea sector. Government of India has been encouraging Indian companies to established joint venture abroad in countries which are rich in fertiliser resources for production facilities with buy back arrangement and to enter into long term agreement for supply of fertilisers and fertiliser inputs to India.

Further to increase the production of fertilizers by Central PSUs, Government has decided to revive closed units namely Gorakhpur, Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL).

Government has also decided to install a new Urea plant of 8.646 Lakh Metric Ton (LMT) per annum in the existing premises of Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), which will subsequently replace the existing urea plants Namrup II (capacity 2.40 LMT) and Namrup III (capacity 2.70 LMT per annum).

Strategy for tackling impact of delayed monsoon

†2576. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any alternative strategy for crops has been formulated for the States, affected by the delayed monsoon;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to increase the income of the farmers through other methods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. India Meteorological Department (IMD) under Gramin Krishi Mausam Sewa (GKMS) scheme, based on forecasts, Agromet advisories are prepared and disseminated by Agromet Field Units (AMFUs) located at State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) Institutes, Indian Institute of Technology (IITs) to the farmers of different districts of the country for combating the impact of unprecedented climatic conditions like deficit monsoon rainfall, drought, cyclone, heavy rainfall, cold waves etc. along with weather based contingency plans to offset the negative impacts of extreme weather events.

ICAR - Central Research Institute for Dryland Agriculture (CRIDA) developed district based Agriculture Contingency Plans (DACPs) for 633 districts so far. The DACPs contain information on measures to be taken in case of delayed monsoon by 2, 4, 6 and 8 weeks and for early season drought, mid-season and end of season drought for rainfed areas. The measures include alternate varieties of same crops and/or alternate crops along with recommended varieties and associated agronomic practices.

(c) In order to increase the income of the farmers, States adopted various methods:—

(i) Jammu and Kashmir worked out various interventions like enhancing mushroom cultivation, promoting apiculture, promoting commercial horticulture, growing exotic vegetables, strengthening irrigation facilities; increasing farm power through modern farm machinery, diversifying farming, promoting protected cultivation, better pest/disease management and promoting Post Harvest Management.

(ii) Odisha is implementing Mukhya Manti Krushi Udyog Yojana, Commercial Agri-Entrepreneurs etc.

Further, the State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government's, in accordance with established procedure. In order to insulate farmers against the loss

of crop due to natural calamities, Government of India has launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from April, 2016. The flagship schemes of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) were launched with a view to provide comprehensive crop insurance cover against non-preventable natural risks at an affordable rate to farmers.

Proposal of government of Gujarat for dairy development

†2577. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has submitted proposals regarding dairy development schemes with regard to districts of Gujarat during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the abovesaid schemes, scheme-wise and the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) to (c) Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has approved following project proposals submitted by State Government of Gujarat under “National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)” scheme during last three years with outlay of ₹ 97.70 crore.

(₹ in crore)					
Project No.	District covered	Year of approval	Total outlay	Central Share	Funds released
NPDD-I	Sabarkantha and Aravalli	2017-18	19.35	12.47	8.00
NPDD-II	Bharuch, Narmada and Surendranagar	2017-18	5.46	2.91	2.91
NPDD-III	Anand, Kheda, Mahisagar, Banaskantha, Patan, Sabarkantha, Aravalli, Panchmahal, Dahod, Bhavnagar, Amreli, Porbandar, Morbi and Jamnagar	2018-19	72.89	43.25	43.25
			97.70	58.63	54.16

Under National Dairy Plan-I, during the year 2015-16 to 2017-18, 19 sub projects with grant assistance of ₹ 73.45 crore have been approved out of which ₹ 69.49 crore released till 26 Dec., 2018. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Under Rashtriya Gokul Mission, a project with outlay of ₹ 106.58 crore was approved in 2014-15 covering all the districts of Gujarat State and ₹ 11.52 crore was released.

Statement

Details of total grant assistance approved during 2015-16 under national Dairy Plan-I and funds released till 26 Dec., 2018

				(₹ in Crore)
Sl. No.	Name of the EIA	Activity	Total Grant assistance approved during (2015-16 to 2017-18)	Fund released till 26 Dec., 18
1.	Amreli Milk Union	VBMPs	1.95	1.49
2.	Kutch Milk Union	VBMPs	1.12	0.91
3.	Valsad Milk Union	RBP	1.18	1.11
4.	Maahi Milk Producer Company Ltd.	RBP	0.78	0.85
5.	Kaira (AMUL) Milk Union	VBMPs	5.11	5
6.	Surendranagar Milk Union	VBMPs	0.91	0.61
7.	Kaira (AMUL) Milk Union	RBP	1.61	1.58
8.	Surendranagar Milk Union	RBP	0.77	0.48
9.	Banaskantha Milk Union	VBMPs	3.04	3
10.	Bharuch Milk Union	VBMPs	1.85	1.6
11.	Kaira (AMUL) Milk Union	VBMPs	3	2.22
12.	Sabarkantha Milk Union	VBMPs	2.89	2.89
13.	Surendranagar Milk Union	VBMPs	1.52	1.65
14.	Banaskantha Milk Union	VBMPs	12.93	12.6
15.	Kaira (AMUL) Milk Union	VBMPs	7.31	7.1
16.	Sabarkantha Milk Union	VBMPs	13.24	13
17.	Surendranagar Milk Union	VBMPs	2.18	2
18.	Surat Milk Union	VBMPs	8.6	8.4
19.	Valsad Milk Union	VBMPs	3.45	3
TOTAL			73.45	69.49

RBP: Ration Balancing Programme, FD: Fodder Development, VBMPs: Village Based Milk procurement System

Research on traditional agricultural produces

†2578. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the measures taken by Government to safeguard and promote the traditional agricultural produces in the country;

(b) whether Government proposes to promote research work to improve existing local varieties of agricultural produces and seeds; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) through its National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi is taking various measures to safe guard and promote traditional agricultural produces in the country. NBPGR with the support of its ten regional centres, collects and acquires germplasm from various sources, conserves it in the National Genebank (NGB), characterizes and evaluates it for different traits and provides the trait specific material to breeders to develop varieties for farmers. Presently, NBPGR has conserved 4,38,922 germplasm accessions including traditional varieties and land races in its NGB. As on today 87038 accessions of Landraces/ Traditional Cultivars/Folk varieties of different crops have been conserved in the NGB as per details given below:—

Crop groups	No. of Accessions	Crop groups	No. of Accessions
Cereals	17565	Medicinal and Aromatic plants	885
Millets	16026	Vegetables	5811
Oilseeds	31855	Fruits and Nuts	9
Grain legumes	10423	Spices	941
Forages	1408	Ornamental	16
Fibre	260	Agroforestry	343
Pseudocereals	1496	Grand Total	87,038

(b) NBPGR is nodal Institution and acts in service-mode for effective utilization of PGR including local cultivars and traditional varieties in crop improvement programmes. NBPGR is presently focussing on characterization of ex situ conserved

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

germplasm and detailed evaluation of prioritized crops for enhanced utilization; assessment of impact of on-farm conservation practices on genetic diversity; genome-wide association mapping for identification of novel genes and alleles for enhanced utilization of PGR; identification and deployment of germplasm/landraces/traditional cultivars using climate analog data; validation of trait-specific introduced germplasm for enhanced utilization.

Crop Science Division of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), through its 21 Research Institutes, 03 Bureaux, 02 National Research Centres, 02 Project Directorates, 22 All India Coordinated Research Projects (AICRPs) and 10 Network Research Projects in active collaboration with State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) is engaged in the development of eco-friendly, improved seed (crop) varieties/hybrids including improvement of existing local varieties, to enhance crop productivity and ensure food and nutritional security in the country.

(c) The conserved traditional varieties at NBPGR, New Delhi are multiplied as per the viability aspects of the seeds and seeds of these varieties are shared with scientists on request. Details of seed multiplication of different crops are given in the Statement (*See below*). These traditional varieties are being used in the breeding programmes for introgression of desirable traits or their per-se improvement.

In addition, under PPV&FR Act, 2001, the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Authority grants IPR to farmers' varieties which are traditionally cultivated and evolved by the farmers in the fields which also includes wild relatives, land races of crops about which farmers possess common knowledge. So far 1587 registration certificates have been issued to farmers' varieties. In order to support, reward and recognise farmers, communities of farmers particularly tribal, rural communities engaged in conservation, improvement and preservation of genetic resources of economic plants and other wild relatives, the PPV&FR Authority confers annually Plant Genome Saviour Awards which have been established under the provision of clause (iii) of sub section (1) of section 39 of PP&FR Act, 2001 (53 of 2001). There shall be a maximum of 05 Plant Genome Saviour Award (₹ 10 Lakhs to each of the farming communities), 10 Plant Genome Saviour Farmer Rewards (₹ 1.5 Lakhs to each farmer) and 20 Plant Genome Saviour Farmers Recognition (₹ 1 Lakhs to each farmer). So far 43 Plant Genome Saviour Rewards, 35 Plant Genome Saviour Farmers Recognitions, 25 Plant Genome Community awards in addition to 31 certificates, totalling to 134 have been conferred to Farmer (s)/Farming Community.

Traditional varieties and landraces accessions regenerated/multiplied at NBPGR

Crop group	Traditional varieties	Landraces	Total
Cereals	719	2784	3503
Millets	34	4032	4066
Oilseeds	5	6760	6765
Grain legumes	40	2454	2494
Fibre	52	37	89
Forages	1	12	13
Pseudocereals	9	56	65
Medicinal and Aromatic plants	7	72	79
Vegetables	52	1588	1640
Fruits and Nuts	-	2	2
Spices, condiments and flavour	92	412	504
Agroforestry	-	2	2
GRAND TOTAL	1011	18211	19222

Procurement of soyabean, groundnut, pulses and oil seeds

2579. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had given the target for procurement of soyabean, groundnut, pulses and oil seeds for the Kharif season this year, if so, the minimum support price for these crops; and

(b) the expected production, and out of that, how much quantity of these crops has been procured by National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) No target had been given for procurement of pulses and oilseeds for the Kharif season this year, under the present procurement mechanism of Price Support Scheme (PSS). Under PSS, procurement of oilseeds and pulses is undertaken based on the request of State Government/Union Territory. The Minimum Support Price (MSP), the expected production in the States which requested for procurement as per prescribed norms and quantity procured by National Agriculture Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) during the Kharif 2018-19 season till 31st December, 2018 is given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of procurement made by NAFED at MSP under PSS during kharif 2018-19 season (as on 31.12.2018)

State	Pulse/ oilseed	Commodities	Estimated production (In MT)	MSP plus bonus (₹ per MT)	Procurement Upto 31.12.2018 (In MT)
Karnataka	Pulse	Moong	115800	69750	28950.00
	Pulse	Urad	36300	56000	170.30
	oilseed	Soyabean	327200	33990	6.00
Tamil Nadu	Pulse	Moong	16300	69750	364.90
Uttar Pradesh	Pulse	Moong	21500	69750	2.20
	Pulse	Urad	304300	56000	16391.00
	oilseed	Groundnut	100900	48900	2478.34
Telangana	Pulse	Moong	66200	69750	13375.31
	Pulse	Urad	23800	56000	578.39
	Pulse	Tur	281200	56750	8171.70
	oilseed	Soyabean	281000	33990	14466.45
Maharashtra	Pulse	Moong	144200	69750	12779.10
	Pulse	Urad	140100	56000	7089.51
	oilseed	Soyabean	4388700	33990	956.06
Madhya Pradesh	Pulse	Moong	124200	69750	838.03
	Pulse	Urad	1379400	56000	131392.07
	oilseed	Groundnut	369000	48900	8086.42
	oilseed	Nigerseed	16800	58770	0.40
Rajasthan	Pulse	Moong	957500	69750	197227.57
	Pulse	Urad	354300	56000	66681.87
	oilseed	Groundnut	1516700	48900	129005.79
	oilseed	Nigerseed	1474500	33990	2935.30
Haryana	Pulse	Moong	7100	69750	224.90
Gujarat	Pulse	Moong	38200	69750	39.70
	Pulse	Urad	75000	56000	1369.15
	oilseed	Groundnut	2837700	48900	221239.74
TOTAL			15397900		8,64,820.20

Exodus of farmers from drought hit Maharashtra

2580. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that there is exodus of farmers from drought hit parched villages of Maharashtra whose Rabi crop is severely hit and farmers are migrating for jobs abandoning their livestock and homes;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take to prevent the exodus of farmers by providing necessary relief and rehabilitation measures to them on war footing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) No such exodus of farmers has been reported to this Ministry.

(c) Question does not arise.

Suicide rate of farmers

2581. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the farmers are still facing huge problems across the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of farmers who committed suicide during the past six years, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any State in the country where State's new policy on waiving farmer loan has resulted in lower suicide rate of farmers; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake development of perspective plans and ensures effective implementation of the programmes/schemes. Also, Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various Schemes/ Programmes. The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures for welfare of farmers including agricultural labourers.

The Government of India is targeting to double the income of the farmers by

the year 2022. To achieve this, the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare has taken a number of measures. The Government aims to reorient the agriculture sector by focusing on an income-centeredness in addition to pure production centeredness approach. The Department is, therefore, implementing various schemes to meet this objective, viz. Soil Health Card (SHC) scheme, Neem Coated Urea, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY), National Agriculture Market scheme (e-NAM) and Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), Interest subvention schemes and Kisan Credit Card Schemes. The Government is also implementing several centrally sponsored Schemes viz. National Food Security Mission (NFSM); Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH); National Mission on Oilseeds and Oilpalm (NMOOP); National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA); National Mission on Agricultural Extension and Technology (NMAET) and Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) for enhancing production and productivity and development of the sector as a whole.

(b) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides, in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports on suicides are available upto 2015 on its website. The Reports for the year 2016 onwards have not been published as on date. The number of farmers who committed suicide during the past six years, year-wise is as under:—

Year	Suicides in Farming/Agriculture Sector	
2010	15,964	
2011	14,027	
2012	13,754	
2013	11,772	
2014	12,360	5650 farmers 6710 Agri Labourers
2015	12,602	8007 farmers 4595 Agri Labourers

As per ADSI Report 2015, the reasons for suicide by farmers are manifold, which *inter alia* include indebtedness, crop failure, drought, socio-economic and personal reasons.

(c) and (d) Details of States/Union Territories (UTs) which have announced Farm Loan Waivers (since 2014), as reported by NABARD is given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of State/Union Territories, which have announced Farm Loan Waivers, as reported by NABARD*

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Notification/Order dated	Details
1.	Madhya Pradesh	Notification dated 18.12.2018	Loan waiver of upto ₹ 2.00 lakh for all farmers taken from Cooperative and Nationalized Banks. The scheme announced recently, further details not available.
2.	Rajasthan	(i) For STCCS, 04.05.2018 (ii) For LTCCS, 12.09.2018	(i) Loan waiver upto ₹ 50,000/-Total loan expected to be waived ₹ 8,400 cr ➤ Loan waived till date:-₹ 7636 crore. ➤ Farmer covered:-26.92 lakhs
3.	Karnataka	(i) dated 23 June 2017 (ii) Dated. 14.08.2018 (iii) Dated. 06.09.2018	(i) Waiver of farm loans of up to ₹ 50,000 taken from State-run Cooperative Institutions (ii) Waiver of Short term Crop loan upto ₹ 1 lakh/- per agriculture family. (iii) Waiver of Short term Crop loan upto ₹ 2 lakh/- per agriculture family. ➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 7866 crore. ➤ Farmer covered:- 41 lakhs
4.	Punjab	Dated 17.10.2017	Covering 10 lakh farmers with amount of debt waiver to the tune of ₹ 10,000 crore. ₹ 2.00 lakh. All marginal farmers ➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 1818 crore. ➤ Farmer covered:- 3.18 lakhs

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|----------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 5. Maharashtra | Dated 28.06.2017 | <p>Covering 31 lakh farmers with amount of debt waiver of ₹ 34,022 crore.</p> <p>Maximum amount:- ₹ 1.50 lakh for debt waiver and more than ₹ 1.50 lakh one time settlement (OTS).</p> <p>➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 16046 crore.</p> <p>➤ Farmer covered:- 31 lakhs</p> |
| 6. Uttar Pradesh | Dated April 4, 2017 | <p>Loan waiver of crop loans up to ₹ 1.00 lakh for Small and Marginal Farmers.</p> <p>In addition, ₹ 5,630 crore allocated for writing off bad loans of around seven lakh farmers, which had become NPAs. This takes the total amount allocated for loan relief to ₹ 36,359 crore.</p> <p>➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 24663.62 crore.</p> <p>➤ Farmer covered:- 44 lakhs</p> |
| 7. Jammu and Kashmir | Dated 23.01.2017 | <p>KCC loans upto ₹ 1 lakh were given 50% waiver in a phased manner.</p> <p>➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 244 crore</p> <p>➤ Farmer covered:- 1.15 lakh.</p> |
| 8. Tamil Nadu | Dated 23.05.2016 | <p>Waiver of loans taken from Cooperative Banks as on 31.03.2016 by Small and Marginal Farmers</p> <p>➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 5318.73 crore.</p> <p>➤ Farmer covered:- 12.02 lakhs</p> |
| 9. Chhattisgarh | Dated 26 December, 2015. | <p>25% Debt relief/waiver</p> <p>➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 129.76 crore</p> <p>➤ Farmer covered:- 189379</p> |
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Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	Notification/Order dated	Details
10.	Telangana	dated 13.08.2014	<p>Waiver of loans upto ₹ 1.00 lakh to all farmers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Loan waived till date:- ₹ 16124.38 crore. ➤ Farmer covered:- 35.30 lakhs
11.	Andhra Pradesh	dated 02.08.2014	<p>Waiver of Agriculture crop loan to farmers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Loan waived till date:- 24,000 cr. ➤ Farmer covered: - 58.30 lakh
12.	Union Territory of Puducherry	Dated 12.01.2018	<p>Loan waiver Scheme covering loans of all agricultural and allied activities availed through Cooperative structure as on 31.03.2016.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Loan waived till date:- 19.42 cr. ➤ Farmer covered: - 4,781

Jobs in agriculture sector

2582. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has noticed that jobs in agriculture and allied sector have reportedly declined during past four years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of number of jobs created during 2014-15 to 2017-18 in agriculture sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) As per the latest Survey on 'Employment and Unemployment Situation in India' conducted by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), the estimated workforce engaged in agriculture and allied sector has come down from 24.74 crore in 2009-10 to 23.18 crore in 2011-12, *i.e.*, about 6 percent. The shift in workforce from primary (agriculture) sector to secondary and tertiary sectors is a normal phenomenon of the development process experienced by countries across the world and the same is true for India as well.

- (c) Data on numbers of created jobs in agriculture sector is not available for the said period.

Damage of coconut crops in Tamil Nadu

2583. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government deputed any officials/experts from Coconut Development Board to delta districts of Tamil Nadu to help or assist farmers particularly coconut growers whose crops and coconut trees were severely damaged in recent Gaja Cyclone; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government *vide* ON dated 03.12.2018 has constituted a committee of officials/experts from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India and Coconut Development Board (CDB) comprising of Joint Secretary (MIDH), Horticulture Commissioner and Chairman, CDB to visit the districts of Tamil Nadu, affected by Gaja Cyclone.

Production of oilseeds in the country

†2584. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries from where Government imports edible oils and oilseeds and amount spent on it;

(b) whether there is any plan of Government to reduce such imports and to produce more oilseeds in the country itself; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Government does not import edible oils and oilseeds. It is done by private companies.

(b) and (c) However, to reduce imports into the country and help our farmers get a better price for domestically grown oilseeds, the Government increased import duty from 1st March, 2018 as under:—

- From 30% to 44% - on crude palm oil,
- from 40% to 54% - on refined palm oil

Again, from 14th June, 2018 the Government increased import duty as under—

- from 25% to 35% - on crude sunflower oil
- from 35% to 45% - refined sunflower oil
- from 35% to 40% - refined olive oil
- from 30% to 35% - on crude groundnut oil, olive oil, other oils obtained solely from olive oil, Soyabean oil, sunflower oil, cotton seed oil, coconut oil, palm kernel oil or babassu oil, rapeseed oil, colza oil, mustard oil, linseeds oil, maize (corn) oil, castor oil, sesame oil and other fixed vegetable fats and oils and its fractions,
- from 35% to 45% - on refined groundnut oil, other oils obtained solely from olive oil, Soyabean oil, sunflower oil, cotton seed oil, coconut oil, palm kernel oil or babassu oil, rapeseed oil, colza oil, mustard oil linseeds oil, maize (corn) oil, castor oil, sesame oil and other fixed vegetable fats and oils and its fractions.

In addition to raising the import duties, to increase production and productivity of oilseeds and oil palm in the country, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

has been implementing National Food Security Mission- Oil Seeds, National Food Security Mission-Oil Palm. Production of oilseeds has increased from 275.11 lakh ton in 2014-15 to 313.08 lakh ton in 2017-18 (as per 4th Advance Estimate of Directorate of Economics and Statistics) .

Area under cultivation of paddy in Kerala

2585. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

(a) whether it is a fact that the area under paddy cultivation in the State of Kerala is decreasing every year;

(b) if so, the area decreased during each of the last three years and the reasons for the decrease; and

(c) the remedial steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The area under paddy/rice cultivation in the State of Kerala keeps fluctuating depending on farmer's preference, shift of area to other competing crops, agro-climatic conditions, inter-crop profitability, irrigation facilities etc. The details of area under paddy/rice cultivation in the state of Kerala during last three years are given as under:—

Year	Area ('000 hectares)
2015-16	196.9
2016-17	171.4
2017-18*	189.1

* as per 4th Advance Estimate.

(c) In order to increase the area and production of foodgrain including paddy/ rice, Government implements various schemes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Soil Health Card (SHC), promotion of Neem Coated Urea, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana, Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana, etc.

NFSM-Rice programme is implemented in 194 districts of 25 states of the country including Kerala for increasing the production and productivity of foodgrains through area expansion and productivity enhancement. Under the programme, assistance is provided to the farmers on cluster demonstrations, seed distribution, improved farm machineries/implements, efficient water application tools, plant protection chemicals/ bio-agents, micro-nutrients and soil ameliorants and cropping system based trainings to the farmers.

Drought in Andhra Pradesh

2586. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

(a) whether Government has sent any Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) to Andhra Pradesh to assess the extent of damage in 9 districts covering 347 mandals which were declared drought hit during 2018 Kharif season;

(b) whether Government has received any report from the Central Team in this regard; and

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

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

(c) The Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) has submitted its report. As per the existing procedure, the report/recommendations of IMCT are placed before the Sub-Committee of National Executive Committee (SC-NEC). Thereafter, the recommendations of the SC-NEC are considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), headed by Home Minister for approval.

Practical solution for agrarian distress

2587. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian agriculture is confronted with high price volatility, climate risks and indebtedness, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the farmer's welfare/supporting programmes and schemes are disjointed and function independently of each other, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has any practical solution for reviving the agrarian sector which would reduce the agrarian distress, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Indian agriculture is confronted with high price volatility and climate risk for which adequate preparedness has been put in place. Price of any agriculture commodity at any point of time depends on its demand and supply, climate conditions, availability of transportation, perishable nature of crops, which may give rise to price volatility.

Due to occurrence of localized extreme climate events like drought, frost, hailstorms etc, crops are affected in some parts of the country, resulting in some

crop loss. Climate change will have negative effects on the yields globally regions, including India, due to both temperature rise and change in water availability, in a business as usual scenario. The steps taken by the Government for adequate preparedness in the face of climate change include development of climate resilient varieties and activities under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) including Integrated Farming Systems. Climate resilient villages have been developed, one in each of 151 districts, and Climate Vulnerability Atlas prepared under National Innovations in Climate Resilient Agriculture (NICRA). Due to the steps taken by the Government, despite climate risk, the overall crop production in the country is on the increasing trend.

In order to reduce the dependence of farmers on private money lenders for meeting their credit needs and providing relief to the indebted farmers, Government has taken several measures to increase institutional credit flow and bringing down the rate of interest on farm loans.

Under the Interest Subvention Scheme, the Government is providing short-term crop loan 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.

The agricultural credit flow achievement is ₹ 9.16 lakh crore for the year 2015-16, ₹ 10.66 lakh crore for 2016-17 and ₹ 11.69 lakh crore (provisional) for 2017-18. The credit flow achievements have surpassed the targets fixed for these years.

Further, with a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for all stages including post harvest risks for risk mitigation, Government has launched a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif 2016 season. 2,69,69,404 farmers benefited by way of payment of claims ₹ 10,482.86 crore during Kharif 2016, 36,52,284 farmers benefited by way of payment of claims ₹ 5,796.39 crore during Rabi 2016-17 and 1,39,83,661 farmers benefited by way of payment of claims ₹ 16,967.92 crore during Kharif 2017 under PMFBY.

(b) The farmer's welfare/supporting programmes and schemes are not disjointed. Agriculture sector development involves various stages including pre-production, production, harvesting, post-harvesting and marketing. Various supporting programmes and schemes for farmers welfare have been provided by the Government to cover the entire agriculture sector from pre production to post harvesting and marketing in tandem with a view to enhance economics of production, marketing and improving the income of farmers. The farmer's welfare/supporting programmes and schemes are linked at various stages.

(c) The Government has been reorienting the agriculture sector by focusing additionally on an income-centric approach which focuses apart from achieving high productivity and production, reducing in cost of cultivation and remunerative price for the produce, with a view to facilitate higher profits from farming.

For this, Government has taken several initiatives which *inter alia* include:—

- (i) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be optimized.
- (ii) “Per drop more crop” initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water.
- (iii) “Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)” under which organic farming is being promoted. North East is being developed as organic hub.
- (iv) With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, Government has launched a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from Kharif 2016 season. This scheme provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances.
- (v) Under “Har Medh Par Ped”, agro forestry is being promoted. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1947 Bamboo grown outside forest area has been removed from the definition of trees and a mission have been launched to promote bamboo plantation.
- (vi) Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives of the Government and in keeping with its commitment and dedication for the Annadata, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan’ (PM-AASHA). The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India to protect the farmers’ income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.
- (vii) In order to provide better marketing facilities to the farmers, the Government has released a new model “The Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017” in April 2017 for its adoption by States/Union Territories (UTs). The provisions therein provides for alternative marketing channels to facilitate farmers in marketing their produce at competitive and remunerative prices.
- (viii) In order to optimise the use of scarce resources and mitigate the uncertainty in price and marketing, the Government has formulated

and released a progressive and facilitative Model Act “The-State/UT Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018” in May, 2018 for its adoption by the States/Union Territories (UTs). The aforesaid Model Contract Farming Act covers the entire value and supply chain from pre-production to post harvest marketing including services contract for the agricultural produce and livestock.

- (ix) As per Union Budget Announcement, 2018-19, Government has decided to develop and upgrade existing rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs) to work as centers of aggregation and for direct purchase of agricultural commodities from the farmers.
- (x) The Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for the farmers for their produce through competitive online bidding system. So far, 585 wholesale regulated markets of 16 States and 02 UTs have been integrated with e-NAM platform.
- (xi) Minimum Support Price (MSP) is notified by the Government for certain crops. Giving a major boost for the farmers income, the Government has approved the increase in the MSPs for all Kharif and Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 percent of the cost of production.
- (xii) During the period from 2014-15 to 2018-19, a quantity of 93.97 lakh MT of pulses and oilseeds valuing Rs. 44,142.50 crore were procured at MSP by various agencies of Government of India.
- (xiii) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.
- (xiv) Rashtriya Gokul Mission has been implemented to enhance milk production and productivity of bovines and to make milk production more remunerative to the farmers.
- (xv) National Livestock Mission has been implemented to increase productivity and genetic improvement of livestock.
- (xvi) Foreseeing high potential in fisheries sector, a Blue Revolution with multi dimensional activities mainly focusing on fisheries production, both inland and marine is being implemented.

(xvii) Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters) aims at promoting modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet.

(xviii) In order to overcome distress sale of his agri-produce, the Government is providing assistance for marketing infrastructure including storage and cold storage infrastructure under various schemes such as Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana- Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) and Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) sub scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM).

Role of States in implementation of PMFBY

2588. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments play important role in implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);

(b) if so, the role of State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana in finalising insurance companies for clusters, payment of premium subsidy, crop cutting experiments, submission of data of crop yield to insurance company, etc.;

(c) the details of premium paid to insurance companies since inception of scheme in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, State-wise and Kharif and Rabi crop-wise; and

(d) the planning of Ministry for more effective implementation of scheme and to bring States on board, since they are the implementing agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. State Governments have a major role in implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). As per the scheme provisions, the State Governments decide crops and areas for implementation of the scheme, select insurance companies through bidding process, decide clustering of districts, furnish past yield data for calculation of Threshold Yield and premium rates, conduct Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs), furnish yield data to insurance companies for calculation of claims, release their share of premium subsidy etc. and conduct Joint Survey with the representatives of the concerned insurance companies for determination of claims under Add-on products, such as, crop loss for prevented sowing, mid-season adversity, localized calamities and post-harvest losses.

(c) Seasons-wise details of premium paid to insurance companies in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana is given below:—

(₹ in crore)

Season	Gross Premium	
	Andhra Pradesh	Telangana
Kharif 2016	680.80	232.06
Rabi 2016-17	164.70	59.84
Kharif 2017	1160.16	592.03
Rabi 2017-18	178.27	57.41

(d) With a view to ensure better transparency, accountability, timely payment of claims to the farmers and to make the scheme more farmer friendly, Government has comprehensively revised the Operational Guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) which have become effective from 01.10.2018. To ensure optimal coverage under the scheme, the following provisions, which will facilitate higher enrolment and early settlement of claims, making the scheme even more farmer friendly, have, *inter alia*, been made in the Revised Operational Guidelines:—

- (i) Provision of 12% interest rate per annum to be paid by the Insurance Company to farmers for delay in settlement claims beyond 10 days of prescribed cut off date for payment of claims.
- (ii) State Government have to pay 12% interest rate for delay in release of State share of Subsidy beyond three months of prescribed cut off date/ submission of requisition by Insurance Companies.
- (iii) Increased time for change of crop name for insurance - upto 2 working days prior to cut-off date for enrolment instead of earlier provision of 1 month before cut off date.
- (iv) Rationalisation of methodology for calculation of Threshold Yield (TY) to calculate claims - Moving average of best 5 out of 7 years to be taken for calculation.
- (v) Increase in risk coverage by inclusion of risks of cloud burst and natural fire under localized calamities and hailstorm under post-harvest losses.
- (vi) Time for intimation of loss due to localized calamities and post-harvest losses has been increased from 48 hours to 72 hours.
- (vii) Stratified grievance redressal mechanism *viz.* District Level Grievance Redressal Committee (DGRC), State Level Grievance Redressal Committee (SGRC).

- (viii) Detailed plan for publicity and awareness - 0.5% of Gross premium per company per season earmarked for the purpose.
- (ix) Detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for settlement of claims under localized calamities, post harvest losses, mid-season adversity and prevented sowing and redressal of disputes regarding yield data including add on features.
- (x) Inclusion of perennial crops and add on coverage for damage by wild animals on pilot basis.

Agriculture Policy

†2589. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the agriculture policy of the country and if there is no policy, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether farmers do not get the proper prices for their produce due to absence of agriculture policy;

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

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the farmers and their produce from the middlemen of the market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (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

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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.

(b) to (d) The National Commission on Farmers (NCF) had recommended that the Minimum Support Price (MSP) should be at least 50% more than the weighted average cost of production. However, this recommendation was not included by the Government then in the National Policy for Farmers finalized in 2007. The Government now, based on the recommendation of Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP), has increased the Minimum Support Prices (MSPs) for all notified Kharif and Rabi crops and other commercial crops for 2018-19 Season with a return of at least 50% over cost of production. This decision of the Government was a historic one as it redeemed the promise of fixing the MSPs at a level of at least 50 per cent return over the cost of production as announced in the Union Budget 2018-19.

The recently launched Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)' provides for a holistic arrangement for assurance of a remunerative and stable price environment for growers/farmers to increase agriculture production and productivity. This Umbrella Scheme comprises Price Support Scheme (PSS) for pulses and oilseeds, Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) and Pilot of Private Procurement and Stockist Scheme (PPSS) for oilseeds to ensure MSP to the farmers.

In order to provide an alternative to farmers for marketing avenues, National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) Scheme was launched on 14.04.2016. The Scheme envisages initiation of e-marketing platform at national level and will support creation of infrastructure to enable e-marketing in 585 regulated markets across the country by March, 2018. The target has been achieved. This innovative market process is revolutionising agri markets by ensuring better price discovery, bringing in transparency and competition to enable farmers to get improved remuneration for their produce moving towards 'One Nation One Market'.

As per Union Budget announcement 2018-19, the Government has decided to develop and upgrade existing 22,000 rural haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets

(GrAMs). These GrAMs, electronically linked to e-NAM portal and exempted from regulations of Agriculture Produce Marketing Committees (APMCs), will provide farmers facility to make direct sale to consumers and bulk purchasers.

Further, the Central Government has released the Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Marketing (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017, in April, 2017 and the Model Agricultural Produce and Livestock Contract Farming and Services (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2018, in May, 2018, for adoption by State/UTs, to promote alternative competitive marketing channels for better pricing for farmers and to encourage private investment in developing efficient marketing infrastructure and value chain.

Non-calling of AGM by Board of Kendriya Bhandar

2590. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) is aware of the fact that the Board of Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar) has failed to convene annual general meeting (AGM) under Section 39 of Multi-State Co-operative Societies (MSCS) Act, 2002 within six months of the closure of the accounting year 2017-18;

(b) if so, the details of action taken by CRCS as per the provisions of Section 39(2) and 43(2)(b) of MSCS Act, 2002; and

(c) the details of letters received by CRCS from MPs during the month of December, 2018 along with action taken on each letter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Government Employees Consumer Cooperative Society Limited (Kendriya Bhandar) has informed that due to ongoing disputes related to elections of delegates/directors/ chairman being in court, Annual General Body Meeting could not be convened on or before 30.09.2018. As calling of General Body Meeting on or before 30.09.2018 to transact the business/agenda items as per the provisions of MSCS Act 2002 was mandatory, and due to shortage of time, it was decided by the Board of Directors (BoD) to convene Special General Body Meeting on 30.09.2018 to consider and approve the agenda items by the General Body, under the powers vested in it under section 38 of the said Act.

(b) The cooperative societies which are registered under the provisions of MSCS Act, 2002 are functioning as autonomous cooperative organisations accountable to their

members. Any dispute arising between the member and the multi-state cooperative society, shall be settled by filing dispute u/s 84 of the MSCS Act, 2002 for arbitration.

(c) It this regard, two references from Shri Ram Kumar Kashyap, MP (Rajya Sabha) addressed to the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies dated 04.12.2018 have been received in this department and the same were replied *vide* this department's letter No.R-11017/81/2018-L&M dated 31.12.2018.

Construction of cold storages in Bihar

†2591. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sufficient number of cold storages have been constructed by Government for the conservation of vegetables and fruits;

(b) whether outline of the plan has been formulated for the expansion of cold chain in rural areas of the country;

(c) whether the facility of cold storage has been provided by Government for farmers of Bihar for conservation of vegetables and fruits; and

(d) if so, the names of the districts of Bihar wherein Government has constructed the cold storage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) A study on All India Cold-chain Infrastructure Capacity (AICIC-2015) carried out by NABARD Consultancy Service (NABCONS) assessed requirement of 350 lakh MT capacity of cold storage for perishable fruits and vegetables. As on 31.07.2018, cold storage capacity available in the country was 366 lakh MT.

(b) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) for development of Horticulture in the country. Under this scheme assistance for development of Post Harvest Management (PHM) is available. PHM component includes establishment of cold storages, staging cold room, pack house, pre-cooling units, controlled atmosphere (CA) storage, reefer vans, primary/mobile processing units, integrated pack house, preservation unit (low cost), ripening chambers, onion storage at farm level etc. An entrepreneur can avail assistance for individual component or combination of different components for which credit linked back ended assistance @ 35% in general areas and @ 50% in hilly and scheduled areas is available.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Further, Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure as one of the component of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana. Under the scheme Ministry provides financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid @ 35% for general areas and @ 50% for North East States, Himalayan States, Integrated Tribal Development Project areas and Islands for storage and transport infrastructure. The assistance is available @50% and @75% respectively for value addition and processing infrastructure subject to a maximum grant-in-aid of ₹ 10.00 crore for setting up of integrated cold chain projects including irradiation facilities.

(c) and (d) The schemes are demand and entrepreneur driven. Government does not establish cold storage but provides subsidy to entrepreneurs through State Government for establishment of cold storage.

Under MIDH scheme, State Horticulture Mission, Bihar has provided assistance for establishment of 30 cold storages since 2009-10 to 2017-18 in the Districts of Purnea (4 Nos.), Nalanda (1 No.), Bhagalpur (1 No.), Samastipur (3 Nos.), Patna (3 Nos.), Begusarai (5 Nos.), Vaishali (4 Nos.), Muzaffarpur (3 Nos.), Kishanganj (1 No.), East Champaran (3 Nos.), Gaya (1 No.) and Aurangabad (1 No.).

National Horticulture Board (NHB) under its scheme since 2014 -15 has provided assistance to 3 cold storage in the Districts of Samastipur (2 Nos.) and Katihar (1 No.).

Further, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has provided assistance for setting up of 2 cold chain projects, one each in Vaishali and Muzaffarpur Districts for vegetables and fruits .

Failure of genetical engineered Bt. Cotton

2592. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that genetically engineered Bt. Cotton has failed in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it has failed as a sustainable agriculture technology and therefore also failed to provide livelihood security for cotton growing farmers who are mainly resource poor, small and marginal farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) Bt cotton

technology was originally meant for controlling Bollworms *per se*, in cotton and the Bt technology is still offering good control for bollworms (except Pink Bollworm *Spodoptera litura*) for the past 16 years. Even now more than 88% of cotton area is covered under Bt cotton.

(b) In the current Kharif season (2018-19) around 88.27% of the 122.38 lakh ha cotton area is under Bt cotton. Farmers are being advised to follow integrated crop nutrient management, integrated pest management and optimum of higher plant density in the fields to get higher yield.

(c) Not Applicable.

Utilization of funds under MIS

2593. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) the details of fund allocated, released and spent during 2017-18 and 2018-19 till 31st December, 2018 under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS), State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether onion, tomato and potato produced in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra are covered under Market Intervention Scheme;

(c) if so, the details thereof along with the details of procurement under this scheme, State-wise during the current year and last year; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) Funds are not allocated to the States under Market Intervention Scheme (MIS). Instead, Central Share of losses on the implementation of MIS is released to the State Governments/nominated State implementing agencies after vetting the audited accounts submitted by them. Details of Central share released/audited accounts received from State Governments /vetted by Ministry of Finance and its current status during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19 till 31st December, 2018 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d) The details of commodities sanctioned under MIS during the current year and last year, State-wise is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of Audited Accounts received under MIS from State Governments/vetted by Ministry of Finance and its current status during the year 2017-18 and 2018-19

Year	State	Commodity	Central Share recommended by Ministry of Finance (₹ in lakh)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
2017-18	Himachal Pradesh	Apple	92.38	Central Share released to State agency.
	Mizoram	Grapes-2016	370.35	In process
	Nagaland	Potato-2017	92.81	In process
2018-19	Andhra Pradesh	Palm-Oil FFBs 2015-16	821.62	In process
	Rajasthan	Garlic 2016-17	4.39	In process
	Uttar Pradesh	Potato-2016-17	7.06	In process
	Tamil Nadu	Palm-Oil FFBs-2016	0.25	In process

Statement-II

Details of Sanction accorded under MIS from 2017-18 to 2018-19

(As on 31.12.2018)

Sl. No.	Year	Period	Commodity	State	Market Intervention Price (MIP) (₹ Per MTs.)	Sanctioned Qty (in MTs.)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	2017-18	08.04.2017 to 07.05.2017	Potato	Uttar Pradesh	4,870	100,000
2.	2017-18	02.05.2017 to 31.05.2017	Red Chillli	Telangana	50,000	33,700
3.	2017-18	02.05.2017 to 31.05.2017	Red Chillli	Andhra Pradesh	50,000	88,300

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4.	2017-18	04.06.2017 to 03.07.2017	Potato	Nagaland	6,000	6,600
5.	2017-18	17.06.2017 to 16.07.2017	Turmeric	Andhra Pradesh	55,720	12,100
6.	2017-18	13.06.2017 to 12.07.2017	Garlic	Rajasthan	28,600	10,000
7.	2017-18	09.06.2017 to 08.07.2017	Onion	Madhya Pradesh	5,867	651,000
8.	2017-18	27.06.2017 to 26.07.2017	Onion	Rajasthan	3,650	20,000
9.	2017-18	02.03.2018 to 31.03.2018	Potato	Uttar Pradesh	5,490	200,000
10.	2018-19	13.04.2018 to 20.06.2018	Garlic	Rajasthan	32,570	154,000
11.	2018-19	13.04.2018 to 12.05.2018	Onion	Rajasthan	6,180	260,000

Creation of Credit Guarantee Trust for Agriculture

2594. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of Government of Odisha for creation of Credit Guarantee Trust for Agriculture (CGTA), submitted to Hon'ble Prime Minister vide DO Letter No. Um-1/2018-CM dated 16 June, 2018 of Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha has been processed by the Ministry of Agriculture; and

(b) if so, the present status of the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) and (b) Hon'ble Chief Minister Odisha's proposal has been received. Proposals from Hon'ble Chief Minister of a State are accorded priority and the issues are decided taking into account the policy regime and resource availability.

Procurement of pulses and oilseeds

2595. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of procurement of pulses and oilseeds by Government during the last four years; and how does this procurement compare with the previous corresponding period; and

(b) the details of proposed procurement of pulses and oilseeds under the new scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA): (a) The details of procurement of pulses and oilseeds under Price Support Scheme (PSS) during the last four years are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). Pulses are also procured under Price Stabilisation Fund (PSF) since 2015-16 for buffer stock. The details of pulses procured under PSF since 2015-16 are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Procurement under PSS depends upon the market conditions prevailing at the time of harvest/peak arrival period and decision of State Government/Union Territory concerned to implement the scheme. The procurement made during 2010-11 to 2013-14 and during 2014-15 to 2017-18 is given in the Statement-III (*See below*) .

(b) Procurement under Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan depends upon market scenario and decision of State Government/Union Territory concerned to implement of scheme. However, the details of sanctioned quantity for procurement of pulses and oilseeds during the ongoing Kharif season 2018-19 as per the prescribed guidelines under the new scheme Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan are given in the Statement-IV.

Statement-I

*Details of pulses and oilseeds procured at MSP under PSS during
2014-15 to 2017-18*

Year	Commodity	Quantity Procured (in MTs)	MSP Cost (₹ in lakh)
2014-15	Gram	364171.00	112892.92
	Groundnut	6229.81	2491.92
	Mustard Seed	1714.82	523.02
	Sunflower Seed	4153.21	1536.69
TOTAL		376268.84	117444.55

Year	Commodity	Quantity Procured (in MTs)	MSP Cost (₹ in lakh)
2015-16	Sunflower Seed	4241.68	1589.13
	TOTAL	4241.68	1589.13
2016-17	Copra	6325.80	3817.12
	Groundnut	210731.16	88928.55
	Moong	9496.71	4962.03
	Soyabean	162.19	45.00
	Sunflower Seed	4949.31	1880.73
	Toor	195993.68	98976.81
	TOTAL	427658.85	198610.23
2017-18	Groundnut	1050084.68	467265.88
	Moong	407309.18	223140.66
	Mustard Seed	36940.18	13667.87
	Sesamum Seed	3419.81	1709.91
	Soyabean	72282.10	22046.04
	Sunflower Seed	6539.09	2582.94
	Toor	873758.62	476198.45
	Urad	292413.90	157273.60
	TOTAL	2742747.56	1363885.34
	GRAND TOTAL	3550916.94	1681529.26

Statement-III

Details of pulses and oilseeds procured at MSP under PSS during 2010-11 to 2013-14 and 2014-15 to 2017-18

Year	Commodity	Quantity Procured (in MTs)	MSP Cost (₹ in lakh)
2010-11	Copra	31814.47	14179.81
	Sesamum Seed	1884.62	537.12
	Sunflower Seed	844.32	187.02
	Toor	456.36	136.91
	Urad	129.66	37.60
	TOTAL	35129.42	15078.46
2011-12	Copra	336.70	152.36
	Urad	1.57	0.52
	TOTAL	338.27	152.88
2012-13	Copra	75733.44	38851.01
	Cotton	181510.32	70747.88
	Sunflower Seed	1499.10	554.67
	Toor	16042.63	6176.41
	Urad	80339.40	34545.94
	TOTAL	355124.88	150875.91
2013-14	Copra	33863.99	18516.97
	Gram	36.08	10.82
	Groundnut	355835.28	142309.20
	Sunflower Seed	4899.03	1812.64
	Toor	50165.78	21571.29
	Urad	4659.71	2003.68
	TOTAL	449459.87	186224.60
GRAND TOTAL		840052.44	352331.86
2014-15	Gram	364171.00	112892.92
	Groundnut	6229.81	2491.92
	Mustard Seed	1714.82	523.02
	Sunflower Seed	4153.21	1536.69
	TOTAL	376268.84	117444.55

Year	Commodity	Quantity Procured (in MTs)	MSP Cost (₹ in lakh)
2015-16	Sunflower Seed	4241.68	1589.13
	TOTAL	4241.68	1589.13
2016-17	Copra	6325.80	3817.12
	Groundnut	210731.16	88928.55
	Moong	9496.71	4962.03
	Soyabean	162.19	45.00
	Sunflower Seed	4949.31	1880.73
	Toor	195993.68	98976.81
	TOTAL	427658.85	198610.23
2017-18	Groundnut	1050084.68	467265.88
	Moong	407309.18	223140.66
	Mustard Seed	36940.18	13667.87
	Sesamum Seed	3419.81	1709.91
	Soyabean	72282.10	22046.04
	Sunflower Seed	6539.09	2582.94
	Toor	873758.62	476198.45
	Urad	292413.90	157273.60
	TOTAL	2742747.56	1363885.34
GRAND TOTAL		3550916.94	1681529.26

Statement-IV

Details of sanction quantity for procurement of pulses and oilseeds under PM-AASHA during Kharif Marketing Season 2018-19

(as on 31.12.2018)

States	Pulse/oilseed	Commodities	Quantity sanctioned in MT
Price Support Scheme (PSS) Kharif 2018-19			
Karnataka	Pulse	Moong	28,950
	Pulse	Urad	9,075
	Pulse	Tur	180,500
	Oilseed	Soyabean	81,800
Tamil Nadu	Pulse	Moong	4,625

States	Pulse/oilseed	Commodities	Quantity sanctioned in MT
Uttar Pradesh	Pulse	Moong	4,000
	Pulse	Urad	61,000
	Oilseed	Sesamum	13,000
	Oilseed	Groundnut	20,000
Telangana	Pulse	Moong	16,550
	Pulse	Urad	5,950
	Pulse	Tur	70,300
	Oilseed	Groundnut	8,750
	Oilseed	Soyabean	70,250
Maharashtra	Pulse	Moong	38,000
	Pulse	Urad	35,000
	Oilseed	Soyabean	250,000
Madhya Pradesh	Pulse	Moong	31,000
	Pulse	Urad	345,000
	Pulse	Tur	158,000
	Oilseed	Groundnut	92,250
	Oilseed	Nigerseed	4,200
	Oilseed	Sesamum	50,000
Andhra Pradesh	Pulse	Moong	2,025
	Pulse	Urad	5,324
	Pulse	Tur	27,850
Rajasthan	Pulse	Moong	239,375
	Pulse	Urad	88,575
	Oilseed	Groundnut	379,000
	Oilseed	Soyabean	369,000
Haryana	Pulse	Moong	1,775
Odisha	Pulse	Moong	8,350
	Pulse	Urad	5,950
	Pulse	Tur	26,700
	Oilseed	Groundnut	4,375

States	Pulse/oilseed	Commodities	Quantity sanctioned in MT
Gujarat	Pulse	Moong	9,550
	Pulse	Urad	18,750
	Pulse	Tur	78,500
	Oilseed	Groundnut	675,000
TOTAL			3,518,299
Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) KHARIF 2018-19			
Madhya Pradesh	Oilseed	Soyabean	1,682,700
TOTAL			1,682,700

Fall in sale prices of onions

2596. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the prices of onion in Tadepalligudem market have fallen to as low as ₹ 1 recently;

(b) whether it is a fact that if farmers gets price between ₹ 10 and ₹ 18 only then it becomes remunerative for them;

(c) if so, whether Government has thought of buying onions from farmers of Andhra Pradesh under Market Intervention Scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) and (b) The prices of agricultural produce including Onion are determined by supply and demand conditions in the market on a day-to-day basis. The Statement showing arrivals and prices of onion at Bhramanandhareddy market, Tadepalligudem, for the month of December, 2018 is given in the Statement (*See below*).

The all India average monthly wholesale price of onion for December, 2018 was ₹ 1063 per quintal.

(c) to (e) Government is implementing Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress

sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The scheme is implemented at the request of a 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 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.

From the State of Andhra Pradesh, no proposal has been received for the procurement of onions till 26.12.2018.

Statement

Statement showing arrivals and prices of onions at Bhramanandhareddy Market (Local Market), Tadepalligudem, for the month of December, 2018

Date	Arrivals in Tons	(Wholesale Price in ₹/qtl)		
		Min.	Max.	Model
1	2	3	4	5
1.12.2018	102	300	900	700
2.12.2018	65	300	900	700
3.12.2018	35	300	800	600
4.12.2018	90	350	750	550
5.12.2018	78	350	900	700
6.12.2018	120	300	900	700
7.12.2018	102	300	750	600
8.12.2018	132	300	700	550
9.12.2018	125	350	700	550
10.12.2018	120	300	600	500
11.12.2018	95	300	700	550
12.12.2018	78	320	750	600
13.12.2018	61	350	750	600
14.12.2018	81	310	950	800
15.12.2018	29	300	600	500
16.12.2018	110	350	750	600

1	2	3	4	5
17.12.2018	70	300	700	550
18.12.2018	185	350	800	600
19.12.2018	93	320	850	650
20.12.2018	81	350	830	650
21.12.2018	195	350	850	700
22.12.2018	52	300	750	600
23.12.2018	120	320	800	650
24.12.2018	44	300	750	600
25.12.2018	Nil	Nil	Nil	
26.12.2018	Nil	Nil	Nil	
27.12.2018	18	400	700	550
28.12.2018	63	310	710	600
29.12.2018	Nil	Nil	Nil	
30.12.2018	70	360	820	650
31.12.2018	Nil	Nil	Nil	

Source: As collected and reported by AMC, Tadepalligudem.

Implementation of Rashtriya Gokul Mission

2597. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government implements Rashtriya Gokul Mission in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the projects approved/implemented in various States, since inception of the Mission, State-wise/project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA RAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries has been implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission with the aim of development and conservation of indigenous bovine breeds. The details of the projects approved/implemented in various States since inception of the mission is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of the projects approved/implemented in various States since inception of the Rashtriya Gokul Mission

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Project cost approved	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6392.54	600.00	0.00	675	437.00	1861.51	3573.51
2.	Arunanchal Pradesh	1035.19		264.50	14.81	200.00	10.47	489.78
3.	Assam	2761.32	200.00		287.15	0.00	1174.53	1661.68
4.	Bihar	19345.07		750.00	0	4489.95	2783.53	8023.48
5.	Chhattisgarh	6641.46	1080.00		0	100.00	2524.32	3704.32
7.	Gujarat	10657.91		873.22	100	0.00	179.20	1152.42
6.	Goa	2.84			0	0.00	2.84	2.84
8.	Haryana	8401.16	469.20		1500	317.22	40.84	2327.26
9.	Himachal Pradesh	3534.39	571.00		0	687.00	218.16	1476.16
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	2118.44		175.00	0	196.75	81.68	453.43
11.	Jharkhand	5791.85	500.00		1000	157.73	819.97	2477.70
12.	Karnataka	6476.72		1160.00	100	857.00	99.78	2216.78
13.	Kerala	5408.19	1000.00	500.00	1000	136.00	264.09	2900.09
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10840.56	2400.40	1981.00	850	1619.00	766.52	7616.92
15.	Maharashtra	9799.21	100.00		1500	300.00	871.87	2771.87
16.	Manipur	3266.60	650.00	534.02	350.5	200.00	495.85	2230.37
17.	Meghalaya	2352.05			20.29	0.00	945.37	965.66
18.	Mizoram	669.63	250.00	177.95	63.52	0.00	8.69	500.16
19.	Nagaland	2655.25	648.30	475.10	245.66	558.29	11.01	1938.36
20.	Odisha	11555.92	1106.00		1591.98	0.00	2294.33	4992.31
21.	Punjab	5313.83		600.00	100	500.00	855.18	2055.18
22.	Rajasthan	6777.68	500.00		150	1654.00	275.07	2579.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
23.	Sikkim	1895.36	500.00		11.79	925.91	18.69	1456.39
24.	Tamil Nadu	11077.51	2376.12		850	1200.23	686.23	5112.58
25.	Telangana	5182.02	500.00		0	801.45	122.51	1423.96
26.	Tripura	1926.00	551.00		671.38	0.00	33.52	1255.90
27.	Uttar Pradesh	12788.04	1000.00	200.00	132.02	2000.00	1114.54	4446.56
28.	Uttarakhand	8884.89	500.00		661	0.00	3473.88	4634.88
29.	West Bengal	4177.91	400.00	485.28	0	1426.29	27.41	2338.98
30.	Chandigarh	3.18					3.18	3.18
31.	Delhi	46.02					46.02	46.02
32.	Daman and Diu	0.12					0.12	0.12
33.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1.38					1.38	1.38
34.	Lakshadweep	1.02					1.02	1.02
35.	Puducherry	143.30					4.68	4.68
36.	Andman and Nicobar Islands	309.90					309.90	309.90
37.	NDDB	5772.78					1228.20	1228.20
38.	ICAR-NBAGR	3602.51					890.11	890.11
TOTAL		187609.74	15902.02	8176.07	11875.10	18763.82	24546.21	79263.22

**Diversion of funds for Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and
Rehabilitation (BGTRR)**

2598. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even after 7 years, only ₹ 129.50 crore was utilised out of the ₹ 272.75 crore allocated by the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers to the Bhopal Gas Tragedy Relief and Rehabilitation (BGTRR);

(b) whether it is also a fact that ₹ 85.87 crore was diverted from the remaining ₹ 143.25 crore to construct roads, parks and drains; and

(c) if so, the reasons why the Ministry agreed to divert the funds meant for the rehabilitation of gas hit survivors to other purposes on March 23, 2018?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) A sum of ₹ 272.75 crore was sanctioned by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure "On Account" payment of Additional Central Assistance (ACA) for other projects (Grant Component) to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh projects under the New Plan of Action for the Bhopal Gas Leak Disaster in the year 2010. Out of that, Government of Madhya Pradesh has utilized a sum of ₹ 130.29 crore under Medical, Economic, Social and Environmental Rehabilitation of the Plan.

(b) and (c) Details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Funds utilized by Government of Madhya Pradesh under Medical, Economic, Social and Environmental Rehabilitation of the plan

Out of ₹ 272.75 crore sanctioned by the Government of India, the State Government of Madhya Pradesh has utilized an amount of ₹ 130.29 crore for various relief and rehabilitation projects/activities under the New Plan of Action, 2010. The following table indicates component wise allocation of fund and its utilization by the Government of Madhya Pradesh:—

(₹ in crore)				
Component of Action Plan	Fund allocated	Fund utilized	Unspent balance fund	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
Medical Rehabilitation	33.55	16.32	17.23	The proposal received from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh to utilize the unspent fund of ₹ 17.23 crore for setting up of Bone Marrow Transplant unit at Kamala Nehru Hospital, reconstruction of damaged dispensaries constructed for gas victims etc. was considered and necessary administrative approval was accorded.
Economic Rehabilitation	104	18.13	85.87	The proposal received from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh to utilize an amount of ₹ 25.12 crore from the unspent balance for providing self employment to the gas victims under "Mukhyamantri Swarojgar Yojna" (Chief Minister Self Employment

1	2	3	4	5
				scheme) which include ₹ 1.00 crore for component of appropriate/relevant training was considered and necessary administrative approval was accorded.
Social Rehabilitation	85.2	45.84	39.36	The proposal received from Govt. of Madhya Pradesh to utilize an amount of ₹ 25 crore from unspent balance for providing assistance to the 2,500 Bhopal Gas Victims who do not have pucca dwelling houses to acquire housing under “Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban)”, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India was considered and necessary administrative approval was accorded.
Environmental Rehabilitation	50	50	0	
TOTAL	272.75	130.29	142.46	

2. It is stated that the fund of ₹ 272.75 crore sanctioned to the Government of Madhya Pradesh is meant for relief and rehabilitation of Bhopal Gas Tragedy victims under various rehabilitation schemes. Government of Madhya Pradesh has sought the approval of the Government to utilize the remaining unspent balance of ₹ 74.75 crore (unspent amount of ₹ 14 crore is available under Social Rehabilitation programme and ₹ 60.75 crore is available under Economic Rehabilitation programme) under New Plan of Action 2010 for providing Social and Environmental facilities such as construction of roads, drainage etc. in the gas affected areas. No administrative approval in this regard has been accorded to the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Import of fertilizers

2599. SHRI SANTIUSE KUJUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that Government is importing fertilizers;
- if so, the details thereof and the policy of Government for import of fertilizers;
- the quantum and value of fertilizers imported along with the names of

importing companies and the countries from which these fertilizers were imported during each of the last three years and the current year, fertilizer-wise;

(d) the monitoring mechanism put in place to check quality of fertilizers being imported by the said companies; and

(e) the measures taken by Government to make the country self-sufficient in production of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, Urea for direct agriculture use is imported on Government account through State Trading Enterprises (STEs) namely MMTC Limited (MMTC) and State Trading Corporation Limited (STC) under the Foreign Trade Policy of the Government. M/s Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers (RCF) and National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) also imported urea for a limited time period and M/s IPL has been de-listed from the list of STEs by DGFT. Government is also importing approximately 20 lakh Metric Tonnes urea from Oman India Fertilizer Company (OMIFCO) under a Long Term Urea Off Take Agreement (UOTA) between GOI and OMIFCO. The import of urea from OMIFCO is made through M/s IFFCO and M/s KRIBHCO. The quantum and value of urea along with the names of importing companies during each of the last three years and current year (up to December, 2018) is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Import of fertilizers (other than Urea) is free, commonly known as Open General Licence (OGL). Various companies import these fertilizers as per their commercial judgment. Government does not maintain the value of these imports. The quantum of P&K fertilizers imported during the last three years and current year (up to December, 2018) is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The name of companies who have imported P&K fertilizers during the last 3 years and the current year are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

The countries from where fertilizers have been imported during the last three years and current year are given in the Statement-IV (*See below*).

(d) All the fertilizers consignments including containers and bulk shipments have been inspected by the Fertilizer Inspectors notified under Clause 27 of Fertilizer Control Order, 1985 and the samples have been drawn by the Fertilizer Inspector during the period of discharge at seaport from the bulk shipment or the release of containers from seaports. The method of sampling and analysis of samples have been adopted as per the provisions laid down FCO, 1985 of Schedule II Part A and B.

(e) The Government has announced New Investment Policy-2012 on 2nd January, 2013 and its amendment on 7th October, 2014 to facilitate fresh investment in urea

sector and to make India self-sufficient in the urea sector. Based on NIP-2012, any interested company can establish urea plants in the country. Under the provisions of NIP-2012 and its amendment, Matix Fertilisers and Chemicals Limited (Matix) has set up a Coal Bed Methane (CBM) based Greenfield Ammonia-Urea complex at Panagarh, West Bengal with the installed capacity of 1.3 MMT per annum. The commercial production of Matix has started on 1st October, 2017. Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited (CFCL) has also set up a brownfield project with capacity of 1.34 MMT at Gadepan, Rajasthan. Trial run of CFCL-Gadepan III has started.

Further to increase the production of fertilizers by Central PSUs, Government has decided to revive closed units namely Gorakhpur, Sindri, Talcher and Ramagundam units of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) and Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFCL) through 'Nomination Route' by nominating Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSU). Each of these units are being revived by setting up new Ammonia-Urea Plant having production capacity of 1.27 Million Metric Tonne per annum.

In addition to above, Government has also decided to install a new Urea plant of 8.646 Lakh Metric Tonne (LMT) per annum in the existing premises of Brahamaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL), which will subsequently replace the existing urea plants Namrup II (capacity 2.20 LMT) and Namrup III (capacity 2.70 LMT per annum)

Statement-I

Quantum and value of Urea along with the names of importing companies during each of the last three years and current year (upto December, 2018)

Year	From OMIFCO	Through STE					(Lakh MT)
		STC	MMTC	IPL	NFL	RCF	Value in (Million US\$)
2015-16	20.77	19.94	16.76	27.26	N/A	N/A	2,087.61
2016-17	20.02	14.06	16.35	4.37	N/A	N/A	1,047.28
2017-18	20.92	0.00	13.13	17.31	4.01	4.37	1,295.72
2018-19*	15.69	0.00	26.83	11.21	N/A	N/A	1,424.57

* upto December, 2018.

Statement-II

Quantum of P&K fertilizers imported during the last three years and current year (up to December, 2018)

(Lakh MT)

Year	DAP	NPK	MOP#
2015-16	60.08	6.29	32.43
2016-17	43.85	5.21	37.36
2017-18	42.17	4.99	47.36
2018-19*	55.70	4.04	31.42

* upto December, 2018.

MOP includes both for use as direct application as well as NPK manufacture.

Statement-III

Name of companies who have imported P&K fertilizers during the last three years and current year

Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (CFCL), Coromandel International Ltd. (CIL), Deepak Fertilizers and Petrochemicals Ltd. (DFPL), Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Green-star Fertilizer Ltd.(GFL), Gujarat State Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (GSFC), HINDALCO/Indo Gulf Fertilizers Ltd. (IGFL), HPM Chemicals and Fertilizes, Indian Farmers Fertilizers Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO), Indian Potash Ltd. (IPL), Kanpur Fertilizers, Krishak Bharati Cooperative (KRIBHCO), Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (MCFL), Madras Fertilizer Ltd. (MFL), Mosaic India Pvt. Ltd., Nagarjuna Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd. (NFCL), National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Paradeep Phosphates Ltd. (PPL), Rashtriya Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd. (RCF), Shriram Ferts and Chemicals, Sunfert International Pvt. Ltd., Tata Chemicals Ltd. (TCL), Zuari Agro Chemicals Ltd. (ZACL).

Statement-IV

Countries from where fertilizers have been imported during the last three years and the current year

Algeria, Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, China, Canada, CIS, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Oman, Russia, S. Arabia, UAE, Ukraine and USA.

Impact of PMBJP

2600. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the impact of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana since its inception; and

(b) whether there have been any modifications in the scheme since its inception?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Jan Aushadhi Pariyojana' (PMBJP) was launched by the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India with an objective of making available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all.

Under this scheme, unbranded generic medicines of good quality are made available through outlets called PMBJP Kendras. In order to ensure quality of medicines sold through PMBJP Kendras, the medicines are procured only from WHO-GMP certified manufacturers.

As on 31.12.2018, 4677 PMBJP Kendras are functional in 35 States/UTs of the country. The product basket of the scheme covers more than 800 medicines and 154 surgicals and consumables covering all 23 major therapeutic groups such as Anti-infectives, Anti-diabetics, Cardiovasculars, Anti-cancers, Gastro-intestinal medicines, etc.

The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of a medicine sold through PMBJP outlets is fixed in such a way that it is at least 50% below the average MRP of corresponding top three brands of that medicine. In some cases, the MRP is fixed at such a low rate that it is 90% below the MRP of corresponding branded medicines. Thus, quality generic medicines are made available to people of the country at a much cheaper rate *vis-a-vis* the prevalent market rate of branded medicines. Unbranded generic medicines worth ₹ 417 crores (MRP) have been sold through PMBJP Kendras from inception of the scheme till the end of December, 2018. This sale is roughly equivalent to sale of ₹ 2085 crores of the branded medicines. Thus, PMBJP has resulted in the saving of approximately ₹ 1668 crores to the citizens of country.

(b) Yes Sir.

Problems of Pharmaceutical industry

2601. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pharmaceutical industry is facing problems like

procurement issue, unpredictability in drug pricing, difference in stand taken by NPPA and Department of Pharmaceutical, etc.; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor along with details thereof?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pharma Industry has brought to the notice of the Government that due to closure of the manufacturing plants in China on issue of increasing pollution and environment concerns, the industry is facing inconsistent hike in the price of Raw Material [Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) and Intermediates] imported from China for manufacture of formulations in India to meet the demand of domestic market and also affecting the availability of Raw Material (API and Intermediate). The Government is closely monitoring the situation.

Further, National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes the ceiling/retail prices of drugs under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) and any person aggrieved by any notification issued or order made under paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of this Order, may apply to the Government for a review of the notification or Order within a period of thirty days of the date of publication of the notification in the Official Gazette or the receipt of the order by him. The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) examines the review applications filed by the companies and directs NPPA to remove any discrepancy, if found in price fixation as per DPCO, 2013. NPPA implements the Review order given by Department of Pharmaceuticals.

Overhauling drug pricing policy and dismantling NPPA

2602. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a proposal to overhaul the drug pricing policy and ease regulatory framework to facilitate smooth business environment for pharmaceutical companies;

(b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;

(c) whether Government has decided to dismantle the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government has established any other agency for issuing licences and approval of new drugs and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to overhaul the drug pricing policy. However, minor changes are made in the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 from time to time to facilitate a smooth business environment and in the larger public interest. As regards regulatory framework, the licenses for manufacturing, sale and distribution of drugs under the provisions of Drugs and Cosmetics Act and Rules thereunder are issued by Licensing Authority appointed by State Governments. However, for new drug, the permission/approval is required to be obtained from Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, before obtaining manufacturing license from the State Licensing Authority. In order to streamline the regulatory process and to improve the efficiency and transparency in CDSCO, various measures have been taken like perpetuity of drug manufacturing/sale license, increasing the validity of World Health Organisation- Good Manufacturing Practices Certificate of Pharmaceutical Product (WHO GMP COPP) certificate from 2 years to 3 years, delegation of power to the State Licensing Authorities regarding issuance of NOC (No Objection Certificate) for export purpose. Further, e-governance in the form of 'SUGAM' for online submission and permission of various applications for grant of licenses/approvals.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No Sir, approval of new drugs is granted by CDSCO and manufacturing licenses are granted by State Licensing Authorities.

**Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras in
Himachal Pradesh**

2603. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras functioning in the country, location-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to open new Janaushadhi Kendras in the Himachal Pradesh under the said scheme;

(c) if so, the number of such Kendras proposed to be opened in Himachal Pradesh, location-wise; and

(d) the efforts made to set up the said Kendras at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) As on 31.12.2018, 4677

‘Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) Kendras’ are functional in the country. Location-wise details of 4677 PMBJP Kendras are available at <http://www.janaushadhi.gov.in/StoreDetails.aspx>.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) In addition to 47 PMBJP Kendras functional in Himachal Pradesh as on 31.12.2018, 2 more PMBJP Kendras are proposed to be opened in Government Hospitals in Lahaul Spiti and Kinnaur districts of Himachal Pradesh.

(d) Out of 12 districts of Himachal Pradesh, 10 districts have been covered by opening of PMBJP Kendras. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI) (the implementing agency of PMBJP) is pursuing the matter of opening PMBJP Kendras in two uncovered districts *i.e.* Lahaul Spiti and Kinnaur with Government of Himachal Pradesh. Letters have been written to Chief Medical Officers (Zonal Hospital) and District Magistrates of the two districts. A letter was also written to Principal Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) of Government of Himachal Pradesh. In addition, BPPI had also invited applications in July, 2018 from interested applicants for opening PMBJP Kendras in uncovered blocks of Himachal Pradesh.

Pending fertilizer subsidy payment

2604. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amount of fertilizer subsidy is pending for payment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when and the manner in which this backlog payments can be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) No Sir, the Government of India is releasing subsidy to the fertilizer companies on regular basis subject to availability of budget. The status showing the payment of subsidy and the pendency as on 31.12.2018 is given in the Statement (*See* below). The backlog of pendency will be cleared from the balance funds available during the current financial year 2018-19 and the remaining pendency will be cleared on receipt of additional funds.

Statement

*The status of payment of subsidy on fertilizers and pendency as on
31.12.2018*

(₹ in crores)

Scheme	BE	Expenditure as on 31.12.2018	Balance Funds Available	Pendency as on 31.12.2018
Indigenous P&K	15,820.35	13642.51	2,177.84	3,675.53
Imported P&K	9,260.00	8776.10	483.90	5,963.75
Indigenous Urea	34,989.50	29067.12	5,922.38	11,293.26
Imported Urea	13,360.00	8890.92	4,469.08	2,341.16
City Compost	10.00	7.14	2.86	9.96
TOTAL	73,439.85	60,383.79	13,056.06	23,283.66

Measures to ensure availability of quality medicines at affordable price

2605. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking measures to ensure that quality medicines are available at affordable prices for all, particularly the poor and disadvantaged in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has opened sufficient number of Jan Aushadi Kendras in all the hospitals;

(c) if so, the number of outlets of Jan Aushadi Medical Stores opened during the last three years, State-wise and district-wise; and

(d) whether Government has received any complaints regarding Jan Aushadhi Kendras and its unavailability at so many places?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes Sir. In order to make available quality generic medicines at affordable prices to all, 'Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana' (PMBJP) was launched by Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Government of India. Under this scheme, dedicated outlets known as PMBJP Kendras are opened. Through these outlets, good quality unbranded generic medicines are sold at very affordable prices. As on 31.12.2018, 4677 PMBJP Kendras are functional across the country.

(b) Yes Sir. As on 31.12.2018, 737 PMBJP Kendras are functional in Government Hospitals of the country.

(c) A State/UT-wise list of 547 PMBJP Kendras opened in Government Hospitals during the last three years is given in the Statement.

(d) Yes Sir.

Statement

State/UT-wise list of 547 PMBJP Kendras opened in Government Hospitals during the last three years is given in the Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of PMBJP Kendras opened		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (as on 31.12.2018)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8	7	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	13	8	0
4.	Assam	1	1	1
5.	Bihar	0	14	4
6.	Chandigarh	1	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	28	24	7
8.	Delhi	1	0	0
9.	Goa	0	0	5
10.	Haryana	0	0	5
11.	Himachal Pradesh	1	2	3
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	1	2
13.	Jharkhand	0	3	0
14.	Karnataka	14	97	23
15.	Kerala	0	3	1
16.	Madhya Pradesh	1	0	2
17.	Manipur	0	26	0
18.	Mizoram	1	1	0
19.	Nagaland	11	0	3

1	2	3	4	5
20.	Odisha	0	0	0
21.	Punjab	0	4	2
22.	Rajasthan	1	15	11
23.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	1
24.	Telangana	0	1	0
25.	Tripura	1	12	1
26.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	121
27.	Uttarakhand	2	17	29
TOTAL		86	236	225
GRAND TOTAL		547		

Delay in pricing process of new drugs

2606. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that present practice of deciding price for new drugs is causing delay in launch of the new drugs in the market by the manufacturer;

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

(c) the course of action for expeditious pricing of new drugs as it is the main driver of growth of the industry and provides scope for innovation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) No Sir, there is no such inordinate delay in fixing the prices of new drugs. Out of 979 applications received till 30th November, 2018, notifications for fixing the retail prices of 920 applications for new drugs have already been issued. Under the provisions of Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013), all drug manufacturers are under obligation to issue a price list to distributors, State Drug Controllers and the Government. The new drug applications of only those manufacturers/marketers were temporarily put on hold by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), who had either not submitted the complete information for Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System (IPDMS) or had *prima facie* launched new drugs without prior price approvals. Other cases have been pending because of non-submission of necessary data by the industry.

(c) The Government regularly monitors the number of manufacturers in the market for various formulations and that there is sufficient flow of medicines in the market.

The Government also checks whether such manufacturers continue the production of concerned scheduled formulations. The Government has issued instructions to NPPA that new drug approvals need not be linked to IPDMS compliance or any such other conditionalities which are strictly not ordained according to the DPCO, 2013 and directed NPPA to revisit all pending applications of pharma companies including those for new drugs expeditiously. NPPA has also been directed to take a decision within 30 days from the receipt of the “New Drug” application and within 7 days if drug of similar composition has been approved earlier or the manufacturer is offering lower price than decided for similar drug earlier. Also, in cases where drug of higher strength is being offered at the ceiling price of drug of lower strength, then the approval may be given within 7 days. In case of negative decision, a reasoned order should be given.

Pricing of essential medicines

2607. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

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

- (a) the details of the methodology adopted to fix the prices of essential medicines;
- (b) the likely impact on the prices of essential medicines due to the new drug policy;
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to ensure that doctors in private clinics are prescribing medicines from the National List of Essential Medicines;
- (d) whether Government has taken steps to implement the Supreme Court directive to stick to cost-based pricing formula; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Under the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013), ceiling price of scheduled medicines is fixed based on the market based data, *inter alia*, by taking simple average price to retailer (PTR) of all those manufacturers who have market share more than or equal to 1% of total market turnover on the basis of Moving Annual Turnover (MAT) of a specified medicine. The ceiling price is derived by adding 16% margin on the simple average price to the retailer (PTR) for the specified medicine. As provided for under the Order, the local taxes if actually paid, wherever applicable on actual basis, will be added with the ceiling price to arrive at the Maximum Retail Price to the consumers.

(b) The government has fixed the ceiling prices of the 856 scheduled formulations upto 31.12.2018 resulting in the reduction in the prices as follows:—

Statement showing reduction in ceiling prices of scheduled formulations with respect to maximum price under NELM 2015 as on 31.12.2018

% reduction with respect to Maximum Price	No. of scheduled formulations
0<= 5%	237
5<=10%	135
10<=15%	98
15<=20%	99
20<=25%	93
25<=30%	65
30<=35%	46
35<=40%	24
Above 40%	59
Total formulations in NLEM 2015	856

(c) The National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) is a list of essential drugs prepared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. There is no such case as doctors not prescribing medicine from NLEM as essential medicines are those medicines that satisfy the priority healthcare needs of the population.

(d) and (e) There is no such direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to stick to cost-based pricing formula.

Sale of unapproved Fixed Dose Combinations

2608. SHRI SAMIR ORAON:

SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that sale of unapproved Fixed Dose Combinations (FDCs) in the Indian markets has been rampant and unchecked, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has banned any FDCs for being unsafe to the public, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure effective and robust post-marketing surveillance programmes of manufacturers of FDCs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Concerns have been raised from time to time regarding grant of manufacturing license of new drugs including FDCs falling under definition of Rule 122E of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules by some of the State Licensing Authorities without approval from CDSCO.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare had issued repeated statutory direction under Section 33P to the State Governments to instruct their respective drugs licensing authorities to refrain from granting licenses for manufacture of new drugs and FDCs covered under the definition of the terms 'new drug' without due approval of the Drugs Controller General (India). The last such direction was issued *vide* Letter No. X.11035/201/2018-DR dated 13.04.2018. As decided, CDSCO *vide* Letter No. 4-01/2013-DC (Misc. 13-PSC) dated 15.01.2013 requested all State/UT Drug Controller to ask the concerned manufacturers in their State to prove the safety and efficacy of such FDCs as mentioned above before the office of DCG (I) within a period of 18 months, failing which such FDCs will be considered for being prohibition for manufacture and marketing in the country.

In reply to CDSCO letter dated 15.01.2013, CDSCO received approx. 6320 applications from the manufacturers for proving the safety and efficacy, which were examined by the Expert Committee constituted by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare *vide* Order No. X11035/53/2014-DFQC dated 16.09.2014 under the Chairmanship of Prof. C. Kokate, VC, KLE University, Belgaum.

After detailed examination, the Committee submitted its report to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. For FDCs which are considered as Irrational by the Committee have been categorised under category 'a', and on the basis of the recommendations of the said Expert Committee and in exercise of powers conferred by Section 26A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 (23 of 1940), the Central Government prohibited the manufacture for sale, sale and distribution for human use of 344 drug Fixed Dose Combination *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 705(E) to 1048(E) dated 10.03.2016.

However, various stakeholders filed various writ petition in different High Court across the country and the said notifications were quashed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi *vide* its order dated 01.12.2016.

Further, in pursuance of the action taken note on the 59th PSC report, based on the examination by the Subject Expert Committee constituted by the Central Government, the Central Government had prohibited 5 more FDCs *vide* Gazette Notifications S.O. Nos.1851(E) to 1855 (E) dated 08.06.2017 for the manufacture for

sale, sale and distribution for human use. Subsequently, the Central Government had challenged the order of Delhi High Court before the Supreme Court dated 01.12.2016 by way of SLP. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India after a series of hearings in its Judgement dated 15.12.2017 pertaining to the issue of FDCs has directed DTAB and/or a Sub-Committee formed by DTAB for the purpose, to have a relook into these cases. Accordingly, as per the judgement of Supreme Court, the agenda with respect to 344 FDCs+05 FDCs were deliberated in DTAB meeting held on 12.02.2018 and a Sub-Committee of DTAB was constituted for this purpose.

After a series of meetings and providing hearing to all the petitioners/appellants the Sub-Committee of DTAB submitted its report which was accepted by the DTAB.

Based on the DTAB recommendation, the Central Government *vide* Gazette Notifications S.O. number 4379 (E) to S.O. number 4706(E) dated 07.09.2018 prohibited 328 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution. Further the Central Government *vide* Gazette Notifications S.O. number from 4707(E) to 4712 (E) dated 07.09.2018 restricted 06 FDCs for manufacture, sale or distribution with certain conditions. However, various firms/stakeholder have filed the writ petitions in various High Courts across the country including the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the said Gazette Notification dated 07.09.2018.

(c) Government *vide* GSR No. 287(E) dated 08.03.2016 has amended the Drugs and Cosmetics Rule 1945, providing that the applicant of new drug shall have a Pharmacovigilance system in place for collection, processing and forwarding the report to the licensing authority for information on Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) emerging from the use of the new drugs manufactured or marketed by the applicant in the country. Further, as per Good Manufacturing Practices prescribed in Schedule M of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rule 1945, reports of serious adverse drug reactions resulting from the use of a drug along with comments and documents shall be forthwith reported to the concerned licensing authority.

Assessment of the achievements of PCPIRs

2609. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set up Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIRs):

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has made an assessment of the achievements of PCPIRs and if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government proposes to make any changes in the policy governing PCPIRs, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS, (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India has approved setting up of 4 Petroleum, Chemical and Petrochemical Investment Regions (PCPIRs) in the States of Gujarat (Dahej), Andhra Pradesh (Visakhapatnam-Kakinada), Odisha (Paradeep) and Tamil Nadu (Cuddalore-Nagapattinam).

(c) Yes, Sir. These PCPIRs have so far attracted investments worth approximately ₹ 1.90 lakh crore and around 3.30 lakh persons have been employed in direct and indirect activities, as per monitoring mechanism in place at the State and Central Government levels. The PCPIRs also cover various Special Economic Zones (SEZs) which are contributing to the export basket of the country. Creation of infrastructure like roads, railways, airports, ports, water supply, power and effluent treatment etc. is a continuous process in the PCPIRs with a long gestation period.

(d) Review of policy is a dynamic process and undertaken from time to time on need basis and stakeholder consultations. Accordingly, this Department initiated an exercise to recommend broad policy for the petrochemical sector which includes recommendations regarding amendments to the existing PCPIR policy.

Certification of fertilizers

2610. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present system of certifying new fertilizers is time consuming;

(b) if so, whether Government plans to establish a Fertilizer Development and Regulating Authority to ensure efficient certification; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the details of Government's plan to streamline the process of certification, quality checks, innovations, and fixing prices of fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) The details of Government's plan to streamline the process of certification, quality checks, innovations, and fixing prices of fertilizer process are as under:—

Government of India has simplified the procedure for inclusion of new fertilizer in Fertilizer Control Order (FCO). The fertilizers are notified/specified on the recommendation of Central Fertilizer Committee (CFC) constituted under Clause 38 of FCO, 1985. In the first phase CFC, while recommending the incorporation of any fertilizer in FCO, takes into account the agronomic trial results, economic feasibility etc. of the product. The criteria/requirement prescribed for agronomic trials are as under:—

- (i) Multi-locational trials data are required to be generated for one cropping season on different crops in different agro-climatic regions to evaluate a particular new product in terms of its agronomic efficiency, cost benefit ratio and other criteria if is included in FCO, 1985. The trials may be extended for another cropping season if the results are inconclusive in one cropping season.
- (ii) The requirement of trials would be dispensed with if the product is one of the variant of a product already included in the Schedule-I.

Thereafter, with the approval of the Competent Authority, vetting of draft Notification by Ministry of Law is done in the second phase. The Standing Committee of Agriculture has recommended for constitution of Fertilizer Development and Regulatory Authority, in order to streamline the process of certification of fertilizers, continuous quality check, imposing penalty for sub-standard and spurious quality of fertilizers, promoting innovation in fertilizer sector and fixation of pricing etc. A committee has been constituted to examine the existing mechanism of quality control of fertilizers in view of the recommendation made by the Standing Committee and make necessary recommendation. The committee will submit its report shortly.

Urea is being provided to the farmers at a statutorily notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The MRP of 45 kg. bag of urea is ₹ 242 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable) and the MRP of 50 kg. bag of urea is ₹ 268 per (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable). The Government of Uttar Pradesh levied additional VAT on natural gas due to which an amount of ₹ 34 for 50 kg. bag and ₹ 31 for 45 kg. bag of urea is collected over and above the MRP of urea from the farmers in the State of Uttar Pradesh. However, Uttar Pradesh Government has withdrawn the additional VAT from natural gas *w.e.f.* 14.11.2018.

P&K fertilizers have been decontrolled and fertilizer companies are free to fix MRP on these fertilizers at a reasonable level as per market dynamics. Government only provides a fixed amount of subsidy on P&K fertilizers based on their nutrient contents.

Revival of Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT)

2611. SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given any financial support to the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last 10 years;

(c) the measures proposed to be taken by Government for revival of the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT), Kerala; and

(d) the steps taken by Government regarding land monetization of FACT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) Government of India has given financial support to the Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Limited (FACT) from time to time. During the last ten years, Government of India had released a grant in aid of ₹ 200 crores during financial year 2007-08 to sustain the operations of the company and to restart the shutdown plants. Government also sanctioned a plan loan of ₹ 1000 crore during the year 2016 to avert immediate financial crisis and to restart operations.

(c) The financial restructuring proposal is under examination of Government of India.

(d) Government of India had accorded approval for sale of 169.69 acres of land to BPCL-Kochi Refinery. FACT has concluded sale of 150.9 acres of land to BPCL on 09.05.2018 and received net revenue of ₹ 244.60 crore after adjusting dues of BPCL amounting to ₹ 170 crore.

A proposal seeking approval of the Cabinet for sale of 481.79 acres of FACT land to Government of Kerala has been circulated for Inter-Ministerial consultation on 05.12.2018.

Mining below the Dhanbad-Chandrapura railway line

2612. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved mining plan prepared by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) for mining below the Dhanbad-Chandrapura railway line (DC line) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry of Coal has asked Ministry of Railways to immediately handover the DC line for erecting the excavation projects at the earliest and if so, the details thereof along with their reaction;

(c) whether the National Remote Sensing Centre identified 42 spots which are strongly affected by the underground fire in Jharkhand; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) No mining plan has been prepared by Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDIL) for mining below the Dhanbad-Chandrapura railway line (DC line).

(b) Yes, Sir. Based on the report of Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS), Railway Board has stopped operation of Passengers and Goods Traffic on Dhanbad-Chandrapura (DC) railway line with effect from 15.06.2017. Further, on 29.08.2018, Secretary (Coal) has requested Chairman Railway Board to hand over the possession of railway land covered under said railway line to BCCL which is under consideration of Railway Board.

(c) and (d) National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) has not done study for underground fire. A study report has been submitted in 2018 by NRSC and the surface fire area has been reported as 3.28 sq. km. in 35 collieries. BCCL has engaged hired Heavy Earth Moving Machinery in various mines (where feasible) to dig out fire area for dousing it.

Independent body for resolution of disputes

2613. SHRIMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether to resolve disputes and decide penalty in matters related to coal mines auctioned/allotted under Coal Mines (Special Provision) Act, 2015, the High Power Expert Committee (HPEC) had recommended that an independent body of external monitors from diverse fields such as mining, law and administration be entrusted with the task;

(b) whether HPEC had also recommended that decisions of the independent body of monitors would be binding on the nominated authority implementing such decisions;

(c) whether Government has decided not to form an independent body to resolve issues as recommended by HPEC; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) The High Power Expert Committee (HPEC) submitted its report on the efficacy and challenges in the current bidding system and recommendations to Ministry of Coal on 12.07.2018. HPEC recommended that the decision on penalty as per the agreement (CMDPA) may be entrusted to an independent body of Independent External Monitors (IEMs) consisting of experts in fields of mining, law and administration. The decisions of the committee of IEMs on the issue of deviations/non-compliance with efficiency parameters and imposition of penalties would be binding on the Nominated Authority.

Nominated Authority performs statutory functions in accordance with the Acts/Rules and instructions issued from time to time. As per the provisions of the allotment agreement/Coal Mine Development and Production Agreement (CMDPA), performance security may be appropriated by the Nominated Authority upon occurrence of certain events as stipulated in the allotment agreement/CMDPA. A Scrutiny Committee has been constituted by the Nominated Authority to examine the replies furnished by the allocatees with regard to the Show Cause Notices issued for deviation from Efficiency Parameters and to make its recommendations to the Nominated Authority. As per the provisions of the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015, any dispute arising out of any action of the Central Government, Nominated Authority or Commissioner of payment or designated custodian, or any dispute between the successful bidder or allottee and prior allottee arising out of any issue connected with the Act is adjudicated by the Tribunal constituted under the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act, 1957. Hence, Nominated Authority has been directed to discharge such statutory/other functions in accordance with the Acts/Rules and instructions issued from time to time as was being done earlier.

Total production of coal

2614. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the total coal production in the country for the last five years;

(b) the demand of coal during the same period; and

(c) whether there is any dependency on import of coal, if so, the details thereof and the expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) The all India demand of coal, production and import of coal during last five years is given below:—

Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Total demand (Mte)\$	769.69	787.03	822.36	884.87	908.40
Total domestic Production (Mte)	565.77	609.18	639.23	657.87	676.48
Total Import (Mte)	166.86	217.78	203.95	190.95	208.27
Value of Import (₹ in crores)	92329	104507	86034	100231	138477

\$ All India demand estimated by NITI Aayog.

The imported coal quantity of 2017-18 at 208.27 MT is less than the imported quantity of 2014-15 which stood at 217.79 MT even as power generation and industrial activities grew substantially after 2014-15.

The entire demand of coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal. As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty. There has been a consistent effort to increase domestic coal production so as to reduce dependence on coal imports. The all India raw coal production has increased from 565.77 MT in 2013-14 to 676.48 MT in 2017-18. Absolute increase in all India coal production from 2013-14 to 2017-18 (four years) is 110.71 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 33.73 MT from 2009-10 to 2013-14 (four years).

Coal India Limited (CIL) has also increased its production from 462.41 MT in 2013-14 to 567.36 MT in 2017-18 (four years), an absolute increase of 105 MT as compared to increase of coal production of 31.15 MT between 2009-10 and 2013-14 (four years).

However, coking coal will continue to be imported as there is limited availability of coking coal in the country. Further, power plants designed on imported coal will also continue to import coal.

Import of coking coal

2615. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether coking coal comprises 21 per cent of the country's coal import and that cannot be controlled due to unavailability of the product in the country;

(b) whether 15 per cent of coal is imported by power plants because of the design, which only permits to operate on imported coal with low-ash content;

(c) whether in the April-November, 2018 period, the total coal production in the country was 434 million tons, which was 9.8 per cent higher than the corresponding period last year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Against the country's total import of coal of 208.27 MT during 2017-18, import of coking coal was 47.00 MT which is about 22.6 per cent of total import of coal. The entire demand of coking coal is not met from domestic production as the supply of high quality coal/coking coal (low-ash-coal) in the country is limited and thus no option is left but to resort to import of coking coal. As per the current import policy, coal is kept under Open General License (OGL) and consumers are free to import coal from the source of their choice as per their contractual prices on payment of applicable duty.

(b) As per CEA report, the total capacity of imported coal based power plants (as on 31.3.2018) was 18130 MW. Against the annual programme of 46 MT, total import by these power plants was 39.40 MT in 2017-18 which constitutes 18.9% of the total imports. Besides, 17.04 MT of coal had also been imported by the power plants for blending in 2017-18 (CEA report).

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. During April-November, 2018, all India coal production was 433.90 MT which was 9.8 per cent higher than the corresponding period of last year.

Allocation of coal mines in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha

†2616. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether new coal mines have been allocated to private or public sector in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha during the last four years; and

(b) if so, the new coal mines for which mining has been permitted and by when the production in these coal mines is likely to be started along with the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) So far, 55 Coal Mines have been allocated under the provisions of Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Act, 2015 [CM(SP) Act, 2015] in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha (out of the originally allocated 59 coal mines in these States, Allotment Agreement/Coal Mine Development and Production Agreements (CMDPA) have been terminated in respect of 4 coal mines). Mine Opening Permission has been granted

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for 14 mines located in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha. Details of these 14 mines are given in the Statement (*See* below).

So far, 15 Coal Blocks have been allocated under the provisions of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 [MM(DR) Act, 1957] in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha. All these blocks were regionally explored at the time of their allocation. At present, these are not in operation. Operationalization of these coal blocks may occur after 38 months (in case of non-forest land) or 44 months (in case of forest land) from preparation of GR as per timelines of allotment agreement.

Statement*Details of Mine Opening Permission granted for mines located in the States of Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha*

Sl. No.	Name of Coal Block	State	Specified End-Use	Name of Allocatee	Allotment/Vesting Date	Date of mine opening permission	Scheduled date of operation-alisation as per timelines
1.-2.	Parsa East and Kanta Basan	Chhattisgarh	Power	Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd.	01.04.15	01.04.15	01.07.15
3.	Talaipalli		Power	NTPC Ltd.	08.09.15	31.01.18	08.05.19
4.	Chotia		NRS	Bharat Aluminium Company Ltd.	01.04.15	20.11.15	01.07.15
5.	Gare Palma IV-5		NRS	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	01.04.15	20.11.15	01.07.15
6.	Gare Palma IV-4		NRS	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	01.04.15	12.11.15	01.07.15
7.	Gare Palma IV-8		NRS	Ambuja Cement Ltd.	22.04.15	26.04.18	22.12.18
8.-9.	Chatti Bariatu, Chatti Bariatu South	Jharkhand	Power	NTPC Ltd.	08.09.15	14.11.17	08.05.19
10.	Kathautia		NRS	Hindalco Industries Ltd.	01.04.15	24.02.17	01.07.15
11.	Pachhwara North		Power	West Bengal Power Development Corp. Ltd.	01.04.15	07.12.18	01.07.15
12.	Manoharpur	Odisha	Power	Odisha Coal and Power Ltd.	31.08.15	28.08.18	30.04.19
13.	Dulanga		Power	NTPC Ltd.	08.09.15	28.02.18	08.05.19
14.	Talabira-I		Power	GMR Chhattisgarh Energy Ltd.	23.03.15	03.07.15	01.07.15

NRS: Non-Regulated Sector.

Internet connectivity in Gram Panchayats

2617. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it has been planned to connect every Gram Panchayat of the country with the internet service;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details including Haryana, Punjab and West Bengal, at present;
- (c) by when all the Gram Panchayats would be connected with internet;
- (d) whether it is a fact that internet does not work smoothly in Gram Panchayats already connected with the internet;
- (e) whether Government has prepared any work plan for its monitoring; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband/internet connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country. State-wise details of Service Ready GPs, including Haryana, Punjab and West Bengal, are given in Statement (*See below*).

‘BharatNet project is targeted to be completed by March, 2019.

(d) to (f) Network Operating Centre (NOC) is set up to monitor the operation of the network and the project is presently in the implementation phase. The NOC reports are being monitored on a regular basis and daily reports are being sought from BSNL and BBNL. Accordingly, corrective actions are being taken through BSNL and field level teams.

Monitoring is done by Controllers of Communication Accounts (CCAs), the Designated Monitoring Agency, and Licensed Service Area (LSA) field units of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

Statement***State/UT-wise details of the Service Ready GPs under BharatNet project***

Sl.No.	State/UT	Service Ready GPs (including BHQs)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1240
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	43

Sl.No.	State/UT	Service Ready GPs (including BHQs)
3.	Assam	1590
4.	Bihar	5866
5.	Chandigarh	13
6.	Chhattisgarh	4052
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21
8.	Daman and Diu	17
9.	Gujarat	5119
10.	Haryana	6186
11.	Himachal Pradesh	226
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	263
13.	Jharkhand	2329
14.	Karnataka	6110
15.	Kerala	1129
16.	Madhya Pradesh	12692
17.	Maharashtra	15126
18.	Manipur	258
19.	Meghalaya	122
20.	Mizoram	23
21.	Nagaland	86
22.	Odisha	3501
23.	Puducherry	101
24.	Punjab	7911
25.	Rajasthan	8453
26.	Sikkim	14
27.	Telangana	2047
28.	Tripura	527
29.	Uttar Pradesh	27964
30.	Uttarakhand	1508
31.	West Bengal	2081
TOTAL		116618

Impact of internet shutdowns

2618. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the data as regards the internet shutdowns issued by the Central or State Governments in the previous three years, State-wise and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Ministry has recorded the impact of such internet shutdowns on the social, economic and political environment of the States, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the Ministry has taken any necessary steps to provide relief to the people suffering from internet shutdowns in the respective States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Central Government has not issued any order of internet shutdown under the provisions of Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017.

Police and public order are State subjects as per the Constitution and States are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. Concerned State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet services to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Records related to internet shutdowns ordered by State Governments are not maintained by Department of Telecommunications (DoT).

(b) No, Sir. DoT has not assessed the impact of such internet shutdowns on the social, economic and political environment of the States. However, DoT had received a joint representation dated 08.08.2018 from telecom service providers, wherein, it was intimated that frequent suspension of internet services were being ordered by various State Governments. Accordingly, on 28.09.2018, all State Governments have been advised to sensitize the concerned officials/agencies against precipitate actions leading to shut down of internet services, and to ensure that the provisions of “Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017” are adhered to.

(c) In temporary shutdown of internet services in a region, internet/data services are suspended temporarily only and other communication means/services like voice calling and Short Message Service (SMS), remain available during the suspension period of internet services, through which people in the region can communicate.

Post office savings accounts

2619. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices and the number of post office savings accounts across the country, State-wise, including Kerala;

(b) the total amount of money deposited in the post office savings accounts, State-wise, including Kerala;

(c) the amount of money remaining unclaimed in these post offices, State-wise, along with the measures taken to utilise the unclaimed money;

(d) the status of the digital banking services for post offices proposed by Government; and

(e) the details of the other services being provided/proposed to such account holders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The number of post offices and the number of post office savings accounts across the country, circle-wise, including Kerala, are given in the Statement-I and II, respectively (*See below*).

(b) The total amount of money deposited in the post office savings accounts, circle-wise, including Kerala, is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

(c) The amount of money identified as remaining unclaimed in the post offices, circle-wise, is given in the Statement-IV (*See below*). As regards the steps taken to utilize the unclaimed money, the Government has formulated a policy in this regard and has notified the Senior Citizen's Welfare Fund Rules, 2016 in order to utilize this money.

(d) and (e) To promote digital banking services, the Department of Posts has implemented Core Banking Solution (CBS) in the post offices across the country. This has resulted in enabling any where banking, *i.e.* a post office savings bank customer can transact with his account from any CBS post office in India. It is an intra-banking digital arrangement where the digital transactions are limited between the post office account holders only.

The Department has also implemented Digital Advancement of Rural post office for A New India (DARPAN) project. Under the DARPAN project, the Department,

in a phased manner, is providing SIM-based Hand Held Devices to more than 1.29 lakh branch post offices in the rural areas of the country for carrying out online postal and financial transactions.

Post office ATMs have been installed and made inter-operable with banks. Intra-operable Internet Banking has also been launched for post office savings bank customers. This provides the following facilities to such customers:—

- Fund transfer between CBS POSB accounts.
- Opening of new RD/TD accounts.
- Payment of RD/PPF installments.
- Payment of RD/PPF loan installment.
- Pre-closure of RD/TD account.
- Display detail and balance of linked all type of POSB accounts.
- View Mini-Statement.
- View transaction history.
- Cheque stop facility.

A post office savings bank Customer has the option to link his India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) Account with his post office savings bank account and avail the sweep- in and sweep-out facility while transacting with his IPPB Account.

Statement-I

Details of circle-wise number of post office across the country

Sl.No.	Name of Postal Circle	Number of Post Offices
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10490
2.	Assam	4012
3.	Bihar	9084
4.	Chhattisgarh	3187
5.	Delhi	554
6.	Gujarat	8948
7.	Haryana	2693
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2792
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1699
10.	Jharkhand	3460
11.	Karnataka	9663

Sl.No.	Name of Postal Circle	Number of Post Offices
12.	Kerala	5064
13.	Madhya Pradesh	8280
14.	Maharashtra (including Goa)	12870
15.	North East (including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura)	2919
16.	Odisha	8215
17.	Punjab	3870
18.	Rajasthan	10311
19.	Tamil Nadu	12138
20.	Telangana	5811
21.	Uttarakhand	2723
22.	Uttar Pradesh	17671
23.	West Bengal (including Sikkim)	9077
TOTAL		155531

Statement-II

*Details of circle-wise number of post office savings bank
accounts across the country*

Sl.No.	Name of Postal Circle	Number of Post Office Savings Bank Accounts (₹ in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.65
2.	Assam	0.50
3.	Bihar	1.08
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.76
5.	Delhi	0.16
6.	Gujarat	0.92
7.	Haryana	0.27
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.24
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.09
10.	Jharkhand	0.49

1	2	3
11.	Karnataka	1.33
12.	Kerala	0.79
13.	Madhya Pradesh	1.18
14.	Maharashtra	1.26
15.	North East	0.10
16.	Odisha	0.69
17.	Punjab	0.36
18.	Rajasthan	1.18
19.	Tamil Nadu	1.66
20.	Telangana	0.83
21.	Uttarakhand	0.36
22.	Uttar Pradesh	1.48
23.	West Bengal	1.29
TOTAL		18.70

Statement-III*Circle-wise details of the money deposited in the post office including Kerala*

Sl.No.	Name of Postal Circle	Outstanding Balance in Post Office Savings Bank Accounts (₹ in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2976.77
2.	Assam	7714.78
3.	Bihar	5815.24
4.	Chhattisgarh	1648.40
5.	Delhi	3617.24
6.	Gujarat	6948.63
7.	Haryana	2926.83
8.	Himachal Pradesh	2658.70
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1057.43
10.	Jharkhand	2510.18
11	Karnataka	5783.09

1	2	3
12.	Kerala	2648.26
13.	Madhya Pradesh	4187.25
14.	Maharashtra	8536.92
15.	North East	864.59
16.	Odisha	3776.15
17.	Punjab	3932.95
18.	Rajasthan	4014.30
19.	Tamil Nadu	6208.61
20.	Telangana	2002.16
21.	Uttarakhand	2852.11
22.	Uttar Pradesh	13203.76
23.	West Bengal	14537.54
TOTAL		110421.89

Statement-IV*Circle-wise details of unclaimed amount (₹ in crore)*

Sl.No.	Name of the Postal Circle	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	224.39
2.	Assam	145.32
3.	Bihar	243.65
4.	Chhattisgarh	61.36
5.	Delhi	1112.14
6.	Gujarat	538.85
7.	Haryana	418.97
8.	Himachal Pradesh	107.28
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	84.11
10.	Jharkhand	152.46
11.	Karnataka	286.73
12.	Kerala	259.03
13.	Madhya Pradesh	238.68
14.	Maharashtra	727.40
15.	North East	36.97

Sl.No.	Name of the Postal Circle	Total
16.	Odisha	146.06
17.	Punjab	1033.84
18.	Rajasthan	388.55
19.	Tamil Nadu	477.79
20.	Telangana	164.16
21.	Uttarakhand	149.62
22.	Uttar Pradesh	806.45
23.	West Bengal	1591.16
TOTAL		9395.00

Set of stamps and first-day covers

2620. DR. SONAL MANSINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any provision to release stamps and first-day covers of twelve great women classical dancers; and

(b) whether there is any provision to release set of stamps of two women artists, each from folk theatre, folk and folk music forms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) As per the guidelines, Commemorative Postage Stamps are issued on subjects/themes/institutions/personalities/events that have a national or international stature or have made national/international contribution or impact or reflect national/international areas of concern.

At present no proposal for release of Commemorative Postage Stamp and First-Day Cover on Twelve Great Women Classical Dancers is pending with the Department of Posts. Further, at present no proposal for release of set of Commemorative Postage Stamps on two women artists, each from folk theatre, folk and folk music forms, is pending with the Department of Posts.

Services offered by post offices

2621. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the services offered by post offices have deteriorated due to shortfall in staff strength;

(b) if so, the details of staff in post offices, State-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to conduct any special drive to fill-up the existing vacancies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the action proposed by Government to arrest deteriorating services in post offices across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) No Sir. Vacant posts, on account of retirement, promotion, death and deputation, are being manned by appropriately redeploying the available staff to ensure that postal services are not affected.

(b) The details of staff in post-offices, State-wise are as under:—

Postal Circle	Multi Tasking Staff	Postman /Mail Guard	Postal Assistant	Lower Selection Grade/Higher Selection Grade-I and II	Postmaster Grade-I, II and III
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	841	2063	3061	885	96
Assam	629	709	1582	52	21
Bihar	1340	1277	2057	1054	70
Chhattisgarh	273	370	722	342	20
Delhi	2061	2353	3206	301	47
Gujarat	1899	3311	3799	1076	59
Haryana	584	672	1475	243	38
Himachal Pradesh	367	370	1122	22	37
Jammu and Kashmir	198	135	633	9	13
Jharkhand	441	586	1089	283	27
Karnataka	1295	2960	4687	1266	117
Kerala	1108	1989	4746	166	84
Madhya Pradesh	853	1135	2711	649	55
Maharashtra	3172	5139	9401	405	214
North East	316	386	702	171	6
Odisha	885	1267	2135	1014	67
Punjab	950	1141	2656	108	48
Rajasthan	1060	1772	2150	994	42
Tamil Nadu	2192	4422	7096	1470	242

1	2	3	4	5	6
Telangana	680	1285	1823	320	35
Uttar Pradesh	2383	2581	5779	2129	182
Uttarakhand	271	316	1222	30	28
West Bengal	3156	4379	6958	331	119
TOTAL	26954	40618	70812	13320	1667

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to conduct any special recruitment drive to fill-up the existing vacancies. Recruitment to fill up vacant posts is done periodically by holding departmental examination, direct recruitment through Staff Selection Commission and also by individual Circles as per the provisions of the relevant recruitment rules. Further, Departmental Promotion Committee is convened regularly for filling up vacancies on the basis of seniority-cum-fitness. Recruitment to fill up vacant posts is a continuous process.

Introduction of 5G network

2622. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that introduction of 5G network in the country is taking time due to objections from telecom companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when 5G spectrum would be available in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The standards for IMT 2020 (International Mobile Telecommunications 2020), also known as 5G technologies in industry, are being finalized and trials of the technologies are in progress globally. The Department of Telecommunications is also working with telecom service providers/original equipment manufacturers on technological studies. On application, the necessary spectrum for testing/experimenting 5G equipment/technology is being allocated to telecom service providers/equipment manufacturers for a period of three months.

Broadband connectivity in Gram Panchayats to Telangana and Andhra Pradesh

2623. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that broadband connectivity has not been completed in all Gram Panchayats (GPs) of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of GPs connected through broadband and number of GPs to be connected, district-wise; and

(d) the number of Wi-Fi hotspots provided in GPs of both States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country, including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

In Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, Phase-I of BharatNet is being implemented through Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL). The District-wise status of the project is given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*).

Phase-II of the BharatNet project to connect all the remaining GPs is being implemented in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh under State-led model by the respective States Governments.

(d) As part of BharatNet project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology to access broadband/internet services, is being provided at all the GPs in the country, including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. On an average, 5 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) are being provided at each GP. of these, 3 APs are to be connected to Government Institutions such as Police Stations, Schools, Hospitals, and Post Offices, while 2 APs will be available for public use. Selection of agency for setting up Wi-Fi hotspots in these States is underway.

Statement-I

District-wise status of connectivity in respect of Telangana

Sl. No.	District	Service Ready GPs	Balance GPs yet to be connected
1	2	3	4
1.	Khammam (includes Badradri Kothagudem)	648	0
2.	Nizamabad (includes Kamareddy)	732	0
3.	Rangareddy (includes Medchal Malkajgiri, Vikarabad)	667	0
4.	Adilabad (includes Komaram bheem, Manchiryal, Nirmal)	0	866
5.	Karimnagar (includes Jagityal, Peddepalli, Rajanna Siricilla)	0	1205

1	2	3	4
6.	Mahabubnagar (includes Nagarkarnool, Wanaparthi, Jogulamba, Gadwel)	0	1327
7.	Medak (includes Sangareddy, Siddipet)	0	1049
8.	Nalgonda (includes Suryapet, Yadadri)	0	1169
9.	Warangal (includes Jayashankar Bupalpally, Janagaon, Warangal Rural, Warangal Urban, Mahboobabad)	0	962
TOTAL		2047	6578

Note: Hyderabad, being an urban area, is not covered under Bharat Net Project.

Statement-II

District-wise status of connectivity in respect of Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	District	Service Ready GPs	Balance GPs yet to be connected
1.	Chittoor	855	511
2.	Visakhapatnam	372	540
3.	Srikakulam	0	1100
4.	Vizianagaram	0	921
5.	East Godavari	0	1069
6.	West Godavari	0	920
7.	Krishna	0	970
8.	Guntur	0	1011
9.	Prakasam	0	1030
10.	SPSR Nellore	0	943
11.	YSR Kadapa	0	790
12.	Anantapur	0	977
13.	Kurnool	0	889
TOTAL		1227	11671

Support to BSNL and MTNL

2624. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that private telecom players are getting the 4G spectrum licenses while the same is denied to the BSNL;

(b) whether Government has given any assurance to allocate the 4G license to BSNL in order to make it more competitive;

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

(d) the steps taken by Government to provide adequate support to BSNL and MTNL to facilitate them to compete with the private players in telecom sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Since 2010 onwards, the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) are allotted spectrum through auction. TSPs who have been allotted Spectrum administratively can liberalize it and deploy any technology including 4G.

Bharat Sachar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is holding spectrum in the 2100 MHz and 2500 MHz band while Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) is holding spectrum in 2100 MHz band for which they have paid market determined price and hence they can deploy any technology including 4G services by utilising these bands.

(b) and (c) Proposals for allotment of additional spectrum for providing 4G services by BSNL and MTNL, with Government support, have been received in Department of Telecommunications (DoT). BSNL has already started 4G services in a few Licensed Service Areas (LSAs).

(d) Steps taken to facilitate BSNL and MTNL to compete in telecom sector are given in the Statement.

Statement

(A) Steps taken to improve position of BSNL

Department of Telecom (DoT) is utilising the strength and competence of BSNL to implement a number of important projects such as:—

1. Providing mobile connectivity in 2199 identified locations in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas.
2. Implementation of comprehensive telecom development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth.
3. Optical Fibre Cable based Network for Defence Services (NFS Project).
4. Execution of BharatNet Project.
5. Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam.

6. Implementation of transmission media plan for North Eastern Region.
7. Submarine Optical Fibre Project for providing connectivity to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
8. Setting up of 25000 Wi-Fi Hotspots at Rural Telephone Exchanges of BSNL.
9. Setting up of Satellite Gateway.

This improves the capacity utilisation of the organisation, enhances and diversifies the revenue generating avenues while at the same time facilitating the fulfilment of Government objectives.

BSNL has also been encouraged to take measures such as:—

1. Augmentation of mobile equipment capacity/upgradation of mobile network in its areas under Phase-VIII. 4 project.
2. To improve quality of wireline telephone network BSNL will replace Legacy Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) switches to Next Generation Network (NGN) which support different kind of services *i.e.* voice, video and data. With migration to NGN, customer will get enhanced Value Added Services on wire line like Personalized Ring Back Tone, Multi Media Video Conferencing, IP Centrex, Limited Fixed Mobile Telephony (LFMT) and Fixed Mobile Convergence (FMC), etc. This will provide better facilities to customers and at lower maintenance cost to BSNL.
3. Transport Network with 200 GBPS line capacity connecting 47 State Capitals and important cities. Work in 45 cities has already been completed.
4. Routers have been installed and commissioned where by IP-MPLS network has increased from 106 cities to 205 cities providing connectivity for broadband, NGN 2G/3G requirements.

(B) Steps taken to improve position of MTNL

1. Redeployment of Digital Subscribers Line Access Modules (DSLAMs) of existing wireline broadband network near to the subscriber premises thereby reducing copper length and enhancing the quality of broadband service. A total of 220 DSLAMs have been redeployed in Delhi and 174 in Mumbai. In the year 2017-18, 47 DSLAMs in Delhi and 23 in Mumbai have been redeployed. In current year also 13 more DSLAMs have been redeployed.
2. Last year, MTNL finalized and made operational its new policy to engage partners on revenue share basis to extend its FTTx services. 20 Partners in Mumbai and 15 partners in Delhi have already started to provide BB over FTTH at speeds upto 100 Mbps. Net FTTH customers added by

revenue share partners during the current year in Delhi are 1347, while in Mumbai it is 1234.

3. MTNL has signed an MoU with New Delhi Municipal Corporation Smart City Limited (NDMCSCSL) on 18.08.2017, with the objective to provide various services like FTTH, Public Wi-Fi for making NDMC area as a SMART City. The project involves around 2000 FTTH connections in Connaught Place area and approx.150 access points for Wi-Fi enabling.
4. Customer centric Strategies:—
 - To give boost to customer experience, Download Speed of Broadband subscribers is being upgraded to 8 Mbps progressively without any additional cost depending upon feasibility and line parameters.
 - Training is being given to line staff to improve maintenance and installation practices.
 - Refurbishing of 20% Pillars and DPs every year, is planned in phased manner. 1113 Pillar and 4,697 DP in Delhi and 1677 Pillar and 3563 DPs in Mumbai have been refurbished by MTNL in 2017-18. In current year also, total DPs refurbished in Delhi and Mumbai are 19877 and 1860 respectively whereas, 864 and 866 pillars have been refurbished in Delhi and Mumbai respectively.
 - To improve copper pair quality, 81,492 mtr existing Drop wires have been replaced with twisted drop wires or thermo sleeves have been put at open joints at DPs by MTNL in 2017-18. In current year this count has been 41,317 as on 30.09.2018.
 - Proactive Monitoring of Broadband Faults through Radius attempt.

4G spectrum for BSNL

2625. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made allotment of 4G spectrum to BSNL;

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

(c) the policies, financial assistance and timely expansion of service that Government had undertaken in the last four years to ensure the growth of State-owned telecom company, BSNL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) was allotted 2x5 MHz (paired) spectrum in the 2100 MHz and 20 MHz unpaired spectrum

in 2500 MHz frequency band in 20 Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) to deploy any technology including 4G services. BSNL also have spectrum allotment in 800 MHz, 900 MHz and 1800 MHz bands on administrative basis. Such administratively allotted spectrum can be liberalised and used to deploy any technology including 4G services.

BSNL has recently applied for allotment of spectrum of 2x5 MHz (paired) in 2100 MHz band in 19 LSAs and for 2x5 MHz (paired) in the 800 MHz band in one LSA (Rajasthan) for deployment of 4G services.

(c) Department of Telecom (DoT) is utilising the strength and competence of BSNL to implement a number of important projects such as providing mobile connectivity in Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas, implementation of comprehensive telecom development plan for Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Lakshadweep Islands through augmentation of satellite connectivity/bandwidth, Optical Fibre Cable based Network for Defence Services (NFS Project), execution of BharatNet Project, execution of comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for the North-Eastern Region for provision of mobile services in uncovered villages in Arunachal Pradesh and two districts of Assam, implementation of transmission media plan for North Eastern Region, Submarine Optical Fibre Project for providing connectivity to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, setting up of 25000 Wi-Fi Hotspots at Rural Telephone Exchanges of BSNL and setting up of Satellite Gateway.

This improves the capacity utilisation of the organisation, enhances and diversifies the revenue generating avenues while at the same time facilitating the fulfilment of Government objectives.

Processing of mobile number portability

2626. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TRAI has proposed processing of mobile number portability request through MNP service provider, instead of telecom operator;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this would curb rejection of subscriber requests to change their network; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has notified the Telecommunications Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment)

Regulations 2018 on 13th December, 2018. The Regulation will come into effect after six months from the date of issue in the Gazette. As per the amended regulations, the Unique Porting Code (UPC) will be generated and delivered by the Mobile Number Portability Service Provider (MNPSP). It shall be done by MNPSP only after making queries from the Donor Operator regarding fulfilment of porting conditions. Therefore, once the UPC is generated, the rejection of porting requests is expected to get curbed.

Setting aside of TRAI regulation

2627. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal has set aside a regulation brought by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India which prohibited incumbent operators from providing segmented offers to their high ARPU (average revenue per user) subscribers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether the said tribunal has also struck down the definition of predatory pricing which the regulator had brought through the same regulation, which prevented operators having 30 per cent or more subscriber and revenue market share, from providing below cost tariff but newer operators were free to offer such tariff till they reached the threshold mark?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) No regulations issued by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) under reference has been set aside by the Telecom Dispute Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT). However, TDSAT *vide* its judgment dated 13th December, 2018, has set aside the Telecommunication Tariff (63rd Amendment) Order, 2018 dated 16.02.2018, so far as it changes the concept of Significant Market Power (SMP), Non-predation and the related provisions and ordered that these provisions shall be reconsidered by the Authority at the earliest, preferably within six months.

Fixing of spectrum usage charge

2628. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had recommended fixing a flat spectrum usage charge for operators at three per cent of their adjusted gross revenue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the panel of Department of Telecommunications has rejected the said proposal of the TRAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, TRAI, *vide* its recommendations on “Auction of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300-3400 MHz, 3400-3600 MHz Bands” dated 01.08.2018 reiterated its earlier recommendation dated 09.07.2013 and 27.01.2016 that Spectrum Usages Charges (SUC) for all auctioned spectrum should be at a flat rate of 3% of AGR of wireless services.

(c) and (d) The recommendation dated 27.01.2016 of TRAI had been considered by the Government in 2016 and was not accepted.

Allocation of 5G spectrum

2629. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to roll out 5G telecom services;

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

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for allocation of 5G spectrum to telecom players;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government is considering to delay rolling out of 5G services in view of precarious financial position of telecom companies; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (f) The standards for IMT 2020 (International Mobile Telecommunications 2020), also known as 5G technologies in industry, are being finalized and trials of the technologies are in progress globally. The Department of Telecommunications is also working with telecom service providers/original equipment manufacturers on technological studies. On application, the necessary spectrum for testing/experimenting 5G equipment/technology is being allocated to telecom service providers/equipment manufacturers for a period of three months. Further,

the Government is creating an enabling framework to facilitate the launch of 5G telecom services in India. The 5G services are expected to be introduced gradually and advance to a full range of services as and when 5G technology ecosystem and demand for 5G services grows.

Postal Life Insurance policies

2630. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many Postal Life Insurance (PLI) policies have lapsed, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether efforts have been made by Government during last three years to inculcate awareness amongst people regarding procedure and guidelines required to have them reinstated, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;

(c) the details of procedure and guidelines required to have PLI policies reinstated;

(d) whether Government would simplify reinstatement procedure so that people do not face harassment in having them reinstated; and

(e) whether Government would make renewed efforts in this regard, including extending grace period for renewal of lapsed policies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Yes, Sir. The details of lapsed Postal Life Insurance (PLI) policies, Postal circle-wise during the last financial year 2017-18 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) Yes, Sir. Following efforts have been made by Government during last three years to inculcate awareness amongst people regarding procedure and guidelines required to have them reinstated:—

- (i) Insurants are sent notices for revival of policy.
- (ii) Special drive is conducted at Postal Divisional level periodically to contact the insurants whose policies have lapsed to pursue their revival.
- (iii) PLI melas are organised in Postal Circles at Divisional/Sub-Divisional level, wherein insurants are made aware about benefit and procedure of revival of lapsed policies.
- (iv) PLI sales persons contact insurants personally as well and guide them for revival of their lapsed policies.
- (v) There is provision for payment of revival amount in installments to facilitate easy revival of lapsed policies

(c) Sir, as per Post Office Life Insurance Rules 2011, relevant provisions are as under:—

I. Reinstatement of a void or discontinued PLI Policy:—

A Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Policy is treated as void or discontinued, which is in force for less than three years duration and premia for six months or less is not paid from the date of first unpaid premia. Such void or discontinued PLI Policy can be reinstated simply by depositing all the arrears of due premium till the date of payment along with 12% interest per annum thereon in Post Office. The reinstatement of such policy shall be automatic without any further act on the part of the insurant or the Department.

II. Lapsed policy and its revival:—

As per Post Office Life Insurance Rules 2011, a PLI Policy is treated as lapsed in following circumstances:—

- (i) A Policy which is of less than three years duration and premia remain unpaid for more than six months from the date of first unpaid premium.
- (ii) A Policy which is of more than three years duration and premia remain unpaid for more than twelve months from the date of first unpaid premium.

Process for revival of a lapsed PLI Policy is as under:—

- 1. Insurant submits an application in Post Office for revival of lapsed policy.
- 2. Insurant produces a good health certificate from authorized medical attendant in the prescribed proforma.
- 3. Revival of Policy is considered and approved based on medical officer's report.
- 4. Insurant pays due premium along with 12% of interest on due premium.

(d) and (e) Sir, in view of answers (b) and (c) above, the procedure of reinstatement of a PLI Policy is quite simple. There is no proposal under consideration to further simplify it. Further, there is no proposal under consideration to extend grace period for renewal of lapsed policies.

Statement

Postal Circle-wise number of Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Policies lapsed during the Financial Year 2017-18 (01.04.17 to 31.03.18)

Sl. No.	Name of Circle	Number of PLI Policies lapsed during the period
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11296
2.	Assam	6744
3.	Bihar	13019
4.	Chhattisgarh	2453
5.	Delhi	8004
6.	Gujarat	14227
7.	Haryana	4298
8.	Himachal Pradesh	677
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3705
10.	Jharkhand	6461
11.	Karnataka	32787
12.	Kerala	21205
13.	Maharashtra	36838
14.	Madhya Pradesh	11223
15.	North East	18442
16.	Odisha	18613
17.	Punjab	27705
18.	Rajasthan	5279
19.	Tamil Nadu	34126
20.	Telangana	6039
21.	Uttar Pradesh	36775
22.	Uttarakhand	3470
23.	West Bengal	11403
TOTAL		334789

Renaming of Telecom Commission

2631. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to rename the Telecom Commission as "Digital Communications Commission";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir. The Government of India has re-designated the 'Telecom Commission' as the 'Digital Communications Commission (DCC)' *vide* Resolution dated 22nd October, 2018 to ensure effective implementation and monitoring of the National Digital Communications Policy- 2018 that has a vision to support India's transition to a digitally empowered economy and society.

Amendment of norms for interconnection usage charge

2632. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) proposes to amend the norms on Interconnection Usage Charge (IUC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether TRAI has sought views and comments from the telecom industry on the said proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the response received by TRAI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) Presently, there is no proposal under consideration by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) to amend the norms on Interconnection Usage Charge (IUC).

Decline in Spectrum Usage Charge

2633. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) is declining as the tariff war has led to declining of industry's revenue;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in financial year 2018, the industry's AGR stood at ₹ 155,680 crore against ₹ 190,658 crore in financial year 2017; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that as a result, Government's revenue from licence fee got reduced to ₹ 12,976 crore from ₹ 15,975 crore and similarly, SUC got reduced to ₹ 5,089 crore from ₹ 7,574 crore a year earlier?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) based SUC receipts have declined due to declining AGR.

(b) In financial year 2017-18, the industry's AGR was ₹ 130844.9 crores against ₹ 160787.9 crores in financial year 2016-17.

(c) In financial year 2017-18, Government's revenue from licence fee was ₹ 10670.6 crores against ₹ 13032.9 crores in financial year 2016-17 and SUC was ₹ 4983.75 crores in 2017-18 against ₹ 7048 crores in financial year 2016-17.

Levies on telecom sector

2634. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to rationalise the levies imposed on the telecom sector;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the industry has been demanding lower taxes and levies, which add upto about 30 per cent of the revenues;

(c) whether it is also a fact that industry debt is pegged at over ₹ 7 lakh crore; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) The Spectrum Usage Charges (SUC) have been rationalised through introduction of weighted average method of assessment.

The industry has demanded lowering taxes and levies. However, DoT has requested Ministry of Finance *vide* D.O.No.37-1/2017/LFP-I(part) dated 08.12.2017 that a standard rate of GST@12% for telecom services should be fixed in place of the existing 18% and the applicable rate of IGST in respect of certain telecom equipment on which IGST applicable is 28% be reduced to 18%.

(c) and (d) As per the Inter Ministerial Group report of August, 2017, the total debt of the telecom industry was ₹ 7.88 lakh crores.

Outstanding debt liabilities of Telecom operators is given below:

(₹ in crores)			
Particulars	Telecom Service Providers	Tower Companies	Total
Indian Debt	159675	18049	177724
Foreign Debt	83918		83918
Total Bank/FI Debt	243593	18049	261642
Bank Guarantees	50000		50000
Deferred Spectrum Liabilities of DoT	295864		295864
Other Third Party Liabilities	175464	4763	180227
Total Outside Liabilities	764922	22812	787734

Source: IMG Report.

Testing of telecom products and equipment

2635. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has started a facility for testing telecom products and equipment to ensure security in digital communications at the national level;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this facility would work for security from the national perspective and also facilitate the development of testing and certification eco-system in the country; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) The Security Assurance Standards Facility (SASF) in Bengaluru has been established and entrusted with the responsibility to develop Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements for telecom equipment to ensure security in digital communication at the national level. This facility will work for security from the national perspective and also facilitate the development of testing and certification ecosystem in the country through participation in the activities of recognition of security test labs and security certification of telecom equipment based on test results reported by these labs.

Internet telephony

2636. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce internet telephony system in the country and if so, the details and the benefits thereof;

(b) whether the said facility would be available in flights and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the telecom operators would charge more than the usual for such services and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether a consumer has to change SIM card/mobile number to activate the said services and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the likely benefit the customers would get from this new service and the cost involved therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Internet Telephony is already permitted in the country. Access Service licensees can provide Internet Telephony.

(b) As per “Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018” published in the Gazette of India on 14th December, 2018, both Voice and Internet facilities can be provided in flights.

(c) to (e) Customers are not required to change SIM Card for existing services while in aircraft. Major benefit will be that telecom services shall be available while travelling in flights. Tariff will be governed by the market forces and will depend on the service providers’ assessment of expenditure made in providing the services and the expected revenue.

e-commerce site of India Post

2637. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India Post launched its own e-commerce website to help sellers, particularly rural artisans and Self-Help Groups (SHGs) to sell their products across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the small and local sellers, who have been

left behind in e-commerce space, would now be able to maximize their reach and retailing power by leveraging the vast physical and IT network of the Department of Posts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. India Post has launched its own e-Commerce Portal on 14.12.2018 to provide end to end support to sellers including Rural Artisans, Self Help Groups, Women Entrepreneurs and Online Retailers to sell their product across the country. Department of Post's own products like Gangajal will also be available on the e-Commerce Portal. The e-Commerce Portal can be accessed at <https://ecom.indiapost.gov.in>

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Small and Local sellers, who have been left behind in e-Commerce space would now be able to maximize their reach and retailing power by leveraging the vast physical and IT network of the Department of Posts. After getting registered on the Portal through Circle Office Small/Local Sellers can induct their ordered items in the Local Head Post Office to which they are attached. In order to attract these sellers, exemption in security deposit for six months has been granted. In addition to this, waiver of market place commission (7%) has also been extended.

Call drop rate

2638. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has carried out tests to ascertain the call drop rate;

(b) whether there are plans to carry out tests on a pan-India basis and the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by Government to reduce the rate of call drops;

(d) whether Government has allowed the installation of telecom towers at Government buildings to reduce call drops; and

(e) the number of such towers installed at Government buildings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) In order to assess the network quality of mobile services of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been regularly conducting Independent Drive Tests (IDTs) in cities, Highways and rail routes.

Recently, IDTs on 8 Highways and 3 sections of Train Routes were conducted during 16th August, 2018 to 4th October, 2018 wherein Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) including KPIs related to Drop Call Rate were assessed for the mobile networks of the concerned TSPs operating in the respective areas.

The findings of respective Highways and sections of rail routes are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) TRAI is already implementing operator assisted Drive Tests in all Long Distance Charging Areas (LDCAs) throughout the country under the supervision of TRAI's appointed independent agency and TRAI officials. This will give an indication of the coverage, voice quality and call drop issues in various parts of the country so that the service providers could take necessary action to address the problems in those areas.

(c) In order to address call drops, following steps have been taken:—

- (i) DoT has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalisation of spectrum, permitting passive and active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules 2016, making available Government land/buildings for installations of towers etc.
- (ii) About 9.74 lakh additional Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) for 2G/3G/4G-LTE services have been added by TSPs since July, 2015 taking the total BTS count in the country to about 20.07 lakh in November, 2018. Moreover, about 9.59 lakh 2G/3G Cells have been rectified/optimised by TSPs during July, 2016 to October, 2018.
- (iii) In order to obtain direct feedback from subscribers, DoT has launched an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) wherein, around 2.15 crore subscribers have been individually contacted since December, 2016, of which 30.1 lakh subscribers have participated in the survey. The feedback is shared with the TSPs every week for taking corrective actions in a time bound manner. As a result, about 85,000 individual cases of call drops have been resolved so far.

(d) Yes Sir. The use of Government buildings/estate has been permitted for installation of mobile towers and related telecom equipments.

(e) Over 20,900 mobile towers have been installed at the Government buildings/estate by various TSPs and Infrastructure Providers (IPs).

Statement

Details of the highways and sections of rail routes covered in TRAI's Independent Drive Test during 16th August, 2018 to 4th October, 2018 and the key findings thereof:

Part-I: Highways

Sl.No.	Highways	Findings thereof
1.	Asansol to Gaya	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except M/s BSNL (2G), Tata (2G), Airtel (3G), BSNL (3G) and Idea (3G).
2.	Bangalore to Murdeshwar	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except Vodafone (2G) and Idea (3G).
3.	Dehradun to Nainital	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except BSNL (2G), Idea (2G), BSNL (3G) and Tata (3G).
4.	Digha to Asansol	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except Airtel (3G) and Idea (3G).
5.	Gaya to Danapur	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except Airtel (2G) and Tata (2G).
6.	Mount Abu to Jodhpur	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except BSNL (2G) and BSNL (3G).
7.	Raipur to Jagdalpur	All the TSPs have met the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate except Airtel (2G), BSNL (2G), Airtel (3G), BSNL (3G), Tata (3G) and Vodafone (3G).
8.	Srinagar to Leh	Both the TSPs Airtel and BSNL are not meeting the benchmark of $\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate

Part-II: Sections of Railway Routes

Sl.No.	Railway Routes	Findings thereof
1.	Allahabad to Gorakhpur	Only Reliance Jio is meeting the benchmark of
2.	Delhi to Mumbai	$\leq 2\%$ of Drop Call Rate.
3.	Jabalpur to Singrauli	

Issue of call drops

2639. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the report by TRAI which includes call

drop benchmark test for telecom companies, including Vodafone, Idea, Airtel, Jio, amongst others;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry to reduce the rampant call drops taking place;

(c) whether the Ministry has held discussions with the telecom companies regarding this issue and if so, the details and consequences thereof;

(d) whether the Ministry is in process of issuing guidelines on this issue; and

(e) whether any fines have been collected by the Ministry/Regulator from the telecom companies for this issue and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) In order to assess the network quality of mobile services of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been regularly conducting Independent Drive Tests (IDTs) in cities, Highways and rail routes.

Recently, IDTs on 8 Highways and 3 sections of Train Routes were conducted during 16th August, 2018 to 4th October, 2018 wherein Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) including KPIs related to Drop Call Rate (DCR) were assessed for the mobile networks of the concerned TSPs operating in the respective areas.

The findings of respective Highways and sections of rail routes are given in Statement [Refer to the Statement Appended to the Answer to USQ No 2638 part (a)].

(b) to (d) As per latest report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for the quarter ending September, 2018, all TSPs are complying to Drop Call Rate (DCR) benchmarks despite rapid-increase in traffic volume and more stringent benchmarks, except M/s Idea in four License Service Areas (LSAs) *i.e.* Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and North East and M/s Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in one LSA *i.e.* West Bengal.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has been interacting with Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and reviewing the progress of their action-plans for addressing call drops in their mobile networks on a continuous basis.

DoT has recently interacted with concerned TSPs in October, 2018 to lay emphasis on developing technological solutions by TSPs to monitor and address call drops in their mobile networks. TSPs have informed DoT that they have been continuously augmenting the mobile networks across the country to keep pace with increasing usage of mobile networks for both voice and data services.

TSPs have also started implementing latest technological solutions and tool-sets such as Geo-location Analysis, Self Organising Networks (S.O.N.), Remote Electrical Antenna Tilt (RET) etc. for monitoring and addressing the identified issues in near real-time.

In order to address call drops, following steps have been taken:—

- (i) DoT has taken several policy initiatives to facilitate infrastructure growth for delivery of quality services. These include permitting trading/sharing/liberalisation of spectrum, permitting passive and active infrastructure sharing, notification of Right of Way Rules 2016, making available Government land/buildings for installations of towers etc.
- (ii) About 9.74 lakh additional BTS for 2G/3G/4G-LTE services have been added by TSPs since July, 2015 taking the total BTS count in the country to about 20.07 lakh in November, 2018. Moreover, about 9.59 lakh 2G/3G Cells have been rectified/optimised by TSPs during July, 2016 to October, 2018.
- (iii) In order to obtain direct feedback from subscribers, DoT has launched an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) wherein, around 2.15 crore subscribers have been individually contacted since December, 2016, out of which 30.1 lakh subscribers have participated in the survey. The feedback is shared with the TSPs every week for taking corrective actions in a time bound manner. As a result, about 85,000 individual cases of call drops have been resolved so far.
- (iv) *Vide* TRAI Regulations effective from 1st October, 2017, two revised parameters *viz.* Drop Call Rate (DCR) Spatial Distribution Measure (benchmark $\leq 2\%$) and DCR Temporal Distribution Measure (benchmark $\leq 3\%$) have been prescribed for assessing call drop in mobile network providing 2G/3G/4G-LTE services at Base Transceiver Station (BTS) level.
- (v) Revised graded Financial Disincentives (FD) structure, based on the extent to which a TSP's performance deviates from the specified call-drop benchmark, has been introduced since 1st October, 2017.

(e) The financial disincentives imposed on TSPs for non-compliance to the revised DCR benchmarks in 2018 are given in Statement-II.

Statement-II*Financial disincentives imposed by TRAI on non-compliant TSPs against Benchmarks for Drop Call Rate*

Quarter ending	Name of TSP	Financial disincentive imposed as per notified Benchmarks (in ₹)							
		Network Distribution	QoS	DCR	Spatial	Network Distribution	QoS	DCR	Temporal
June, 2018	M/s BSNL	Two lakh for one License Service Area (LSA)				Two lakh for one LSA			
	M/s Idea	Eight lakh for four LSAs				Four lakh for two LSAs			
March, 2018	M/s BSNL	One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA				One lakh fifty thousand for one LSA			
	M/s Idea	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs				Three lakh for two LSAs			
	M/s Tata	Seven lakh fifty thousand for five LSAs				Fifteen lakh for Seven LSAs			
	M/s Telenor	Three lakh for two LSAs				Three lakh for two LSAs			

Advice received from CVC in award of contract for expansion of National Internet Backbone

2640. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1986 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3 August, 2018 and state:

(a) whether Government has received the advice from CVC regarding ₹ 300 crore scam in BSNL, in award of contract for expansion of National Internet Backbone and in annual maintenance contract along with purchase of hardware;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the findings thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons for inordinate delay;

(d) whether Government has filed FIR in this regard;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (c) Advice dated 12.09.2018 of CVC was received. The CVC has advised that based on the facts and circumstances of the case, the Commission allows the matter relating to procurement of STM Cards from CISCO and award of AMC by BSNL to rest.

(d) to (f) Question does not arise in view of response (a) to (c) above.

National Digital Communications Policy

2641. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) by when the draft National Digital Communications Policy would be finalised and put in force;

(b) whether the interests of consumers and unfair competition between service providers would be taken care of in the new telecom policy;

(c) whether internet telephony system for in-flight connectivity would be allowed in airlines, for passengers to communicate; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) The National Digital Communications Policy 2018 was notified in the Gazette of India on the 22nd October, 2018.

(b) The Policy has been formulated after consultation with various stakeholders including the telecom service providers. The Policy recognizes the importance of continued improvement in the regulatory framework for attracting investments and ensuring fair competition, to serve the needs of Indian citizens.

(c) and (d) Government has allowed both voice and internet services on aircraft in Indian airspace, by notifying the “Flight and Maritime Connectivity Rules, 2018” in the Gazette of India on 14th December, 2018.

**Temporary suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency
or Public Safety) Rules, 2017**

2642. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI:

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise data of internet shutdowns issued under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017;

(b) whether the Ministry conducted any public or stakeholder consultations prior to the finalising and publication of these Rules;

(c) if so, the details thereof, including comments and suggestions received by the Ministry and action taken therein;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) whether these Rules are different from earlier rules or laws under which internet services could be suspended, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (e) Central Government has not issued any order of internet shutdown under the provisions of Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017.

Police and public order are State subjects as per the Constitution and States are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. Concerned State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet services to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Records related to internet shutdowns ordered by State Governments are not maintained by DoT.

In order to streamline the process of internet shutdowns in the country, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) 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 that of internet services in an area, can either be issued by the Union Home Secretary in case of Central Government or the State Home Secretary in case of State Government, 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. However, no public consultation was held.

Details of internet shutdowns

2643. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:

SHRI P. L. PUNIA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry maintains records of details pertaining to suspension of internet services in the country during law and order situations, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has taken any necessary steps to ensure that people have access to emergency communication services during internet shutdowns, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) Central Government has not issued any order of internet shutdown under the provisions of Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017.

Police and public order are State subjects as per the Constitution and States are responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. Concerned State Governments are empowered to issue orders for temporary suspension of internet services to maintain law and order in the State or part thereof under the provisions contained in the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Safety) Rules, 2017. Records related to internet shutdowns ordered by State Governments are not maintained by DoT.

(b) and (c) In temporary shutdown of internet services in a region, internet/data services are suspended temporarily only and other communication means/services like voice calling and Short Message Service (SMS), remain available during the suspension period of internet services, through which people in the region can communicate and access emergency communication services.

Internet users in the country

2644. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is the second highest user of internet in the world;

(b) if so, whether the people of the country prefer mobiles than Wi-Fi to access internet data therein;

(c) whether Government proposes to provide free data with every recharge of sim card; and

(d) the proposal details of TRAI on price fixing and data usage and control over mobile connection thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) As per some study reports available in the public domain, India is the second highest user of internet in the world.

(b) As per information provided by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), there are 537.92 million mobile internet subscribers as against 0.78 million Wi-Fi subscribers in India as on 30.09.2018.

(c) At present, there is no decision of the Government for providing free data with every recharge of sim card.

(d) As per provisions of TRAI Act, 1997 as amended in the year 2000, subject matter of tariff falls under the jurisdiction of TRAI. Presently, tariff for data services is under forbearance and Telecom Service Providers have the flexibility to fix the prices of data services. There is no proposal in TRAI to review price fixing of data services.

Charging of Service Tax

2645. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that despite GST, Service Tax is still charged by many businessmen, especially in restaurants;

(b) whether this is allowed under the law;

(c) whether Government has any plan for addressing customers' grievances on service charges; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Charging of Service Tax is not valid. The Government in April, 2017 issued guidelines on fair trade practices related to charging of Service Charge from consumer by hotel/restaurants. As per these guidelines, Service Charge is optional and payment of it depends entirely upon the discretion of the consumers.

Mandatory testing of purity of gold

2646. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sale of non-Hallmarked gold/ornaments is banned in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether Government would make testing machine for checking the purity of gold, mandatory in jewellery shops;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there are any measures to fix the gold rate as one nation, one rate in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (f) Presently sale of both hallmarked as well as non-hallmarked gold and silver ornament is permitted in the country. However, the Bureau of Indian Standards Act, 2016 has enabling provisions for making hallmarking of precious metal articles mandatory by the Central Government.

Gold is widely traded in local markets across the country. At present, there are no specific measures or mechanism to fix a single daily gold price in the country. The price generally depends on import price, basic customs duty, tax and logistics cost, purity etc. and vary with location.

Implementation of Food Security Act in Kerala

2647. SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the implementation of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) across the country, including the State of Kerala; and

(b) the details of budget allocated, sanctioned and spent for various schemes under NFSA in the State of Kerala?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) National

Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) is now being implemented in all the 36 States/ Union Territories (UTs) including Kerala. Out of the total intended coverage of 81.34 crore, presently, 79.41 crore persons are covered under the Act for receiving highly subsidized foodgrains.

(b) Foodgrains at subsidized prices is made available by Food Corporation of India (FCI) to the States/UTs under the NFSA, as well as erstwhile Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), for which food subsidy is released to FCI. Only in the case of States participating in the Decentralized Procurement, under which State Government take responsibility of procurement of foodgrains and its distribution to the eligible households, that food subsidy is released directly to State Governments. Under this scheme, ₹ 449.70 crore has been released to State Government of Kerala in 2018-19, so far. The Central Government undertakes to meet the expenditure incurred by the State Governments on the procurement operation as per approved costing norms. State-wise budgeting is not undertaken.

Central Government also provides Central assistance to States/UTs under NFSA for meeting expenditure on intra-State movement and handling of foodgrains and fair price shop dealers' margin as per approved norms. No fund has been released to State Government of Kerala under this scheme so far.

A Scheme on 'End-to-End Computerization of TPDS Operations' is also under implementation on a cost sharing basis with the State Governments. The scheme provides for digitization of ration cards/beneficiary and other databases, online allocation, computerization of supply-chain management, setting up of transparency portal and grievance redressal mechanism. Central financial assistance of ₹ 10.95 crore has been released to Government of Kerala for implementation of the scheme so far.

Pilferage of PDS ration

2648. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaints on pilferage of PDS ration items through fraudulent PoS transactions;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Uttar Pradesh has registered over two lakh cases of such fraudulent transactions;

(c) if so, the details of cases registered therein; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) As per the information furnished by State Government of Uttar Pradesh, the matter regarding fraudulent ePoS transactions cases at some Fair Price Shops of urban areas came to notice in the month of August, 2018 as 1,87,635 illegal transactions were recorded in month of July, 2018. A total of 517 FIRs have been registered. As reported, Aadhaar authentication facilities have been misused through login IDs of Computer Operators/Supply Inspectors. State Government has appointed Addl. Commissioner (Food) as Nodal Officer and also constituted a three member Technical Committee for the support of Special Task Force of Police for investigation.

Public Distribution System (PDS) is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and State/UT Governments. Central Government is responsible for procurement, allocation and transportation of foodgrains up to the designated depots of the FCI. The operational responsibilities for allocation and distribution of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries/families, issuance of ration cards to them and supervision and monitoring of functioning of FPSs rest with the concerned State/UT Government. There have been complaints/reports from individuals, organisation as well as through press reports relating to untimely supply of foodgrains, leakage/diversion of foodgrains, inclusion/exclusion errors, bogus/ineligible ration cards being in circulation, irregular functioning of FPSs, beneficiaries not getting their entitled quota of foodgrains, allotment of fair price shops in an arbitrary manner etc. As per National Food Security (NFSA) Act, 2013 and Targeted Public Distribution System [Control] Orders, responsibility of addressing all such issues fall under the purview of respective State/UT Governments. Therefore, as and when shortcomings/complaints are received by this Department, these are referred to the concerned State/UT Government for inquiry and appropriate action.

Banning of telecom gear

2649. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has considered banning of telecom gear and equipment made by Huawei in the country, if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the use of telecom gear and equipment made by Huawei can compromise national security, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has conducted its own due diligence for determining the security threats posed by equipment made by Huawei, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government has planned any security testing specifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) to (d) At present, there is no proposal before the Government considering banning telecom gear and equipment made by Huawei. The telecom service providers are free to procure equipment from any vendor based on their techno-commercial interests provided they adhere to the security provisions given in the license.

Modern age telecom equipment, irrespective of its source, may, at times, be susceptible to spyware/malwares etc. These, spyware/malware etc. are potential threats, if embedded in any of the telecom network elements by vendor or any other third party source, which may damage the concerned network element causing disruption in services, infecting other network elements or leakage of information to unintended user.

To address security concerns, including of the security threats posed by telecom equipment inducted into networks, irrespective of its source, elaborate security conditions have been laid down in the license which *inter alia* provide as follows:—

39.5 The Licensee shall be completely and totally responsible for security of their networks. The Licensee shall have organizational policy on security and security management of their networks including Network forensics, Network Hardening, Network penetration test, Risk assessment. Actions to fix problems and to prevent such problems from recurring should be part of the policy. The Licensee shall submit its policy to Licensor within 90 calendar days from the date of issue of the License/each service authorization.

39.7 The Licensee shall induct only those network elements into its telecom network, which have been got tested as per relevant contemporary Indian or International Security Standards e.g. IT and IT related elements against ISO/IEC 15408 standards, for Information Security Management System against ISO 27000 series Standards, Telecom and Telecom related elements against 3GPP security standards, 3GPP2 security standards etc. The certification shall be got done only from authorized and certified agencies/labs in India or as may be specified by the Licensor. The copies of test results and test certificates shall be kept by the Licensee for a period of 10 years from the date of procurement of equipment.

39.10 (i) The Licensee shall create facilities for the monitoring of all intrusions, attacks and frauds on his technical facilities and provide reports on the same to the Licensor. Such facilities shall be created by the Licensee within 12 months of effective date of this License/authorization and be reported to Licensor as and when created during this period.

Further, to enhance the security posture the Department of Telecommunications has in September, 2018 mandated Minimum Requirements for Security Policy (MRSP) for the licensed telecom service providers. The Department of Telecommunications also conducts regular security audits to establish the compliance to the security requirements by the licensed telecom service providers.

The Government has in November, 2018 established the Security Assurance Standards Facility (SASF) in Bengaluru that is entrusted with the responsibility to develop Indian Telecom Security Assurance Requirements for telecom equipment, irrespective of the source, to ensure security in digital communication at the national level. This facility will work for security from the national perspective and also facilitate the development of testing and certification ecosystem in the country through participation in the activities of recognition of security test labs and security certification of telecom equipment based on test results reported by these labs.

Exploitation of farmers by procurement agencies

2650. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that personnel of Government procurement agencies in various mandis of the country, in connivance with private traders, reject the produce of the farmers who bring it to mandis for sale, on one pretext or the other thereby forcing the poor farmers to sell their produce at throwaway prices to the private traders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take against such corrupt personnel and save the farmers from being exploited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) No such incidence has come to the notice of the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.

There exists a transparent and uniform policy for procurement by Government Agencies. Under this policy, wheat and paddy offered by farmers, within the stipulated period and conforming to the specifications (Fair Average Quality norms) prescribed in advance by Government of India, are purchased at Minimum Support Price (MSP) by the State Government agencies and Food Corporation of India (FCI) for Central Pool. Coarsegrains are procured by State Governments as per the procurement plan prepared in consultation with FCI and approved by the Central Government. However,

farmers are free to sell their produce in the open market if they find the price and conditions favourable.

Rotting of foodgrains

†2651. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the matter of rotting of a large quantity of foodgrains owing to drench caused by rain has come to light;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to enquire about reasons of rotting of foodgrains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI C. R. CHAUDHARY): (a) No, Sir. The quantity of foodgrains of Central Pool stocks stored in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) which got damaged due to rain/flood/cyclone during last three year is as under:—

(Figures in MTs)

Year	Quantity of foodgrains damaged due to rain/cyclone/flood
2015-16	2158
2016-17	346
2017-18	1554

(b) and (c) Not applicable in view of the (a) above.

Option to exit from Aadhaar

2652. DR. SANJAY SINH:

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether UIDAI has received requests for opting-out of Aadhaar scheme, post Supreme Court judgement on Aadhaar, if so, action taken thereon;

(b) whether UIDAI has created an option to exit from Aadhaar scheme, if not, when would it allow such an option as per the judgement, if so, details thereof, if not, reasons therefor;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether UIDAI has prepared plans to delete all Aadhaar data with banks and telecoms under the judgement and details thereof; and

(d) whether UIDAI has stopped use of Aadhaar Based Attendance System to comply with the judgement, to use Aadhaar only for subsidies, if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Request for opting out of Aadhaar received. The UIDAI has not created a general option to exit from the Aadhaar Scheme. Pursuant to the judgement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Writ Petition No. 494 of 2012 Justice Puttaswamy (Retd.) and Ans. *Vs.* UOI and Ors. (26.9.18), such an exit scheme has only been mandated for children who have been enrolled with consent of their parents, who shall be given an option to exit on attaining the age of majority provided they do not intend to avail the benefits of the scheme (pg. 556, majority judgement of Sikri J.). Accordingly, necessary steps to formulate such an exit scheme for children attaining majority is being created. No general option to exit from Aadhaar was laid down by the Hon'ble court as a binding direction and consequently no such option has been created.

(c) The compliance of the provisions of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 and the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement, *inter alia*, including deletion of Aadhaar data, requires to be done by the concerned requesting entity on receipt of request by Aadhaar number holder.

(d) Role of UIDAI is limited to issuance of Aadhaar number and providing authentication services for establishing identity of the Aadhaar number holder. Applications that use such authentication services are administered by various Central Ministries, State Governments, agencies etc.

Internet censorship

2653. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to make provisions and amendment to the Act for internet censorship;

(b) whether Government has formulated any law with regard to mobile applications, with special emphasis on adult contents apps and gambling apps; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. However, Sections 67, 67A and 67B of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides stringent punishment and fine for obscene/pornographic content including child pornography hosted/transmitted in electronic form.

My Stamp scheme

2654. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the postage stamps printed under My Stamp scheme so far;
- (b) the details of the revenue earned through these postage stamps under the scheme so far, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Government has received cases of misuse of the My Stamp scheme by individuals/entities so far, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the details of action taken against the above; and
- (e) the measures taken by Government to prevent misuse of the My Stamp scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI MANOJ SINHA): (a) “My Stamp” is the brand name for personalized sheets of Postage Stamps of Department of Posts. The personalization is achieved by printing a thumb nail photograph of the customer images and logos of institutions, or images of artwork, heritage buildings, famous tourist places, historical cities, wildlife, other animals and birds etc., alongside the selected My Stamp theme stamp.

“Customized My Stamp” is a personalized sheet of Postage Stamps wherein the corporate, organizations and institutions can get their customized sheets printed from Department of Posts. Alongside these customized themed stamps, the organisation may opt for printing of their logo, images of their organisation/institute printed.

A list of My Stamps and Customized My Stamps released so far is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The provision of separate accounting head for incorporating the revenue earned through My Stamp was created in e-lekha only during FY 2014-15. Hence, the details of revenue earned through My Stamp scheme with effect from 2014-15 (circle-wise) upto 31.03.2018 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) to (e) The reports on the matter are being collected from all Postal Circles.

Statement-I*(A) List of My Stamps released till date*

Sl.No.	My Stamp	Year
1.	Panchatantra	2010-11
2.	Flying High	2010-11
3.	Taj Mahal	2010-11
4.	Rail Engine	2010-11
5.	Jungle lore	2010-11
6.	Sun Signs-Aries	2010-11
7.	Sun Signs-Aquarius	2010-11
8.	Sun Signs-Leo	2010-11
9.	Sun Signs-Gemini	2010-11
10.	Sun Signs-Taurus	2010-11
11.	Sun Signs-Virgo	2010-11
12.	Sun Signs-Scorpio	2010-11
13.	Sun Signs-Capricorn	2010-11
14.	Sun Signs-Cancer	2010-11
15.	Sun Signs-Libra	2010-11
16.	Sun Signs-Sagittarius	2010-11
17.	Sun Signs-Pisces	2011-12
18.	Indian Flowers-Lily	2011-12
19.	Indian Flowers-Dahlia	2011-12
20.	Indian Flowers-Cineraria	2011-12
21.	Indian Flowers-Pansy	2014-15
22.	Fairy Queen	2014-15
23.	Hawa Mahal	2014-15
24.	Mysore Palace	2014-15
25.	Port Blair Island	2014-15
26.	Qutub Minar	2014-15
27.	St. Francis Church	2014-15
28.	Taj Mahal	2014-15

Sl.No.	My Stamp	Year
29.	Greetings	2014-15
30.	Red Fort	2014-15
31.	Ajanta Caves	2014-15
32.	Gujarat	2015-16
33.	Godavari Pushkaram 2015	2015-16
34.	Charminar	2015-16
35.	Gateway of India	2015-16
36.	Ghats of Varanasi	2015-16
37.	Sun Temple, Konark	2015-16
38.	Victoria Memorial	2015-16
39.	Mahabodhi Temple	2015-16
40.	Ellora Caves	2015-16
41.	Simhasth Kumbh Mahaparv	2016-17
42.	Indian Army	2016-17
43.	Indian Navy	2016-17
44.	Indian Air Force	2016-17
45.	Rose	2016-17
46.	Surajkund Mela	2016-17
47.	Holi	2016-17
48.	Rumtek Monastery	2017-18
49.	Happy Birthday	2017-18
50.	Happy Anniversary 1	2017-18
51.	Happy Anniversary 2	2017-18
52.	Wedding Wishes	2017-18
53.	Dargah Sharif-Ajmer	2017-18
54.	Vaishno Devi	2017-18
55.	Pushkar Fair	2017-18
56.	Shri Sai Baba Samadhi Mandir-Buti Wada	2017-18
57.	Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple	2017-18
58.	The Ridge, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh	2018-19

Sl.No.	My Stamp	Year
59.	Kurinji	2018-19
60.	Victoria Memorial	2018-19
61.	Red Panda	2018-19

(B) List of Customized My Stamps released till date

Sl.No.	Customized My Stamp	Year
1.	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited	2015-16
2.	International Fleet Review	2015-16
3.	Avila Convent Matric Sr. Sec. School	2015-16
4.	Allahabad High Court	2015-16
5.	Western Union	2015-16
6.	Montfort Brother's St. Gabriel	2016-17
7.	Amazon India	2016-17
8.	SNDT Women's University	2016-17
9.	Mphasis	2016-17
10.	Karur Vysya Bank	2016-17
11.	Life Insurance Corporation	2016-17
12.	Life Insurance Corporation	2016-17
13.	Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Ltd. (ECGC)	2016-17
14.	State Bank of Mysore	2016-17
15.	Indian School of Business, Hyderabad	2016-17
16.	National Insurance Company Limited	2016-17
17.	National Aids Control Organisation	2016-17
18.	KCP Limited	2016-17
19.	EESL (Energy Efficiency Service Limited)	2016-17
20.	CMC (Christian Medical College)	2016-17
21.	Mont Fort School	2016-17
22.	Kanchipuram Temple	2016-17
23.	Life Insurance Corporation	2016-17
24.	University of Mumbai	2016-17
25.	Indian Journal of Ophthalmology	2016-17
26.	Sringeri Temple	2017-18

Sl.No.	Customized My Stamp	Year
27.	Global Exhibition on Services	2017-18
28.	Mathura Refinery	2017-18
29.	Indian Bank	2017-18
30.	Dr. M.G.R. Tiruvallur	2017-18
31.	Dr. M.G.R. Kanchipuram	2017-18
32.	Indian Building Congress	2017-18
33.	Dr. M.G.R. Vellore	2017-18
34.	Banarasi Dass Gupta Foundation	2017-18
35.	Maharaja Agrasen Hospital Charitable Trust	2017-18
36.	Central Institute of Psychiatry	2017-18
37.	Police Commemoration Day	2017-18
38.	National Buildings Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC)	2017-18
39.	Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)	2017-18
40.	Jharkhand Tourism	2017-18
41.	Dr. M.G.R. Thanjavur	2017-18
42.	National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)	2017-18
43.	Akshar Deri	2017-18
44.	Kumbh Prayagraj	2017-18
45.	Andhra Pradesh Tourism	2017-18
46.	Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT)	2017-18
47.	Hyderabad International Airport	2017-18
48.	Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai	2017-18
49.	C U Shah Medical College	2017-18
50.	BSF Wives Welfare Association	2018-19
51.	Vishwam Museum	2018-19
52.	Ashok Leyland	2018-19
53.	Christ (Deemed to be University)	2018-19
54.	Paper Day	2018-19
55.	Lilavati Kirtilal Mehta	2018-19
56.	Kirtilal Manilal Mehta	2018-19

Sl.No.	Customized My Stamp	Year
57.	Narayan Seva Sansthan	2018-19
58.	Karma Parab	2018-19
59.	Hyundai	2018-19
60.	ICMR National Institute of Nutrition	2018-19
61.	National Human Rights Commission	2018-19
62.	Rayat Shikshan Sanstha, Satara, Maharashtra	2018-19
63.	Taj Connemara	2018-19
64.	Dr. M.G.R. Birth Centenary Celebrations 2018	2018-19
65.	Bangalore Club	2018-19
66.	Tamil Nadu Newsprint and Papers Limited	2018-19
67.	BR Life	2018-19
68.	100 Years of Union Bank of India	2018-19
69.	Diamond Jubilee of Dainik Jagaran	2018-19
70.	Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences (MAIDS)	2018-19
71.	SBI Hyderabad Main Branch	2018-19

Statement-II

*Details of the revenue earned under My Stamp scheme so far
(from 2014-15 to 2017-18)*

		(₹ in crore)
Sl.No	Name of Circle	Amount
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.8819
2.	Assam	0.1626
3.	Bihar	0.0915
4.	Chhattisgarh	0.0953
5.	Delhi (UT)	1.6307
6.	Gujarat [including Daman and Diu (UT) and Dadra and Nagar Haveli (UT)]	0.4091
7.	Haryana	0.2912
8.	Himachal Pradesh	0.1106
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.032
10.	Jharkhand	0.3782

Sl.No	Name of Circle	Amount
11.	Karnataka	1.4884
12.	Kerala [including Lakshadweep (UT)]	0.7046
13.	Madhya Pradesh	0.2138
14.	Maharashtra (including Goa)	1.1738
15.	North East (including Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland Tripura)	0.0408
16.	Odisha	0.116
17.	Punjab [including Chandigarh (UT)]	0.4142
18.	Rajasthan	0.6711
19.	Tamil Nadu [including Puducherry (UT)]	3.2021
20.	Telangana	0.4663
21.	Uttarakhand	0.215
22.	Uttar Pradesh	0.7093
23.	West Bengal [including Sikkim, Andaman and Nicobar Islands (UT)]	1.3345
TOTAL		15.833

Constitution of committees on Artificial Intelligence

2655. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any Committees constituted in order to create a policy framework and develop Artificial Intelligence in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof including composition of these Committees, the number of meetings and the outcomes of these meetings, Committee-wise; and

(c) whether public consultation has been done by these Committees before publishing any policy framework and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir, in order to promote the 'Artificial Intelligence' ecosystem in the country, Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) constituted four committees on 'Artificial Intelligence'. The details of composition of the committees is given in Statement (*See below*). The report of these committees has been examined and based on the recommendations, this Ministry is setting up a 'National Centre on Artificial Intelligence'.

(c) No, Sir. Public consultations were not done and the Ministry invited subject matter experts to advice the Government.

Statement

No.4(8)/2017-ITEA

Government of India

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Electronics Niketan, 6 CGO Complex

(Emerging Technologies Division)

New Delhi-110003

Dated: 07.02.2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Constitution of four Committees for promoting Artificial Intelligence (AI) initiatives and developing a policy framework.

The undersigned is directed to say that in order to promote emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and to develop a Policy Framework, it has been decided to constitute four committees to propose action in the areas of Platform and Data for AI, Leveraging AI for identifying National Missions in Key Sectors, Mapping Technological capabilities key policy enablers required across sectors, skilling and re-skilling R&D and Cyber Security, Safety, Legal & Ethical issues.

2. The constitution of the four Committees and Terms of Reference (TOR) are as below:—

A. Committee on Platforms and Data for AI - The focus of this committee will be on building models/frameworks/platforms for collaborative work:—

- | | | |
|--------|--|----------|
| (i) | Prof P. P. Chakraborty, IIT Kharagpur | Chairman |
| (ii) | Ms. Neeta Verma, DG, NIC | Member |
| (iii) | Prof Anupam Basu, Dir N.I.T. Durgapur | Member |
| (iv) | Prof Pushpak Bhattacharya, Dir IIT Patna | Member |
| (v) | Rep. from DST | Member |
| (vi) | Rep. from (Google) | Member |
| (vii) | Shri Gautam Shroff (TCS) | Member |
| (viii) | Shri. Ganesh Mahabala (NVIDIA) | Member |
| (ix) | Shri Anant Maheshwari, Microsoft | Member |

- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------------|
| (x) | Rep. from NASSCOM | Member |
| (xi) | Dr. S. K. Srivastava, Scientist 'G', Meity | Member |
| (xii) | Ms. Kavita Bhatia, Scientist 'F' MeitY | Member Convener |
- B. Committee on Leveraging AI for identifying National Missions in Key Sectors:—
- | | | |
|--------|---|-----------------|
| (i) | Prof Rajeev Sangal, IIT (BHU) | Chairman |
| (ii) | Prof. Santanu Chaudhury, Dir CEERI Pilani | Member |
| iii) | Prof Hema Murthy, IIT Madras | Member |
| iv) | Prof. Anil Gupta, IIMA and Sristy | Member |
| (v) | Prof C.V. Jawahar, UIT Hyderabad | Member |
| (vi) | Dr. Narendra Ahuja, DIC | Member |
| (vii) | Shri Sanjay Sinha, IBM Watson | Member |
| (viii) | Prof B. Yegnanarayana, IIIT Hyderabad | Member |
| (ix) | Rep. from NASSCOM Rep. of NeGD | Member |
| (x) | Dr. B. K. Murthy, GC R&D in IT | Member Convener |
- C. Committee on Mapping Technological capabilities, Key Policy enablers required across sectors. Skilling and Re-skilling, R&D:—
- | | | |
|-------|--|-----------------|
| (i) | Shri R. Chandrasekhar, President NASSCOM | Chairman |
| (ii) | Prof U. B. Desai, IIT Hyderabad | Member |
| (iii) | Prof. Pankaj Jalote, UIT Delhi | Member |
| (iv) | Prof Kamakoti, IIT Madras | Member |
| (v) | Shri Visal Dhupar, NVIDIA | Member |
| (vi) | Shri Sasi Kumar, C-DAC Mumbai | Member |
| (vii) | Dr. B. K. Murthy, GC R&D in IT | Member Convenor |
- D. Committee on Cyber Security, Safety, Legal and Ethical Issues:—
- | | | |
|-------|--|----------|
| (i) | Prof. Rajat Moona, Director IIT Bhilai | Chairman |
| (ii) | Shri A. S. Ramasastry, Director IRDBT | Member |
| (iii) | Prof. SV Raghavan | Member |
| (iv) | Dr. Sanjay Bahl, DG Cert In | Member |
| (v) | Dr. S. K. Srivastava, Scientist 'G', Meity | Member |
| (vi) | Shri Ashish Ghosh, ISI Kolkatta | Member |

(vii) Prof. Ponnurangam Kumaraguru, IIT Delhi	Member
(viii) Rep. from NIC	Member
(ix) Rep. from DSCI, NASSCOM	Member
(x) Rep. from Symantec	Member
(xi) Ms. Kavita Bhatia, Scientist 'F' Meity	Member Convenor

Terms of Reference of the committees for AI Initiatives:-

- (i) The committee shall identify key areas of applications for AI technologies and make suitable recommendation/suggestions for the faster adoption of AI in these areas.
 - (ii) The committee would also identify areas in Government systems where AL techniques can be deployed to lower cost and improved service.
 - (iii) The committee would also suggest technical framework/platform for AI. This would also address data availability resources.
 - (iv) The committee should recommend policy relating to legal framework, data privacy and Cyber Security issues.
 - (v) Suggest ways to address/concern about use of AI employability, skilling and Re-Skilling challenges.
 - (vi) The committee will recommend R&D framework for promoting research in the AI areas and setting up of Centre of Excellence (COE) in these areas.
3. The Chairmen of the committees can co-opt/invite experts to the committee as and when required. TA/DA for non-official members would be borne by Meity as per Government norms.
 4. This issues with the approval of Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

Sd/-

(Rajesh Suri)

Deputy Director

1. Chairmen, Members and Member Convenors of the Committees.
2. PAO, MeitY/DDO, Meity
3. JS(GS)/GC(BKM)/Dir(KB)
4. OSD to Secretary, Meity

Consultants hired by UIDAI

2656. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether UIDAI hires non- Government consultants for performing some of its functions and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether consultants were hired for drafting the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 and Regulations under the Aadhaar Act and if so, the details of each consultant and the fees paid to each; and

(c) the list of other consultants hired and fees paid to them for other projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Law for data protection

2657. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no law at present for data protection;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal to enact legislation for data protection;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry constituted a Committee in this regard and the Committee has also submitted its report; and

(f) if so, the recommendations of the Committee and how these recommendations impact Supreme Court's judgement in Aadhaar case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Section 43, Section 43A and Section 72A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provided for privacy and security of data in digital form. However, it was limited in scope and in order to broaden the coverage of privacy protection, drawing up a new regime for data protection was felt necessary.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government constituted a committee of expert on data protection, chaired by Justice (Retd.) B. N. Srikrishna, Supreme Court of India to

study various issues relating to data protection and come out with Data Protection Bill. The said committee has brought out a draft Personal Data Protection Bill (PDPB-2018) on 27th July, 2018 on which opinions have been sought from the public, which are currently being processed and the bill is intended to be placed in Parliament.

(f) The Supreme Court delivered its judgement in W.P. 494 of 2012 and Ors. on 26.9.2018, wherein the Apex Court has impressed upon the Government to bring out a robust data protection regime in the form of an enactment on the basis of Justice B. N. Srikrishna (Retd.) Committee Report with necessary modifications thereto as may be deemed appropriate.

Curb on dissemination of objectionable videos and contents

†2658. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken by the Ministry to prevent dissemination of objectionable videos and contents to the public through the mediums of communication *via*. internet;

(b) whether any study has been conducted to gauge the extent of objectionable contents reaching the public through the mediums of communication *via*. internet and its ill-effects; and

(c) the details of policy to put a curb on the objectionable contents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA): (a) and (b) There had been media reports pointing to studies highlighting extent of objectionable contents reaching the public through the mediums of communication *via* internet and its ill-effects. However, Government has not conducted any specific study to access to gauge the extent of objectionable content reaching the public through the mediums of communication *via*. internet and its ill-effects.

(c) Government has taken several steps to prevent dissemination of objectionable content. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has provisions for removal of objectionable online content. Section 69A of the IT Act empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received,

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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 or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.

- Further, Section 79 of the IT Act provides that intermediaries are required to disable/remove unlawful content on being notified by appropriate Government or its agency. The Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under this section require 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, affect minors and unlawful in any way.
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) took note of media reports about spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet particularly using WhatsApp platform and issued a notice to WhatsApp on 3.7.2018. In their response, WhatsApp conveyed a number of steps taken by them to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.
- Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has issued a number of advisories which includes advisory on untoward incidents in the name of protection of cows dated 09.08.2016, advisory on cyber crime prevention and control dated 13.01.2018 and also an advisory on incidents of lynching by mobs in some States fuelled by rumours of lifting/kidnapping of children dated 04.07.2018.
- MeitY and MHA as well as Police are in regular touch with various social media platforms to effectively address the issue of removal of objectionable content.
- MeitY through a programme, namely, Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA), has been highlighting the importance of following the ethics while using Internet and advice not to share rumours/fake news. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) has also been set up.
- MHA has created a Twitter Handle “Cyber Dost” to spread awareness on cyber safety and cyber security. MHA has also published a Handbook for Adolescents/Students on Cyber Safety.

New schemes to boost FPIs

2659. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to start new schemes to boost the Food Processing Industries (FPIs);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has received proposals from various States including Jharkhand and Gujarat for the implementation of various food processing projects and changes in food processing schemes;

(d) if so, the details of the action taken in this regard; and

(e) whether a number of proposals for setting up of FPIs are pending with the Government and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has re-structured its schemes under the new Central Sector Scheme of Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) with an allocation of ₹ 6,000 crore for period 2016-20 *co-terminus* with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. In addition to the existing scheme components of Mega Food Park (MFP), Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure and Human Resources and Institutions, PMKSY encompasses three new schemes namely Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters (APC), Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (BFL) and Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme). These schemes are implemented in all States of India including the States of Gujarat and Jharkhand. These schemes are demand driven and are not any region specific. The PMKSY is a comprehensive package resulting in creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet to give a major boost to the growth of food processing sector in the country and is a big step towards doubling of farmers' income, creating huge employment opportunities especially in the rural areas, reducing wastage of agricultural produce, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of the processed foods.

Further, the MoFPI has recently launched a new Central Sector Scheme "Operation Greens" for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain, with an outlay of ₹ 500 crore to, *inter alia*, promote Farmers Producers

Organisations (FPO), agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management of FPOs has been launched in 2018. The scheme is implemented in top producing 9 States on pilot basis including the State of Gujarat.

Under these schemes financial assistance as capital subsidy in the form of grants-in-aid is provided to the eligible applicants against the Expression of Interest (EoI) issued by the MoFPI from time to time to set up food processing industry/projects/units. Individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and Central/State PSUs etc. are eligible for financial assistance. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% of the eligible project cost subject to the specified limit depending on the scheme and location of the project.

(e) Proposals for grants-in-aid under these schemes are invited by MoFPI from time to time through EoI. Proposals received from the potential investors in response to the EoI are selected based on the prefixed criteria through stringent appraisal process before they are approved by the Inter-Ministerial Approval Committee (IMAC) chaired by the Minister of Food Processing Industries.

The State-wise approved proposals under various schemes given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise number of approved proposals under schemes of MoFPI

Name of the States/UTs	Cold Chain	MFP	Unit Scheme	APC	BFL	Food Testing Labs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	17	3	-	1	3	1
Arunachal Pradesh	1	1	-	-	-	-
Assam	2	1	2	1	-	5
Bihar	3	1	-	-	-	-
Chhattisgarh	2	1	2	-	-	-
Delhi	-	-	-	-	-	7
Gujarat	22	2	10	1	7	11
Haryana	11	2	8	4	1	13
Himachal Pradesh	14	1	7	1	2	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jammu and Kashmir	6	1	8	1	3	2
Jharkhand	-	1	-	-	-	1
Karnataka	12	2	8	2	3	6
Kerala	8	2	2	-	2	2
Madhya Pradesh	6	2	5	3	1	4
Maharashtra	61	3	15	8	12	18
Manipur	2	-	1	1	-	1
Meghalaya	-	-	1	-	-	-
Mizoram	2	1	1	-	-	-
Nagaland	3	1	4	-	-	1
Odisha	2	2	1	-	2	2
Punjab	19	3	4	2	4	7
Rajasthan	10	1	8	3	5	1
Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	1
Tamil Nadu	12	-	18	-	9	13
Telangana	9	2	-	-	1	4
Tripura	-	1	1	-	-	1
Uttar Pradesh	25	3	21	4	6	6
Uttarakhand	25	2	5	1	2	2
West Bengal	11	1	2	-	1	8

Setting up of FPI in Bihar

†2660. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to establish Food Processing Industry in backward States like Bihar to promote Food Processing Industries; and

(b) if so, the areas of Bihar which have been identified by the Central Government for the purpose for the current financial?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Food

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Processing Industries (MoFPI) does not set up any food processing industries/units/projects on its own. It provides financial assistance as capital subsidy in the form of grants-in-aid under component schemes of Central Sector Scheme of 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)' to the individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and Central/State PSUs etc. for setting up of food processing industries/units/projects. Besides PMKSY, financial assistance as capital subsidy is also provided under new Central Sector Scheme 'Operation Greens' exclusively for integrated development Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain. Financial assistance to the eligible applicants is provided against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% of the eligible project cost subject to maximum specified limit depending on the component scheme and location of the project.

Excess production of potatoes

2661. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that farmers of the country are facing problem due to excess production of their produce, such as potatoes etc. as farmers are forced to sell their produce at lower prices and thus suffering loss in every produce;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps taken to protect the farmers and their produces to overcome their persisting problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Seasonal and regional production of perishable horticulture crops (such as Potato etc.), absence of good transportation and storage facilities and limited processing pose challenge to farmers. This results in supply demand mismatch leading to distress sale and lower price to farmers for their produce.

(c) Various steps have been taken by the Government to protect the farmers and their produce like National Agriculture Market (e-NAM), Model Contract Farming Act, promotion of Farmers Producers Organisation (FPOs), Development of Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), Marketing Research and Information Network (MRIN) of Ministry of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare and Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) of Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

Under PMKSY umbrella scheme, there are various schemes which promote creation of infrastructure for processing and value addition for farmer's produce.

PMKSY includes Scheme of Operation Greens—A scheme for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain, which was announced in the Union Budget for 2018-19 with financial outlays of ₹ 500 crores to promote FPOs, agri-logistics, processing facilities and professional management. Under Operation Greens, there is a provision for 50% of subsidy towards cost of transportation and storage of TOP crops from the surplus area to deficit area in the glut situation.

Establishing micro and small scale processing units in the country

2662. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any scheme to provide 100 per cent grant to establish micro and small scale processing units in the country;

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

(c) the details of the scheme/guidelines and funding pattern thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY)' with an allocation of ₹ 6000 crore for the period 2016-20 *co-terminus* with Fourteenth Finance Commission under which financial assistance as capital subsidy in the form of grants-in-aid are provided to the eligible applicants against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The PMKSY has the seven component schemes *i.e.* (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme), (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-Processing Clusters (APC), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (BFL), (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL) and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. Individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and central/State PSUs etc. are eligible for financial assistance. Besides PMKSY, financial assistance as capital subsidy is also provided under new Central Sector Scheme 'Operation Greens' exclusively for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% of the eligible project cost subject to maximum specified limit depending on the scheme and location of the project.

Further, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises has no scheme to provide 100% grant to establish micro and small scale processing units in the country.

Research and development in FPIs

2663. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has undertaken research and development projects for development of food processing industries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during Twelfth Five Year Plan;

(d) the number of ongoing food processing projects in the country and the action taken for timely completion of these projects;

(e) whether India is processing its food only around 15 per cent as compared to 70-80 per cent in advanced countries; and

(f) if so, the efforts being made to increase processing capacity from 15 per cent to at least 25 per cent by 2020?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has been implementing scheme for Research and Development in processed food sector in the country. Under the scheme, financial assistance as grant-in-aid is given to various Universities, IITs, Central/State Government Institutions, Government funded Organisations, R&D laboratories and CSIR recognised R&D units in private sector to promote and undertake demand driven R&D work in the field of processed food sector for product and process development, design and development of equipment, improved storage, shelf-life, packaging etc. Under the scheme so far 232 R&D projects have been sanctioned, out of this 164 projects have been completed.

Government organisations/Institutions/Universities are eligible for 100% grant-in-aid for the cost of equipment, consumables and expenditure related to Junior Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow/Research Associate, while private Organisations/Institutions/Universities are eligible for 50% grant-in-aid for the equipment cost in general areas and 70% grant-in-aid in difficult areas for conducting such research activities.

(c) During 12th Plan Period, the scheme was implemented through Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of Department of Science and Technology. From 1st April, 2017 onwards, the scheme is being implemented directly by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries. The funds allocated under the R&D scheme during the Twelfth Five Year Plan are as under:—

Sl.No.	Year	Funds allocated (₹ in crores)
1.	2012-13	10.50
2.	2013-14	9.55
3.	2014-15	7.60
4.	2015-16	6.67
5.	2016-17	5.80

(d) Under the scheme, there are 68 number of ongoing R&D projects in Private and Public sector. For timely completion of these projects, periodic review of these projects is carried out by the Ministry. The Ministry has been regularly following up the matter with the concerned Principal Investigators/Institutes/Organisations for submission of Project progress or Final Project Completion Report (FPCR).

(e) and (f) The level of processing of food is estimated to be less than 15% in India as compared to 70-80% in advanced countries. In order to increase the level of processing, Government has launched a new Central Sector Scheme-Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY), with an allocation of ₹ 6000 crores for the period of 2016-20 co-terminous with the 14th Finance Commission cycle. Under the PMKSY, following schemes are being implemented:—

- (i) Mega Food Parks;
- (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure;
- (iii) Food safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure;
- (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters;
- (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages;
- (vi) Creation/Expansion of Food processing and Preservation Capacities;
- (vii) Human Resources and Institutions;
- (viii) Operation Greens.

In addition, the Government has also undertaken various policy measures for development of food processing sector and to increase level of food processing.

Allocation of funds to Andhra Pradesh for food processing schemes

2664. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated/granted to Andhra Pradesh under various food processing schemes during the last three years;

- (b) the details of funds released to Andhra Pradesh under such schemes during the last three years;
- (c) the details of funds yet to be released;
- (d) whether the fund released is sufficient to achieve the desired objectives; and
- (e) if not, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) is implementing a Central Sector Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY)' with an allocation of ₹ 6000 crore for the period 2016-20 co-terminus with Fourteenth Finance Commission under which financial assistance as capital subsidy in the form of grants-in-aid are provided to the eligible applicants against the Expression of Interest issued by the MoFPI from time to time. The PMKSY has the seven component schemes *i.e.* (i) Mega Food Parks (MFP), (ii) Integrated Cold Chain and Value Addition Infrastructure (Cold Chain), (iii) Creation/Expansion of Food Processing and Preservation Capacities (Unit Scheme), (iv) Infrastructure for Agro-processing Clusters (APC), (v) Creation of Backward and Forward Linkages (BFL), (vi) Food Safety and Quality Assurance Infrastructure (FTL) and (vii) Human Resources and Institutions. Individuals, farmers, Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), entrepreneurs, cooperatives, Self Help Groups (SHGs), Private Companies and Central/State PSUs etc. are eligible for financial assistance. The scheme is implemented in all States including the State of Andhra Pradesh. Besides PMKSY, financial assistance as capital subsidy is also provided under new Central Sector Scheme 'Operation Greens' exclusively for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) crops value chain in 9 States that includes the State of Andhra Pradesh. The rate of subsidy ranges from 35% to 75% of the eligible project cost subject to maximum specified limit depending on the scheme and location of the project. However, State-wise allocation and release of funds is not made under any of the schemes.

FDI under PMKSY

†2665. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has invited Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in food processing sector under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY);

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the foreign investors who have expressed their interest in it and the sectors wherein they are interested to invest;

(c) the details of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Government and foreign investors, along with the total amount of investment; and

(d) the benefits likely to be availed by the farmers through such investments and the number of jobs likely to be created in next few years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SADHVI NIRANJAN JYOTI): (a) to (d) Government has allowed 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the food processing sector through automatic route subject to applicable laws/sectoral rules/regulations/security conditions. Also, 100% FDI with Government approval for retail trading, including through e-commerce, is allowed for food products manufactured and/or produced in India. The Ministry organised a mega International event World Food India 2017 during 3-5 November, 2017 to, *inter alia*, attract investment including FDI. Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) of about USD 13.56 billion were signed with domestic and foreign investors. Fifty (50) MoUs were signed with domestic and foreign companies by the Government of India and 131 MoUs were signed by the States for food processing sector. The major companies which have signed MoUs are from various countries including USA, Germany, UAE, Thailand, Denmark and France. These investment intents are expected to give a major boost to setting up of food processing infrastructure, value chain, manufacturing facilities, etc. and, *inter alia*, act as a catalyst to boost agri-income and employment in the food processing sector.

Proposal to issue Notary licences

2666. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to issue Notary licences in near future;

(b) if so, the details of the progress made in this regard, UT and State-wise;

(c) the details about the final result to be declared so far; and

(d) the details about the time-frame for the completion of the process?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Yes Sir. The interviews are conducted for appointment of Notaries as per the provisions of the Notaries Act, 1952 and Notaries Rules, 1956 framed thereunder from time to time and for different States/UTs and it is an ongoing process.

(b) The details are given in Statement (*See* below).

(c) and (d) All actions are taken as per procedure mentioned in the Notaries Act and Notaries Rules framed thereunder.

Statement

Number of Notaries appointed by Central Government

State/UT	Working as on date
Andaman and Nicobar	-
Andhra Pradesh	412
Arunachal Pradesh	-
Assam	15
Bihar	178
Chandigarh	98
Chhattisgarh	12
Delhi	548
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	-
Daman and Diu	-
Goa	16
Gujarat	1682
Himachal Pradesh	4
Haryana	1099
Jharkhand	57
Jammu and Kashmir	-
Kerala	636
Karnataka	1130
Lakshadweep	-
Meghalaya	1
Maharashtra	2242
Manipur	-
Mizoram	-
Madhya Pradesh	74
Nagaland	-

State/UT	Working as on date
Odisha	80
Punjab	990
Puducherry	97
Rajasthan	1653
Sikkim	
Tamil Nadu	883
Tripura	19
Telangana	-
Uttar Pradesh	1838
Uttarakhand	53

Evening courts

2667. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the States in which evening courts are functioning at present;
- (b) the impact created by these courts so far;
- (c) whether there are plans to promote evening courts in other States; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Setting up of subordinate courts (which *inter alia* includes evening courts) and their functioning fall within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the respective High Courts.

After the conclusion of the tenure of the 13th Finance Commission and in accordance with the resolution passed in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in April, 2016, morning and evening courts have been discontinued in all States except four States (Delhi, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu).

It was resolved in the aforesaid Conference that the existing judicial infrastructure of the State judiciaries be utilized for setting up Morning/Evening or Holiday Courts, as the case may be, by utilizing the services of retired Judges. These courts may be constituted to deal with cases relating to petty offences, such as traffic cases and legal aid cases at the discretion of the High Court.

Judicial performance evaluation of Judges

2668. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any system for judicial performance evaluation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, High Courts and subordinate judiciary in the country;

(b) if so, the mechanism by which this performance evaluation is conducted;

(c) whether the National Court Management Systems Committee has been constituted and has given recommendations in this regard; and

(d) if not, whether the Ministry is planning to put in place a judicial performance evaluation system for Judges of Supreme Court, High Courts and subordinate judiciary and if so, the details of the system and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The judicial performance evaluation of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is within the domain of the Supreme Court and the High Courts being the Constitutional Authorities. The administrative Control over District and subordinate judiciary vests with the concerned High Court as per the provisions contained in the Constitution of India. As per the information available, various High Courts have framed their own rules/guidelines for giving credit for disposal of various categories of cases in performance appraisal of judges of subordinate judiciary.

The Supreme Court has constituted National Court Management System (NCMS). A Sub Committee of NCMS has looked into the issue of developing a National Framework of Court Excellence to set measurable standards of performance for courts and a monitoring mechanism to measure these performance parameters. The Sub-Committee has submitted its report to the NCMS.

In view of the above, the Government has no role with regard to judicial performance evaluation of the Judges of the Supreme Court, High Courts and the subordinate judiciary.

Repeal of obsolete laws

2669. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified as to how many laws have become irrelevant and obsolete;

(b) the number of such obsolete laws which have already been repealed and the number of other laws which Government proposes to repeal; and

(c) whether the Law Commission proposed any measure to identify laws that are no longer relevant, aiming to make Indian legal system more contemporary, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) The Law Commission of India submitted its Reports No. 248, 249, 250 and 251 on “Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal”. At two-member Committee constituted by the Government of India on 1 September, 2014 identified a total of 1,824 laws for repeal, which have become irrelevant, obsolete and have lost their significance.

Out of 1824 Acts identified for repealing, a total of 1,428 Acts have already been repealed. Further, 229 Acts have been identified to be repealed by the State Governments and the State Governments have already been requested to take necessary action in this regard. The remaining 167 Acts are under consideration.

Pendency in High Courts

†2670. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a total 43,54,021 number of cases are pending in High Courts of the country, as per National Judicial Data Grid;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether shortage of Judges in the courts of the country deprives common man of justice and if so, the authority responsible for this; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the data/information available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 49,84,995 cases are pending in various High Courts as on 31.12.2018. The pendency of cases in various courts in the country is dependent on several factors which, *inter alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. No time-frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges. As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas in other States the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions.

Increase in the strength of Judges:—

From 01.01.2014 to 26.12.2018, a total of 27 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 446 new Judges were appointed and 379 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Similarly the sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has been increased as follows:

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
30.09.2018	22,644	17,509

Telecast of live proceedings of courts

†2671. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to make arrangement for live telecast of the proceedings of the courts;

(b) if so, by when this system is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the details of additional financial burden to be borne by Government to start this system?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) A Writ Petition was filed in the Hon'ble Supreme Court, seeking declaration for permitting live streaming of Supreme Court case proceedings of constitutional and national importance having an impact on the public at large and a direction to make available the necessary infrastructure for live streaming and to frame guidelines for the determination of such cases which are of constitutional and national importance. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its Judgment dated 26th September, 2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 66 of 2018-Indira Jai Singh *versus* Secretary General of Supreme Court and Others has *inter alia* observed that: (i) it is important to re-emphasise the significance of live-streaming as an extension of the principle of open justice and open courts; (ii) The process of live-streaming should be subjected to carefully structured guidelines, (iii) Initially, a pilot project may be conducted for about three months by live-streaming only cases of national and constitutional importance which can be expanded in due course with availability of infrastructure.

(b) The matter is under examination.

(c) The details of additional financial burden to start this system will depend on the technical specifications of the equipment.

Case pendency and vacancies in Supreme Court

2672. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the pending cases in the Supreme Court since 2014, year-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(b) the total sanctioned strength and vacancies in the Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) As per the information made available by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the year-wise pendency of cases in the Supreme Court since 2014 is given below:—

Year	Number of Cases pending
2014	62,791
2015	59,272
2016	62,537
2017	55,588
As on 01.12.2018	56,994

(b) The total sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court is 31 and number of vacant posts of Judges is 4 as on 31.12.2018.

Linkage of Aadhaar with Voter ID

2673. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Election Commission (EC) has linked Aadhaar number of voters to their Voter IDs;

(b) the number of Aadhaar IDs collected by Election Commission, constituency-wise;

(c) the number of Voter IDs linked to Aadhaar by EC, constituency-wise;

(d) out of the above, the number of people who provided consent, in writing, for linking Aadhaar to Voter IDs;

(e) whether EC linked Voter ID with Aadhaar without informing the Aadhaar holders, if so, the number of such voters, constituency-wise; and

(f) whether EC indirectly collects Aadhaar data from Government departments instead of voters, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) The Election Commission of India (ECI) has informed that National Electoral Rolls Purification and authentication Programme (NERP) was launched on 03.03.2015 in all States/UTs. All activities relating to collection, feeding and seeding of Aadhaar number were kept under suspension with effect from 13 August, 2015 in the light of Hon'ble Supreme Court's interim order dated 11 August, 2015, in WP (C) No. 494 of 2012.

(b) to (d) The Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(e) The Commission has stated that linking of Aadhaar with Voter ID is not mandatory, it is voluntary and non furnishing of Aadhaar number will not be a ground for rejection of application for new enrolment/deletion of name of an existing elector.

(f) The Commission has informed that they have given directions to Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) of States/Union Territories on 13th August, 2015 that no Aadhaar data shall be collected from any other agency/data hub/organisation of Central/State Government, nor should the data collected so far be used for any authentication/other purpose.

Hiring of consultants

2674. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has used certain consultants for drafting the 256th Report on Eliminating Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy, 255th Report on Electoral Reforms, 253rd Report on Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts and Commercial Courts Bill, 2015, 249th Report on Second Interim Report on Obsolete Laws, 248th Report on First Interim Report on Obsolete Laws Warranting Immediate Repeal and 244th Report on Electoral Disqualifications; and

(b) if so, the details of the consultants hired and fees paid to each consultant in each project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) No Consultant was hired by the Law Commission of India (LCI) for drafting their Reports on different projects. However, the LCI hired some consultants for doing legal research for different projects. The details of the consultants hired and fees paid to each are given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of Consultant	Fees Paid (@ ₹ 20,000 per month)	Name of Project
1.	Mrs. Vrinda Bhandari	40,000/-	Law for Leprosy affected people, Electoral Reforms along with other projects
2.	Ms. Srijoni Sen	40,000/-	Electoral Reforms (Report No. 255)
3.	Ms. Ritiwika Sharma	40,000/-	Electoral Reforms (Report No. 255)

**Appointment of Judges in Supreme Court
and High Courts**

2675. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a practice of Government writing to the judiciary on appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last five years with reference to those persons regarding whom Government has offered its inputs on their proposed elevation; and

(c) whether Government has any proposal for changing the present system of appointment of Judges and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts are made as per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) framed pursuant to the the Supreme Court Judgement of 6.10.93 read with their advisory opinion of 20.10.1998. Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and High Courts is a collaborative and integrated process, between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. All correspondence between the Executive and Judiciary is in writing as per the procedure prescribed in the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts. The inputs received on the recommendees under consideration for appointment as Judges are placed for consideration of the Supreme Court Collegium.

(c) In order to replace the Collegium System of appointments of Judges in Higher Judiciary and to make it more broad based, transparent, accountable and objective, the Government enacted the Constitution (Ninety Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 w.e.f. 13.04.2015.

The constitutional validity of both the Acts was challenged in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court *vide* judgment dated 16.10.2015 declared both the Acts as unconstitutional and void. The Collegium system as existing prior to the enforcement of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 was declared to be operative. There is no proposal for changing the present system of appointment of Judges.

Setting up of Gram Nyayalayas

2676. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether head of the National Legal Services Authority has advocated for setting up of more Gram Nyayalayas in the country by bringing more accountability in their functioning;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Gram Nyayalayas would achieve the objective of justice reaching every nook and corner of the country; and

(d) if so, the number of Gram Nyayalayas in the country and the steps being taken to increase their strength?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) To provide access to justice to the citizen at their door steps, the Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. It provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate panchayat level. The State Governments are responsible for establishing Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. As per information made available by State Governments/High Courts, 343 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by 11 States. Out of these, 210 are operational in 9 States at present.

The Central Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalayas by providing financial assistance. As per the scheme for assistance to State Governments for establishing and operating Gram Nyayalayas, the Central Government provides one-time assistance to States towards non-recurring expenses for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of ₹ 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya. The Central Government also provides assistance towards recurring expenses for operating these Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of ₹ 3.20 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya per year for the first three years.

The issues affecting operationalisation of the Gram Nyayalayas were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of setting up of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account the local issues and situation.

The Central Government has requested the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States. Recently, the Registrars General of High Courts and Law/Home/Finance Secretaries of State Governments were requested through video conferences held in January, 2018, July, 2018 and November, 2018, to set up Gram Nyayalayas and seek financial assistance for operationalising them under the Scheme mentioned above.

Pendency of cases in the Supreme Court and High Courts

2677. DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of cases are pending in various courts across the country;

(b) if so, details thereof, including number of cases pending in Supreme Court and High Courts during each of last four years, court-wise and reasons therefor;

(c) the sanctioned strength and vacancies of Judges in such courts and action taken to fill these vacancies at the earliest;

(d) whether Government has taken note of delay in delivery of justice to litigants for various reasons; and

(e) if so, the details along with corrective measures taken by Government for expeditious disposal of cases pending in various courts of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The details of cases pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts of the country during the last four years are given below:—

Court	Number of cases pending during last four years			
	Year 2015	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018
Supreme Court	59,272	62,537	55,588	56,994 (As on 01.12.2018)
High Courts	38,70,373	40,15,147	42,44,907	49,84,995 (As on 31.12.2018)

High Court-wise details of pending cases as on 31.12.2018 are given in Statement (See below)

(c) Court-wise details of Sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges/Judicial Officers are as below:—

Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
Supreme Court	31	27	4
High Courts	1,079	692	387

Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

Further, as per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, in certain States recruitment is done by the High Courts, whereas

in other States, the recruitment is done by High Courts in consultation with State Public Service Commission.

During the Chief Justice's Conference held in 2016 it was, *inter alia*, resolved that the Chief Justices shall take effective steps in coordination with the State Governments to ensure an increase in the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts commensurate with the needs of their States in compliance with the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Brij Mohan Lal *versus* Union of India, and will ensure compliance with the time schedule and directions laid down in the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan case (2006). It was also resolved that the Chief Justices shall, in particular, ensure that the Selection and Appointment Committees in the High Courts periodically monitor the process of filling up of vacancies in the District and Subordinate Courts.

In September, 2016, the Union Minister of Law and Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law and Justice wrote to Chief Justices of all the High Courts to monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. The filling up of vacancies is also being monitored by the Supreme Court in a *suo-motu* writ petition (civil) no. 2 of 2018.

A series of meetings were held with Registrars General of all High Courts and Law Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs through Video Conferencing in the month of January, 2018, July, 2018 and November, 2018 to follow up on filling up posts of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts.

The Department of Justice has hosted a web-portal on its website for reporting and monitoring of sanctioned and working strength, and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts on monthly basis.

(d) and (e) Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, *inter alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. No time-frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts.

The Government is, however, fully committed to speedy disposal of cases.

The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms established by the Government has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court. The major achievements during the last four years under various initiatives to make the functioning of judiciary more efficient are as follows:—

- (i) Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts: As on date, ₹ 6,623.87 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, 3,179.57 crores (which are 48% of the total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,731 as on date and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 16,539 as on date under this scheme. In addition, 2,906 court halls and 1,754 residential units are under construction. The Central Government has approved continuation of the Scheme beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an estimated additional outlay of ₹ 3,320 crore.
- (ii) Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery: Number of computerised District and Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 to 16,755 registering an increase of 3,083 during 2014 to 2018. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) provides citizens with online information about case filings, case status and electronic copies of orders and judgments from district and subordinate courts that have already been computerized. Information regarding 10.80 crore cases including more than three crore pending cases and more than 7.91 crore orders/judgments are available on this portal. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerised courts, e-Courts Mobile App, email service, SMS push and pull services. eCourts Project has been consistently amongst the top 5 Mission Mode Projects of country.
- (iii) Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts: From 01.01.2014 to 26.12.2018, 27 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 446 new Judges were appointed and 379

Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has been increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
30.09.2018	22,644	17,509

- (iv) Reduction in Pendency through/follow up by Arrears Committees: Further, in pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in 24 High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.
- (v) Nyaya Mitra Scheme: In order to reduce cases pending in courts for over 10 years, the Government launched the Nyaya Mitra Scheme in April, 2017. Under the Scheme, retired judicial officers are engaged and designated as 'Nyaya Mitra' to facilitate expeditious disposal of the cases pending over 10 years. In the first Phase, 15 Nyaya Mitra have been engaged in 15 Districts of Rajasthan, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura.
- (vi) Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been enacted on 20th August, 2018 whereby mandatory pre-Institution mediation mechanism has been introduced for settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 is done to expedite the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines. The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2018 passed by the Lok Sabha on 10.08.2018 seeks to set up Arbitration Council of India (ACI) to *inter alia* grade arbitral institutions, accredit arbitrators and impart training and award certificate in the ADR field.
- (vii) Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases: The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42%

to meet such requirements. At present, 708 such Fast Track Courts are functioning across the country. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs/MLAs, twelve (12) Special Courts have been set up in eleven (11) States (Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 to amend the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 has been enacted on 11th August, 2018.

Statement

Number of cases pending in High Courts as on 31.12.2018

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Total Cases pending in High Courts as on 31.12.2018
1	2	3
1.	Allahabad High Court	725143
2.	Calcutta High Court	243677
3.	Gauhati High Court	40580
4.	High Court of Bombay	464074
5.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	63574
6.	High Court of Delhi	73933
7.	High Court of Gujarat	113809
8.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	36133
9.	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	91970
10.	High Court of Jharkhand	88931
11.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	361842
12.	High Court of Karnataka	236747
13.	High Court of Kerala	193579
14.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	331416
15.	High Court of Manipur	6579
16.	High Court of Meghalaya	1063
17.	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	393953
18.	High Court of Rajasthan	741358

1	2	3
19.	High Court of Sikkim	255
20.	High Court of Tripura	2985
21.	High Court of Uttarakhand	55812
22.	Madras High Court	399072
23.	Orissa High Court	167866
24.	Patna High Court	150644
TOTAL		49,84,995

Fast track special courts

2678. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has finalised formulation of a scheme for creation of fast track special courts for rape cases, involving girls and women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, by when the scheme would be finalised and given effect to; and

(d) whether the State Governments and other stakeholders have been consulted before finalising the scheme and if so, the response thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government of India has enacted the “The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018” which has, *inter alia*, effected amendments in the IPC, Cr.PC, The Indian Evidence Act and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act and brought in stringent provisions for expeditious trial and disposal of cases exclusively pertaining to sexual offences involving girls and women. The Government has also decided to formulate a scheme for creation of Fast Track Special Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of rape cases involving girls and women. The Empowered Committee of Officers under ‘Nirbhaya Fund’ has recommended the proposal of the Department of Justice for setting up of 1,023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a total financial implication of ₹ 767.25 crore of which Central Support shall stand at ₹ 474.00 crore under the Nirbhaya Fund.

Earlier Union Government had submitted a Memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission for strengthening of the judicial system in States at an estimated expenditure of ₹ 9,749.00 crore, which, *inter alia*, included establishment of 1,800 Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes involving senior citizens, women, children, including rape cases etc. at an estimated expenditure of ₹ 4,144.00 crore during the period 2015-2020. The Commission had endorsed the proposal of the Government and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution (from 32% to 42%) to meet such funding requirements.

**Expeditious disposal of criminal appeals pending
before different High Courts**

2679. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 3.3 crore cases are pending in the courts of the country;

(b) if so, the details of the criminal appeals pending before different High Courts of the country; and

(c) the details of the roadmap/framework for expeditious disposal of criminal appeals pending before different High Courts of the country, if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per data available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 2.93 crore cases are pending in various District and Subordinate Courts of the country as on 31st December, 2018. In High Courts, a total of 49.84 lakh cases are pending as on 31.12.2018. Details of High Court-wise and category-wise pending cases are given in a Statement (*See below*).

(c) The pendency of cases in various courts in the country is dependent on several factors which, *inter alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. No time-frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts.

The Government is, however, fully committed to speedy disposal of cases. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and

Legal Reforms established by the Government has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court. The major achievements during the last four years under various initiatives to make the functioning of subordinate judiciary more efficient are as follows:—

- (i) Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts: As on date, ₹ 6,623.87 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, 3,179.57 crores (which are 48% of the total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,731 as on date and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 16,539 as on date under this scheme. In addition, 2,906 court halls and 1,754 residential units are under construction. The Central Government has approved continuation of the Scheme beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an estimated additional outlay of ₹ 3,320 crore.
- (ii) Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery: Number of computerised District and Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 to 16,755 registering an increase of 3,083 during 2014 to 2018. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) provides citizens with online information about case filings, case status and electronic copies of orders and judgments from district and subordinate courts that have already been computerized. Information regarding 10.80 crore cases including more than three crore pending cases and more than 7.91 crore orders/judgments are available on this portal. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerised courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push and pull services. eCourts Project has been consistently amongst the top 5 Mission Mode Projects of country.
- (iii) Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts: Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval

from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas in other States, the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions.

From 01.01.2014 to 26.12.2018, 27 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 446 new Judges were appointed and 379 Additional were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has been increased as follows:—

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
30.09.2018	22,644	17,509

In September, 2016, the Union Minister of Law and Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law and Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. The filling up of vacancies is also being monitored by the Supreme Court in a *suo-motu* writ petition (civil) no. 2 of 2018. A series of meetings were held with Registrars General of all High Courts and Law Secretaries of all State Governments/UTs through Video Conferencing in January, 2018, July, 2018 and November, 2018 to

follow up on filling up posts of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts. The Department of Justice has hosted a web-portal on its website for reporting and monitoring of sanctioned and working strength, and vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts on monthly basis.

- (iv) Reduction in Pendency through/follow up by Arrears Committees: Further, in pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in 24 High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.
- (v) Nyaya Mitra Scheme: In order to reduce cases pending in courts for over 10 years, the Government launched the Nyaya Mitra Scheme in April 2017. Under the Scheme, retired judicial officers are engaged and designated as 'Nyaya Mitra' to facilitate expeditious disposal of the cases pending over 10 years. In the first Phase, 15 Nyaya Mitra have been engaged in 15 Districts of Rajasthan, West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura.
- (vi) Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been enacted on 20th August, 2018 whereby mandatory pre-Institution mediation mechanism has been introduced for settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 is done to expedite the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines. The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Bill, 2018 passed by the Lok Sabha on 10.08.2018 seeks to set up Arbitration Council of India (ACI) to *inter alia* grade arbitral institutions, accredit arbitrators and impart training and award certificate in the ADR field.
- (vii) Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases: The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. At present, 708 such Fast Track Courts are functioning across the country. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs/MLAs, twelve (12) Special Courts have been set up in eleven (11) States

(Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 to amend the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 has been enacted on 11th August, 2018.

Statement

Details of various types of cases pending in High Courts as on 31.12.2018

Sl.No.	Name of High Court	Civil	Criminal	Writs	Total
1.	Allahabad High Court	158107	318774	248262	725143
2.	Calcutta High Court	109246	45243	89188	243677
3.	Gauhati High Court	15491	8086	17003	40580
4.	High Court of Bombay	302656	50704	110714	464074
5.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	18695	25144	19735	63574
6.	High Court of Delhi	30706	19082	24145	73933
7.	High Court of Gujarat	36608	37539	39662	113809
8.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	24042	6333	5758	36133
9.	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	82701	9269	0	91970
10.	High Court of Jharkhand	15456	45124	28351	88931
11.	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	134552	52439	174851	361842
12.	High Court of Karnataka	128035	34140	74572	236747
13.	High Court of Kerala	83107	43570	66902	193579
14.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	110863	125269	95284	331416
15.	High Court of Manipur	6030	549	0	6579
16.	High Court of Meghalaya	388	46	629	1063
17.	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	196231	120912	76810	393953
18.	High Court of Rajasthan	517712	223646	0	741358
19.	High Court of Sikkim	66	77	112	255
20.	High Court of Tripura	904	446	1635	2985
21.	High Court of Uttarakhand	35478	20334	0	55812
22.	Madras High Court	357661	41411	0	399072

Sl.No.	Name of High Court	Civil	Criminal	Writs	Total
23.	Orissa High Court	43338	40983	83545	167866
24.	Patna High Court	31636	60231	58777	150644
TOTAL		2439709	1329351	1215935	4984995

Construction of Flyover over railway crossing in Katihar

†2680. SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan to construct a flyover on the State Highway from Katihar in Bihar to Jharkhand *via* Manihari over a railway crossing in Gaushala, is pending with Railways; and

(b) if so, the time by when the work would start, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) for construction of flyover over Railway Level Crossing (LC) Gate No. KB-1 at Gaushala in Katihar Division as submitted by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has been approved by Railway. NHAI will proceed with construction of Road Over Bridge (ROB) as per Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Ministry of Road Transport and Highway (MoRTH) and Ministry of Railways for construction of ROB on National Highway on single entity basis by NHAI/MoRTH.

Railway projects and operation of new trains in Madhya Pradesh

†2681. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of updated position of railway construction projects and operation of new trains and in terms of implementation of expansion work with reference to Madhya Pradesh as mentioned in the budget of year 2018-19 and as announced from time to time by the Minister of Railways; and

(b) by when each of them would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) There are 8 new lines, 5 gauge conversion and 26 ongoing doubling projects falling fully/partly in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The updated position is as under:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. Project No.		Year of inclusion in Budget	Latest Cost	Exp. as on March, 2018	Total Outlay 2018-19	Status of Project
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
NEW LINES						
1.	Lalitpur-Satna, Rewa-Singrauli and Mahoba-Khajuraho (541 km.)	1997-98	6093	1603.89	315	Mahoba-Khajuraho (61.5 km.) and Lalitpur-Khajuraho (165 km.): Commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
2.	Ramganjmandi-Bhopal (262 km.)	2000-01	2713	791.07	260	Ramganjmandi-Jhalawar City (26.50 km.) section has been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
3.	Chhota Udepur-Dhar (157 km.)	2007-08	1341.26	542.4	210	Chhota Udepur-Motisadli (22 km.) along with Chhota Udepur yard has been completed. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.
4.	Dahod-Indore via Sardarpur, Jhabua and Dhar (200.97 km.) Incl. MM for change in alignment via Amjhera (4.82 km.)	2007-08	1640	448.42	120	Indore-Rau-Tihi (21 km.) section has been commissioned. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.
5.	Ratlam-Dungarpur via Banswara (188.85 km.)	2011-12	2562	177.79	6	The project was sanctioned and included in Railway Budget 2011-12 with the condition

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						that Government of Rajasthan will share 50% of the cost of the project alongwith land free of cost. Accordingly, State Government was requested for funding 50% of the project cost and to provide land free of cost, which has not been agreed to by Rajasthan Government.
6.	Indore-Budhni (Jabalpur) (342 km.)	2016-17	3261.82	0.15	0.2	Indore-Budhni new line has been sanctioned in September, 2018 at a cost of ₹ 3261.82 crore.
7.	Indore-Manmad <i>via</i> Malegaon (358 km.)	2016-17	8857.98	-	101	Project has been taken up under Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV).
8.	Nimach-Badi Sadri (48 km.)	2017-18	490.44	0.05	5	Project sanctioned in October, 2018.
GAUGE CONVERSION						
1.	Jabalpur-Gondia including Balaghat-Katangi (285 km.) and Katangi-Tirodi New Line (15 km.)	1996-97	1777	1366.9	210	Gondia- Samnapur, Nainpur- Jabalpur and Balaghat-Katangi sections have been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
2.	Chhindwara-Nagpur (149.86 km.)	2005-06	1274	1143.42	71	Chhindwara-Bhandarkund (34 km.) section has been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
3.	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola (472.64 km.) with new MM Fatehabad Chandrawati Ganj-Ujjain (22.96 km.).	2008-09	5124	806.64	502.55	Ratlam-Indore-Rau-Mhow (147.70 km.) section has been commissioned. Forestry clearance and Land acquisition taken up. Work taken up in available land.

4.	Chhindwara-Nainpur-Mandla Fort (182.25 km.)	2010-11	1322	432.58	75	Nainpur-Chiraidongi (18 km.) section has been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
5.	Gwalior-Sheopurkalan with extension to Kota (284 km.)	2010-11	4552	210.68	55	Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.
DOUBLING						
1.	Khodri-Anuppur (61.60 km.)	2006-07	446.21	257.43	3	Pendra Road-Anuppur (50 km.) section has been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
2.	Bhopal (Habibganj)-Bina 3rd line (143 km.)	2008-09	1065	1122.81	20	Bina-Bhopal section has been commissioned. Work taken up in balance section.
3.	Budhni-Barkhera, 3rd line (33 km.)	2010-11	991.6	22.51	100	Forestry clearance and land acquisition taken up. Work taken up in available land.
4.	Bina-Kota (282.66 km.) including material modification of Malkhedi-Mahadeo (8.7 km.)	2011-12	1570.26	784.84	200.10	Work taken up.
5.	Itarsi-Budhni 3rd line (25.09 km.)	2012-13	277.5	197.06	50	Work taken up.
6.	Barkhera-Habibganj 3rd line (41.42 km.)	2012-13	326.97	186.34	50	Work taken up.
7.	Anuppur-Katni 3rd line (166 km.)	2015-16	1370.94	183.75	175.04	Work taken up.
8.	Bilaspur (Pendra Road)-Anuppur 3rd line (50 km.)	2015-16	393.98	203.28	50	Work taken up.
9.	Teegaon-Chichonda Ghat section 3rd line (17 km.)	2015-16	175.66	51.82	35.25	Work taken up.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Itarsi-Nagpur (Balance) 3rd line with Dharakho-Maramjhiri Ghat section 3rd line (280 km.)	2015-16	2449.91	59.68	105	Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.
11.	Jhansi-Bina 3rd line (153 km.)	2015-16	2001.63	451.21	582	Work taken up.
12.	Katni-Bina 3rd line (279 km.)	2015-16	2478.23	101.48	155	Work taken up.
13.	Katni Grade Separator Bypass line (22 km.)	2015-16	582.13	195.1	75	Work taken up.
14.	Katni-Singrauli (261 km.)	2015-16	1762.94	479.11	362	Work taken up.
15.	Mathura-Jhansi 3rd line (274 km.)	2015-16	3677.76	250.71	201	Work taken up..
16.	Nimuch-Chittaurgarh (56 km.)	2015-16	389.99	67.41	75	Work taken up.
17.	Ramna-Singrauli (160 km.)	2015-16	2436.21	82.62	150	Work taken up.
18.	Satna-Rewa (50 km.)	2015-16	403.49	70.1	75.1	Work taken up.
19.	Sontalai-Bagratawa patch doubling (7 km.)	2015-16	96.44	36.56	35	Work taken up.
20.	Indore-Dewas-Ujjain (80 km.)	2016-17	603.69	11.64	60	Work taken up.
21.	Jhansi-Khairar-Manickpur and Khairar Bhimsen (411 km.) and chord lines at Mahoba and Khairar (14 km.).	2016-17	4187.00	5.55	100	Work taken up.
22.	Jukehi Chord line at Katni (1 km.)	2016-17	12.45	0.9	5.42	Work taken up.

23.	Nagda-Ujjain Doubling of Gambhir Bridge (0.44 km.)	2016-17	28.16	4.25	15	Work taken up.
24.	Powarkheda-Jujharpur single line flyover in up direction (12 km.)	2016-17	247.03	153.97	10.10	Work taken up.
25.	Nimach-Ratlam (133 km.)	2018-19	910	-	-	Project has been included in the Budget subject to requisite approval from the Government.
26.	Dholpur-Jhansi Bina 4th line (321.80 km.)	2018-19	4869.95	-	-	Project has been included in the Budget subject to requisite approval from the Government.

(b) Completion of the project is dependent upon many factors such as land acquisition, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, cutting of trees. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, timeline for completion of the project is not feasible to be fixed.

Outdated railway tracks

2682. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Railway tracks are very old and outdated;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these outdated tracks are also the reasons for frequent railway accidents; and

(c) if so, the approximate length of tracks replaced by modern tracks during the last four years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Railway tracks are replaced through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Track renewal works are undertaken as and when a stretch of track becomes due for renewal on the basis of criteria laid down in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual on age/condition basis viz. traffic carried in terms of gross million tonnes, incidence of rail fracture/failure, wear of rails, corrosion of rails, maintainability of track as per standards etc. On Meter Gauge (MG) and Narrow Gauge (NG), tracks which are sanctioned for gauge conversion, the track renewal works, if required, are undertaken after due consideration of progress of execution of gauge conversion.

There has been no such report, which attributes a train accident due to outdated tracks in the past two years. Track renewal works are sanctioned every year on the basis of traffic carried and condition and their execution is prioritized according to condition of track and overall availability of funds.

Details of track renewal carried out in last four years and current year are as under:—

Year	Progress (In Complete Track Renewal Units)
2014-15	2424
2015-16	2794
2016-17	2487
2017-18	4023
2018-19	2630 (upto November, 2018)

Derailment of new Farakka express

†2683. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the findings of the inquiry into the derailment of new Farakka Express in Rae Bareli in October, 2018;

(b) the number of rail accidents in Uttar Pradesh in last five years and the number of cases in which human negligence has been a factor;

(c) whether maintenance of railway lines is being carried out by private contractors;

(d) the number of posts of track maintainer (gangman) sanctioned in Indian Railways and the number of persons working against them; and

(e) the stretch of track which a gangman has to maintain on daily basis and whether the work is being done as per Engineering Code?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The statutory inquiry into the derailment of Train No.14003 Up Malda Town-New Delhi (New Farakka) Express at East Yard of Harchandpur Station of Lucknow-Rae Bareli section Broad Gauge, Single Line, Non-Electrified section of Lucknow Division of Northern Railway on 10.10.2018 has been conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Northern Circle, New Delhi under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The Commission has submitted the preliminary inquiry in respect of the said derailment, wherein its provisional findings, it has been provisionally concluded that the said derailment occurred due to loss of integrity of the interlocking system of signalling by human interference either in Relay Room or in Location box by railway staff and has classified the said accident as “failure of railway staff.”

(b) Details of train accidents are maintained Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise. North Central Railway, North Eastern Railway and Northern Railway cover most of the part of Uttar Pradesh State. The number of consequential train accidents and the number of accidents attributed to human negligence, over these Zonal Railways during the last five years are as under:—

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Year	Number of consequential accidents				Number of consequential accidents on account of human negligence
	North Central Railway	North Eastern Railway	Northern Railway	Total	
2013-14	4	6	16	26	24
2014-15	7	14	20	41	36
2015-16	4	9	20	33	31
2016-17	7	3	14	24	22
2017-18	5	5	16	26	25

(c) On Indian Railways, majority of regular systematic track maintenance activities are done by track machines owned and operated by permanent railway staff. Other maintenance activities as required are carried out mostly by sectional gangs. However, some of the activities mostly pertaining to track renewal and incidental to track maintenance have been identified for execution through contracts under the supervision of railway staff.

(d) Staff strength position of Track Maintainer Grade-I, II, III, IV (Mate, Keyman, Trackman, Gateman, Patrolman, Trolleyman) as on 01.10.2018 is as under:—

Sanctioned strength	Men on roll	Vacancy
268009	211191	56818

(e) The track is maintained as per the provisions contained in Indian Railway Permanent Way Manual and Manual of Long Welded Rails etc. Length of track with each gangman varies from about 5 to 8 km.

Audio-visual warnings at level crossings

2684. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Standing Committee on Railways recommended audio-visual warnings to be implemented at level crossings to warn road users about approaching trains but the Ministry has not been able to achieve the target; and

(b) if so, the details of the implementation of such warnings in the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Standing Committee on Railways has recommended provision of audio-visual warning to road users about an approaching train at all level crossings

gates (manned and unmanned). All interlocked level crossings gates have been provided with facility of audio-visual warning road users about approaching trains. Indian Railways is conducting trial in association with Space Applications Centre/ Indian Space Research Organisation (SAC/ISRO) for development of prototype system for provision of audio-visual warning at non-interlocked level crossing gates to warn road users about approaching trains.

Punctuality rate of trains

2685. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the punctuality rate of Railways has declined considerably in the last three years;

(b) if so, the details as well as the reasons therefor, zone-wise;

(c) whether there has been a change in the criteria for determining the punctuality of trains, if so, the details thereof as well as the impact of it on the arrival and departure of trains; and

(d) the details of other steps taken by Government to improve the punctuality rate of trains without compromising on train safety?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The zone-wise punctuality performance over Indian Railways for the last three years and the current year (April to November, 2018) is as under:—

Zone-wise punctuality (%) performance during the last three years and the current year (April to November, 2018)

Zonal Railway	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to Nov.)
Central	91.79	93.19	89.92	86.22
East Coast	77.74	78.25	73.38	73.51
East Central	61.88	63.29	58.68	63.22
Eastern	92.32	91.5	82.05	71.71
Konkan	84.15	86.71	75.29	79.64
North Central	41.96	46.65	52.77	47.41
North Eastern	81.52	77.99	73.32	67.45
Northeast Frontier	87.04	89.25	80.55	75.71
Northern	76.89	73.15	64.97	57.21

Zonal Railway	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (up to Nov.)
North Western	93.65	94.31	87.95	85.95
South Central	91.61	96.31	90.67	80.22
South East Central	83.49	85.6	80.05	56.55
South Eastern	93.46	94.8	90.71	77.87
Southern	88.59	86.95	81.11	75.56
South Western	93.21	95.36	90.24	77.98
West Central	83.08	87.57	85.06	74.4
Western	94.94	95.89	91.41	91.87

However, trains do run late owing to various factors which include Railway and non-Railway factors such as assets failure, capacity constraints, damage to track due to breaches, accidents, cattle run over, electricity grid failure, miscreant activities, alarm chain pulling, bad weather including fog, natural calamities such as cyclonic storms, law and order problems, etc.

(c) Zonal Railways have rationalized the timings of some Mail/Express trains in order to improve punctuality performance of trains services.

(d) Various measures have been initiated to improve punctuality such as prioritization of preventive maintenance of assets to minimize asset failures, capacity enhancement projects by construction of additional loop lines at stations, doubling, construction of third line corridors, automatic signaling, construction of low height subway to replace level crossings, Road Under Bridges (RUB) and Road Over Bridges (ROB) etc. Besides, punctuality drives are launched from time to time and staff involved in train operations are sensitized. In addition, Zonal Railways have also been advised to have better coordination with Civil and Police authorities of States to deal with situations arising out of law and order problems.

Safety is accorded the highest priority by Indian Railways and all possible steps are undertaken on a continual basis to prevent accidents and to enhance safety. These include timely replacement of over-aged assets, adoption of suitable technologies for upgradation and maintenance of track, rolling stock, signaling and interlocking systems, safety drives, greater emphasis on training of officials and safety inspections at regular intervals to monitor and educate staff for observance of safe practices. Preventive and predictive maintenance of Railway assets is undertaken to ensure safe train operations. Safety devices/systems being used to prevent accidents include Electronic Interlocking,

Track Circuiting, provision of Block Proving Axle Counters (BPAC), Color Light LED signals, Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), Vigilance Control Device (VCD), Fog Pass Device (FPD), usage of 52/60 kg., 90 or higher Ultimate Tensile Strength (UTS) rails and pre-stressed Concrete Sleepers, use of Ultrasonic Flaw Detection of rails and welds at predefined periodicity to detect internal flaws in rails/welds. Electronic monitoring of track geometry is carried out to detect defects and plan maintenance. Steel Channel Sleepers on girder bridges are being used while carrying out primary track renewal. Further, it has been decided to lay Thick Web switches, Weldable Cast Maganese Steel crossings on identified routes. Progressive use of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) Coaches, use of Centre Buffer Couplers with Integral Coach Factory Coaches, etc. Railway tracks are replaced on age-cum-condition basis through track renewal works which is an ongoing process. Other measures include training of loco pilots and other safety category staff, improvement of their working conditions including proper rest and periodic medical examination etc. Besides, patrolling of tracks, footplate inspections and safety reviews at various levels, etc. are regularly conducted to continuously monitor and improve safety aspects of the Indian Railways.

Expenditure from RRSK in Tamil Nadu

2686. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has spent any amount from Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh (RRSK) for various works in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) The budgeting units of Indian Railways are Zonal/Production Units and budget allocations are made Railway zone-wise. Details of State-wise share/allocations are not maintained. However, since the State of Tamil Nadu is primarily served by Southern and South Western Railways, a statement indicating Planhead-wise Budget Outlays 2018-19 and expenditure to end of November, 2018 out of 'Rashtriya Rail Sanraksha Kosh' under Southern Railway and South Western Railway is as under:—

*Capital Expenditure to end of November, 2018 under RRSK-Southern
and South Western Railways*

(₹ in crore)

Plan head	Southern Railway			South Western Railway		
	Budget Estimate 2018-19	Expenditure upto November, 2018	% utilisation	Budget Estimate 2018-19	Expenditure upto November, 2018	% utilisation
Traffic Facilities	3.71	3.54	95%	0.56	5.01	895%
Rolling stock	23.92	7.96	33%	3.58	5.43	152%
Level Crossings	62.48	33.93	54%	20.41	12.64	62%
Road Over/Under Bridges	440.37	244.98	56%	189.88	46.7	25%
Track Renewals	960	497.95	52%	474	317.9	67%
Bridge Works	66.28	21	32%	28.84	5.79	20%
Signal and Telecom Works	114.76	51.65	45%	40.4	23.85	59%
Other Electrical Works	0.89	0.19	21%	1	0.43	43%
Traction Distribution Works	21.69	8.42	39%	2.05	0.88	43%
Machinery and Plant	16.41	1.98	12%	4.35	1.24	29%
Workshops including PUs	20.27	8.3	41%	3.78	1.33	35%
Staff Quarters	-	-	-	-	-0.01	-
Passengers Amenities	70.2	9.18	13%	59.54	3.48	6%
Training/HRD	1.81	0.24	13%	7.35	-	-
Credits/recoveries	182.60	58.19	32%	68.33	5.52	8%
TOTAL	1620.19	831.13	51%	767.41	419.15	55%

All-women stations across the country

2687. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have opened all-women railway station at Hijli, West Bengal and have plan to open 29 all-women stations, nationwide; and

(b) if so, by when these 29 all-women stations would be opened in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Hijli was declared to be an all women station on 8th May, 2018. All concerned staff including booking clerk, ticket checking staff, parcel clerk including night shift were women. However, due to promotional transfers, shortage

of lady staff, transfer on own request etc., at present it is not completely manned by women employees.

At present there are no instructions to open all-women stations.

**Appointments in N.E. and E.C. Employees Multi State
Co-operative Bank Limited**

†2688. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal of appointing General Manager, Northern Railway as *ex-officio* Chairman and Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer as *ex-officio* Vice-Chairman has been sent by general body of the N.E. and E.C. Employees Multi State Co-operative Bank Limited, Gorakhpur to Central Co-operative Registrar; and

(b) the action taken by Central Co-operative Registrar on above said proposal by general body of the bank and board of directors along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Question does not arise.

Status of bullet train

2689. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of bullet train proposed between Mumbai and Ahmedabad;

(b) whether the land for the purpose has been acquired in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(c) whether project sites have been established for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Government has sanctioned Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project (MAHSR) project with technical and financial assistance from Government of Japan. A Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely National High Speed

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) has been formed to implement the project. The final location survey, finalisation of alignment and geo-technical investigation have been completed. Total land required for the MAHSR project is 1434.4 hectares. Application/requisition for acquisition of the entire requirement has been given to respective State Governments of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli (DNH). Relevant notifications under Section-11 (in the State of Gujarat and DNH) and Namuna-1 (in the State of Maharashtra) have been published for approximately 1410 hectares. Joint Measurement Survey (JMS) has been completed for 1064 hectare. 37 hectare of private land has been acquired till date for the project.

(c) and (d) NHSRCL has established its project offices at Mumbai and Palghar in Maharashtra and Surat, Vadodara and Ahmedabad in Gujarat.

Redevelopment of railway stations

†2690. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry proposes to re-develop the railway stations considered important in terms of urban development and which have become crowded over the years;

(b) whether some foreign countries have shown interest in re-development of these railway stations; and

(c) if so, the names of such countries and cost of re-development of these railway stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Government has recently approved Railways' proposal for redevelopment of railway stations by Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and for longer lease tenure. Accordingly, all the stations on Indian Railways have been entrusted to IRSDC for undertaking the techno-economic feasibility studies. Based on the outcome of the feasibility studies, the stations are planned to be taken up for redevelopment, in phases.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. An agreement has been signed with the French Railway (SNCF) for joint study on Renovation Concept Design of Ambala and Ludhiana stations. Korean Railway has expressed interest in the re-development of New Delhi station.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Re-development of stations is planned through leveraging commercial development of vacant land and air space in and around railway stations, *i.e.* station re-development projects shall generally be cost neutral to Railways.

Accidents due to glitches in train's guiding system

2691. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that reports concerning rail accidents had stated that a number of accidents happened on account of glitches in train's guiding system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the recent derailment of the New Farakka Express occurred due to the same reason; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) During the current year *i.e.* 2018-19 (upto 15th December, 2018), 45 consequential train accidents took place over Indian Railways. Out of these 45 consequential train accidents, 28 accidents occurred due to failure of railway staff, 7 occurred due to failure of other than railway staff, 5 occurred due to incidental factors and 5 accidents are under investigation.

(c) and (d) The statutory inquiry into the derailment of Train No. 14003 UP Malda Town-New Delhi (New Farakka) Express on 10.10.2018 has been conducted by the Commissioner of Railway Safety (CRS), Northern Circle, New Delhi under the Ministry of Civil Aviation. The Commission has submitted the preliminary inquiry report in respect of said derailment where in its provisional findings, it has been provisionally concluded that the said derailment occurred due to loss of integrity of the interlocking system of signaling by human interference either in Relay Room or in Location box by railway staff and has classified the said accident as 'failure of railway staff'.

Removing unmanned railway level crossings

2692. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 5,000 unmanned railway level crossings across the country had been removed in the past year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Railways had set a target to make the Railways free from unmanned railway level crossings; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Elimination of Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) has been a top priority for Railways as level crossings are a safety hazard for both rail and road users, more so for road users. It has been planned to eliminate all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG) by closure/merger/subway and manning by March, 2019. All UMLCs on BG have now been eliminated except 28 UMLCs which have also been planned to be eliminated by March, 2019 by closure, merger, subway and manning.

Elimination of unmanned railway level crossings

2693. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unmanned railway level crossings eliminated in the past four years, particularly in Maharashtra State alongwith the details thereof; and

(b) the steps being taken to eliminate unmanned railway level crossings in the country by 31 March, 2019?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) All the unmanned level crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (324 Nos.) in the State of Maharashtra have been eliminated.

(b) Elimination of Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) has been a top priority for Railways as level crossings are a safety hazard for both rail and road users more so for road users. It is submitted that all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG) have now been eliminated except 28 UMLCs which have also been planned to be eliminated by March, 2019 by closure, merger, subway or manning.

Electrification and doubling of railway line between Chennai and Madurai

2694. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work of electrification and doubling of railway line from Chennai to Madurai has been completed;

(b) if so, whether there is a proposal to introduce more new trains on this route;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details on introduction of Tejas train from Chennai to Madurai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Electrification and doubling of Railway line between Chennai Egmore to Madurai (*via* Villupuram and Tiruchchirappalli) has been completed.

(b) to (d) Recently, additional train service has been provided on Chennai-Madurai sector by introducing 16191/16192 Tambaram-Tirunelveli Antyodaya Express with effect from 08.06.2018. Besides, the sector is well connected with services including the services of Duronto, Sampark Kranti etc. Further, Special trains are operated during peak season including holiday season, special events and festivals. However, introduction of trains including Tejas train, is an ongoing process on Indian Railways keeping in view traffic demand, operational feasibility, availability of resources, etc.

Construction of overbridge/underpass at unmanned level crossings

†2695. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to construct overbridge or underpass at all the unmanned level crossings of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a provision to construct overbridge or underpass at the western end of Karpurigram railway station of Samastipur district and at eastern end of Buxar station; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (BG) are being eliminated as per feasibility/requirement by either of the following methods:—

- (i) Closure
- (ii) Merger
- (iii) Subway
- (iv) Manning

Presently all UMLCs on Broad Gauge (BG) have been eliminated except 28 UMLCs which have also been planned to be eliminated by March, 2019 by any of the above methods.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) Work for construction of ROB *in lieu* of LC No. 70 at East end of Buxar station has been sanctioned. Level Crossing (LC) No. 59 at western end of Karpuri gram railway station does not qualify for construction of Road over Bridge (ROB)/Underpass as traffic density of this LC is less than 1 lakh Train Vehicle Unit (TVU). ROB/Underpass at this location can be constructed on deposit terms subject to feasibility.

Rewa-singrauli railway project

†2696. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether railway station has been identified for railway project from Rewa-Singrauli in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when the work would be accomplished after identification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. 6 railway stations, namely Baghwar, Rampur Nainkin, Churhat, Sidhi, Gajrahi and Bahri, have been identified for Rewa-Singrauli railway project in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh.

Finalisation of KMA rate of loco running staff

2697. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the genuine demand of finalising Kilometrage Allowance (KMA) rate with effect from 1 January, 2016 and further fixation from 1 January, 2017 in respect of loco running staff is still pending with Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether this is undermining the interest of the vital group of staff in Railways and also affecting the retirees and serving members of the locomotive running staff; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The issue of revision of Kilometrage Allowance (KMA) pursuant to implementation of Seventh Central Pay Commission pay structure is under consideration.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The Government of India had decided that Kilometerage Allowance and related allowances of the Running Staff should be decided through bilateral discussions with the Federations and further with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance. After consultations with the Federations, a proposal is being considered for approval by the Competent Authority to be further referred to Ministry of Finance for concurrence.

(c) No, Sir. The serving running staff would be getting arrears of the difference of the revised rates of the Running Allowances from the date of effect of all allowances as finally decided. The retirees are also not affected as they do not earn running allowance.

(d) A proposal is being considered by the Competent Authority for approval. Thereafter, the proposal will be referred to the Ministry of Finance seeking their concurrence.

Renting out railway stations for wedding functions

†2698. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are considering to rent out its less busy stations for marriage functions and other programmes;

(b) whether any final decision has been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the manner in which the railway stations would be chosen for such types of functions, along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) No, Sir. However, at stations where traffic is very low, Zonal Railways may explore the possibility of using station areas for organizing public functions as non-fare activity.

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

Coaches manufactured by rail coach factory at Kapurthala

2699. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of coaches manufactured by Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala in Punjab, during each of the last three years;

(b) whether there is any proposal to expand the factory to cover more spare parts used in rail bogies; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala (RCF) manufactured Integral Coach Factory (ICF) designed passenger coaches, Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) designed passenger coaches, Self Propelled Mainline Electric Multiple Unit (MEMU) coaches, Pantry Car coaches and Power car coaches etc. during the last three years.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Rail eco-tourism and Nilgiri Mountain Rail Service

2700. SHRI VINAY DINU TENDULKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is preparing any scheme for rail eco-tourism;

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

(c) the amount spent for Nilgiri Mountain Rail service and the amount of income earned during the last three years along with the details thereof;

(d) whether Government proposes to compensate the loss being caused to this heritage service; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Presently, there is no separate scheme/plan regarding Rail eco-tourism on Indian Railways. However, certain eco-tourism destinations like Ooty, Munnar, Thekkady, Thenmala, Courtallam, Mudumalai etc. are covered as part of tour packages operated by Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC).

(c) The amount spent for Nilgiri Mountain Rail Service and the amount of income earned by Indian Railways during the last three years is as under:—

Period	Earnings (D in crore)	Expenditure (D in crore)
2015-16	1.89	22.34
2016-17	1.99	26.74
2017-18	1.82	28.00

(d) and (e) Nilgiri Hill Railway is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and Indian Railways operates Nilgiri Mountain Rail Service for facilitating tourists of this

catchment area. Though Indian Railways incurs losses on operation of this service, there is no proposal to compensate the losses incurred on operating this heritage service.

Revision of flexi fare scheme

2701. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have implemented flexi fares for premier trains which has drawn criticism from various quarters;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of the trains in which flexi fares were introduced;

(c) whether Railways have taken any decision to scrap/withdraw or revise the flexi fares in these trains; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Flexi fare scheme has been introduced in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains from 09.09.2016. Under this scheme, the fare increases by 10% with every 10% of berths sold subject to maximum limit of 1.5 times in classes Second AC, Sleeper, Second Sitting (reserved), AC Chair Car and 1.4 times in 3rd AC class. No change has been made in the fare of First AC and Executive class.

Based on the feedback from different quarters, a committee was constituted to review the flexi fare scheme and based on certain recommendations of the committee, Flexi fare scheme in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto Trains has been rationalized as under:—

- (i) Flexi fare scheme has been discontinued from 15 trains, with average monthly occupancy less than 50%, for full year and from 32 trains, with average monthly occupancy between 50 to 75%, during pre-defined lean period of 3 months (February, March and August).
- (ii) Maximum cap of flexi fare scheme has been reduced to 1.4 times in all flexi fare applicable classes.
- (iii) Graded discount has been introduced in flexi fare trains and Humsafar trains, where class-wise occupancy is less than 60%, 4 days prior to scheduled departure of the train as under:—

Occupancy	Discount
Up to 70%	20% on last fare
70 to 80%	10% on last fare
Above 80%	Nil

The above changes have been implemented for the journey commencing on 15.03.2019 and onwards.

Introduction of jerk-free journey

2702. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways is planning to introduce jerk-free journey for passengers, with modern fittings;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether all the trains would be fitted with this modern equipment or only specific trains are to be fitted with this equipment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways (IR) is committed to provide a comfortable jerk free journey to its passengers and endeavours to achieve that with the use of better technology continuously.

(b) To minimize the effect of jerks and to improve riding comfort for passengers, IR has introduced new design Centre Buffer Couplers (CBC) with Balanced Draft Gear (BDG) as per specification prepared by Research Designs and Standards Organisation (RDSO)/Lucknow.

(c) It has been decided to proliferate CBCs with BDG on all the Mainline passenger coaches of Indian Railways. All new Mainline passenger coaches are being manufactured with CBCs having BDG. In this direction, sanction under Rolling Stock Programme for 100% replacement of the old design CBCs with new design CBCs with BDG has also been taken. The work is under progress at Zonal Railways.

Introduction of Samanta Express

2703. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plan to run Samanta Express, a special train to mark the

128th birth anniversary of Babasaheb Ambedkar, covering Buddhist sites in India and Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) In memory of Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar, Indian Railways in association with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has planned to run “Samanata Express Special train” ex-Nagpur on 14.02.2019 covering Chaityabhoomi (Mumbai), Mhow (Indore), Bodhgaya (Gaya), Sarnath (Varanasi), Lumbini (Nepal), Kushinagar (Gorakhpur), Deekshabhoomi (Nagpur) and back to Mumbai.

Manufacturing of ‘Best in class train sets’

2704. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has started manufacturing of ‘Best in class train sets’ in Integral Coach Factory (ICF), Chennai;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has provided any training to the employees of Integral Coach Factory, Chennai before starting manufacturing ‘Best in class train sets’;

(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) Yes, Sir.

(b) One train set named Train-18 has been turned out by Integral Coach Factory (ICF) in November, 2018. This Best in class indigenous train set has 16 coaches and has been tested upto a speed of 180 kmph by the Research Designs and Standards Organization (RDSO)/Lucknow.

(c) and (d) The training is done periodically to update knowledge of current developments in technology at the training institutes of ICF in order to get overall skill development of employees. This is also applicable to Best in class train sets.

(e) Question does not arise.

Renovation/upgradation of railway stations

2705. SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of railway stations renovated/upgraded across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh during the last three years;

(b) the details of railway stations under renovation/upgradation;

(c) whether Government has fixed any target for the purpose during the last three years; and

(d) if so, the details of target achieved during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) Government has approved redevelopment of major Railway stations by making Indian Railway Stations Development Corporation Limited (IRSDC) as Nodal Agency, through simplified procedures and with longer lease tenures. These include Railway stations situated in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

All stations have been entrusted to IRSDC for taking up Techno-economic feasibility studies and redevelopment of stations is to be taken up based upon the outcome of these studies in phased manner.

An MOU has been signed between Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) and National Buildings Construction Corporation India Limited (NBCC) for redevelopment of 10 stations including Nellore and Tirupati Railway stations in Andhra Pradesh. Invitation of Bids for redevelopment of these two stations is being undertaken by NBCC.

Presently, work of redevelopment is in progress at Gandhinagar and Habibganj stations. Contracts have been awarded for Gomtinagar and Charbagh (Lucknow) stations. Bids for Jammu Tawi, Kozhikode, Anand Vihar, Bijwasan and Chandigarh have been received, which are presently under evaluation. Bids have been invited for Surat and Puducherry stations.

(d) Station redevelopment projects are first of its kind and complex in nature and require detailed techno-financial feasibility studies and statutory clearances from local bodies etc. Therefore, no time-frame can be indicated at this stage.

Assessment of cleanliness at railway stations

2706. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had recently conducted a survey to assess the cleanliness at railway stations across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the ranking; and

(c) whether it is a fact that iconic stations in big cities have been found to have moved down in the ranking and if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Railways had conducted a survey regarding cleanliness at 407 major Railway Stations in the country. The details of the survey are available on Indian Railways website at the link "http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/railwayboard/uploads/directorate/Environment_Management/Swachh_Rail_Swachh_Bharat_2018_Report.pdf".

(c) The marks obtained by most of the stations have improved. It clearly shows that all stations are striving hard to improve. It is not correct that iconic stations have moved down in ranking e.g. Mumbai CST has improved in score and also ranking. However, some of the stations have come down in ranking, though they have secured more marks than previous year, as other stations have shown higher improvement.

Lalitpur-Singrauli railway project

†2707. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work for Lalitpur-Singrauli railway project has been started by construction company;

(b) if so, the allotment and expenditure of funds during the last three years and progress made thereon and by when the work is targeted to be completed; and

(c) if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Lalitpur-Khajuraho (167 km) and Mahoba-Khajuraho (62.50 km) sections have been commissioned. Land acquisition has been taken up in the remaining sections and work taken up in the available land.

During last three years (2015-16 to 2017-18), ₹ 1072.05 crore has been incurred as an expenditure and an outlay of ₹ 315 crore has been provided for this project for the year 2018-19.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Completion of the project is dependent upon many factors such as land acquisition, statutory clearances like forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of services, cutting of trees. Since many of these factors are beyond the control of Ministry of Railways, timeline for completion of the project is not feasible to be fixed.

Rating of railway zones

2708. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to give rating to its various zones;

(b) if so, the details of this move and parameters under which each zone is going to be assessed;

(c) whether it is also a fact that rating of its 16 zones was done by Railway Board between April and December, 2016;

(d) if so, the details of such rating, with particular reference to South Central Railway Zone; and

(e) the manner in which Railways are going to reward the performing zones?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (e) There is no existing practice to give ratings to various Railway zones. However, to further assign greater accountability to the Zonal Railways and also to ensure that decision making at field level gets expedited, Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) are being signed between Secretary, Railway Board and General Managers of all the Zonal Railways separately, since 2016-17. Under these agreements, all the Zonal Railways, including South Central Railway, undertake to achieve the targets set in the MOU. Performance of Zonal Railways is evaluated through Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) mentioned in the MOU relating to operational and financial performance, capacity enhancement, capacity utilization and manpower. The MOU also entails self-assessment of performance by General Managers in respect of their zones on a monthly basis based on the performance indicators, highlighting areas of concern and corrective action planned to meet performance gaps.

Performance of Train-18

2709. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance of India's first high speed train known as Train-18 has been satisfactory and is progressing as per schedule; and

(b) if so, the details regarding its speed limit and the routes on which it is proposed to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The trial has been conducted upto a maximum operational speed of 160 kmph. However, the actual speed in service will depend upon the section where this train is put into service. The first Train-18 rake is proposed to be introduced on Delhi-Varanasi sector, with maximum speed of 130 KMPH.

**Rail connectivity between Hyderabad-Amaravati
and Hyderabad-Vijayawada**

2710. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new rail lines or new trains have been started between Hyderabad and Amaravati, new capital of Andhra Pradesh, to provide rapid rail connectivity as envisaged under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether there is any proposal with Government to run additional trains between Hyderabad and Vijayawada in view of increasing traffic between these stations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) New line project of Vijayawada-Guntur-Amaravathi was included in Pink book of 2017-18 subject to requisite approvals. Detailed project report (DPR) for 56.53 Km new line project has been prepared. As per DPR, the approximate cost of the project is ₹ 1732.56 crore. Inter ministerial consultation for the project has been taken up.

(c) To cater to the needs of the passengers of Hyderabad-Vijayawada sector, frequency of 12795/12796 Vijayawada-Lingampalli Express has been increased from 6 days a week to daily *w.e.f.* 04.11.2018. However, at present, there is no proposal for introduction of new train between Hyderabad and Vijayawada.

Broad gauge line between Vadodara and Indore

†2711. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the date when a foundation stone was laid for a broad gauge line from Vadodara to Indore via Chhota Udaipur and Alirajpur;

(b) by when the said work was to be completed;

(c) the Government's reaction on the slow pace of work going on from Chhota Udaipur to Alirajpur and at extremely slow pace from Alirajpur to Indore; and

(d) to what extent the said work has been completed and quantum of funds spent till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Vadodara-Motisdali section is a broad gauge line section. Further, construction of new line from Motisdali-Indore *via* Chhotaudepur, Alirajpur has been taken up as a part of Chhota Udepur-Dhar *via* Alirajpur and Dahod-Indore *via* Dhar new line projects. Foundation stone for these projects was laid on 08.02.2008.

The present status of both the projects is as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Project	Year of inclusion in Budget	Latest Cost	Expenditure as on 31.03.2018	Total Outlay 2018-19	Status of Project
1.	Chhota Udepur-Dhar (157.00 km)	2007-08	1347.26	210.00	180.00	Chhota Udepur-Motisdali (22 km) along with Chhota Udepur yard has been completed. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.
2.	Dahod-Indore <i>via</i> Jhabua, Amjhera and Dhar (204.76 km)	2007-08	1640.04	448.41	120.00	Indore-Rau-Tihi (21 km) section has been commissioned. Land acquisition has been taken up. Work taken up in available land.

Chhota Udepur-Dhar and Dahod-Indore new line project were envisaged to be completed within a period of 6 and 5 years respectively, but could not be completed due to overall limited availability of funds till 2013-14. Since 2014-15, adequate

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

funds have been allotted to the project and execution of these projects has been speeded up (₹ 181.00 crore was provided for the Chhota Udepur-Dhar new line project during 2010-11 to 2013-14. Now, ₹ 315.00 crore has been provided for this project from 2014-15 to 2017-18. Similarly, ₹ 250.00 crore was provided for the Dahod-Indore new line project during 2010-11 to 2013-14. Now, ₹ 410.00 crore has been provided for this project from 2014-15 to 2017-18).

It is Railways' endeavor to complete these projects. To expedite completion of projects, Railways have regular coordination meetings with Ministries/Departments and State Government Authorities to expedite forestry clearances, etc. Others measures taken up to expedite completion are delegation of powers at field level, nomination of nodal officers for improved co-ordination with the State Government, etc.

Categories of reservation quotas

2712. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Railways are still offering berths under reservation quotas;
- (b) if so, the details of categories that are entitled for berths under reservation quotas along with the list of such categories;
- (c) whether every single berth that is available in the coaches is put on site for online booking for the passengers; and
- (d) if not, the reasons why the berths available in the coaches are not made available online for the passengers wishing to book and travel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) With a view to cater to requirements of different categories of passengers served by Indian Railways, available reserved accommodation is distributed broadly under following types of reservation quotas:—

Sl.No.	Quota	Available for
1.	General	General Public
2.	Tatkal	General Public
3.	Premium Tatkal	General Public
4.	Parliament House	Hon'ble Members of Parliament (Sitting and Former)
5.	Ladies	Female passenger travelling alone or in a group of female passengers

Sl.No.	Quota	Available for
6.	Senior Citizen	Combined quota for senior citizens, female passengers above 45 years and pregnant women
7.	Foreign Tourist	Foreigners
8.	Defence	Defence Personnel
9.	Roadside	General Public
10.	Pooled	General Public
11.	Cancer Patient	Cancer Patients
12.	RAC (Reservation Against Cancellation)	General Public
13.	Physically Handicapped	Divyangjan
14.	Duty Pass	Serving/retired Railway employees travelling on Duty/Privilege/Post retirement complimentary passes etc. in specified trains
15.	Railway Employees	Designated Railway employees travelling on Duty in trains
16.	Yuva	Unemployed persons between the age of 15 and 45
17.	Emergency	Urgent travel requirement of High Official Requisition (HOR) holders, Members of Parliament, and general public

(c) and (d) While booking reserved tickets through the website of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), passengers can book tickets under General Quota, Ladies Quota, Foreign Tourist Quota, Premium Tatkal Quota, Tatkal Quota, Senior Citizen Quota, and Physically Handicapped (Divyangjan) Quota. In addition to the above quotas, accommodation can also be allotted under Reservation Against Cancellation (RAC) and Pooled Quota while booking reserved tickets through website of IRCTC. These reservation quotas constitute approximately 94% of total reserved accommodation available on Indian Railways, which can be booked both through internet as well as through computerised Passenger Reservation System (PRS) of Indian Railways. To avoid any misuse, this facility is generally not extended for those quotas which require prior physical verification of documents. However, recently this facility has been extended to persons with disability, Press correspondents and Defence Personnel. Extension of such facilities to different categories of passengers is a continuous and ongoing exercise.

Cost overrun of railway projects

2713. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways are facing a cost overrun of ₹ 2.46 lakh crores;

(b) if so, list of projects facing cost and time overrun; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (c) At present, 503 Railway projects including 183 New Lines, 57 Gauge Conversion and 263 Doubling Projects are in different stages of execution/planning/sanction. The completion of Railway projects requires acquisition of land, shifting of utilities, various statutory clearances etc. leading to time and cost overrun. Railway is holding regular meetings with State Government and concerned Central Government officials on various issues for timely completion of the projects.

For important projects, capacity enhancement projects, last mile connectivity etc, institutional financing has been done by arranging loan from M/s Life Insurance Corporation of India Limited for ₹ 1.5 lakh crore, which has increased Railways' capacity for committed fund provision for essential projects.

Completion of Nadikudi-Srikalahasti project

2714. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government is drawn to the matter of Nadikudi-Srikalahasti Railway Project which is pending since a long time for completion;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay in completion of the project;

(c) the status of the project as on date; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to complete the project at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Nadikudi-Srikalahasti new line project was included in Pink Book 2011-12 on 50% cost sharing and land free of cost with Government of Andhra Pradesh.

Land acquisition: Government of Andhra Pradesh has handed over the land between Piduguralla-Savalayapuram (45 Kms) in July and August 2016. Land disputes are there in Piduguralla-Savalayapuram sections in two lengths of 2.3 Km and 0.4 Km and the same is being pursued by Railways in the Hon'ble High Court and with State Government to sort out the issues.

Requisition for Land acquisition for remaining length of project has been submitted by Railways to the State Government.

(c) New Piduguralla-Rompicherla section: All works are completed except in disputed length of 2.3 Km.

Rompicherla-Savalayapuram section: Works have been taken up.

Works in balance length will be taken up after land acquisition.

(d) The completion of Railway project requires clearances from various departments of State Governments and Central Ministries like acquisition of land, statutory clearance like forestry and wild life clearances, shifting of utilities etc. Therefore, time line for completion of project can not be fixed.

Dedicated rail freight corridor at Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh

2715. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. has acquired land in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh for dedicated rail freight corridor, particularly under Mauza Rampur *alias* Karanpur, Paragana Dhoos, Mughalsarai;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with rate of land which has been offered/paid to land holders;

(c) whether fair compensation have been offered/paid to farmers for trees over the acquired lands as per the Act;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with rate of trees offered/paid, tree-wise; and

(e) if not, the reasons for violation of the Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) and (b) Land acquisition in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh in Mauza Rampur *alias* Karanpur has been taken up by Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. as per Railway Amendment Act-2008. After the Right

to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act 2013 came into force, the compensation has been revised upward in terms of the provisions of the Act. The details of amount of revised compensation offered are as under:—

Land area (Ha)	Revised compensation offered including Solatium (₹)
1.7701	1,43,09,052.28
0.3646	42,89,520.08
0.0445	25,28,389.98
0.3540	38,95,687.88
0.0900	11,83,056.66

(c) and (d) Fair compensation has been offered to Project Affected Persons (PAPs) for trees over the identified land in village Mauza Rampur *alias* Karanpur as per the valuation done by Forest department, based on type of tree, age, size of girth etc., as per section 25 G (5) of Railway Amendment Act 2008 (RAA-2008). Total compensation of ₹ 3,42,096/- has been declared for 59 trees as per evaluation. The range of compensation varies from ₹ 928/- per tree to ₹ 10,964/- per tree.

(e) Question does not arise.

Disabled-friendly railway stations and trains

2716. SHRI SAMIR ORAON:

SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent on making railway stations and trains disabled-friendly over the past five years, region-wise;

(b) whether all trains and stations are disabled-friendly, if so, the details of the facilities provided for the disabled;

(c) if not, the number of stations which are disabled-friendly;

(d) whether the stations and trains under construction are being made disabled-friendly;

(e) whether the train drivers and ticket collectors have been sensitized about the difficulties of the disabled-people; and

(f) the steps being taken by Government to make all stations and trains disabled-friendly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Indian Railways has more than 8700 stations and it has always been the endeavour of the Railways to provide adequate amenities to the passengers at Railway stations, including those for differently abled passengers, which is a continuous process. Provisions of facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) are to be provided at all stations over Indian Railways based on the needs of travelling public and availability of funds. Works for all passenger amenities including facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) at Railway stations are generally funded under Plan Head – 53 ‘Passenger Amenities’. No separate accountal is made for expenditure on amenities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan). The details of funds allocated and expenditure incurred under Budgetary Sources for this Plan Head-53, over Indian Railways during the last five years *i.e.* 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 and current year are as under:—

Zonal Railway	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp.	Allocation	Exp. Upto Nov.2018
Central	58.20	59.70	77.00	67.88	85.10	78.74	73.93	74.07	141.53	161.89	200.05	100.71
Eastern	110.18	99.61	91.42	70.71	67.62	62.98	51.85	48.41	85.21	50.73	77.80	30.78
East Central	52.34	73.57	55.17	85.46	88.03	109.33	52.78	94.93	72.03	171.92	69.51	48.96
East Coast	44.42	19.57	55.00	22.34	60.16	71.94	47.78	109.84	75.09	91.44	77.38	35.24
Northern	70.01	41.89	125.80	44.71	128.80	54.09	78.06	45.81	174.12	38.16	239.46	77.83
North Central	73.09	70.25	90.23	69.87	81.46	95.91	56.87	70.68	105.53	102.00	87.25	78.86
North Eastern	18.36	96.51	41.96	77.33	55.49	94.82	107.69	68.56	92.81	63.80	91.72	53.28
Northeast Frontier	43.97	47.26	50.48	53.23	53.67	65.60	50.75	60.08	56.83	81.85	91.01	12.98
North Western	27.69	49.36	42.18	42.65	60.31	49.61	53.42	47.96	57.87	134.80	87.01	61.44
Southern	67.19	45.15	62.58	44.89	108.21	63.75	61.18	65.76	148.57	74.11	90.51	26.05
South Central	99.68	36.92	104.24	40.53	102.05	57.46	64.41	56.42	90.96	59.85	97.04	29.35
South Eastern	45.70	62.33	56.37	74.95	72.08	52.62	47.46	60.34	80.25	66.56	66.40	26.94
South East Central	40.86	30.12	39.57	35.58	48.71	66.07	29.55	55.59	32.60	68.09	66.00	19.38
South Western	30.26	44.69	35.81	36.12	72.69	31.38	42.63	31.49	64.19	23.50	69.39	9.22
Western	51.07	29.47	58.61	31.88	52.16	60.22	48.73	41.93	126.50	49.77	170.63	129.16
West Central	53.58	48.46	49.92	54.65	71.31	63.50	45.29	43.78	58.55	44.44	68.82	12.97
Metro	8.76	7.56	11.56	5.83	3.99	3.19	5.44	5.58	8.20	3.89	7.87	1.17
TOTAL	895.36	862.41	1047.90	858.61	1211.84	1081.21	917.82	981.24	1470.84	1286.80	1657.86	754.32

(b) to (f) Indian Railways is committed to make India accessible for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) as part of “Sugamya Bharat Mission” or Accessible India Campaign of Government of India. Improvement/augmentation of amenities at Railway stations, including those for differently abled passengers is a continuous process. Provisions of facilities for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) are to be provided at all stations over Indian Railways. The categorization of stations is reviewed every five years. In April, 2018, it has been decided to change the categorization of Stations from ‘A-1’, ‘A’ and ‘B’, ‘C’, ‘D’, ‘E’ and ‘F’ category to NSG1 - NSG6, SG1 – SG3 and HG1 – HG3 based upon number of passengers handled and earnings of the stations. In order to provide better accessibility to Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Short Term Facilities and Long Terms facilities have been planned at all stations, beginning with Non Suburban Group ‘NSG 1’, ‘NSG 2’, ‘NSG 3’ and ‘NSG 4’ (erstwhile ‘A-1’, ‘A’ and ‘B’) category stations. The details of Railway stations provided with Short-Term Facilities so far for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) under all categories of stations over Indian Railways are as under:—

Sl. No.	Facility for Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)	Approximate number of stations, where facility provided
1.	Standard ramp for barrier free entry	2586
2.	Earmarking at least two parking lots	1429
3.	Non-slippery walk-way from parking lot to station building	1465
4.	Signages of appropriate visibility	1474
5.	At least one drinking water tap suitable for use by Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan)	1989
6.	At least one toilet (on the ground floor)	1908
7.	May I help you booth	1131

Long-Term Facilities are to be provided for Divyangjan at ‘NSG-1’ to ‘NSG-4’ categories of stations, which are as follows:—

1	Engraving on edges of platforms	1816
2	Provision of facility for inter-platform transfer	1288

As per the revised policy guidelines of Indian Railways, Escalators are to be provided at end platforms of railway stations having footfall of more than one lakh. Lifts are being provided depending upon the relative priority of various stations and the availability of resources and feasibility for provision of lifts.

The zone-wise details expenditure incurred on Lifts and Escalators in last 5 years is appended. So far, 584 escalators at 215 stations and 417 lifts at 182 stations have been provided.

Regarding making trains disabled friendly, around 3,800 Disabled friendly Integral Coach Factory (ICF) type coaches (SLRD/SRD) are available in the fleet of Indian Railways. These coaches have a suitably designed compartment and toilet adapted to the needs of the Divyang/wheel chair borne passengers. In these coaches, wider entrance door, wider berths, wider compartments, larger lavatory and lavatory doors, etc. have been provided. Inside the toilets, additional grab rails on the side walls for support and wash basin and mirror at a lower height are also available.

Further, Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) type coaches with facilities for the disabled on similar lines as is available in ICF type coaches are under manufacture at Indian Railways Production Units, which will be put into service after mandatory testing and trials. For the assistance of the visually impaired passengers, Integrated Braille signages, *i.e.* signages superimposed with Braille scripts, are being provided in the newly manufactured coaches.

It is endeavoured to have at least one disabled friendly coach in each Mail/Express train having ICF type coaches. In addition to fitment of Integrated Braille signages in new manufactured coaches, retrofitment of these in existing coaches has also been taken up in a phased manner.

All General Managers of Zonal Railways have been instructed to provide Special Training Modules on Soft Skills as a part of Initial/Refresher/Special Courses to all frontline staff directly dealing with customers wherein greater thrust has been given towards customer satisfaction and the need to focus on customer as principal client.

All commercial frontline staffs are given special training on passenger amenities wherein training on special facilities provided for Physically Challenged persons and provision of wheel chair are given.

- Zonal Railways have been instructed to provide one wheelchair per platform and in case of island platforms, one wheel chair per two platforms at all A-1 and A category stations.
- Yatri Mitra Sewa has also been introduced at major railway stations for enabling passengers to book wheel chairs services cum porter services free of cost through NGOs, Charitable trust, PSUs etc under CSR and responsibility of providing this facility has been entrusted with IRCTC. In case of lack of response from NGOs, Charitable trust, PSUs etc., this service may be arranged on payment basis through a service provider or on it own.

- Passenger can book e-wheelchairs on line through IRCTC portal *www.irctc.co.in*. The facility is presently, available at 22 stations *i.e.* Ahmedabad, Agra Cantt., Vadodara, Varanasi, Bhusawal, Vijayawada, Kanpur Central, Mumbai CST, Mumbai Central, Howrah, Indore, Jhansi, Jaipur, Lucknow Jn., Lucknow, New Delhi, Nagpur, Pathankot Cantt., Pune, Bengaluru City, Secunderabad and Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Katra.
- Passengers can book cab/coach and porter service online through IRCTC portal *www.irctc.co.in*. The facility is available at Chandigarh, Gaya, Guntur, Howrah, Jaipur, Lucknow, Lucknow Jn., Madurai, New Delhi, Delhi Jn., Hazrat Nizamuddin, Delhi Safdarjung, Anand Vihar, Delhi Cantt., Delhi Sarai Rohilla, Tirupati and Vijaywada.
- Powers have been delegated to DRMs to decide the provision of Battery Operated Vehicles (BOVs) at station on merit – whether free of cost through commercial publicity route or through ‘user pays’ route.
- At the Divisional level, Chief Travelling Ticket Inspectors/In-charges (CTTI/ICs), Station Managers (SMRs) and concerned Commercial Inspectors are directed to perform duty as a disability Inspector for providing assistance to Persons with Disabilities.

Details of expenditure over last five years on Escalators and Lifts over Indian Railways

Figure in ₹ crore

Sl. No.	Zonal Railway	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19 (upto Nov.)	
		Escalator	Lift	Escalator	Lift	Escalator	Lift	Escalator	Lift	Escalator	Lift	Escalator	Lift
1.	Eastern	0.69	0.00	0.60	0.00	2.26	0.00	1.54	0.00	4.12	0.32	4.89	0.41
2.	Central	5.60	0.00	3.21	0.00	0.05	2.32	0.59	1.45	11.36	4.05	12.41	1.08
3.	North Central	1.18	0.00	5.86	0.00	5.05	0.00	5.55	0.00	6.08	3.82	0.68	0.65
4.	East Central	3.00	0.00	1.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.34	1.29
5.	West Central	1.67	0.00	2.00	0.78	0.00	0.83	1.60	2.41	2.25	2.72	0.99	0.52
6.	Northeast Frontier	0.00	0.00	1.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.11
7.	South Eastern	0.65	0.00	0.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.79	0.16	1.56	0.54	4.68	1.19
8.	South Central	9.95	3.09	9.02	1.18	6.08	0.13	1.46	2.08	5.66	4.84	0.11	0.98
9.	Southern	7.70	0.56	4.90	0.12	8.21	2.29	6.33	4.03	14.51	5.11	8.30	1.72
10.	South Western	2.25	0.00	0.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	11.25	3.00	1.25	1.50	0.00	3.00
11.	Northern	0.00	0.70	16.20	1.05	10.80	0.00	1.80	0.35	27.90	11.55	7.20	2.10
12.	East Coast	1.59	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.31	0.00	2.44	2.43	0.19	0.63	2.01	0.08
13.	North Eastern	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.96	0.00	3.83	2.22	4.79	2.59	1.44	0.37
14.	Western	8.03	0.33	9.31	3.26	10.97	1.61	6.66	2.78	11.98	12.69	0.83	2.85
15.	South East Central	1.36	1.07	0.69	0.00	0.00	0.07	1.79	0.95	0.97	0.20	1.14	0.05
16.	North Western	1.07	0.00	1.70	0.00	1.83	0.00	0.45	1.11	5.23	2.55	3.01	0.61
17.	Metro	1.73	0.00	3.23	0.35	0.56	0.82	2.06	0.13	1.45	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		46.45	5.76	61.45	6.73	47.07	8.08	51.14	23.10	99.29	53.13	53.02	18.01

Total expenditure on Escalators from 2013-14 to 2018-19 (upto Nov., 2018) ₹ 358.42 crore.

Total expenditure on Lifts from 2013-14 to 2018-19 (upto Nov., 18) ₹ 114.81 crore.

Modernisation of railway stations

2717. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of railway stations which are modernised by the Railways in the last three years, especially in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana;

(b) the number of stations proposed to be modernised during the current financial year along with details thereof;

(c) the reasons for slow pace of ongoing work with regard to modernisation of railway stations; and

(d) the efforts made to expedite the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) to (d) Upgradation of stations on Indian Railways is a continuous and on-going process. Works for improvement of passenger amenities are undertaken depending upon need, volume of passenger traffic and *inter-se* priority, subject to availability of funds.

‘Adarsh’ Station Scheme has been started since 2009-10 and presently, Railway stations are modernized under ‘Adarsh’ Station Scheme based on identified need of providing better enhanced passenger amenities at stations. Since then, 1253 stations have been identified under this scheme out of which 1065 stations so far have been developed under ‘Adarsh Station Scheme.

32 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in the State of Punjab and 25 stations have been developed so far and the remaining 7 stations are targeted to be developed by 2018-19.

16 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in the State of Haryana and 11 stations have been developed so far and the remaining 5 stations are targeted to be developed by 2018-19.

46 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in the State of Andhra Pradesh and 40 stations have been developed so far and the remaining 6 stations are targeted to be developed by 2018-19.

24 stations have been identified for development under Adarsh Station Scheme in the State of Telangana and 22 stations have been developed so far and the remaining 2 stations are targeted to be developed by 2018-19.

Methodology used in GDP back-series data

2718. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the methodology used and the adjustments made by the Central Statistics Office (CSO) in the GDP back-series data released by them;

(b) the details of the sources of data taken by the CSO to ascertain the revised GDP figures;

(c) the reasons for the reduced growth rates from the years 2006-2012;

(d) whether any role was played by the NITI Aayog while computing the revised GDP figures; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (c) The Central Statistics Office (CSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), while preparing the back-series GDP, adopted the methodology in line with that of 2011-12 Base Year Series, based on the data availability. The 2011-12 base has been aligned with the United Nations (UN) recommendations of System of National Account (SNA)-2008 and this led to a different approach and methodology in treatment of institutional sectors and corresponding estimates. The major changes made in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) calculation method for 2011-12 Base Series are estimation by institutional sectors, valuation of Gross Value Added (GVA) at basic prices, Treatment of quasi corporations as corporations instead of households, Treatment of Central Bank as a non-market enterprise, computation of Financial Intermediation Services Indirectly Measured (FISIM) using Reference Rate method.

Some other changes *inter alia* include use of Enterprise Approach, Modified Labour Input Method, use of Sales tax indicator for unincorporated trade instead of Gross Trading Income (GTI) index, use of sector specific CPIs (Health, Education,

Transport and Communication) instead of Consumer Price Index (CPI) (Industrial Worker (IW) and Agricultural Labourers (AL)) which was only for a segment of population, inclusion of bitumen, glass as basic construction materials etc.

Further, the 2011-12 Series used the latest survey results, data sources and rates and ratios, from the National Sample Survey 68th Round (2011-12) Survey on Employment and Unemployment and Consumer Expenditure, NSS 67th Round (2010-11) Survey on Unincorporated Non-agricultural Enterprises (Excluding Construction), use of Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA-21) database, latest results of Annual Survey of Industries (ASI), Sales Tax, data from Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) and Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), New series of Wholesale Price Index (WPI) and CPI in lieu of CPI-AL/IW etc.

The above changes in the methodology, data sources and coverage used in the compilation of the GDP/GVA series led to changes in the earlier growth rates.

(d) and (e) NITI Aayog is not only a user of macroeconomic indicators but also participates as a member of the Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS), along with other experts from academia, official members, RBI, State Governments etc. The recommendations of the ACNAS is a collective decision and the official estimates were released after approval of the methodology of the back series.

Study to assess benefits of MPLAD scheme

2719. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been undertaken to assess the utility and benefits accrued due to the implementation of Members of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme;

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

(c) the details of funds allocated, spent and unspent under the MPLAD Scheme during last four years and the current year;

(d) the reasons for the unspent funds during the said period;

(e) whether any concrete and innovative efforts have been undertaken to ensure that the funds allocated under MPLAD Scheme are utilized fully; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) and (b) The Ministry undertook third party physical monitoring of the MPLADS works in selected districts through independent agencies viz NABARD Consultancy Services Private Limited (NABCONS) and Agricultural Finance Corporation (AFC) Limited. Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO) of erstwhile Planning Commission had also conducted evaluation of the Scheme.

NABCONS had reported that the MPLAD Scheme is a unique scheme having the characteristic feature of de-centralized development founded on the wide scale application of the principle of participatory development. This has resulted in the creation of fairly good quality assets towards economic and social infrastructure, which has had an overall positive impact on the local economy, social fabric and feasible environment.

AFC in its report reported that about 82% works were in the Rural Areas and 18% works were in the Urban/Semi Urban areas. The share of rural and urban area in aggregate cost was 78% and 22% respectively. It was also reported that the scheme has created various durable community assets which have impacted the social, cultural and economic life of the local community in one way or the other.

PEO in its report *inter alia* mentioned that “The impact of the scheme as felt by the knowledgeable persons and local people indicate that about 65% of the created assets have been rated as good and overwhelming majority of them have opined that the created assets are as per the felt needs and has improved their quality of life.”

(c) The details of funds allocated, spent and unspent under the MPLAD scheme during the last four years and the current year (Up to 30.11.2018) is given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) The funds under MPLADS are non-lapsable, both at the Union Government and District Authority levels *i.e.* the unspent balances of a particular year are utilized in the subsequent year (s). In view of the nature and dynamics of the scheme, the unutilized balances exist which also include interest accrued, as utilization of MPLADS funds in the same financial year is not feasible.

(e) and (f) To maximize the utilization of MPLADS funds simplification of existing procedure for release/sanction of fund/works and identification of new items of work is being carried out from time to time as per the changing need of the local communities and is an ongoing process.

Statement

Details of funds allocated, spent and unspent under the MPLAD scheme during the last four years and the current year (Upto 30.11.2018)

Year wise position for MPLADS from 2014-15 to 30.11.2018

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Released by G.O.I.	Expenditure Incurred	Unspent Balance
1.	2014-15	3350.00	2634.94	4857.51
2.	2015-16	3502.00	3624.78	4950.34
3.	2016-17	3499.50	3906.36	5029.31
4.	2017-18	3504.00	4076.29	4877.71
5.	2018-30.11.2018	2702.00	3331.74	4480.14
GRAND TOTAL		16557.50	17574.11	

Note: Allocation for each year for the above year is ₹ 3950.00 crore.

**Millennium Development Goals and progress report
of Twenty Point Programmes**

2720. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any Twenty Point Programme (TPP) and when was this programme last updated and progress report last published;

(b) whether this programme has any priorities to achieve the Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations, if so, the details of priority programmes;

(c) the programmes implemented by Government towards achieving the Millennium Development Goal of poverty eradication, achieving universal primary education and improving maternal health, the data and progress report of last four years in achieving these goals; and

(d) the present rank or status of India globally in achieving Millennium Development Goals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI VIJAY GOEL): (a) to (d) Twenty Point Programme (TPP) was last restructured in 2006 and the latest progress report for the period April, 2017-March, 2018 was published in September, 2018. The details of the programmes and achievement made by the Government in the area of the

Millennium Development Goals of poverty eradication, achieving universal primary education and improving maternal health, had been published in the publication “Millennium Development Goals-Final Country Report of India, 2017” which is on the website of the Ministry. The information regarding present rank or status of India globally in achieving Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) is not maintained by the Ministry. The United Nations have a website for monitoring the MDGs progress status by country and regional grouping. The Millennium Development Goals of the United Nations were eight international development goals that were to be achieved by 2015. The United Nations have since adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved by member countries by 2030. The SDGs comprise 17 goals, 169 targets and around 232 global indicators. Government has prepared the National Indicator Framework for monitoring SDGs in consultation with Central Ministries and Departments. NITI Aayog is responsible for implementation of SDGs and mapping of the Central Sector Schemes to the SDGs. They have recently released an SDG India Index Baseline Report 2018 and a Dashboard on the Index.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at thirty minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PRIVATE MEMBERS' RESOLUTIONS†

Bringing suitable legislation for welfare of widows in the country

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I want to make a humble request. Some of the Members, who had given their names to participate in the debate on this Resolution, could not speak because of the din in the House the other day. They want to speak on this Resolution. They are all very learned Members. I think, their inputs can be very much helpful for this Resolution.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, श्री तिरुची शिवा का यह प्राइवेट रिजॉल्यूशन बहुत ही संवेदनशील और मानवीय मुद्दे से जुड़ा है। हम लोग इस विषय को दिनांक 10-08-2018 को, यानी इससे पहले भी एक बार डिसकस कर चुके हैं और पुनः दिनांक 21-12-2018 पर हम लोगों ने इस पर चर्चा की और जितना निर्धारित समय था, उससे अधिक ले चुके हैं। जो मौजूदा व्यवस्था है, उसके तहत अब हम इस बहस को आगे चलाएंगे और माननीय मंत्री से मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि वे अपना जवाब दे रहे थे, उसे वे पूरा करें।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: उपसभापति महोदय, यह बहुत ही संवेदनशील मुद्दा है।...(व्यवधान)...

† Further discussion continued from 10th August 2018, and 21st December, 2018.

श्री उपसभापति: आप बोल चुके हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय मंत्री जी, आप अपना जवाब पूरा करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आपसे अपील करना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर थोड़ा समय और दे दें। पिछली बार जब इस पर बहस चल रही थी, तब हाउस डिस्टर्ब्ड था, बहुत शोर था। उस समय बात नहीं हो पाई थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, कृपया आप अपनी बात बोलें। आप कंटीन्यू करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; तथा अल्पसंख्यक कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार): माननीय उपसभापति जी, ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: यह बहुत संवेदनशील मुद्दा है, इसलिए मैं आग्रह करूंगा कि कृपया आप बैठ जाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़, आप बैठ जाएं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मंत्री जी, कृपया आप बोलें और अपनी बात कंटीन्यू करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: सभापति जी, उस दिन हमने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर चर्चा प्रारम्भ की थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: सिर्फ मंत्री जी की बात के अलावा और किसी की बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... माननीय मंत्री जी, आप अपनी बात जारी रखें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: महोदय, माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्देशों के अनुपालन के लिए पूरे देश में विधवाओं के कल्याण के लिए काफी प्रभावी कदम उठाए गए हैं। उसमें सभी राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों में जिला स्तर पर एक विधवा सेल बनाने, जिला एवं राज्य स्तर पर उनके निरीक्षणों के निर्देश जारी कर दिए गए हैं। विधवा सेल में विधवाओं के पंजीकरण, डॉक्युमेंट्स के डॉक्युमेंटेशन, शिकायत निवारण हेल्पलाइन और हेल्प डेस्क, आश्रय स्थल, स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं एवं कानूनी मदद, काउंसिलिंग, जीवन निर्वाह, गृह योजनाओं, बच्चों तथा विधवाओं की संपत्ति के संरक्षण की जिम्मेदारी और अन्य जिलों के जो विधवा सेल हैं, उनसे भी तालमेल कर के, राज्य व राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर विधवा कल्याण के लिए प्रबन्ध किए गए हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ ...**(व्यवधान)**... विधवाओं सहित सुधार गृह के सभी लाभार्थियों को ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: मंत्री जी, एक मिनट रुकिए।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I have a point of order. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order?

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, I have a point of order under Rule 239. It says, "When, for the purposes of explanation during discussion or for any other sufficient reason, any Member has occasion to ask a question of another Member on any matter then under the consideration of the Council, he shall ask the question through the Chairman."

Sir, can I be allowed to proceed?

श्री उपसभापति: अभी नहीं।

दरअसल, माननीय सदस्य का प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर इस मामले से जुड़ा हुआ नहीं है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस पर हम लोग दो बार चर्चा कर चुके हैं। मैंने इस बारे में आपको बताया और स्पष्ट किया कि इस चर्चा को हम आगे बढ़ाएंगे। माननीय मंत्री जी अपना जवाब दें।

Point of order is not allowed

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मंत्रालय ने विधवाओं सहित सुधार गृह के सभी लाभार्थियों का डेटा बेस्ड एमआईएस विकसित किया है। इसमें लाभार्थी विधवाओं के स्वास्थ्य कारण, वित्तीय और अन्य बातों के लिए एक सुरक्षित डिजिटल फाइल भी तैयार की गई है। भारत के जो रजिस्ट्रार जनरल हैं, उनसे भी अनुरोध किया गया है कि राज्य सरकारों को आवश्यक निर्देश जारी किया गया है कि विधवाओं का नाम, उनके पति के मृत्यु प्रमाणपत्र पर अनिवार्य रूप से लिखा जाएगा। राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्र शासित प्रदेशों को यह निर्देश भी जारी कर दिया गया है ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं सभी माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह करूंगा कि वे कृपया अपना-अपना स्थान ग्रहण करें। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: उपसभापति महोदय, पहले अन्य संस्थाओं द्वारा विधवाओं के लिए जो पैसा एकत्रित किया जाता था, वह अब विधवा सेल के जरिए एकत्रित किया जाएगा। इस तरह से उस राशि का उपयोग विधवाओं के कल्याण के लिए होगा। मंत्रालय महिला पुलिस स्वयं सेवी योजनाओं के जरिए विधवाओं पर हिंसा, बेदखली, धमकी की रिपोर्ट ...(व्यवधान)... पुलिस को देती है। इसके अलावा उनमें जागरूकता उत्पन्न करने के लिए भी उस तरह के अभियान को आगे बढ़ाया जाएगा।

महोदय, महिला हेल्पलाइन 181 के साथ ही साथ जो हिंसा पीड़ित महिला होती है, ऐसी सभी हिंसा उत्पीड़न की शिकार महिलाओं के लिए वन स्टाफ सेंटर के माध्यम से भी शिकायत निवारण प्रकोष्ठ प्रारंभ किया गया है।

महोदय, स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं के लिए स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय ने राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य सुरक्षा योजना, राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना, आयुष्मान योजना के माध्यम से विधवाओं को स्वास्थ्य योजनाओं का लाभ दिलाने की पहल की गई है।

इसके साथ ही साथ नालसा और डालसा के माध्यम से जो सुधार गृह हैं, वे राज्य सरकार के हैं, इनके सभी लाभार्थियों को कानूनी मदद देने की पहल हुई। नालसा के माध्यम से जो राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण है, उसके माध्यम से सुधार गृह और आश्रय गृह की विधवा महिलाओं को कानूनी मदद देने की पहल की गई है। इसके साथ ही साथ डालसा ने विधवाओं के लिए एक समर्पित कानूनी सलाह, वकील इत्यादि की भी व्यवस्था की है। इसके साथ ही साथ उनके पुनर्वास के लिए, उनके परिवारों से उन्हें दुबारा मिलाने के लिए भी पहल प्रारंभ की गई है।

महोदय, कौशल विकास मंत्रालय और उद्यमिता विकास मंत्रालय से यह अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे विधवाओं के कौशल विकास के लिए आवश्यक कदम उठाएं।

[डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार]

महोदय, आवास और शहरी मंत्रालय के ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय से यह अनुरोध किया गया है कि विभिन्न एजेंसियों से तालमेल करके, उन्हें प्रशिक्षण देकर रोजगार और बाजार में समन्वय स्थापित करने की व्यवस्था की जाए। राज्य सरकारों से और केंद्र शासित प्रदेशों से यह अनुरोध किया गया है कि वे माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय के निर्देशों का पालन करें। इसके साथ ही साथ ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: हमारे उद्यमिता मंत्रालय और प्रशिक्षण विकास मंत्रालय ...**(व्यवधान)**... कौशल विकास के जो ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्रशिक्षण हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... उन कौशल विकास केंद्रों के माध्यम से हमारे ऐसी सारी विधवा बहनों के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्रशिक्षण देने के बाद राष्ट्रीय महिला कोष ...**(व्यवधान)**... और बैंकों के माध्यम से वित्तीय ऋण उपलब्ध कराकर उनको अपना स्वयं का काम प्रारंभ करने के लिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... मदद की जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: उपसभापति जी ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार: ये सारे के सारे प्रयास मंत्रालय द्वारा किए गए हैं। सर, मैं समझता हूं कि माननीय सदस्य की जो भावनाएं हैं, उन भावनाओं का इसमें समावेश हो गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मंत्रालय ने एक प्रयोग के तौर पर मथुरा, वृंदावन में एक विधवा आश्रम की पहल की है। यह काफी अच्छा विधवा गृह बनाया गया है। इसमें पंच सितारा होटल के जैसी सारी सुविधाओं की व्यवस्था की गई है। यह विधवा गृह तीन मंजिला है, जिसमें रैंप भी बनाया गया है, जिसमें लिफ्ट भी लगाई गई है, जिसमें चिकित्सा की व्यवस्थाएं, कानूनी मदद आदि की सारी व्यवस्थाएं वहां रखी गई हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि यह प्रयोग पूरी तरह से और अच्छा होने के बाद, बाकी राज्यों में भी, जहां पर संभावना होगी, बाकी राज्य सरकारों से प्रस्ताव आने पर, वहां पर भी इस तरह के विधवा गृह प्रारंभ करने की पहल की जाएगी। मैं माननीय सदस्य से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि उन्होंने इस बिल के माध्यम से जिस तरह की अपेक्षाएं की हैं, उन अपेक्षाओं के अनुरूप सरकार इस दिशा में काफी प्रभावी कदम उठा रही है, अतः मैं उनसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि वे इस संकल्प को वापिस लेने की पहल करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiruchi Siva, now you can put your points.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have raised a very important social issue. Members from almost all the political parties have supported it because it is not regarding one political party or one section of the society. Sir, some Members who are very learned and experienced, they wanted to share their views on this debate. The other day, when the debate was about to take place, there was a very big din and pandemonium in the House. You adjourned the House later. But, Sir, in the meantime, since they could not speak in that din, you called the next speaker, and lastly the House was adjourned. So, the other Members, like Jaya Bachchanji, K.T.S. Tulsiji, Jairam Rameshji, many other Members, who are very much experienced could have added much more to the debate to the help of the Government only.

But their views have not been heard. We are very sorry for that. Of course, we are very much aware of the time constraint. But, at the same time, this House is meant for debate. We have come here to express our views on behalf of the people. It is a matter of giving only two or three minutes, and, I think, it will not cost much when we have been wasting too many number of days for no reason. So, I would humbly say that it would have been a matter of half-an-hour or fifteen minutes only.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Can I say something? तिरुची शिवा जी, हम लोगों ने इसको दो बार discuss किया है। On 10th August, 2018, four hon. Members participated in the discussion, and, on 21st December, 2018, I requested all the Members to speak. Already, two of them have spoken. *...(Interruptions)...* Please continue with your speech, Mr. Siva.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, it was a din and we just wanted to express our sentiments and feelings. That is all. We wanted to listen to them, and, of course, their contribution would have expressed the real situation of the widows in the country.

Sir, the Minister's reply was not convincing. He has said that an ashram is there in Vrindavan. I think, many of the Members, who are from Uttar Pradesh, are very well aware, how many widows are there in Vrindavan.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Sir, the situation is pathetic in Vrindavan.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It must be around a lakh. So many widows are stranded there. They do not have livelihood. The Government is paying only 200 rupees per month. It is only six rupees per day. How can a person live on six rupees per day?

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): The State Government of Tamil Nadu is giving... *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It is persuading some State Governments. One or two State Governments are coming up like the State Government of Tamil Nadu but it is not so in all the States. So, what is that the Central Government has to do, and, this is what we intend to discuss here. So, Sir, after having heard the Minister's reply, I would like to place on record my views.

According to Census 2011 data, India has over five crore widows. This is the largest population of widows in any country in the world. Our Government policy has largely ignored the specific concerns faced by widows. Such exclusion given the numbers can prove costly for a significant section of our society. When a woman is married, she leaves her own family to start a new life with the family of her husband. After her husband's death, the widow is treated as an outcast. Basic human rights are taken away from her. She is stripped off any inheritance from her husband's family. Husband's family members often ill-treat or even abandon her. Disowned by

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her natal home, many widows are forced to beg to make ends meet. A widow is made to give up her identity and live the rest of her life in shame.

Sir, as I said, widows from 18 years of age up to the age of 70 or 75 years are there on the streets in Vrindavan. From West Bengal, from Uttar Pradesh and from many parts of the country, they just bring the widows, leave them there and go back. Imagine a girl begging in the streets? How she will be looked at?

SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR (Uttar Pradesh): It is a human crisis, Sir.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Yes, it is a human crisis. We are living in a civilized society and we call ourselves a democratic country, a republic country but we do not have laws in place. No legislation is there for this weaker section. No legislation, no law for these people who are disowned by their own families. What for is the Government? This is the question which compelled me to bring in this Resolution. Sir, widows are rarely able to break away from the strongly embedded cultural norms they face. Many communities even tonsure their heads once they lose their husband. They may be young or old, how sad it is. Even after losing his spouse, a man is enjoying everything in the society whereas the woman is being disgraced and ill-treated. All sort of shame is thrust on her shoulders. So, Sir, something has to be done. We are doing this and that. We call ourselves a developed country. We are sending satellites to space but we are leaving the humans in our country on the streets. What is it? Sir, before sending satellites and feeling proud of the same, we have to take care of the humans who are living in our country. That should be our main objective.

Under such circumstances, the mental as well as physical health of the widows takes a toll. The Minister of Rural Development introduced the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme. As I said earlier, it is only 200 rupees per month and it is given to the widows in the age group of 40 to 64 years. It also specifies some income norms. It says that they are eligible only if the income is less than 32 rupees on the rural side, and, less than 47 rupees on the urban side. If they earn 35 rupees per day, they are not eligible for this pension in the rural side. So, I insist that this pension scheme must be universal. There should be no norms like income, rural, urban or anything like that. A widow is a widow. You cannot brand them as to which caste they belong to or which economic criterion applies to them. A widow is being outcast not only by the family but also by the society. The Government should not have slabs or norms. It must be made universal.

Besides the lack of pension, widows also face hardship in receiving their entitlements, because they are unable to prove that their husband has died. Mentioning

the name of widow in the death certificate of the man should be made compulsory to help her access her entitlements. Moreover, couples should be encouraged to include the name of the wife into the title of her husband's land and property. This will safeguard and protect the widow after the death of her husband.

It is reassuring to see that a new shelter home has been set up for widows in Vrindavan which has facilities for only 1,000 widows. As statistics say, there are about more than one lakh. Everyone knows that. Those from Uttar Pradesh and even Jaya Bachchanji and many others who are acquainted with that know this. They have made shelter home for only 1,000 widows. However, merely setting up these shelter homes is not enough. It is important to ensure that a regulatory mechanism is set up to periodically monitor the functioning of such homes. The Government should be held accountable for the mechanism to identify beneficiaries, provide residential care to them and deploy staff as per norms with prescribed qualification and experience. Assistance should be extended to ensure proper psychological counseling, other health care amenities and legal aid services.

Merely providing social security net to widows is not sufficient. The approach of the Government should be geared towards enabling them to build their lives. If you give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. But if you teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime. Skill development programmes would help build financial independence and productivity. This would eliminate the vicious cycle of vulnerability, deprivation and poverty. Vocational training programmes may be initiated in various areas, including tailoring, garment making and packaging. Such skill development initiatives need to be scaled up by the Government to every nook and corner of the country. Ensuring access to credit and promoting Self-Help Groups would also encourage widows to create spaces to organize and develop their own strategies for change. Further, widows should also be allowed to sit for competitive examinations for jobs in Government and PSUs for which the age limit restrictions should be relaxed.

Widows in India do not enjoy any sense of care, belongingness and understanding. Grappling with loneliness, neglect and shame, we must care for them and extend our assistance. The approach of the Government to address the challenges faced by the widows needs to be more holistic which we are lacking now. It is important to not merely feed them, but to ensure that they are able to stand on their own feet. The Government must shift the welfare approach to widows to that of empowerment, to reform and enable the widows to live a more dignified and fulfilled life.

Sir, when I introduced this Resolution, at the outset itself, I mentioned that I belong to that Dravidian Movement founded by our late Periyar. He was the first man to raise voice for the widows. When he initiated the self-respect marriage movement, the marriage he presided over was the marriage of a widow. Later when

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Arignar Anna, the founder leader of DMK Party, and our Leader Dr. Kalaignar came to power, they enacted so many laws for the welfare of widows.

In Tamil Nadu, we can say with pride that widows are enjoying all facilities or privileges because of the Government. Some other Governments also have some legislations in place or some welfare schemes. But what is the Central Government doing as a part of the whole of the country? When you are taking away the rights of the States on many other issues, on such social issues, the Government should take up many things. The Minister has not given an assurance even. He has elaborated saying that the Government has done this and that, but we are not contented. We want the widows to live a dignified life in the society and for that we need a legislation in place. For the welfare of widows, a law has to be in place.

Sir, I insist that the Resolution must be adopted.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री महोदय, यह पूरे समाज का बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण और संवेदनशील मुद्दा है। इसके संबंध में पूरे सदन की फीलिंग्स भी आपने देखीं और चूंकि तिरुची शिवा जी ने बहुत विस्तार से बताया है, इसलिए आपका काम उनको यह बताना कि आपकी स्कीम्स क्या हैं। मैं यह रिकॉर्ड स्ट्रेट करने के लिए कहना चाहूंगा कि अगर समय होता और परम्परा एवं कानून होते, तो मैं और लोगों को भी बोलने का आग्रह करता, क्योंकि यह बहुत ही संवेदनशील और महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा है। तिरुची शिवा जी ने जो कहा, यदि आप अपने जवाब के माध्यम से कुछ और कहना चाहें, तो यह आप और वे तय करें, नहीं तो मैं प्रोसेस में आगे जाऊंगा।

महिला एवं बाल विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. वीरेन्द्र कुमार): महोदय, माननीय सदस्य के द्वारा जो बात रखी गयी है, मैंने अपने उद्बोधन में उनमें से बहुत सारे बिन्दुओं को उल्लेखित किया है। सरकार के द्वारा किये जा रहे कामों के बारे में बताया है। सरकार विधवाओं के कल्याण के लिए जो-जो स्कीम्स लेकर आ रही है, चाहे उनके कौशल विकास की बात हो, उनकी कानूनी मदद की बात हो, उनकी चिकित्सा सुविधाओं की बात हो या उनके पति के मृत्यु प्रमाण पत्र में उनका नाम जोड़े जाने की बात हो, ताकि उनके बीमा क्लेम, पॉलिसी, बैंक तथा सम्पत्ति के सम्बन्ध में भी उनको मदद मिल सके। सरकार हर तरीके से विधवाओं के कल्याण के लिए प्रयासरत है। मैं आपसे अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि आप इस संकल्प को वापस लेने की कृपा करें।

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, it is not holistic. ...*(Interruptions)*... Whatever they are doing is not holistic. They are still lacking. As I said, even the pension scheme has slabs and many other things are there. It is not sufficient. That is why we need a legislation. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Tiruchi Siva, are you withdrawing the Resolution or should I put it to vote?

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, I am not withdrawing. Please put it to vote.

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): Tiruchiji, the House agrees with your suggestions — the Government also. So, I want to request you to please withdraw it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): You should pass it unanimously. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Deputy Chairman, through you, I request the Government to pass it unanimously. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Does he have the leave of the House to withdraw the Resolution? ...(Interruptions)... The Resolution is withdrawn. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: No, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, this is not a political issue. ...(Interruptions)... If they vote against it, the Government will be exposed. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Resolution to vote. ...(Interruptions)... Let the lobbies be cleared. ...(Interruptions)... The process has started to clear the lobbies. ...(Interruptions)... Please keep quiet. ...(Interruptions)... प्लीज़ आप सब बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... Let the lobbies be cleared. ...(Interruptions)... आप सब बैठ जाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... डिवीज़न बेल बज रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... Let the lobbies be cleared. ...(Interruptions)... लॉबीज़ क्लियर हो रही हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप सब कृपया अपनी जगह पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... लॉबीज़ क्लियर हो रही हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... अपनी जगह पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... भूपेन्द्र जी, मैं आग्रह करूँगा कि आप अपनी जगह पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... भूपेन्द्र जी, आप अपनी जगह पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... आप कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगहों पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... आप प्लीज़ अपनी जगह पर बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, the Members who are not here are being allowed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Sir, this is not...(Interruptions)...

SHRI JAVED ALI KHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: नो पॉइंट ऑफ आर्डर। आप कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगह बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... No, no. ...(Interruptions)... कृपया आपस में बात न करें। ...(व्यवधान)... No point of order. चेयर के अलावा कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)... साढ़े तीन मिनट तक bell बजती है ताकि माननीय सदस्य सदन में आ सकें। ...(व्यवधान)... आप कृपया बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)... The Secretary-General will now explain the voting procedure. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Sir, let the lobbies be cleared. ...(Interruptions)...

3.00 P.M.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Lobbies are cleared. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please sit down. The Secretary-General will now explain the voting procedure. ...(*Interruptions*)... आप कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगह बैठिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)... राकेश जी, कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...(**व्यवधान**)... कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगहों पर जाकर बैठिए। ...(**व्यवधान**)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:—

"Having regard to the fact that:—

- (i) according to the Census of 2011, the population of widows in India is 4,32,61,278 which accounts for 7.37 per cent of the female population in India, which is the largest population of widows in the entire world;
- (ii) widowhood in India is not an ideal social condition and remarriage of widows is a rare phenomenon as widows in India face problems on economic, social, legal and health fronts;
- (iii) most of the widowed women do not have any formal training or education and as a result they are not able to find any employment to earn their livelihood and the conditions are worse for those widows who belong to the unorganised sector, which constitutes 70 per cent of India's population;
- (iv) customs in the Indian society are still engrained in age old practices where death of the husband is a social phenomenon in the society which affects every aspect of the life of the widow and many of them suffer a social death;
- (v) the old structures of joint family are being transformed into new structures of nuclear family which are not able to support the widows as around 72 per cent of the female population above the age of 60 years is dependent population;
- (vi) around 60 per cent of the population of widows is in the age group of 70-74 years, who require appropriate health care facilities, but contrary to that healthcare of widows is considered as a taboo and they do not have access to basic healthcare;
- (vii) widows are given property rights under the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, but most widows are unaware of these rights and they suffer from the conflicts for the inheritance of property;
- (viii) a study conducted by the National Commission for Women in 2016 on the condition of widows in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal stated that 84 per cent of women who live in Swadhar Greh homes had no access to any family property and 15 per cent had no access because their children or other family members had taken away the property;

- (ix) religious places like Vrindavan, Mathura, Varanasi, etc., have become home for a large number of destitute widows from all around the country who have been left by their kiths and kins and are solely dependent on the state for their food and shelter and do not have any means of livelihood;
- (x) currently the Central Government does not have any specific scheme for the welfare of widows except for the Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme whereas Swadhar Greh Scheme and Short Stay Home Scheme are not specifically meant for widows and cater to all categories of destitute women; and
- (xi) there is no specific law or scheme addressing needs of the widows in the country, despite the fact that it has the largest population of widows in the entire world which must be recognised as a special category of destitute women, as they suffer from mental trauma and social pressures, this House urges upon the Government to:—
 - (a) bring a suitable legislation for the welfare of the widows in the country, which is able to address their social security needs;
 - (b) extend adequate financial assistance at par with current living standards to the destitute widows;
 - (c) frame a policy that enables widows to get appropriate legal aid and health care;
 - (d) initiate awareness programmes to make people more sensitive to the social pressures faced by widows in the country; and
 - (e) conduct a relevant study regarding the condition of the widows in the country and use the study report to take necessary steps for their welfare."

The House Divided.

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया शांति बनाए रखें।...(व्यवधान)... कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ... (व्यवधान)... यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। ... (व्यवधान)... मिस्टर नीरज शेखर, कृपया आप बैठें। ... (व्यवधान)... राकेश जी, कृपया आप बैठें। ... (व्यवधान)... Mr. Tiruchi Siva. ... (Interruptions)... Shri Tiruchi Siva. ... (Interruptions)... राकेश जी, प्लीज बैठिए। ... (व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ayes: 25

Noes: 38

Ayes — 25

Bachchan, Shrimati Jaya

Bhattacharya, Shri P.

Chandrashekhar, Shri G. C.

Hariprasad, Shri B. K.

Jha, Prof. Manoj Kumar

Kalita, Shri Bhubaneswar

Ketkar, Shri Kumar

Khan, Shri Javed Ali

Khan, Shri Mohd. Ali

Nagar, Shri Surendra Singh

Ragesh, Shri K. K.

Ramamurthy, Shri K. C.

Ramesh, Shri Jairam

Rangarajan, Shri T.K.

Selja, Kumari

Seth, Shri Sanjay

Shekhar, Shri Neeraj

Siva, Shri Tiruchi

Somaprasad, Shri K.

Tamta, Shri Pradeep

Tulsi, Shri K.T.S.

Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash

Verma, Shrimati Chhaya

Viswam, Shri Binoy

Yajnik, Dr. Amee

Noes — 38

Agrawal, Dr. Anil

Alphons, Shri K. J.

Bajpai, Dr. Ashok

Dudi, Shri Ram Narain

Dungarpur, Shri Harshvardhan Singh

Ganguly, Shrimati Roopa

Goel, Shri Vijay

Gohel, Shri Chunibhai Kanjibhai

Hanumanthaiah, Dr. L.
Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan
Judev, Shri Ranvijay Singh
Kardam, Shrimati Kanta
Mahatme, Dr. Vikas
Mansingh, Dr. Sonal
Muraleedharan, Shri V.
Naqvi, Shri Mukhtar Abbas
Oraon, Shri Samir
Panchariya, Shri Narayan Lal
Poddar, Shri Mahesh
Prasad, Shri Ravi Shankar
Puri, Shri Hardeep Singh
Rajbhar, Shri Sakaldeep
Rao, Shri G.V.L. Narasimha
Rupala, Shri Parshottam
Sable, Shri Amar Shankar
Shakal, Shri Ram
Singh, Shri Ajay Pratap
Sinha, Shri R. K.
Soni, Shri Kailash
Subhash Chandra, Dr.
Suresh Gopi, Shri
Tomar, Shri Vijay Pal Singh
Tundiya, Mahant Shambhuprasadji
Vadodia, Shri Lal Sinh
Vats, Dr. D. P.
Verma, Shri Ramkumar
Yadav, Shri Bhupender
Yadav, Shri Harnath Singh

The motion was negatived.

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया लॉबी ओपन करें।

इसके पहले कि मैं दूसरे Resolution पर चर्चा करूँ, मैं पुनः स्पष्ट कर देना चाहूँगा कि घंटी बजने के साढ़े तीन मिनट तक सदस्य अंदर आ सकते हैं।

Adoption of new methods of implementing reservation benefits

Now, Dr. Vikas Mahatme to move a Resolution urging the Government to adopt a new method of implementing reservation policies, namely the "Weighted Indexing System" and appoint a Commission to determine the criteria for assessing backwardness, create a statistical formula to determine the Weighted Indexing System score for every individual; and ensure reservation benefits for SCs, STs and OBCs in Central Government Institutions. आप अपना Resolution मूव करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कृपया टिप्पणी न करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह कोई तरीका नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कृपया आप अपनी सीट पर बैठें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कोई बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री नीरज शेखर (उत्तर प्रदेश): *

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित संकल्प उपस्थित करता हूँ:—

"इस तथ्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए कि—

- (i) सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के रोजगार तथा केन्द्र सरकार से सहायता प्राप्त शिक्षण संस्थानों में स्वतंत्रता प्राप्ति के समय से ही सर्वाधिक पिछड़े, वंचित तथा सीमांत पर रहे समूहों के उत्थान और लाभ के लिए आरक्षण एवं सकारात्मक कार्यक्रमों के लाभों के उपयोग के बारे में नीतियाँ मौजूद हैं जिससे अनुसूचित जातियों (एससी) के लिए 15%, अनुसूचित जनजातियों (एसटी) के लिए 7.5% तथा अन्य पिछड़ा वर्गों (ओबीसी) के लिए 27% आरक्षण का प्रावधान है।
- (ii) भारत में आरक्षण से होने वाले लाभों के लंबे इतिहास के बावजूद, इस नीति को क्रियान्वित करने की वर्तमान पद्धति सर्वाधिक वंचित समूहों को समाज की मुख्यधारा में शामिल करने में असफल रही है और इस पद्धति ने, ऐसे समूहों में, जिन्हें आरक्षण के पर्याप्त लाभ नहीं मिल सके हैं, असंतोष की भावना को पैदा किया है;
- (iii) अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के उप-वर्गीकरण की जांच हेतु आयोग द्वारा तैयार किए गए परामर्श पत्र, जिसे विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों की रिपोर्ट में उद्धृत किया गया है तथा जो गत पांच वर्षों के दौरान ओबीसी कोटा के अंतर्गत दी गई 1.3 लाख केन्द्रीय सरकार की नौकरियों तथा गत तीन वर्षों में केन्द्रीय उच्च शिक्षण संस्थानों में ओबीसी के हुए दाखिलों पर आधारित है, के अनुसार अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के लिए केन्द्रीय स्तर पर मौजूद सभी आरक्षण लाभों का लगभग 97%, केवल लगभग 25% ओबीसी समूहों द्वारा लिया गया है तथा 37% ओबीसी समूहों को कोई भी प्रतिनिधित्व प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है;

- (iv) उसी रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, 994 ओबीसी समुदायों ने केवल 2.68% लाभ ही प्राप्त किए हैं, जबकि 10 ओबीसी समुदायों ने नौकरियों तथा दाखिलों का 24.95% तक लाभ प्राप्त किया है;
- (v) कुछ ऐसे विशिष्ट समुदाय हैं जैसे कि यादव, कुर्मी, जाट, सैनी, थेवर, एझावा, वोक्कालिगा, जिन्होंने अन्य समूहों की कीमत पर आरक्षण का सर्वाधिक लाभ अर्जित किया है;
- (vi) अस्पृश्यता की क्रूर परंपरा के उन्मूलन के बावजूद, अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों में पक्षपात और भेदभाव अभी भी बना हुआ है तथा केन्द्र सरकार की नौकरियों तथा शैक्षणिक संस्थानों में यद्यपि उन्हें आरक्षण प्रदान किया गया है, सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के रोजगार तथा केन्द्रीय शैक्षणिक संस्थाओं में अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों का प्रतिनिधित्व अभी भी कम है; यह सभा सरकार से आग्रह करती है कि वह:-
- (क) स्वीकार करे कि आरक्षण नीतियों को क्रियान्वित करने की वर्तमान पद्धति त्रुटिपूर्ण है क्योंकि इस नीति में यह माना जाता है कि अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति या अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग के रूप में वर्गीकृत प्रत्येक समूह और व्यक्ति समान रूप से पिछड़ा तथा वंचित है जो कि सच नहीं है और हम लगातार असमानों को समान मान रहे हैं;
- (ख) "भारित सूचिकरण प्रणाली" नामक आरक्षण के लाभों को क्रियान्वित करने की नई पद्धति को अपनाए, जिसमें प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के पिछड़ेपन का मूल्यांकन करने के लिए संगत सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक मानदंड को ध्यान में रखकर आरक्षण को प्राथमिकता दी जाएगी और आरक्षण लाभों के मौजूदा प्रतिशत अथवा अनुसूचित जाति, अनुसूचित जनजाति या अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग में जातियों की सूची में कोई परिवर्तन किए बिना प्रत्येक व्यक्ति को एक अंक प्रदान किया जाएगा।
- (ग) आयोग की नियुक्ति करे जिसका प्रमुख कार्य पिछड़ेपन का मूल्यांकन करने हेतु मानदंड का निर्धारण करना होगा, जिसमें माता-पिता की शैक्षणिक योग्यता (साक्षर, निरक्षर आदि), पारिवारिक पृष्ठभूमि, लिंग, निवास का स्थान (ग्रामीण या शहरी) शामिल होंगे परन्तु इसका कार्य यहीं तक सीमित नहीं होगा और प्रत्येक व्यक्ति के लिए भारित सूचिकरण प्रणाली के अंक का निर्धारण करने के लिए एक सांख्यिकीय सूत्र तैयार करना होगा।
- (घ) उक्त आयोग को अन्य संबंधित कार्य सौंपे जैसे कि केन्द्रीय सरकारी संस्थानों में अनुसूचित जातियों, जनजातियों और अन्य पिछड़े वर्ग के लिए आरक्षित सभी पदों को सर्वाधिक पात्र व्यक्तियों द्वारा भरा जाना और भारित सूचिकरण प्रणाली अंक के आधार पर व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध भेदभाव पूर्ण व्यवहार को रोका जाना सुनिश्चित किया जाना;
- (ङ) यह देखने के लिए कि क्या भारित सूचिकरण प्रणाली प्रभावी ढंग से क्रियान्वित की जा रही है और यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि पिछड़ेपन के आकलन का

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

मानदंड शिथिल हो, व्यक्तियों और समुदायों के पिछड़ेपन की जांच करने के लिए नियमित अंतराल पर सर्वेक्षण कराए ताकि विद्यमान सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्थितियों के आधार पर उसमें बदलाव किया जा सके।

उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे Private Members' Resolution के बारे में अपने विचार रखने का मौका दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सबको बताना चाहूंगा कि मैं जब भी आरक्षण शब्द का उच्चारण करता हूँ, तो सबको लगता है कि मैं किसी धनगर आरक्षण के बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन इस बार मैं धनगर आरक्षण के अलावा दूसरे मुद्दे पर आरक्षण की प्रणाली पर बात करने वाला हूँ और उसके बारे में मैं अपने विचार रखने वाला हूँ।

सर, यदि हम इतिहास देखेंगे, तो हमें यह पता चलेगा कि महाराष्ट्र से राजा छत्रपति शाहू महाराज जी ने उस वक्त आरक्षण की शुरुआत की थी, जब देश में और कहीं भी आरक्षण शुरू नहीं था। उपसभापति महोदय, वैसे ही बाद में अंग्रेजों ने भी आरक्षण का प्रावधान किया था, लेकिन परम पूज्य आदरणीय डा. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी ने इसे संवैधानिक रूप दिया, सामाजिक न्याय की भूमिका रखी और जन-जागृति की।

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया आपस में बात न करें।...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विकास महात्मे: मान्यवर, उस वजह से पूरे भारतवर्ष में सभी सामाजिक न्याय की भूमिका ले रहे हैं। सामाजिक न्याय की भूमिका हमारे प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी अपने एक्शन के जरिए, अपनी कृति के जरिए सभी के सामने रख रहे हैं। इसमें हम यह कह सकते हैं कि Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Amendment Bill 2018 आया था और पास हो गया, उसी प्रकार ओबीसी कमीशन को constitutional status भी हमारे बीजेपी पक्ष और मोदी जी ने दिया है। यानि, सामाजिक न्याय की भूमिका बहुत ज़ोरों से शुरू हुई है, अच्छी शुरुआत हो रही है। हमारे यहां बाला साहेब देवरस जी ने कहा था कि if untouchability is not criminal or wrong, nothing in this world will be wrong or criminal.

सर, संविधान में आरक्षण कुछ ही सालों के लिए रखा गया था, लेकिन हम सभी को पता है कि हम इसे बढ़ा रहे हैं, क्योंकि अभी तक उसका जो सामाजिक न्याय का उद्देश्य था, जो भेदभाव खत्म होना चाहिए था, वह अभी तक हुआ नहीं है और इसकी आज भी बहुत जरूरत है। मैं आपको यह बताना चाहूंगा कि मैं सामाजिक न्याय के लिए एजुकेशनली बैकवर्ड और सोशली बैकवर्ड को आरक्षण देने वाली लिस्ट में बदलाव नहीं चाहता हूँ, वैसे ही मैं आरक्षण के कोटे में भी बदलाव नहीं चाह रहा हूँ, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस आरक्षण का मूल उद्देश्य यह था, यह है कि जो भी व्यक्ति सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक दृष्टि से पिछड़ा है, उसे इस आरक्षण का लाभ मिलना चाहिए, वह जनरल प्रवाह में आना चाहिए, उसे समान संधि मिलनी चाहिए, यह इसका उद्देश्य है, लेकिन मैं यह सबसे पूछना चाहूंगा कि क्या आज भी यह उद्देश्य पूरी तरह से सफल हुआ है? यह सभी को पता है और यह मैं अपने अनुभव से कथन कर सकता हूँ, मैं अपना अनुभव भी बताना चाहूंगा। सर, महाराष्ट्र में Scheduled Castes में 56 जातियां हैं, वैसे

ही पूरे देश में 1100 से भी अधिक जातियां हैं। मेरे यहां मातंग समाज के कुछ लोग आए थे और वे कह रहे थे कि हमें एजुकेशन शिक्षा और नौकरी में सामाजिक न्याय नहीं मिल रहा है। मैंने उनसे बोला कि आप तो एससी की लिस्ट में हो, उन्होंने कहा कि हम लिस्ट में हैं, आरक्षण की लिस्ट में हमारी जाति का नाम है, लेकिन जो जातियां प्रगत हैं, वे ही उसका बार-बार लाभ ले रही हैं। और वैसे भी जो फैमिलीज प्रगत हो गए हैं वही बार-बार लाभ ले रहे हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. T.K. Rangarajan, you are a senior Member. ...*(Interruptions)*... Mr. T.K. Rangarajan, you are a senior Member. Please take your seat. ...*(Interruptions)*... कम से कम जब सदन में चर्चा हो, तब हम थोड़ी शांति बनाए रखें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

डा. विकास महात्मे: डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, आप हाउस ऑर्डर में लाए, इसके लिए धन्यवाद। उन्होंने मुझ से कहा कि हमारा नाम एससी की लिस्ट में हैं, Scheduled Castes की लिस्ट में है, लेकिन जो जातियां प्रगत हैं, वे ही उसका लाभ ले सकती हैं और इसी प्रकार जो फैमिलीज आगे बढ़ गई हैं, वे ही बार-बार आरक्षण का लाभ उठा रही हैं। इस कारण से हमें आरक्षण का लाभ उठाने में दिक्कत हो रही है, इसलिए हम उसका sub-categorisation चाहते हैं। सर, मैं आपको बताना चाहूंगा कि पूरे देश में अनुसूचित जनजाति की 744 कास्ट्स हैं, उसमें हम देखेंगे, तो आपको सभी पोस्ट्स पर मीणा जनजाति के लोग सबसे ज्यादा दिखेंगे। यह इसलिए हो रहा है, क्योंकि वे लोग शिक्षा में आगे हैं, वैसे ही सामाजिक रीति से भी आगे हैं और सामाजिक रूप से भी आगे हैं।

इसलिए उनसे अनुसूचित जनजाति की बाकी कास्ट्स कम्पीट नहीं कर सकती हैं। वैसे ही, ओबीसी में भी है। ओबीसी में 2,600 से भी ज्यादा जनजातियां हैं। मेरे पास जो रिपोर्ट है, उसमें से वोट करना चाहूंगा कि ओबीसी में ये जो 2,600 से भी ज्यादा जनजातियां हैं, उनमें से as many as 983 OBC communities, that is, a total of 37 per cent have zero representation, which means not a single job and not a single seat is filled in higher education. सर, ओबीसी के लिए यह 27 परसेंट आरक्षण है, लेकिन उसमें जो 983 कास्ट्स लिस्टेड हैं, उनमें से किसी को एक भी सीट नौकरी का तो छोड़िए, स्टूडेंट के तौर पर Reservation certificate भी नहीं मिली। यह रिपोर्ट मेरी नहीं है, बल्कि यह रिपोर्ट लिखी गई है, “Consultation paper is prepared by the Commission to examine sub-categorisation of OBCs.” The Commission was appointed in October, 2017 and Justice G. Rohini is the Chairperson for that. यह उनके consultation paper में लिखा हुआ है। सर, यह रिसर्च छोटा नहीं है। They have analysed the data as 1.3 lakh Central jobs given in the OBC quota over the last five years and OBC admissions to higher education. So, 1.3 lakh study done by Justice G. Rohini. यह रिसर्च है और हमारी यह परेशानी है कि 983 OBC communities have not received any seat in college or higher education or jobs. यह न्यूज पेपर में आया है।

सर, इसी प्रकार, कुछ कम्युनिटीज, ten communities have availed 24.95, that is, 25 per cent of jobs and admissions. सर, उन 10 कम्युनिटीज में से उनका पूरा proportion one or two per cent का होगा। They are enjoying 27 per cent of OBC quota. सर,

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

हमें यह सोचना चाहिए कि यह परेशानी बहुत बड़ी है और यह सिर्फ ओबीसी के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि यह एससीज़-एसटीज़ के लिए भी है, जिसकी डिटेल में स्टडी नहीं हुई है, लेकिन उसको हम सब अनुभव करते हैं। मैंने एसटीज़ में मीणा जाति के बारे में बताया और एससीज़ की सभी जातियों के लोग हमारे पास आते हैं और वे कहते हैं कि हमें उसका लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। हमें भी यह पता है कि कुछ ही फैमिलीज़ उसका बार-बार लाभ लेती हैं और कुछ ही कास्ट्स उसका लाभ ले रहे हैं। सर, ऐसा क्यों हो रहा है, इसके बारे में सोचना चाहिए और इसका सॉल्यूशन क्या है, वह भी हमें ढूँढ़ना चाहिए।

सर, इसमें एक assumption बहुत ही important है और वह सरासर गलत है। वह assumption ऐसा है कि 3,644 castes in OBCs are all equal and all the people belonging to those castes are equal when we all know they are not equal. सबको पता है कि ये equal नहीं हैं, लेकिन हम पूरा assumption कर रहे हैं कि ये सभी equal हैं, 27 परसेंट लोग पूरे equal हैं। इसमें यह सरासर गलत assumption है, जिसके ऊपर हम reservation benefits दे रहे हैं, affirmative action ले रहे हैं। इसलिए इसमें बदलाव होना चाहिए। जो आरक्षण का मुद्दा है, जो आरक्षण का उद्देश्य है, वह यह है कि जो बैकवर्ड है, उसे हम लाभ दें, उसे हम affirmative action का लाभ दें, उसे हम reservation benefits दें, ताकि वह जनरल प्रवाह में आ सकें, लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हो रहा है। सर, मैं इस assumption के बारे में बताना चाहूँगा कि मैं धनगर समाज से हूँ। मैं एक डॉक्टर हूँ और आई स्पेशियलिस्ट हूँ। मेरा बेटा और धनगर समाज का ही एक शेफर्ड, जो जंगल में भेड़ चला रहा है, उसका बेटा, उन दोनों में कॉम्पिटिशन किया जाता है, क्योंकि धनगर दोनों (ओबीसी) में है। क्या आप यह सोचते हैं कि इस कॉम्पिटिशन में हम उनको equal platform दे रहे हैं? जो जंगल में है, भेड़-बकरियां चरा रहा है, उसका बेटा और मेरा बेटा, उन दोनों के कॉम्पिटिशन में कौन आगे रहने वाला है?

सर, इसलिए मैं यह कहता हूँ कि इसमें बदलाव चाहिए और यह बहुत ज़रूरी है। यह भी जानना चाहिए कि ओबीसी, काफी लोगों को ऐसा लगता है कि अदर बैकवर्ड कास्ट है, यह अदर बैकवर्ड कास्ट न होकर अदर बैकवर्ड क्लास है। उस वक्त वह क्लास डिफाइन करना मुश्किल था, इसलिए उसे कास्ट का रूप दिया गया है, जो पॉइंट सिस्टम से मंडल आयोग के ज़रिये किया गया था। मेरा यह कहना है कि इस पर सोचना चाहिए और इन चुनौतियों को पहले हम स्वीकार करें कि ये चुनौतियां हैं, तो ही हम उनके ऊपर कुछ काम कर पाएंगे। इसके लिए मैं जो बताना चाहता हूँ, वह एक सिस्टम है जिसे मैं वेटेज इंडेक्सिंग सिस्टम (भारित सूचिकरण प्रणाली) कहता हूँ और जो मैं आपके साथ साझा करना चाहता हूँ कि जो भी सामाजिक और शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़ापन है, उसके कुछ निकष हो, उसके कुछ क्राइटेरियाज़ रहे हैं और उनको हम कुछ गुण या अंक दें। जो निकष है, यह निकष के लिए एक कमीशन बिठाए और यह निकष तय करे। लेकिन जो भी निकष तय करना है, उस कमीशन के द्वारा तय करना है। उसमें यह आना चाहिए जो मैं बता रहा हूँ और उसके अलावा और भी आ सकते हैं। इसमें जो अंक देने वाले हैं, मार्क्स देने वाले हैं या गुण देने वाले हैं, यदि वह पिछड़ा है तो उसे माइन्स देना चाहिए। मैं यह इसलिए कहना चाहता हूँ कि काफी बार ज्यादा अंक मिलने से लोगों को प्राउड फीलिंग आती है, उनको लगता है कि हम कुछ अच्छा कर रहे हैं। मैं सबको यह बताना चाहूँगा कि भारत देश वर्ल्ड में ऐसा

एक ही देश होगा, जहां हर आदमी कहता है कि मैं बैकवर्ड हूं इसलिए हमारी यह मानसिकता है कि हम पिछड़े हैं और पिछड़े ही रहेंगे। यह बताने में ज्यादा ध्यान रहता है और इसी में हम एनर्जी वेस्ट कर रहे हैं, इसलिए उसे माइनस गुण से पता चले कि मुझे प्लस की तरफ जाना चाहिए। इसलिए जो भी पिछड़ापन है उसे ज्यादा से ज्यादा माइनस मार्क्स मिलेंगे और उसको प्राइयोरिटी और प्राधान्य मिलेगा। आरक्षण का बेनिफिट मिलने में एफरमेटिव एक्शन का बेनिफिट मिलने में। मैं फिर से बताना चाहूंगा हम वेटेड इंडेक्सिंग सिस्टम में जो अमुक पॉइंट्स दे रहे हैं, उसमें जो शेड्यूल कास्ट्स की और शेड्यूल ट्राइब्स की जो लिस्ट है, जनजाति की और ओबीसी की जो 3644 के करीब जो लिस्ट है, उसमें बदलाव नहीं कर रहे हैं, वह वैसी ही रहेगी, कोटा भी वही रहने वाला है। 0.001 परसेंट भी कोटा में बदलाव नहीं चाहते हैं, यानी लिस्ट वही है, कोटा भी वही है। हम सिर्फ यह चाहते हैं कि उसमें कुछ पिछड़ेपन के निकष हों जो सामाजिक और शैक्षणिक रूप से हों। जैसे मैं बताना चाहूंगा। वह कमीशन बनाएंगा, लेकिन मैं इसके लिए आपको निकष के बारे में बताना चाहूंगा। जैसे किसी बच्चे में माता-पिता इल्लिट्रेट (illiterate) हैं, तो उसे माइनस पॉइंट्स देकर प्राधान्य देना चाहिए, क्योंकि उसके घर में वातावरण नहीं है कि वह आगे बढ़ पाए। शिक्षा का वातावरण नहीं है तो उसे प्राधान्य मिलना चाहिए। जैसे कोई रूरल एरिया से, village से या गांव से आ रहा है और हमें पता है आज आप कहां पैदा होते हैं, इसके ऊपर बहुत सारा निर्भर है कि आप आगे कितना बढ़ सकते हैं। यह अपॉर्चुनिटी गांव वालों को मिलनी चाहिए! शहर से गांव कितने डिस्टेंस पर है उससे और गुण में काफी फर्क कर पाएंगे, लेकिन यदि गांव से आ रहा है तो हम उसे माइनस मार्क्स देकर प्राधान्य दें। वैसे ही जो जिला परिषद स्कूल में पढ़ रहा है या कॉर्पोरेशन स्कूल में पढ़ रहा है तो मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि जो बहुत अच्छे हैं, पढ़े-लिखे हैं, वे अपने बेटे को जिला परिषद स्कूल या कॉर्पोरेशन स्कूल में नहीं डालना चाहते हैं। वह जेड.पी. (Z.P.) स्कूल में जा रहा है, यानी वह शोशली शिक्षा के रूप से पिछड़ा है, उसे प्राधान्य मिलने के लिए माइनस पॉइंट्स देने चाहिए। ये सभी जो पॉइंट्स हैं, उनको बाद में टोटल करके फिर एक फॉर्मूला क्रिएट करेंगे, जिससे इनको प्राधान्य मिलेगा। यदि गर्ल चाइल्ड है या लड़की है, महिला है, तो उसे कुछ माइनस पॉइंट्स देकर प्राधान्य देना चाहिए। वैसे ही single parent है। एह ही पालक है उसे मायनस पॉइंट देकर प्राधान्य देना चाहिए।

किसी ने यदि आरक्षण का लाभ उठाया है और आरक्षण का लाभ उठाकर पेरेंट्स को गवर्नमेंट जॉब मिली है, तो मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि गवर्नमेंट जॉब मिलने से वह फैमिली आगे बढ़ गई है। अभी हम यह चाहते हैं कि उनका प्राधान्यक्रम कम होना चाहिए और उसे प्लस प्वाइंट्स देकर हम उसका प्राधान्यक्रम कम करेंगे। मैं तो यह भी कहना चाहूंगा, लेकिन हाउस का जो भी निर्णय होगा कि जो एमएलए और एमपी के लिए आरक्षित जगह से खड़े होते हैं, यदि वे चुनकर आते हैं, तो अगली बार उनको उसी आरक्षित सीट से इलेक्शन लड़ने की permission नहीं होनी चाहिए, क्योंकि वे आगे बढ़ गए हैं, यह एक बात है। उनकी जाति के या उनकी लिस्ट की जो भी जातियां हैं, उन्हीं में से किसी को preference (प्राधान्य) मिलना चाहिए। यह हो रहा है कि एक ही शेड्यूल कास्ट या शेड्यूल ट्राइब्स का एक ही आदमी आगे बढ़ रहा है, ऐसा न हो। जो भी एमएलए एक बार जीतता है, तो उसे दूसरी बार ओपन से ही इलेक्शन लड़वाना पड़ेगा, ऐसा भी हम कर सकते हैं। मैंने इसके बारे में जो स्टडी की है, उसमें काफी समय दिया है और काफी साल भी लग गए हैं और यह सब मैंने अकेले नहीं किया है, मेरे साथ काफी लोग हैं — जैसे

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

श्री गजानन कांबले, डॉ. विक्रम अलसी, श्री चैतन्य महात्मे और श्री अभिषेक अनिता थे, तो इन सबकी यह सोच है। वैसे मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि हाउस भी और hon. MPs भी इसमें अपने इनपुट्स दे सकते हैं, जिससे हम जो भी कमीशन बना रहे हैं, तो ये सब मुद्दे आएंगे ही, इसके अलावा और कुछ निकष हम तय कर पाएंगे। वैसे ही खुद कमीशन भी स्टडी करके इसमें और बढ़ावा दे सकते हैं। मैं, फिर से यह दोहराना चाहूंगा कि बहुत बार confusion होता है कि इस सिस्टम में शेड्यूल कास्ट, शेड्यूल ट्राइब्स, ओबीसी की लिस्ट बदलना चाहते हैं या हम उनका reservation कम करना चाहते हैं, ऐसा कुछ नहीं है। लिस्ट में जो भी कास्ट्स है, जो भी कोटा है, उसमें कुछ भी बदलाव न करते हुए यह implement कर सकते हैं, यह सबसे important बात है, ताकि किसी को डर न लगे कि हमारा reservation कम हो रहा है, तो वह डर नहीं चाहिए। यह बहुत जरूरी है कि वो ही कास्ट रहे और वो ही कोटा रहे। सर, इसके लिए कोई कानून बनाने की जरूरत नहीं है। कानून में जो कोटा है, जो भी कास्ट्स हैं, वे वैसे ही रहेंगी, सिर्फ हमें implementation में बदलाव करना है कि priority किसको देनी है। वैसे ही काफी लोगों का कहना है, यह तो क्रीमी लेयर जैसा है, यह वैसा नहीं है। इसमें और क्रीमी लेयर में बहुत अंतर है। क्रीमी लेयर में Yes और No है। यह एससी, एसटी और ओबीसी तीनों के लिए लागू कर सकते हैं। क्रीमी लेयर में Yes और No है, इसमें ग्रेडेशन है। मैं पार्लियामेंट की ओबीसी कमेटी में हूं, तो हम वहां कई बारे क्रीमी लेयर के अन्तर्गत किसी पोस्ट के बारे में पूछते हैं, तो वे बताते हैं कि हमें suitable candidate नहीं मिला, इसलिए ऊपर की यह पोस्ट खाली है। मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे हमारे साथी हैं, उन्होंने इसमें जो सुझाव दिया है, वह भी बहुत important है और मैं उसे इसमें incorporate कर रहा हूं। मैं चाहता हूं कि यदि suitable candidate नहीं मिल रहा है, तो category में जो top-most candidate है, उसका कितना भी प्लस मार्क रहे या वह highly-educated रहे या उसके माता-पिता गवर्नमेंट जॉब में हों और उसकी सैलरी भी बहुत हो, इनकम भी बहुत हो इन सबकी फिक्र न करते हुए फिर भी जो top-most है, उसे हम शिक्षा दें, ट्रेनिंग दें, स्किल्स दें और उसको काबिल बनाकर वही जॉब दें, जिसके लिए आप को suitable candidate नहीं मिल रहा है। क्योंकि सर, इस rotation में काफी बार ऐसा होता है कि suitable candidate नहीं मिला, इसलिए वे फिर खुले प्रवर्ग में डाले जाते हैं और ऐसा करने से लोगों का विश्वास कम हो रहा है। जो भी पिछड़े वर्ग के हैं, जो भी एससी/एसटी के लोग हैं, तो उनके बारे में मेरा कहना है कि हम वह rotation बंद करके, जो top-most candidates हैं, उनको हम शिक्षा और स्किल्स देकर उसी पोस्ट पर लें। यदि वे minimum eligible criteria fulfill करते हैं, तो उनको लेना ही चाहिए। इससे ऐसा लगता है कि उनको बार-बार certificate लेना नहीं पड़ेगा, क्योंकि क्रीमी लेयर में हर तीन साल के बाद certificate लेना पड़ता है। इसमें जो प्वाइंट्स दिए हैं, उसमें बार-बार certificate लेने की जरूरत नहीं है।

यह weighted Indexing system करने में भी आसान है, क्योंकि आज सभी जगहों पर हम IT का यूज करते हैं, information technology का यूज करते हैं, इससे हम transparency ला सकते हैं, website पर किसको कितने प्वाइंट्स मिले हैं, वह डाल सकते हैं और अन्य लोग उस पर objections भी ले सकते हैं, यानी आज यह possible है, आसान है और इसे हम कर पाएंगे। Sub-categorisations के लिए usually ऐसा किया जाता है कि backward, more

backward, most backward and others. सर, आज ओबीसी में 2,600 से ज्यादा जातियां हैं। हम 500-500 का एक ग्रुप बनाएंगे और फिर से हम कहेंगे कि 37 per cent of those have not received any affirmative action or reservation benefit. वह वैसे ही होगा। इसलिए backward, more backward, most backward and others — यह classification बिल्कुल सही नहीं है। यह classification इस तरह से भी हो सकता है कि ये प्वाइंट्स, 0-3, 4-6 हों। इसलिए वह classification अच्छी बात नहीं है, जो काफी बार लोगों के मन में आता है कि इस तरह से चार ग्रुप्स बनाने चाहिए। महोदय, SC में 1,000 के above कास्ट्स हैं, ST में 744 कास्ट्स हैं, इसमें 200-200 कास्ट्स बनाकर वही होगा, जो आज हो रहा है। कुछ लोग ही बार-बार आरक्षण का लाभ ले रहे हैं और पिछड़े लोगों तक आरक्षण नहीं पहुंच पा रहा है। इसलिए उससे ज्यादा अच्छा weighted Indexing system sub-categorisation करना होगा। महोदय, जिन पेपर्स के बारे में मैंने आपको बताया, उनके बारे में जो भी evidence मेरे पास है और जो भी booklet है, उसे मैं सदन के पटल पर रखना चाहता हूं।

महोदय, weighted Indexing system से और क्या-क्या लाभ हो सकते हैं? आज विभिन्न जातियों में जो द्वेष है, वह इसलिए होता है कि खुले प्रवर्ग में से काफी लोगों को लगता है कि एक डाक्टर का लड़का है या आईएएस ऑफिसर का लड़का है, वह सामाजिक रूप से या educationally backward नहीं है, लेकिन जब एक illiterate के बेटे को खुले प्रवर्ग से सीट नहीं मिलती है तो उसे गुस्सा आता है और उसके मन में दूसरी जाति के प्रति द्वेष उत्पन्न होता है। लेकिन इसमें जब deserving candidates को reservation मिलेगा तो उसे लगेगा कि हां, वह पिछड़ा था, इसलिए उसको reservation मिल रहा है। इस प्रकार से उनमें जो द्वेष है, वह कम होगा। इसीलिए यह बहुत जरूरी है। अतः हम weighted indexing system लाएं, उससे फायदा लें और विभिन्न जातियों के बीच में जो द्वेष है, उसे कम करें।

महोदय, मैं इसका एक और advantage बताना चाहता हूं कि जातियों के आजकल बहुत बड़े-बड़े मोर्चे होते हैं, आरक्षण की बहुत डिमांड होती है — मैं भी कर रहा हूं — लेकिन इनमें जो हिंसा होती है, वह क्यों होती है? इसमें पांच-दस परसेंट जो highly educated or high income group के लोग होते हैं, वे सड़कों पर नहीं जाते हैं, लेकिन वे सारी रसद पहुंचाते हैं ताकि वे मोर्चे बड़े हों लेकिन दूसरी ओर जो लोग सड़कों पर जाते हैं, उन्हें आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं मिल पाता है। जो दस परसेंट लोग सड़कों पर नहीं जाते और उस मोर्चे के लिए रसद देते हैं, वे बोलते हैं कि आप ऐसा करो, ताकि न्यूजपेपर में आए — उससे हिंसा होती है। इससे उन दस परसेंट लोगों को यह पता चलेगा कि नहीं, इससे हमें कुछ फायदा होने वाला नहीं है तो यह हिंसा और जाति के नाम पर जो बड़े-बड़े मोर्चे होते हैं — मोर्चे होने चाहिए, लेकिन हिंसा नहीं होनी चाहिए, उससे यह हिंसा खत्म होगी। इसलिए यह बहुत जरूरी है कि हम weighted indexing system लाएं, ताकि deserving candidates को फायदा मिले और हमारे आरक्षण का जो उद्देश्य है कि जो सामाजिक और educationally backward हैं, उन्हें ही उसका लाभ मिले, न कि जो अब आगे बढ़ गए हैं, आगे बढ़ी हुए कास्ट के लोग हैं, उन्हें मिले। कास्ट वही रहेगी, लेकिन उनमें से जो पिछड़े हैं, उन्हें ही इसका लाभ मिलेगा।

पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी की सोच थी कि अंत्योदय होना चाहिए, अंत्योदय से हमारी

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

शुरुआत हो और वह सोच हम यहां पूरी कर सकते हैं। महोदय, बाबासाहेब डा. अम्बेडकर जी का सामाजिक न्याय का जो सपना था, वह सपना इस weighted indexing system से हम पूरा कर सकते हैं। मैं सरकार से विनती करूंगा कि इस कमीशन को बिठाकर जो भी निकष (criteria) मैंने बताए, उनके संबंध में और भी चर्चा की जाए। मैं यह चाहता हूं कि हमें जाति निहाय आरक्षण चाहिए लेकिन वह जाति के जरूरतमंद लोगों के लिए हो — जाति निहाय आरक्षण जाति के जरूरतमंद लोगों के लिए। और इस जाति निहाय आरक्षण को जाति के जरूरतमंद लोगों तक पहुंचाने का काम यह weighted indexing system करेगा। Reservation benefit to most deserved candidate of the same category is the most important thing which this weighted indexing system will do and the Commission will help in getting it implemented.

आखिर में, मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस अंत्योदय से सर्वोदय तक पहुंचने का और बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी का सपना संपूर्ण साकार करने का, हम सब संकल्प करें। मैं House से विनती करूंगा कि इसके लिए जो भी आपका कहना है, सुझाव है, वह दीजिए और हम यह Resolution पास करें। धन्यवाद।

The question was proposed.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity.

I rise to support the Resolution moved by Dr. Vikas Mahatmeji. We both are in the same Standing Committee. We have been dealing with this issue for a long time. Sir, basically, I would like to bring it to the notice of this august House that reservation is not a charity. Reservation is a greatest weapon for equality in this society. In Indian society, the caste system preaches discrimination and the society in a way engineers discrimination in the name of caste and rituals. A section of the society in our country feels that reservation for SCs, STs, OBCs or even for the minorities will bring a lot of inefficiency in whatever field they are into.

Sir, reservation is not just in our country alone. In the world, the super power, USA, one of the most advanced countries, even in that country, there is a reservation in the name of affirmative action. In India, in the name of caste, there is a vast difference between man to man. In the West, it is the racist where there is difference between black and white, it is the two colours, whereas, here, in the name of caste, there is a wide disparity and difference between the huge population. Sir, our forefathers who brought this Constitution were well aware of the discrimination meted out to these sections. Reservation is not a poverty alleviation programme for this vulnerable section. As Dr. Mahatmeji has rightly said, the representation in the Government, whether it is the Centre or the State, it is a very microscopic percentage. As I said, it is not a poverty alleviation programme or an employment

scheme. We have to make the huge population to feel that this country belongs to them, and there is no dearth of programmes. There is no dearth of law for the upliftment of these sections of the society. But when it comes to the implementation of these Programmes, as Mahatmeji has rightly said, right from 1993, the OBCs have been given the reservation in the employment. To this day, in some of the institutions, absolutely, there is zero percentage of OBCs or SC/STs, or, even in some of the Departments, when we look at totality, it is not even 19.3 per cent. They were supposed to give 27 per cent reservation. But even if you go State-by-State, the reservation policy differs. For example, in Chhattisgarh, the reservation for OBCs is only 12 per cent. Even in the Central organizations, it is mandatory, as per the law passed by this Parliament, that 27 per cent reservation should be there for OBCs. But there they will not cross beyond 12 per cent. They say, it is a State Policy. If that is the case, if at all they feel that the State Policy should be adopted, then I am of the view that all the State Governments should follow the policy of Tamil Nadu where 69 per cent of the population gets the reservation. Even recently Maharashtra has enhanced reservation to almost 69 per cent. They have included even Marathas in that. Basically, the spirit of reservation is not to fulfill the economic criteria; the spirit of the Constitution, the spirit of reservation, is to give representation to people who are educationally and socially backward, not economically backward. That is because we have been seeing that in this country there is no dearth of talent. I can cite an example, I come from Bangalore, and in one of the most prestigious institutions, an almost 110 year old institution, the Tata Institute of Science, there was no candidate from OBC in higher education. When UPA-I passed an Act giving representation/reservation in higher education in 2006, I happened to be a member of the Indian Institute Council where I had been insisting on reservation for the OBCs in higher education. Finally, they invited applications for 50 people and out of 50, 23 people got through on their own, but for almost 100 years, these opportunities were denied to the SCs, STs and OBCs. Till 1974 there was no appointment of even SCs into these institutions. They think reservation is something that they are giving in charity. That is absolutely wrong. This country belongs to us and we have all the right to contribute in building this nation. This is my view about reservation.

Sir, Dr. Mahatme referred to the Weighted Index. I slightly differ with him there. The Supreme Court has already said in the case of reservations that we have to follow the principle of creamy layer. This is the second time that I am bringing up this issue to the notice of this august House -- 56 candidates have passed the UPSC exams. Jitendra Singhji is also here; he looks after the DoPT. Some are IAS and IPS. It is two years now; to this day they have not been given any posting saying that they fall under the creamy layer. They are not ready to explain the equivalence

[Shri B. K. Hariprasad]

in the creamy layer between Grade A and the public sector institutions. Actually the Madras CAT, Delhi High Court and Haryana High Court have categorically said that the salary and agricultural income should not be taken into consideration while determining the creamy layer. Even then these candidates have been denied opportunity. Mahatmeji rightly pointed out that only 25 per cent of the population of OBCs is getting the benefit of this reservation, but from his own community, Dhangar, there are no IAS or IPS officers. One young girl had passed the exams. She is now running from pillar to post and has met almost all the leaders in Delhi, but she is unable to get a posting. She has got through the IAS examination. This is gross injustice that is being meted out to these poor kids. It doesn't mean that just because they belong to the OBCs, SCs or STs, they lack talent.

Sir, as you know, in an examination, for example a 100 marks exam, all candidates, whether they score 99 per cent, 50 per cent or 35 per cent, get the same question paper and not different question papers. There are no different question papers for SCs, STs and OBCs. It is a general question paper for all the classes. Some may score 90, some 70. As Mahatmeji pointed out, some of the students are among the first generation that is into education. As Mahatmeji was pointing it out, some of them are the first-generation students who are into the education because historically, or, what you call 'mythologically', education was reserved for a section of the society. Only after we got Independence, it was de-reserved and it was free for all. Slowly, they are picking it up. The first-generation students have to get some support and incentive from the Government. Only then they can compete. For example, it is not that just because they are in upper caste, they can compete in any exams. Upper caste boys and girls, who are in the rural areas, cannot compete with the upper caste people in the urban areas because they have better advantages and access to libraries or other kinds of knowledge. So, there is a vast difference. In the last Session, we passed the National Commission for Backward Classes Act. Later on, the Government constituted a Committee for sub-categorisation of the Backward Classes. Well, it has already got three extensions from Parliament but they are unable to identify the Backward Classes. Identifying the Backward Classes is a tough job. Identifying the dalits and tribals, as I said earlier, is an easy job because tribals live in forests and the Scheduled Castes live out of the village or out of the town, whereas identifying the OBCs is tough because they live in all parts of villages or the towns, and some of them are affluent also. But it doesn't mean that they should be deprived of it when they have the opportunity. People may say that the reservation is a kind of tool for encouraging the inefficient. If you take the example of education system in this country, there are a lot of medical colleges and engineering colleges. Most of

these colleges are capitation fees colleges. People who get 50 per cent marks can enter a medical college or an engineering college. What is their merit? Their merit is just money bags. I need not name the colleges or the universities where there are packages to get the post-graduation certificate; it is a package. They offer the packages of ₹ 3 crore, ₹ 4 crore or ₹ 5 crore to children to get a certificate of MBBS degree, or, even the post-graduation. A PIL was filed in the Supreme Court against the capitation fees. Sir, it is disheartening to note that no lawyer worth the name was there to argue for the PIL. Most of these medical colleges or engineering colleges hired the top lawyers of the country to speak for the capitation fees. Thanks to the Supreme Court; they passed the order of banning the capitation fees. But, clandestinely, these capitation fees are in practice everywhere. So, there are laws passed in Parliament only to be bypassed by the mighty, using money power. So, unless we protect these weaker sections through the law, through the Government and through the representatives of the people, it would be highly impossible to get these benefits trickle down to these smaller sections of the society. Sir, I don't want to go into the history. Whether it is Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar or the social reformers like Narayana Guru, Periyar Ramaswami Naicker, or, Shahu Maharaj and Vemana in Andhra, all these people contributed immensely to empower the weaker sections of the society to live with dignity.

As rightly pointed out by my sister here yesterday, she was speaking on the Education Bill, she mentioned about Savitribai Phuleji, being the first woman along with the Fatima Shekhji who fought for the right to education for women. There are people whose names even today nobody will forget. We may come and go, but, unless you make changes in the society, nobody will remember you forever. Sir, I do not want to take much of your time. It is high time when the huge population of SC, ST, OBCs and minorities, are brought in the mainstream of the society. It is not an easy thing as everything depends on the DoPT. Before going into the detailed activities of DoPT, I thought DoPT is a Department of Personnel Training. But, after seeing their attitude, I have a feeling that it is nothing but a department of persecution of the weaker sections. They do not want to let the weaker sections enjoy the benefits of this reservation. They are finding ways and means to deprive these sections of the society the fruits of this reservation. Sir, this is a right move. The Government should wake up and see that the policies which have been passed, the Act which have been passed in the Parliament, are implemented in their true spirit at the grass-root level. Thank you very much, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you hon. B.K. Hariprasadji. Now, Mahant Shambhuprasadji Tundiyaji.

महंत शम्भुप्रसाद जी तुंदिया (गुजरात): उपसभापति जी, मैं आपका बहुत-बहुत आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस प्रस्ताव के ऊपर बोलने का अवसर प्रदान किया है। सर, इस प्रस्ताव को लेकर आए हमारे आदरणीय सांसद मित्र श्री विकास महात्मे जी ने बहुत ही अच्छे तरीके से इस विषय को रखने का प्रयत्न किया है, मगर मैं भी इस विषय पर अपने विचार रखना चाहूँगा।

सर, इस देश में लैंगिक आधार पर असमानता, जाति के आधार पर असमानता, भाषा के आधार पर असमानता, प्रांत के आधार पर असमानता और अन्य ऐसी कई प्रकार की असमानताएं वर्तमान समय में प्रवर्तमान हैं। सर, जो संविधान के निर्माता थे, परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी और उनके साथ में सभी सदस्यगण, वे बहुत बड़ी तादाद में थे। तब बहुत बैठकें हुई थीं और उसके बाद ही भारत को, हम सबको यह संविधान मिला है। इस संविधान के निर्माताओं की जो मानसिकता थी, देश के कल्याण के लिए, देश के विकास के लिए, देश के नागरिकों के लिए जो मंशा थी, वह उनकी समता, मित्रता और बंधुता के आधार पर मानवता के मूल्यों का रक्षण करने की दृढ़तापूर्ण मंशा थी। उसके आधार पर उनकी यह भी मंशा थी कि यहां सभी को समान अवसर तक भी मिले। सर, मैं यह मानता हूँ कि जहां तक शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के आरक्षण का सवाल है, उसका मापदंड एक ही है और वह है अस्पृश्यता। यहां हमारे आदरणीय सदस्य कह रहे थे, मगर मैं परम पूज्य डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर जी का दृष्टांत देते हुए इस बात को सिद्ध कर सकता हूँ कि इतने पढ़े-लिखे होने के बावजूद भी जब परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब लंदन से पढ़ाई करके, स्कॉलर होकर बड़ौदा आए — महाराजा सयाजीराव गायकवाड़ जी ने उन्हें पढ़ाई के लिए विलायती धरती लंदन भेजा था और पढ़ने के बाद जब वे वापस आए, तो उन्हें वहीं पर, महाराजा साहेब के कार्यालय में नौकरी मिली थी। बहुत ही अच्छे पढ़े-लिखे होने के बावजूद, सूट-बूट में रहने के बावजूद भी परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी के साथ छुआछूत के नाम पर बहुत बड़े भेदभावपूर्ण व्यवहार की बातें आ रही हैं। परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर के अच्छे तरीके से सूट-बूट में रहते हुए भी, पढ़ाई-लिखाई करके आने के बाद भी उनके साथ जो दुर्व्यवहार हुआ था, वह दुर्व्यवहार अस्पृश्यता के कारण ही था। वह दुर्व्यवहार होने के कारण ही परम पूज्य बाबा साहेब ने यह तय किया था कि आज से मैं प्रण लेता हूँ कि छुआछूत की असमानता हो, चाहे किसी भी प्रकार की असमानता हो, इस देश में पनप रही सभी प्रकार की असमानता को नेस्तनाबूद करने तक मैं दम नहीं लूँगा। वहीं से, इसी घटना से उनके आन्दोलन की शुरुआत हुई।

सर, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के आरक्षण के अलावा एक दूसरी व्यवस्था है और वह व्यवस्था हमारे शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब के लोगों के लिए है, जो जंगलों में रहने के कारण पिछड़ेपन में रह गए। इसलिए शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स और शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स के आरक्षण के लिए जो मापदंड हैं, उनमें से एक का मापदंड अस्पृश्यता है और एक का जंगलों में रहने के कारण जो पिछड़ापन रहा, वह है। दोनों अलग-अलग मापदंड हैं। तीसरा आरक्षण, जो अन्य पिछड़ा वर्ग (Other Backward Classes) के लिए है, उसके मापदंड में सामाजिक-शैक्षिक एवं अन्य तरीके से जो व्यक्ति समाज में रहते हुए भी पिछड़ा रह गया है, उसके लिए उस आरक्षण की व्यवस्था है। ये तीनों आरक्षण अलग-अलग प्रकार से चिह्नित हैं।

सर, हमारे आदरणीय सदस्य ने जो बातें रखी हैं, उन्होंने इस प्रस्ताव में यह कहा है कि वर्तमान पद्धति में आरक्षण की जो व्यवस्था है, वह त्रुटिपूर्ण है। मेरा यह दृढ़तापूर्वक मानना है कि

संवैधानिक ढांचे में और संवैधानिक रूप में जिस प्रकार से आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की गई है, वह त्रुटिपूर्ण नहीं है, वह न्यायपूर्ण है। अगर हम सोचें कि अगर व्यक्ति एक इकाई है, तो उसकी बड़ी इकाई परिवार है और परिवार से ही समाज का निर्माण होता है। जब सामाजिक आधार पर इस आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की गई है, तो व्यक्ति के मूल्यांकन की यहां कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है, क्योंकि सभी के लिए जो व्यवस्था है, उसका जो मापदंड है, वह अलग-अलग है।

सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में दो महापुरुष हुए, मैं उनका दृष्टांत देना चाहूँगा — परम पूज्य महात्मा गांधी बापू, जिन्होंने सर्वोदयवाद का उद्घोष किया था और मैं जिस पार्टी से आता हूँ, भारतीय जनता पार्टी, उसके मूल संस्थापक, हमारे आदरणीय पंडित दीनदयाल जी, जिन्होंने एकात्म मानववाद एवं अंत्योदयवाद का एक सिद्धांत दिया था। इस आधार पर मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि अंत्योदयवाद और एकात्म मानववाद क्या है। यह जो सामाजिक छुआछूत का कलंक है, भाषा के भेदभाव की, लैंगिक भेदभाव की ये जो सभी कलंकित बातें हैं, ये हमारे देश में ही हैं, ऐसा नहीं है, विश्व के दूसरे दस देशों का मैं आपके सामने उल्लेख कर सकता हूँ, जिनके लिए आगे चल कर विश्व के सभी बुद्धिशाली व्यक्तियों और सभी संगठनों ने यह कहा है कि इस-इस कारण से ये दस देश आने वाले 20 सालों में नेस्तनाबूद हो जाएँगे, खत्म हो जाएँगे। यही तरीका और यही पद्धति हमारे भारत में भी चल रही है। इसलिए क्या हम कायदे के रूप से इस कलंक को मिटा सकते हैं, क्योंकि यह कलंक सामाजिक व्यवस्था से उत्पन्न हुआ एक कलंक है? मैं एक पुरातन श्लोक का उल्लेख करना चाहूँगा। उसमें कहा गया है, "चातुवर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः।" यह श्लोक श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता का है। लोगों ने अपने-अपने मनगढ़ंत तरीके से उसका जो विवेचन किया है, वह ठीक नहीं हुआ है। श्रीमद्भगवद्गीता में भगवान अपने श्रीमुख से यह कह रहे हैं कि "चातुवर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः।" उन्होंने कहा है कि गुण और कर्म के आधार पर ये पंक्तियाँ, ये विभक्तियाँ या फिर ये लाइंस या फिर ये row, कतार, ये सब मैंने रखे हैं। हम यहां चूक कर गए हैं कि उसका हम जो उल्लेख करते हैं, जब हम उसको आचरण में लाते हैं, तो उसका आचरण इस तरह से होता है कि चातुवर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं जन्मजातविभागशः। अगर भारतवर्ष में पुरातन काल में यह होता, तो उसका उल्लेख जन्मजात विभाग से होता, यहां यह नहीं है। वहां गुण-कर्म विभाग के आधार पर यह था, अर्थात् व्यक्ति के गुण के आधार पर और उसके कर्म के आधार पर, उसकी पंक्ति तय की गई। मुझे बड़े खेद के साथ यह कहना पड़ता है कि प्रोटोकॉल के नाम पर, आचार संहिता के नाम पर आज भी हमारे संवैधानिक ढांचे में क्लास-I अधिकारी और क्लास-IV अधिकारी होते हैं, यानी जो District Collector होता है, वह अपने Peon के साथ, जो चौथी पंक्ति का कर्मचारी है, एक टेबल पर भोजन नहीं करता है। इसमें भी आचार संहिता रखी गई है कि यह Class-IV का, यह Class-III का है, यह Class-II है और यह Class-I का है। यह 'Class' क्या है? यह श्रेणी है, पंक्ति है, विभक्ति है, वर्ण है, वर्ग है। नाम चाहे जो भी कहा जाए, मगर ये सभी बातें कलंक रूप हैं। अगर हमें भारत को सर्वश्रेष्ठ बनाना है, तो मैं फिर से कहूँगा कि हमारे पंडित दीनदयाल जी का जो एकात्म मानववाद है, जो अंत्योदयवाद है, उसी के ऊपर भारत को फिर से विचार-विमर्श करना पड़ेगा और आगे चलकर हम सभी को उसी आधार पर काम करने का संकल्प लेना होगा। यहां आरक्षण की व्यवस्था में चाहे प्रतिशत की बात करें या किसी और चीज़ की बात करें, मगर ये सभी बातें व्यक्ति-व्यक्ति में और समाज-समाज में भेद पैदा करने वाली बातें हैं। इसलिए मैं फिर से कह रहा हूँ कि एकात्म

[महंत शम्भुप्रसाद जी तुंदिया]

मानववाद और अंत्योदयवाद, यानी अंतिम समाज की अंतिम पंक्ति के अंतिम छोर में जो व्यक्ति बैठा है, पहले उसका उदय करवाओ, फिर आगे बढ़ते-बढ़ते हम सब एकात्म मानववाद से जुड़ जाएं। हम सभी में एक ही आत्मा है, सबमें एक ही ईश्वर के अंश का प्रसार हो रहा है और इस आधार पर कहीं पर कोई छुआछूत न हो, कहीं कोई लैंगिक भेद न हो और कहीं कोई भाषा का भेद न हो। अगर हम भारत के निर्माण में इस आधार पर अपना योगदान देने की चेष्टा करते हैं, तो मेरे ख्याल से संविधान के निर्माताओं ने मानवता के रखरखाव के लिए जो समान अवसर देने का विषय दिया था, मानवीय अधिगमता, समता, मित्रता और बंधुता के विषय में जो बातें रखी थीं, उनको हम सही मायने में इस देश में लाना चाहते हैं, तो यह जो व्यवस्था खड़ी की गई है, समाज के सभी वर्गों को आगे आ करके उससे ऊपर उठना होगा और हमारे पंडित जी ने एकात्म मानववाद जो विषय दिया था, उस पर आना पड़ेगा।

महोदय, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं दिल से आपका धन्यवाद करता हूं। मैं, हमारे आदरणीय सदस्य, जिन्होंने यह विषय रखा है, उनके समर्थन में नहीं हूं, इसीलिए मैंने ये बातें सदन के समक्ष रखी हैं। यह जो व्यवस्था है, उसको लेकर उन्होंने व्यक्ति को इकाई समझते हुए अपनी बातें रखी हैं, लेकिन मेरा यह स्पष्ट मानना है कि व्यक्ति को इकाई नहीं मानना चाहिए, सामाजिक व्यवस्था के आधार पर संवैधानिक दर्जा देने और समाज के सभी वर्गों को समान अवसर देने की जो बात मैंने रखी है, उसी आधार पर हमें चलना चाहिए, धन्यवाद।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपने डा. विकास महात्मे जी के संकल्प पर मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूं। महोदय, माननीय डा. विकास महात्मे जी पिछड़ा वर्ग और ओबीसी के लिए अपनी सोच का यह बहुत अच्छा संकल्प लाए हैं। चूंकि इनकी सरकार है, इसलिए अच्छा होता यदि सरकार की तरफ से यह विधेयक आता और उस पर यह चर्चा होती। देश में जिसकी जितनी आबादी है, आबादी के हिसाब से जनगणना कर ली जाए और उसके आधार पर व्यापार में, नौकरियों में, कृषि में, ज्यूडीशियरी में, यहां तक कि जो लाभ वाले मठ और मंदिर हैं, जहां बिना कुछ किए हुए अरबों-खरबों की आमदनी होती है, जिन मठों में अकूत सम्पत्ति भरी हुई है, उन सबमें ओबीसी, एससी एवं अन्य सबका, आबादी के आधार पर आरक्षण होना चाहिए। चालीस साल पहले समाजवादी चिंतक डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया जी ने कहा था, "संसोपा ने बांधी गांठ, पिछड़े पावें सौ में साठ।" आज से नहीं, बहुत पहले से हमारे डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया जी ने पिछड़े वर्ग के बारे में चिंता की और कहा कि इनकी आबादी 60 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा है और इनको एक प्रतिशत भी आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं मिलता। मैं समझता हूं कि चाहे पिछली सरकारें रही हों या वर्तमान में जो सरकार है, केन्द्रीय सेवाओं में हो या प्रदेश सेवाओं में हो, आज सब जगह नौकरियां घट रही हैं। अब उद्योगपतियों का दौर आ गया है। सारी नौकरियां outsourcing से हो रही हैं, संविदा से हो रही हैं।

महोदय, हम लोग ओबीसी कमेटी में हैं। बैठक में हमारे डा. साहब भी चर्चा कर रहे थे और आप भी हैं।

हम लोग समीक्षा करते हैं। प्रदेशों में जाते हैं, विभागवार चर्चा करते हैं, तो ओबीसी-एससी के

4.00 P.M.

आरक्षण में देखने में यह मिलता है कि आज़ादी के 70 साल बीतने के बाद भी आज आरक्षण पूरा नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... दलित में, ओबीसी और एससी में, दोनों में मैंने बताया कि आरक्षण पूरा नहीं है। जब वैकेंसीज़ निकलती हैं, तो कार्मिक मंत्रालय कह देता है कि ओबीसी के लोग योग्य नहीं पाये गये, इसलिए यह वैकेंसी रद्द करके जनरल में कर दी गयी। मैंने तो लगातार सदन में आपके संरक्षण में, चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश की 17 पिछड़ी जातियां हों या मध्य प्रदेश के मांडी समाज के लिए आरक्षण का मामला हो या बिहार के नोनिया, निषाद समाज को आरक्षण का लाभ दिलाने की बात हो, चाहे दिल्ली में हो, हर जगह ये मामले उठाये हैं। पिछली बार मैं जो संकल्प लाया था, तब मैंने कहा था कि ये जो पिछड़ी जातियां हैं, अनुसूचित जातियां हैं, इन जातियों के लोग अगर एक जिले से दूसरे जिले में चले जाते हैं, तो वे सामान्य जाति के हो जाते हैं, उनका वह आरक्षण भी खत्म हो जाता है। चूंकि सामाजिक न्याय मंत्रालय के जो माननीय मंत्री हैं, उन्होंने कहा कि हम मजबूर हैं, हम आरक्षण नहीं दे सकते, पाई-मात्रा नहीं बढ़ा सकते, तो यह सदन तो इसीलिए है कि जो जातियां इससे वंचित रह गयी हैं— बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर ने आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की थी। उन्होंने कहा था कि हर 10-10 साल में, जो लोग छूट गये हैं, उनको आरक्षण का लाभ दिया जाना चाहिए। आपने जो बात रखी है कि जो लोग लाभ पा गये हैं, वे लाभ पा रहे हैं, लेकिन सबसे बड़ा मुद्दा यह है। आज हम उत्तर प्रदेश में देख लें। जब उत्तर प्रदेश में माननीय अखिलेश यादव जी की सरकार थी तो लोग चिल्ला-चिल्ला कर कहते थे, फर्जी आंकड़े देते थे कि सारे यादव एसपी, डीएम, दारोगा हैं। आज उत्तर प्रदेश में क्या हो रहा है? वहां किस जाति के लोग दारोगा हैं, किस जाति के लोग डीएम हैं, किस जाति के लोग एसपी बने बैठे हैं? आज लोगों के साथ क्या हो रहा है? कितना अत्याचार हो रहा है? हम लोगों ने पार्लियामेंट से महिलाओं के लिए और बच्चियों के लिए बिल पास किया, लेकिन आज आगरा में पेट्रोल डाल कर दलित महिला को जलाया जा रहा है, सरकार कुम्भकर्णी नींद सो रही है, कोई एक्शन नहीं हो रहा है। हम तो कहना चाहते हैं कि ओबीसी-एससी के लिए कड़े कानून चाहे जितने बनें, लेकिन जब तक उनका पालन कराने वालों की मंशा ठीक नहीं होगी, तब तक उनको लाभ नहीं मिलने वाला है। मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि जातियां किसने बनायीं? जिसने जातियां बनायीं, उनको लाभ हुआ और तमाम जातियों, हजारों जातियों में हमको बांट दिया गया। हम एक-दूसरे से भिन्न हैं, एक-दूसरे से अलग हैं, तो राजनीति में फायदा नहीं मिलता। हम तो कहते हैं कि राजनीतिक पार्टियां हैं, अपने यहां संख्या में 27 परसेंट या 21 परसेंट का आरक्षण दीजिए, विधान सभा में, लोक सभा में टिकट दीजिए और राज्य सभा तथा एमएलसी में भी, विधान परिषदों में भी आबादी के हिसाब से आरक्षण दीजिए, लेकिन इस मामले में लोग चुप हैं। आज हमारे एक साथी को बोलना है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो 994 जातियां हैं, अभी तक उनको केवल 2 परसेंट ही लाभ मिल पाया है। आज दोहरी शिक्षा व्यवस्था है। एक गरीब का बच्चा दाल-भात खाने वाले स्कूल में पढ़ेगा और बड़े आदमी का बच्चा, अपर कास्ट का बच्चा इंग्लिश स्कूल में पढ़ेगा, तो कौन आगे जायेगा? जो अच्छे स्कूल में पढ़ेगा, वह आगे जायेगा। दो घोड़े रेस में दौड़ाये जायें, लेकिन एक की टांग पहले से तोड़ दी जाए, तो टूटी टांग वाला हारेगा और जिसकी टांगें सही हैं, वह तो रेस जीतेगा ही। यह 70 सालों से हो रहा है। यह खेल बन्द होना चाहिए। हम लोग संसद में आये हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि ओबीसी के लोगों की जनगणना करा ली जाए। हम तो कहते हैं कि 15 परसेंट ब्राह्मण, क्षत्रिय और वैश्य को भी आरक्षण दे दिया जाए, बाकी लोगों को आरक्षण नहीं

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

दिया जाए। इनकी जिनकी आबादी हो, हर चीज में इनको आरक्षण दे दिया जाए। तो उनका पूरा हो जाएगा और बाकी लोगों को सब बांट दीजिए, कोई दिक्कत नहीं है। लेकिन इसके लिए जो लोग बहुत लम्बे समय से ज्यूडिशियरी में बैठे हैं, बहुत लम्बे समय से प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय से लेकर जिला कलक्टर के कार्यालय में बैठे हैं, वे लोग नहीं छोड़ना चाहते। आज यह जो संकल्प आया है, यह बहुत ही अच्छा है, सराहनीय है। मैं डाक्टर साहब को बधाई देता हूँ कि कम से कम आपने ओबीसी की चिन्ता की। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, समय देने के लिए धन्यवाद। सदन में महात्मे जी द्वारा लाया गया Resolution बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। मैं धनगड समाज के प्रति प्रतिबद्धता और जो कुछ उन्होंने किया है, मैं उन्हें आज से नहीं जानता हूँ, बहुत दिनों से जानता हूँ लेकिन आज उनसे मेरी कुछ असहमतियाँ हैं। आपके Resolution के बाद मुझे लगता है कि कुछ तो आपकी मजबूरियाँ रही होंगी, यूँ ही कोई बेवफा नहीं होता। कुछ ऐसी चीजें इसके अंदर हैं, जो चिन्ता का विषय है। ऐसा मैं क्यों कह रहा हूँ?

महोदय, हमें बचपन से स्कूल में सिखाया जाता था कि हाशिया छोड़कर लिखा करो - Leave the margin and you will get two marks extra. बचपन से हम हाशिया छोड़ना सीख लेते हैं लेकिन यहां समाज के हाशिए को भी छोड़कर निकल जाते हैं। हाशिया हमारी चर्चा में, मुख्य-धारा में तभी आता है, जब हम उसे asset की तरह treat नहीं करते, बल्कि liability की तरह treat करते हैं। मैं कुछ महत्वपूर्ण बिन्दुओं की ओर आपका ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ। आज से तकरीबन 40 वर्ष पूर्व दूसरे सदन में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया सदन में शांति बनाए रखें। ...(व्यवधान)... आपस में बातचीत न करें। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: मैं जो जिक्र करना चाहता हूँ, वह इसी मसले से संबंधित था। प्रो. हीरेन मुखर्जी, a long-serving Parliamentarian, ने नेहरू जी की biography लिखी है— *The Gentle Colossus*. उसकी जो शुरुआती पंक्ति थी, उसे उन्होंने गौतम बुद्ध से शुरू किया। गौतम बुद्ध का जिक्र करते हुए उन्होंने कहा कि गौतम बुद्ध ने अपने पहले disciple आनन्दा से पूछा कि आनन्द, तुमने वज्जियन असैम्बली के बारे में सुना है? आनन्दा ने उत्तर दिया कि हाँ, सुना है। गौतम बुद्ध ने फिर पूछा कि क्या सुना है? हर विषय पर freely and fearlessly बातें करते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि वज्जियन तब तक decline नहीं करेंगे, जब तक वे freely and fearlessly बात करते रहेंगे — लेकिन हम decline कर गए। हम उसी वज्जियन परम्परा के हैं। आज आप देख लीजिए सदन की जो हालत है। आपको पता चल रहा है कि जब ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर चर्चा हो रही है, ऐसा मैं किसी सदस्य के लिए नहीं कह रहा हूँ लेकिन यह कहीं-न-कहीं हमारी प्राथमिकता को दर्शाता है।

श्री उपसभापति: वह तो पूरा देश देख रहा है पिछले कई दिनों से। अभी हम लोग चर्चा को आगे बढ़ाएं, वही हितकर रहेगा।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: मैं सवप्रथम कहना चाहता हूँ कि माननीय सदस्य के Resolution की जो पहली चीज़ है, संविधान adopt होने के साथ जब रिजर्वेशन शुरू हुआ — बहुत sweeping चीज़ें विकास भाई ने कही हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इतने दिनों के बावजूद आरक्षण है — कितने दिनों के बाद? हजार वर्षों की पीढ़ा रही है जिसके बदले आरक्षण नाम का एक instrument आया। हमारे Secretariat Staff के कॉमरेड जो वहां कुर्सी लगाकर बैठते हैं, आप एक कुर्सी उठाकर देख लीजिए। उसके नीचे दाग पड़ा हुआ है। अगर एक कुर्सी की वजह से, खास जगह पर रखी रहने से दाग पड़ गया तो समाज में वंचित और हाशिए के समूहों पर कैसा दाग रहा होगा? आप कह रहे हैं कि 50-55-56 साल हो गए, 60 साल हो गए, बहुत हो गया — ऐसे बहुत मिथक चलाए जाते हैं। बड़े-बड़े नेता और television anchors — सारा ज्ञान का भंडार आजकल television anchors के पास है, हमारे आपके और विश्वविद्यालयों में नहीं है। वे कहते हैं कि बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर ने कहा था कि 10 वर्ष के लिए आरक्षण लाया गया है।

श्री उपसभापति: आपका समय पूरा हो रहा है, आप जल्दी खत्म करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... समय आप सब तय करते हैं, मैंने तय नहीं किया है माननीय झा साहब। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो नियम और व्यवस्था राज्य सभा के लिए बनी है, वह सबकी सहमति से बनी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मेरा फर्ज है आपको याद दिलाना। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अब कृपया आप बोलें।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: इस तरह क्या होता है कि मिजाज़ ही खराब हो जाता है।

श्री उपसभापति: अब आप बोलें और जल्दी खत्म करें। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: अभी तो मैंने विचारों को बांधना शुरू किया है।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, अब आप समेटें, यही मैं आग्रह कर रहा हूँ, क्योंकि आपका समय निर्धारित है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोग बैठें, प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: मैं भूल ही गया कि क्या कह रहा था। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिनका जिक्र मैं कर रहा था, वे कहते हैं कि 10 वर्ष के लिए व्यवस्था की गई है — यह ऐसा मिथक है और हर जगह लोग पूछते हैं कि 10 वर्ष के लिए तय आरक्षण क्यों बढ़ाया जा रहा है? सर, वो 10 वर्ष वाली बात Legislative Assemblies and Parliament की व्यवस्था की। पब्लिक एम्प्लॉयमेंट में 10 वर्ष का कोई bar नहीं था — बाबा साहेब की ओर से। बाबा साहेब को misquote करके गूगल में भी आज वही चल रहा है, हम सब देख रहे हैं। बाबा साहेब कहते हैं कि ऐसा नहीं था, लेकिन कहा जाता है कि नहीं, हमने WhatsApp में देखा, जैसे WhatsApp कोई भगवान है, जो कह दिया। वही चल रहा है।

दूसरी चीज़ जो मुझे परेशान कर रही है, विकास जी, वह है - sub-categorization. लगातार इस सदन में भी मैंने कहा है कि sub-categorization एक instrument है। आप पूरी backward class solidarity को break करना चाहते हैं। मित्कियत का पता नहीं और बंटवारा कर रहे हैं। जातिगत जनगणना पर कौन कुंडली मारकर बैठा हुआ है? बहुत पैसे खर्च हुए हैं, मैंने सवाल पूछा था, तो सवाल के जवाब में पता चला कि जिस व्यक्ति को यह जिम्मेवारी दी, हालांकि वे anthropologist नहीं थे, जिनको यह जिम्मेवारी दी गई थी। कायदे से यह काम किसी

[प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा]

anthropologist को देना चाहिए था, लेकिन इस सरकार में तो कुछ भी हो सकता है, आरबीआई, सीबीआई वाले चलाएंगे, सीबीआई, आरबीआई वाले चलाएंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: झा साहब, आप मूल विषय पर आएँ।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, मैंने यह थोड़ा हास्य के लिए कहा था, और कोई गंभीर बात नहीं थी। मैं यह कहना चाह रहा हूँ कि sub-categorisation तब तक संभव नहीं है, जब तक जातिगत जनगणना के आंकड़े... हमें जानना है कि ठेलेवाला कौन है, हमें जानना है कि सिर पर फेरी कौन लगा रहा है, हमें जानना है कि भूमिहीन कौन है?

सर, हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने क्लास और कास्ट की बात की। हिन्दुस्तान में तो दिक्कत यह है कि क्लास और कास्ट ऐसे गले मिला हुआ है। पार्लियामेंट के बाहर ही random एक सैम्पल सर्वे कर लीजिए, लोअर क्लास और लोअर कास्ट मिलते नजर आएंगे, कहीं कोई भेद नहीं है। वह क्लास की यूरोपियन ऐनालिसिस अलग है, लेकिन हमारे मुल्क की हकीकत बिल्कुल अलग है। सर, मैं यह भी कहूंगा कि अभी रोस्टर पर बहुत बात चल रही है। सरकार की ओर से एसएलपी डाला हुआ है, जब हम लोगों की ओर से दबाव गया। सर, नियुक्तियाँ रुकी हुई हैं। आप अपने से पता कर लीजिए और आपमें से कोई गूगल कीजिए कि विश्वविद्यालयों में ओबीसी, एससी, एसटी की क्या परिस्थिति है? 13-point roster, जिसको कई और विश्वविद्यालय, बावजूद डायरेक्शन के उसका यूज कर रहे हैं। उसमें क्या हो रहा है? सर, उसमें एसटी की पोजिशन ही नहीं आ रही है। यह हालत है। मेरे साथियों ने कहा, आपने भी कहा कि रिजर्वेशन खैरात है, जबकि यह खैरात नहीं है। हमारी जुबान में खैरात की शब्दावली आ गई है कि हम खैरात दे रहे हैं। बहुत दिन दे दिया, अब कितना देंगे? आप अपने पाप का प्रायश्चित्त कर रहे हैं और पाप हजारों साल के हैं, इसलिए प्रायश्चित्त में वक्त लगेगा।

सर, मैं एक आखिरी टिप्पणी करना चाहूंगा, माफी चाहता हूँ, यह Weighted Indexing System..., यह समझना जरूरी होगा कि ये सारी चीजें बेमानी है, you are throwing the baby with bath water. अगर मैं इसका अंग्रेजी से तजुर्मा करूँ, तो कल्पना से सिहर जाइएगा कि छोटे बच्चे को नहलाने के बाद पानी के साथ बच्चे को फेंक देना, फर्श पर जाकर बच्चा गिर रहा है, ऐसा न किया जाए। अभी बहुत सारी मंजिलें बाकी हैं। आपने बाकायदा कुछ जातियों के नाम लिए, न जाने इस डेटा का सोर्स क्या है? आप कहते हैं कि यादव, कुर्मी, जाट, सैनी, थेवर, एझावा, वोक्कालिगा, इन्होंने सारा खा लिया। यह तो आप मिथक को तथ्य का रूप दे रहे हैं। मैं तो परेशान हूँ कि हम किस दिशा में जा रहे हैं? सब कर लीजिएगा, लेकिन एक बार जातिगत जनगणना के आंकड़े बाहर ला दीजिए, वह पेश कर दीजिए, फिर जैसा होगा, हम लोग मिल बैठ करके निर्णय कर लेंगे, लेकिन यह नहीं होगा कि जनगणना के आंकड़े नहीं आएंगे। जनगणना के आंकड़ों की बहाली के लिए और उसके filter out के लिए जिसको रखा गया, मैंने उस पर भी कुछ आवाज़ उठाई थी कि यह काम anthropologist का होता है। जब मंडल आयोग आया, तो मंडल आयोग में जितनी भी स्टडीज़ हुईं, वह सब anthropologist ने किया था, लेकिन अब कुछ भी हो सकता है।

सर, मैं समझ रहा हूँ कि समय की पाबंदी है, लेकिन मैं एक आखिरी टिप्पणी करना चाहता हूँ कि बाबा साहेब ने एक बात कही थी।

श्री उपसभापति: मनोज जी, आप अपनी बात समाप्त करें।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, मैं बस एक मिनट और लूंगा। आज शुक्रवार है और हाउस भी खाली है तथा इसमें टाइम भी बहुत है।

श्री उपसभापति: झा साहब, कई शुक्रवार आए, हम सबने कोशिश की।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, आपने बहुत कोशिश की, लेकिन क्या हुआ था, वह भी हमें पता है।

श्री उपसभापति: मुझे कहना नहीं चाहिए, लेकिन सिर्फ रिकॉर्ड के लिए कहता हूँ कि पिछली दफा विडोज पर बहस हो रही थी, हमने उस समय सबसे कहा, सबसे निवेदन किया, मैंने कई लोगों के नाम पुकारे, जो आज बोलना चाहते थे, रिकॉर्ड पर पांच-पांच बार नाम लिए। कम-से-कम इन सवालियों पर तो हम लोग सहमति बनाएं। कृपया आप अपनी बात पूरी करें।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, मैं यही कहना चाह रहा हूँ, यह मेरी आखिरी टिप्पणी है कि इतनी सारी दिक्कतें हैं, हमको एक sweeping generalization में नहीं जाना चाहिए, मिथक को तथ्य नहीं बनाना चाहिए और हमारी पूरी कोशिश होनी चाहिए कि इन मसलों में हम कभी यह कोशिश न करें कि इस वोट बैंक को साधा जाए, उस वोट बैंक को साधा जाए। सर, एक महापुरुष हुए हैं, मैं उनका नाम नहीं लूंगा, क्योंकि लोगों को नागवार गुजरेगा। उन महापुरुष ने 60 के दशक में कहा था कि आरक्षण की वजह से अगड़ी जातियों में आक्रोश तो होना स्वाभाविक है। अब उस महापुरुष का यह वेद वाक्य अलग-अलग मामलों से निकलता है, किसी-न-किसी बहाने निकल जाता है, कभी इस तरह से, कभी उस तरह से, इसलिए इसको तय करना होगा।

सर, आखिर में दिक्कत है, हम बड़े मुश्किल दिनों में चल रहे हैं:—

*"जरा सा कतरा कहीं आज अगर उभरता है,
समंदरों के लहजे में ही बात करता है।"*

शुक्रिया सर।

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Thank you Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir.

Sir, while I support the Resolution of Dr. Vikas Mahatme, my first request to the Government is that the Government should ensure that the percentage of reservation provided to various classes is followed in its strict sense because if you go through all Government departments, you would never see that 27 per cent reservation fulfilled. It is 20 per cent, 18 per cent. It is like that.

Sir, when I was in Lok Sabha, with a Committee I had been to one State and one Central Government institution. The officials there said: 'Sir, we have followed reservation in full. Reservation is provided to students - 27 per cent for OBCs etc.'

They said all those things. Then I asked them: What is the position of faculty? They had no answer. So, when they could fill up students, in the faculty, only upper class people were there and no backward classes. So, that is the position.

Sir, I come from Tamil Nadu, the State which has the most percentage of reservation for OBCs. It was one of the first States to introduce Communal G.O. wherein rotation of employment was held way back in 1928, which is around ninety years from now. Still, I do not think that ninety years is enough. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं पुनः आग्रह करना चाहूँगा कि हम आपस में बातचीत के बजाय माननीय सांसद को सुनें। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN: Ninety years is not enough time to make all the backward people forward. This issue is not related to employment. I am backward because I am born backward. My son is going to be backward. My father was a backward. My generation is going to be backward. What will make me forward? This employment? This position as a Member of Parliament? No! I am still backward. That is why the Constitution-makers defined it in 1950, in the First Amendment, which clearly states that it is for socially and educationally backward, not economically. I may be rich but I am still backward. That is why we need the reservation. The society does not regard me, does not respect me and make me a forward man. It is not possible. I do not want to go into that. That would go into some other direction.

In Tamil Nadu, when the DMK was in power, our Leader, Dr. M. Karunanidhi, was the Chief Minister. He introduced another class called 'Most Backward Class', what Dr. Mahatma wanted here and 20 per cent of the total reservation for Backward Classes was given to the Most Backward Classes. So, that reservation within reservation has helped certain communities to come up, which were left out in this process. He had introduced a scheme of granting five marks for the first generation graduates in the State. Whoever came from a family which had no graduate, the first generation graduate would get five marks more than the other graduates so that he was also included in the development process.

So, these are schemes which the Government should ensure. The first thing that the Government of India should ensure is to see whether the reservation is followed in full as per the Government Order.

Sir, I would like to give one example. The Central Government Notification says that for Class A officers - 27 per cent; for Class B officers - 27 per cent; for Class C officers also - 27 per cent; but for Class D employees, the reservation percentage is as applicable in the States. Tamil Nadu has 69 per cent of reservation.

You come to Tamil Nadu and see whether 69 per cent of the people are holding Class D posts. No! It is also 27 per cent. So whatever the Government G.O. says, it is not followed by the Government of India. So, I want the Government to ensure that the reservation percentage, as notified by the Government, should be followed in full. That is the first thing. The second thing is that we are demanding for a caste-wise census which is yet to take place.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): It was completed in 2013.

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN: I want to differ from my friend. They said that we wanted class-wise census while the census was taken. But, we were told that when the BPL account was taken, they will take the caste-wise census. But, it is not released. If the caste-wise figures are available, I think the Government can come out with a programme of more reservation for the deserving people. That is a welcome scheme. Nobody is going to contest it. But, particularly, when ten families in a community develop, naturally, more percentage of reservation will go to them. If everybody is given an opportunity, then everybody will grow. With these words, I thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the next speaker is Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, caste-wise census has been completed in 2013, but the results are yet to be published.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): I personally welcome the Resolution moved by Dr. Vikas Mahatme except the suggestions made by him that of weighted indexing system to be introduced. Sir, to introduce that system or to revise or to do anything with the reservation system which is existing now, we should have the statistics which is related to that socio-economic survey and that must be placed before the House. It should be available with the Government. Thus, there is a big difference between the India and *Bharat* today. India has become elite people's paradise. *Bharat* has become the poor people's hut or slum. Sir, I must tell you that we are thinking of cities, further smart cities and much more smart cities also. We may think about it. But, we have not thought of villages where only old people are living. They are living in huts. They are living in *haudis*. They are living in colonies. We have not thought of those people before revising the reservation system. I wanted to tell you that a lot of reformers have come in this country. I come from the land of Basavanna of twelfth century, who demanded a caste-less, class-less society. Basavanna was born in a *Brahmin* community, and when somebody asked him as to who he was, he said, "I am son of a *Chamaro*".

[Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah]

In Kannada he says,[†] “Maadaara Channayyana maneya maga, daasiya maga, tottina maga. Naanu haaruvanu endare Koodala Sangama Deva mechchuvanenu?”

"If I had told that I am son of a *Brahmin* then, my God, Kudalasangama *Deva* would never agree with me. So, I am son of a *Chamar*." That is what he claimed. He tried to revise it. In the whole world, where there was no concept of democracy, it is the Basavanna Movement which brought the concept of democracy which is called Anubhava Mantapa in those days. That Anubhava Mantapa has got all kinds of people. There was a prostitute who used to participate in this Anubhava Mantapa. There were low-caste people who were there and all sections of the community were there. That was the land of Basavanna. But, today, I am sorry to say that we still practice untouchability. There was no village. In Karnataka, we have about 29,000 villages. I don't find 29 villages without untouchability. In this country, there are five lakh villages and I do not find 50 villages where there is no untouchability. Sir, under this condition, can you revise the reservation system which is prevailing now? Yes, reservation is not implemented in the true spirit. Sir, when the reservation was going to be implemented during the Independence time, there was a discussion between Mahatma Gandhiji and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. Mahatma Gandhiji said, 'Let it be only for five years'. Dr. Ambedkar said, 'It should be for a minimum of 25 years to experience, to experiment it.' Then, on compromise, it came to ten years. Why is it ten years? To revise and to find out whether the reservation policies are implemented in their true spirit and with honesty. Gandhiji believed that in five years or ten years, all the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes would be at par with the other communities of the society. Sir, even after seventy years, the Scheduled Castes are there wherever they were and the upper castes are there wherever they were. There is a very, very meagre difference now. Sir, it is true that because of education, we have become clerks, we have become employees; some have become IAS and IPS officers; some people have become the parliamentarians and legislators. Sir, the big lot, even today, is suffering from untouchability and caste stigma. Sir, what is the answer to this? Whichever is the Government—I am not going to name the parties--have we honestly implemented the reservation? Sir, in Group D, where the people are working in scavenging and cleaning, hundred per cent reservation is implemented for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. Whereas, from Class-I to Class-III, even today, as per the stipulations of the Government, reservation has not been implemented for which no officer is punished, which no political party has seen and introspected and admitted that they have done this mistake. It was not

[†] Transliteration of original speech delivered in Kannada.

done all these years. Instead, the reservation has been misquoted, misrepresented, misused. Sir, I will tell you that there are some synonymous names which are prevailing in Scheduled Castes and in some of the upper castes. Take for example, the Brahmin community in Karnataka. Those people have taken the Scheduled Caste certificates. The backward class people have taken the Scheduled Caste certificates. They were telling that approximately one lakh jobs have been snatched away by the other community people who are not from the Scheduled Castes. Not even one was punished; not even one was sent to jail; not even one was dismissed from the Government service. They were all protected. Under these circumstances, can you say that the code system would come? Yes, I agree. First, let us have the statistics as to how many people are from the land-owning class in these communities. Sir, Dr. Lohiaji said that India is a country where class is a caste and caste is a class. There is no difference between class and caste in this country. That was endorsed by Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar. In recommending this reservation system, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar was telling that it is not going to solve the problem of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or OBCs. It will not be the only solution. It is only a small help in bringing those people into the public domain. It is only that one small help we are doing to them so that they come to the public offices. Sir, I wanted to ask one more question to this august House. There are some areas where reservation is not implemented. Sir, Judiciary is one. There is a demand to implement reservation in Judiciary also from so many organisations. Okay, let us accept that it has not been done so far. But what is the percentage of judges in the High Courts and the Supreme Court? Even today, you don't find a judge in many of the High Courts from Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe community. I will tell you, there are no judges at all in the Supreme Court, even today, as per the representation of their population. Sir, if there was no reservation in this country, just think over, Sir, what would have been the fate of these communities while entering into the public domain, either in the Government service or for political representation. Sir, if there was no reservation politically, I doubt not even one fellow would have been an MLA or MLC or a Member in Lok Sabha or Rajya Sabha. Even today there is no reservation in Rajya Sabha and Vidhan Parishads. Just because our political parties wanted them to vote in their favour, they have been coming to these institutions. Otherwise, we would not have come to these institutions. Under these circumstances, there are some people who tried since ages. Sir, there was no Shahu Maharaj who helped Ambedkar and who introduced reservation at that time. It was Mysore Maharaja called Krishnaraja Wodeyar who introduced reservation, who also allowed the Scheduled Castes people study Sanskrit. He was honouring them in his palace. They were either one or two or three or four who studied Sanskrit, who passed Sanskrit. He used to call them

[Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah]

to his palace and honour them. That was the day. They have all tried to reform the society, but the Indian society did not get reformed. Even today, it is suffering from the stigma of untouchability, the stigma of caste system and it has not come out of the caste system. But, on the other hand, Sir, there are moments when some are saying, 'Stop this reservation. The merit is going out of this country.' I think there are people who ask, 'What do you mean by merit?'

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. Your time is over.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Okay, Sir. What do you mean by merit? Sir, merit is your socio-economic background and as my counterpart said, if you are born as a Scheduled Caste, you will be a Scheduled Caste forever. However rich you are, however intelligent you are, however many degrees you possess, you will not be called an upper caste, you will be a Scheduled Caste. Sir, Babu Jagjivan Ram was a Minister in the Central Government for more than 40 years. In Banaras Hindu University, he inaugurated the statue of Swami Sampurna Ananda. As soon as he came out of it, that was again inaugurated by the caste Hindus. That was the state of affairs to Babuji himself. Then, what about the common Scheduled Caste people of this country who are approximately about 30 crores? They are 30 crores in this country. They are not organised because of their poverty.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Okay, Sir. That is why I request that the reservation system should be looked into scientifically; firstly, see whether we have implemented those. To implement that, I urge upon the Government of India to have a strong Commission for that. We have a lot of commissions which are not doing anything. So, to implement the reservation policy, please appoint a Commission, give it ten years' time; then review that and then you can think of revising the reservation system. Thank you very much, Sir.

श्री उपसभापति: श्री रामकुमार जी, आपकी पार्टी के पास महज 5 मिनट का समय बचा है। कृपया आप इसका ध्यान रखें।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): सम्माननीय उपसभापति जी, आपका धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे अवसर दिया है। मैं सवर्प्रथम डा. विकास महात्मे जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने इस Resolution के माध्यम से, जो प्रस्ताव पेश किया है, उसमें उन्होंने SC, ST, OBC की जातियों के लिए चिताएं व्यक्त की हैं। उनकी जो चिताएं हैं, वे वाजिब हैं। उन्होंने कुल मिलाकर निष्कर्ष में यह कहा है कि 1947 के बाद SC, ST के आरक्षण लागू होने के बाद, भारत का Constitution 1950 में लागू होने के बाद और विभिन्न प्रावधानों के बावजूद, आज भी उस वर्ग को उसका पूरा

लाभ नहीं मिल रहा है। इसी तरह से OBC के संबंध में 1993 से लागू होने के बाद में उसका लाभ तो मिल रहा है, लेकिन SC, ST में भी और OBC में भी, ऐसी कुछ जातियां हैं, जिनको उस आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं मिलता है। इस बारे में उनकी चिंताएं विशेष रूप से रही हैं कि इसका लाभ कुछ Castes को मिलता है और कुछ को नहीं मिलता है। इनकी बात में सत्यता है। उन्होंने यह भी चिंता व्यक्त की है कि आज भी SC का व्यक्ति अस्पृश्यता और untouchability से परेशान है। यह भी वास्तविक है कि दलित के साथ अत्याचार होता है। मैं बहुत संक्षेप में यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आपकी चिंताएं वाजिब हैं। 1947 से पहले यानी Pre-Independence era में पहले आरक्षण की व्यवस्था थी और 1919 से, 1935 के ऐक्ट से और अगर मैं यह कहूं कि पूना पैक्ट 1932 से, जिसके बैकग्राउंड को लेकर डा. बी.आर. अम्बेडकर साहब ने और महात्मा गांधी जी ने पूना पैक्ट किया था। जब राउंड टेबल कांफ्रेंस हुई थी, उसमें भी डा. बी. आर. अम्बेडकर ने अपने विचार व्यक्त किये थे कि देश के अंदर आज़ादी तो हम ले लेंगे, लेकिन आज़ादी के बाद एक बहुसंख्यक वर्ग ऐसा रहेगा, जिसको वास्तव में आज़ादी नहीं मिलेगी। उसी चिंता को मद्देनज़र रखते हुए, यह आरक्षण की व्यवस्था लागू की गई थी। हम प्रियेम्बल से लेकर आर्टिकल की बात करें, तो आर्टिकल 14, 15, 16, 46, 330, 335, 341, और 342 में प्रावधान किया हुआ है, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से मैं यह कहूं कि इनकी चिंता वास्तविक है। देश की आज़ादी के बाद से, 1947 से यह व्यवस्था होने के बाद भी, अभी तक उसका प्रॉपर इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं हुआ है। अभी भी कुछ जातियां एस.सी. में भी हैं, एस.टी. में भी हैं और ओबीसी में भी हैं, जिनको आरक्षण का फायदा नहीं मिला है। ओबीसी के लोगों को 1947 के बाद से, कांस्टीट्यूशन लागू होने के बाद से, जो आरक्षण का लाभ मिलना चाहिए था, वह नहीं मिला और उनको 1993 तक वेट करना पड़ा। सर, मैं संक्षेप में इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा, क्योंकि आपने ज्यादा समय नहीं दिया है।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं, नहीं, आपके पास पांच मिनट का ही समय था।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा: सर, मैं एक मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म करता हूं। मैं महात्मे जी की बात से सहमत तो हूं, लेकिन जिस तरह से इन्होंने कहा कि इन कास्टों का जो वर्गीकरण किया गया, उनके समूह अगर ढंग से बनाएं और वेटेड इंडेक्स सिस्टम लागू करें, तो शायद उनको जस्टिस मिलेगा। मैं आदरणीय सांसद महोदय को इतना कहना चाहूंगा कि यह सिस्टम तो आपको अच्छा लगता है, लेकिन यह बहुत complicated है और यह व्यावहारिक नहीं है। अभी हमें जोर इस बात पर देना है कि 1947 से लेकर आज तक जो एजुकेशन का स्तर होना चाहिए था, वह नहीं हुआ है। आज जो एस.सी./एस.टी. की समस्या है, एस.सी. वर्ग में भी ऐसा वर्ग है, जो एजुकेटेड नहीं है। जो हमारे रिजर्वेशन का परसेंटेज है, जो रिजर्वेशन का कोटा है, वह आज तक भी पूरा नहीं हुआ है। उसके बाद एक कॉलम आता है, ऐसा बहुत सारे इंस्टीट्यूशन्स में होता है, suitable candidates not available, इस तरह की जो लाइन आती है, तो सबसे पहले इसका समाधान यह है कि एजुकेशन सिस्टम को सुधारा जाए। आज़ादी के 70 साल के बाद भी एजुकेशन सिस्टम में ऐसा नहीं बना है कि कोई एस.सी. का व्यक्ति कम्पीट कर सके, कोई एस.टी. का व्यक्ति कम्पीट कर सके। ओबीसी में भी कुछ जातियां ऐसी हैं, जो काफी पिछड़ी हुई हैं। इस बारे में मेरा यह सजेशन होगा कि आपका यह रिजोल्यूशन बढ़िया है, लेकिन हमारे माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में सरकार ने जो कार्य किए हैं, वे दलित वर्ग के लिए, निर्धन वर्ग के लिए और

[श्री रामकुमार वर्मा]

ओबीसी के लिए किए हैं। एस.सी./एस.टी. की तरह ओबीसी के लिए एक कमीशन का गठन भी किया है। हमारे यहां पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक बहस होती है, इसलिए मैं सभी राजनीतिक पार्टियों से अनुरोध करना चाहूंगा कि धरातल पर क्या स्थिति है, उसको भी ध्यान में रखा जाए। हमारे डा. एल. हनुमंतय्या जी ने और बी. के. हरिप्रसाद जी ने तथा सभी सदस्यों ने कहा है कि आज भी देश के अंदर एस.सी. वर्ग के लोगों को न्याय नहीं मिला है। जैसा कि हमारे महंत शम्भुप्रसाद जी तुंदिया जी ने भी कहा था कि आज भी वह वर्ग अपने सामाजिक न्याय के लिए इंतजार कर रहा है। उसे अभी तक न्याय क्यों नहीं मिला? संविधान का प्रॉविजन है, कानून है, ऐक्ट है, सब कुछ है, लेकिन अभी तक हमारी मानसिकता चेंज नहीं हुई है। हम सभी लोग समरसता का वातावरण पैदा करें और समाज में भाईचारे की भावना पैदा करें। हमारी संस्कृति है कि हम निर्बल की सहायता करें। गौतम बुद्ध की ज़मीन पर यह भावना रही है कि हम निर्बल को सबल बनायें और इसी भावना को लेकर हम काम करें, तो यह उनके लिए अच्छा होगा। मैं महात्मे जी की चिंताओं का समर्थन तो करता हूं, लेकिन आपने जो सजेसन्स दिए हैं, वे व्यावहारिक नहीं हैं, इसलिए मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूं कि एजुकेशन में उनको प्राथमिकता देते हुए, उनको इतना सक्षम बनायें कि वे भी रिज़र्वेशन कोटा का लाभ ले सकें। एक सामान्य धारणा है, जिसे मैं क्लियर करना चाहूंगा कि पॉलिटिकल रिज़र्वेशन और सर्विस रिज़र्वेशन दोनों अलग-अलग हैं। सर्विस रिज़र्वेशन में समय की कोई सीमा नहीं थी, उसमें सभी को सामाजिक न्याय और प्रॉपर रिप्रजेंटेशन मिलेगा, बराबर नम्बर हो जायेंगे, तब वह आटोमैटिकली समाप्त हो जाएगा। सर्विस रिज़र्वेशन के लिए कहा जाता है कि वह दस साल के लिए है, लेकिन यह दस साल के लिए नहीं है, बल्कि पॉलिटिकल रिज़र्वेशन को दस साल के लिए बढ़ाना पड़ता है। सर, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय जावेद अली खान साहब, आपके पास आपकी पार्टी के खाते में सिर्फ एक मिनट है। इसलिए आप कृपया समय का ध्यान रख कर अपनी बात समाप्त करें।

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति जी, यदि आपकी कृपा बनी रही, तो मैं तय समय में अपनी बात समाप्त कर सकूंगा।

جناب جاوید علی خان (اثر پردیش): مہودے، مائے اپ سبھا پی جی، اگر آپ کی کرپے

بری رہی، تو می طے وقت می اپنی بات ختم کر سکو گاہے۔

श्री उपसभापति: इसमें मेरी कृपा नहीं, बल्कि आप सभी ने जो व्यवस्था बनाई है, उसी का मैं पालन कर रहा हूं। मेरी कोई व्यवस्था नहीं है। यह हम सबकी बनाई हुई व्यवस्था है।

श्री जावेद अली खान: सभापति जी, मुझे जानकारी है कि मेरी पार्टी का समय अब कम रह गया है, इसलिए मैं बहुत संक्षेप में तीन-चार बातें इस संकल्प के प्रति, जो हमारे साथी माननीय सदस्य, डा. विकास महात्मे ने रखी हैं, उसके संबंध में कहना चाहूंगा। हमारे देश में आखिर आरक्षण क्यों लागू किया गया? संविधान के निर्माताओं ने और जब मैं यह शब्द "संविधान के

निर्माता" कहता हूँ, तो उस वक्त आजादी के आंदोलन में जिन लोगों ने बढ़-चढ़ कर हिस्सा लिया था, उन लोगों से मेरा आशय होता है। बाद में सत्ता परिवर्तन के बाद, अंग्रेजों के जाने के बाद, जिनके हाथ में कामकाज आया, उन्होंने इस बात को महसूस किया कि हमारे देश के अंदर पिछड़ापन बहुत है और सामाजिक विसंगतियां बहुत हैं। इसलिए संविधान में लिखा गया कि सामाजिक और शैक्षिक रूप से पिछड़े लोगों को यह आरक्षण दिया जाएगा। अनुसूचित जातियों को तो तभी दे दिया गया और अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों को, जो उनके अलावा पिछड़े थे, उन्हें आरक्षण देने का काम हमने एक संकल्प वर्ष 1993 में पारित कर के दिया और अपना वादा पूरा किया और उन्हें 27 प्रतिशत आरक्षण दिया गया।

महोदय, डा. विकास महात्मे जी ने जो संकल्प यहां प्रस्तुत किया है, वैसे तो महात्मे जी मेरे पड़ोसी भी हैं और साइकिल पर चलते हैं, जो हमारा चुनाव निशान है, इसलिए मुझे लगता नहीं कि यह कैसे एक बहुत ही साजिश भरा संकल्प महात्मे जी ला सकते हैं। मैं साजिश इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि जब भी आरक्षण लागू हुआ या आरक्षण की बात आई, तो आरक्षण को खत्म करने के लिए इस देश के अंदर आवाजें उठी हैं, फिर चाहे वह अनुसूचित जातियों का आरक्षण लागू हुआ हो। यहां तक कि जब 10 साल की सीमा बढ़ाने का सवाल आता है, तब भी इस देश की सड़कों पर अनेक लोग निकलते हैं और आरक्षण के विरोध में आत्मदाह तक करते हैं। जब पिछड़ों को आरक्षण दिया गया था, तो पूरे देश का नज़ारा हम लोगों ने बड़े अच्छे तरीके से देखा था कि क्या-क्या हुआ था।

महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश के अंदर आरक्षण हो, यह कतई जरूरी नहीं है। मैं समाजवादी हूँ, डा. लोहिया की पार्टी का हूँ। उसके बावजूद मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि देश के अंदर आरक्षण जरूरी नहीं है, लेकिन जिन कारणों से आरक्षण दिया गया है— सामाजिक पिछड़ापन एवं शैक्षिक पिछड़ापन, जब तक वे कारण मौजूद रहेंगे, तब तक आरक्षण मौजूद रहना चाहिए। यह हर समझदार पार्टी का, हर समझदार सत्ता का, हर समझदार व्यक्ति का काम होना चाहिए।

महोदय, इस संकल्प के अंदर डा. विकास महात्मे जी की तरफ से कह दिया गया कि कुछ जातियों ने पिछड़ी जातियों का आरक्षण हड़प लिया और उसमें जातियों के नाम दे दिए, जिनका जिक्र झा साहब ने किया, खासतौर से यादवों का नाम, कुर्मियों का नाम और जाटों का नाम कि ये पिछड़ों का आरक्षण हड़प गए। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यादव पिछड़े नहीं हैं? श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव यहां नहीं हैं, मैं उनसे पूछता, रूपाला जी बैठे हैं, क्या कुर्मी पिछड़े नहीं हैं? क्या इन्होंने वाकई इन जातियों का आरक्षण हड़प लिया, रूपाला जी बता दें? मैं जाटों से भी पूछना चाहता हूँ, यदि यहां कोई जाट साथी हों। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

جناب جاوید علی خان: سبھا پی جی، مجھے جانکاری ہے کہ میں یی پارٹی کا وقت اب کم

رہ گئی ہے، اس لئے میں بہت سنکڑی میں تھیں چار بائیں اس سنکڑی کے تھے، جو ہمارے ساتھی مائے سدسنے، ڈاکٹر وکاس مہاتمے نے رکھی تھی، اس کے سمبندھ میں کہنا چاہوں گا۔ ہمارے دیش میں آخر آرکشن کھوں لاگو کئی گئی؟ سنودھان کے نرماتاؤں نے اور جب میں یی شبد "سنودھان کے نرماتا" کہتا ہوں، تو اس وقت آزادی کے آندولن میں

جن لوگوں نے بڑھ چڑھ کر حصہ لیا تھا، ان لوگوں سے میرا آٹے ہوتا ہے۔ بعد میں سٹہ پریرتن کے بعد، انگریزوں کے جانے کے بعد، جن کے ہاتھ میں کام کاج آئے انہوں نے اس بات کو محسوس کیا کہ ہمارے دیش کے اندر پچھڑاپن بہت ہے اور سماجک وسنگٹلی بہت ہے۔ اس لئے سنودھان میں لکھا گیا کہ سماجک اور شریکشیک روپ سے پچھڑے لوگوں کو ہی آرکشن دی جائے گا۔ انوسوچت جانتوں کو تو تبھی دے دی گئی اور دیگر پچھڑے ورگوں کو، جو ان کے علاوہ پچھڑے تھے، انہی آرکشن دینے کا کام ہم نے ایک سنکلیپ سال 1993 میں پارٹ کر کے دی اور اپنا وعدہ پورا کیا اور انہی 27 فیصد آرکشن دی گئی

مہودے، ڈاکٹر وکاس مہاتمے جی نے جو سنکلیپ تیاں پرسٹت کی ہے، ویسے تو مہاتمے جی میں پڑوسی بھی ہے اور ساٹھکل پر چلتے ہیں، جو ہمارا چناؤ نشان ہے، اس لئے مجھے لگتا ہے کہ یہ کیسے ایک بہت ہی سازش بھرا سنکلیپ مہاتما جی لا سکتے ہیں۔ میں 'سازش' اس لئے کہہ رہا ہوں کہ جب بھی آرکشن لاگو ہوا ہی آرکشن کی بات آئی، تو آرکشن کو ختم کرنے کے لئے اس دیش کے اندر آوازی اٹھی ہے، پھر چاہے وہ انوسوچت جانتوں کا آرکشن لاگو ہوا ہو۔ تیاں تک کہ جب 10 سال کی سرکھا بڑھانے کا سوال آتا ہے، تب بھی اس دیش کی سڑکوں پر ایک لوگ نکلتے ہیں اور آرکشن کے ورودھ میں خودکشی تک کرتے ہیں۔ جب پچھڑوں کو آرکشن دی گئی تھا، تو پورے دیش کا نظارہ ہم لوگوں نے بڑے اچھے طریقے سے دیکھا تھا کہ کی کی ہو رہا تھا۔

مہودے، میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ہمارے دیش کے اندر آرکشن ہو، یہ قطعی ضروری ہے۔ میں سماجوا دی ہوں، ڈاکٹر لوہی کی پارٹی کا ہوں۔ اس کے باوجود میں یہ کہہ رہا ہوں کہ دیش کے اندر آرکشن ضروری ہے، لیکن جن کارنوں سے آرکشن دی گئی ہے، سماجک پچھڑاپن اور شریکشیک پچھڑاپن، جب تک وہ کارن موجود رہی گے، تب تک آرکشن موجود رہنا چاہئے۔ یہ ہر سمجھداد پارٹی کا، ہر سمجھدار سٹہ کا، ہر سمجھدار آدمی کا کام ہونا چاہئے۔

مہودے، اس سنکلیپ کے اندر ڈاکٹر وکاس مہاتمے جی کی طرف سے کہہ دی گئی کہ کچھ جانتوں نے پچھڑی جانتوں کا آرکشن ہڑپ لیا اور اس میں جانتوں کے نام دے دیے، جن کا ذکر جہا صاحب نے کی خاص طور سے عیدوں کا نام، کرمیوں کا نام اور جاٹوں کا نام کہ یہ پچھڑوں کا آرکشن ہڑپ لئے۔ میں پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ کی عیدو پچھڑے نہیں ہیں؟ شری بھوپندر عیدو تیاں نہیں ہیں، میں ان سے پوچھتا، روپالا جی بٹھے ہیں، کی

کرمی پچھڑے نہی ہی؟ کئی انہوں نے واقعی ان جانئیں کا آرکشن بڑپ لٹا، روپلا جی بتا دی، مئی جائوں سے بھی پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں، اگر تیاں کوئی جاٹ ساٹھی ہوں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

ش्री उपसभापति: खान साहब, यह बात ठीक नहीं है। आप व्यक्तिगत रूप से किसी का नाम न लें और मेरा आग्रह है कि आप चेयर को संबोधित कर के बोलें, माननीय सदस्यों की तरफ देखकर सवाल न करें।

श्री जावेद अली खान: उपसभापति जी, मैं एक बात कह रहा हूँ। जिस दिन उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्री, श्री अखिलेश यादव, मुख्य मंत्री पद से हटे और जब नए मुख्य मंत्री सत्ता में आए, तो फायर ब्रिगेड की मशीन में गंगा जल भरवाकर के उन्होंने उस बंगले को साफ किया। यह पिछड़ापन है, इसे हमें दूर करना है। ... (व्यवधान) ...

† جناب جاوید علی خان: آپ سبھاپتی جی مئی ایک بات کہہ رہا ہو۔ جس دن اتر پردیش کے مکھی منتری، شری اکھیش یادو، مکھی منتری پد سے ہٹے اور جب نئے مکھی منتری ستہ مئی آئے، تو فائر بریگیڈ کی مشین مئی گنگا جل بھروا کر کے انہوں نے اس بنگلے کو صاف کئی پچھڑا پ بے، اسے ہم دور کرنا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति जी, माननीय सदस्य बिलकुल असत्य बोल रहे हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री उपसभापति: खान साहब, आप कृपया मुद्दे पर अपनी बात कहें। ऑलरेडी आपका समय हो चुका है। आपके चार मिनट पूरे हो चुके हैं। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री जावेद अली खान: उपसभापति जी, मैं अपनी बात ही कह रहा हूँ। ... (व्यवधान) ...

† جناب جاوید علی خان: آپ سبھاپتی جی، مئی اپنی بات ہی کہہ رہا ہوں۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया अपनी बात समाप्त करें। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री जावेद अली खान: माननीय उपसभापति जी, सरकार ... (व्यवधान) ... चाहे इधर की रही हो ... (व्यवधान) ... चाहे उधर की रही हो, लेकिन आरक्षण का जो निर्धारित कोटा है ... (व्यवधान) ... अनुसूचित जाति का और पिछड़े वर्गों का ... (व्यवधान) ... उसको हम आज तक पूरा नहीं कर पाए हैं और हम बंटवारे की बात करते हैं? ... (व्यवधान) ...

† جناب جاوید علی خان (جاری): مائیے آپ سبھاپتی جی، سرکار۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ چاہے ادھر کی رہی ہو۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ چاہے ادھر کی رہی ہو، لیکن آرکشن کا جو نردھارت کوٹا ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ انوسوچت جاتی کا اور پچھڑے طبقوں کا۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس کو ہم آج تک پورا نہی کرپائے ہی اور ہم بٹوارے کی بات کرتے ہی؟۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: आप conclude कीजिए।

श्री जावेद अली खान: उपसभापति जी, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बंटवारे की, डिवाइड एंड रूल की जो बू है, वह कहाँ से आती है? आप तो बिहार के हैं, बिहार में जब विधान सभा के चुनाव हो रहे थे, उस वक्त एक सांस्कृतिक संगठन के एक बहुत बड़े नेता ने कहा कि आरक्षण खत्म होना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†جناب جاوید علی خان : مارے آپ سبھاپتی جی، می سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہ بٹوارے کی، ڈیویڈ اینڈ رول کی جو بُو ہے، وہ کہاں سے آئی ہے؟ آپ تو بہار کے ہیں، بہار میں جب ودھان سبھا کے چناؤ ہو رہے تھے، اس وقت ایک سانسکرتک سنگٹھن کے ایک بہت بڑے رکتا نے کہا تھا کہ آرکشن ختم ہونا چاہئے۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: आप अपनी बात conclude कीजिए, आप निर्धारित समय से पांच मिनट अधिक बोल चुके हैं।

श्री जावेद अली खान: उपसभापति महोदय, हम लोगों को अपना ज़हन साफ कर लेना चाहिए। चाहे पिछड़ों का आरक्षण हो, चाहे अनुसूचित जातियों का आरक्षण हो, वह आरक्षण तब तक जारी रहेगा, जब तक आरक्षण के कारण खत्म नहीं हो जाते हैं।

महोदय, मैं आखिर में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मैंने एक बिल प्रस्तुत किया है, जो सर्कुलेट हो गया है, पर अभी introduce नहीं हुआ है। जातियों की आबादी के हिसाब से आरक्षण देने में क्यों नुकसान है? इसमें बिल्कुल न्यायपूर्ण स्थिति होगी। जिसकी जितनी संख्या भारी, उसकी उतनी हिस्सेदारी। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

†جناب جاوید علی خان : آپ سبھاپتی مہودے، ہم لوگوں کو اپنا ذہن صاف کر لیتا چاہئے۔

چاہے پیچھڑوں کا آرکشن ہو، چاہے انوسوچت جانتوں کا آرکشن ہو، وہ آرکشن تب تک جاری رہے گا، جب تک آرکشن کی وجوہات ختم نہیں ہو جائیں گی۔

مہودے، میں آخر میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ میں نے ایک بل پریسٹ کٹی ہے، جو سرکولٹ ہو گئی ہے، پر ابھی انٹرویو نہیں ہوا ہے۔ جانتوں کی آبادی کے حساب سے آرکشن دینے میں کس نقصان ہے؟ اس میں بالکل رکٹے پورن استھتی ہوگی۔ جس کی جتڑی سنکھٹی بھاری، اس کی اتڑی حصہ داری۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**۔۔۔

श्री उपसभापति: जब चर्चा होगी ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप उस समय अपनी बात रखेंगे, धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री जावेद अली खान: मैं इस संकल्प का विरोध करता हूँ और जिन साथियों ने इसका समर्थन किया है, उनसे कहता हूँ कि आप इस पर जरा पुनर्विचार कर लीजिए। पिछड़ों और अनुसूचित जातियों के आरक्षण को लेकर यह एक बहुत बड़ी साजिश हो रही है, विकास महात्मे

जी तो उसमें जाने-अनजाने हिस्सा बन रहे हैं। आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

جناب جاوید علی خان : می اس سنکلیپ کا ورودہ کرتا ہوں اور جن ساتھیوں نے اس کا سمرٹھن کیا ہے، ان سے کہتا ہوں کہ آپ اس پر ذرا پنیروچار کر لےجئے۔ پچھڑوں اور انوسوچت جانتیوں کے آرکشن کو لےکر بے ایک بہت بڑی سازش پورہی ہے، وکاس مہاتمے جی تو اس می جانے انجانے حصہ بن رہے ہیں۔ آپ نے مجھے بولنے کا موقع دیا، اس کے لئے آپ کا بہت بہت دھریا۔۔۔**(مداخلت)**...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद। माननीय संजय सिंह जी, आप बोलिए। जो आपकी पार्टी के लिए आवंटित समय है, आप कृपया उसका ध्यान रखेंगे।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): धन्यवाद माननीय उपसभापति महोदय कि आपने मुझे इस अति महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर अपनी बात कहने का अवसर दिया है। मान्यवर, डा. विकास महात्मे द्वारा यह जो संकल्प रखा गया है, इसके पीछे पिछड़े वर्ग के बीच में विभाजन की एक सोची-समझी कोशिश के तहत यह संकल्प रखा गया है, अतः मैं इसके खिलाफ अपनी बात कहने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

मान्यवर, जहां तक अति पिछड़े वर्ग के आरक्षण की बात है, इसके संबंध में छेदी लाल कमीशन की रिपोर्ट भी आ चुकी है। उस छेदी लाल कमीशन की रिपोर्ट में बहुत स्पष्ट तौर पर बताया गया है कि समाज की कुछ जातियों ने आरक्षण का ज्यादा फायदा लिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया शांति बनाए रखें।

श्री संजय सिंह: पिछड़े वर्ग की बाकी जातियों को आरक्षण का लाभ नहीं मिला। यह जो संकल्प दिया गया है, इसमें सरकार के पास या माननीय सदस्य के पास किसी भी प्रकार का कोई आंकड़ा नहीं है, तब वे किस आधार पर चंद जातियों का नाम ले रहे हैं? चंद गिनी जातियों को आरक्षण में लाभ मिला है, बाकी जातियां वंचित रह गईं, इसका कोई आंकड़ा, कोई ठोस जानकारी नहीं है, इसलिए सरकार को इसके बारे में एक सर्वेक्षण कराना चाहिए, जांच करानी चाहिए, पता करना चाहिए कि क्या वास्तव में इस बात में कोई सत्यता है कि नहीं है?

दूसरी बात, जहां तक आरक्षण का प्रश्न है, कई बार ये सवाल उठते हैं कि आर्थिक आधार पर आरक्षण होना चाहिए। आरक्षण खत्म करने के लिए कई और कारण बताए जाते हैं, लेकिन आरक्षण का जो कारण है, हमारे समाज की जो सबसे बड़ी बुराई है, वह है कि जाति के नाम पर भेद, जन्मना भेद, समाज के दलितों और पिछड़ों के प्रति भेद, जिसके लिए हिंदुस्तान के प्रख्यात समाजवादी नेता स्वर्गीय डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया ने कहा था कि विशेष अवसर का सिद्धांत देना चाहिए। बाबा साहेब भीमराव अम्बेडकर ने आरक्षण की व्यवस्था दी। जब विशेष अवसर के सिद्धांत की बात डा. राम मनोहर लोहिया करते हैं, तो वे कहते हैं कि अगर कोई व्यक्ति 20 किलोमीटर

[श्री संजय सिंह]

आगे खड़ा है और दूसरा व्यक्ति 0 प्वाइंट पर खड़ा है तो उनके बीच में दौड़ की प्रतियोगिता नहीं कराई जा सकती। जो जीरो प्वाइंट पर खड़ा है, उसको आगे लेकर आइए और तब उनके बीच दौड़ की प्रतियोगिता कराइए। आरक्षण के प्रति उनकी यह मंशा थी। लेकिन आज भी वह सामाजिक बुराई मौजूद है। आज भी आप देख लीजिए, आपको अखबारों में खबरें पढ़ने को मिल जाती हैं। राजस्थान हो, उत्तर प्रदेश हो, बिहार हो, मध्य प्रदेश हो, mid-day meal बनाने के काम में जहां पर दलित महिलाओं को रखा गया है, कई बार ऐसी खबरें पढ़ने को मिलती हैं कि वहां पर सवर्ण जातियों के बच्चे उस खाने को खाने से इनकार कर देते हैं और पूरा गांव का गांव इकट्ठा होकर उसका विरोध करता है। मान्यवर, ऐसी घटनाएँ हम लोगों को देखने को मिलती हैं। मान्यवर, मैं आपसे कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आपको जातिगत आधार पर आरक्षण की बात करनी है, तो इस बात को भी देखना पड़ेगा। आप अभी ट्रिपल तलाक पर चिंता जाहिर कर रहे हैं, मुस्लिम महिलाओं के अधिकार की चिंता आपको हो गई है, लेकिन आप मुझे जरा बताइए कि एक धोबी, जो हिन्दू है, उसको दलित वर्ग का दर्जा है, लेकिन दूसरा धोबी, जो मुस्लिम है, उसको दलित वर्ग का आरक्षण नहीं है। एक हिन्दू सफाईकर्मी, उसको दलित का आरक्षण है, लेकिन एक मुस्लिम सफाईकर्मी, उसको दलित का आरक्षण नहीं है। एक खटीक हिन्दू में है, उसको दलित का आरक्षण है, वहीं मुस्लिम में राईन बिरादरी का सब्जी बेचने वाला, उसको दलित का आरक्षण नहीं है। इसलिए आरक्षण व्यवस्था में ये जो विसंगतियाँ हैं, दलितों के आरक्षण में भी हिन्दू और मुस्लिम तथा पिछड़ों के आरक्षण में भी हिन्दू और मुस्लिम का आपने जो भेद रखा है, इसके बारे में भी समीक्षा कीजिए। इसके बारे में भी चिंतन करके आप इसके लिए आगे बिल लाने के बारे में और कानून बनाने के बारे में सोचिए।

मान्यवर, दूसरी बात, यहां पर सुप्रीम कोर्ट का जिक्र हुआ। बिल्कुल सही कहा विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी ने। आप 70 साल का इतिहास उठा कर देख लीजिए। सुप्रीम कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस से लेकर सुप्रीम कोर्ट के तमाम जजेज़, हाई कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस से लेकर हाई कोर्ट के तमाम जजेज़, आरक्षण व्यवस्था तो दूर की बात है, चंद परिवारों का नाम उंगलियों पर लिया जा सकता है। उन्हीं परिवारों के लोग चीफ जस्टिस बनते हैं, हाई कोर्ट के जज बनते हैं, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज बनते हैं। मान्यवर, क्या judiciary के अन्दर, न्यायपालिका के अन्दर चंद परिवारों का 70 साल से यह कब्जा जारी रहेगा? क्या इसी तरीके से आरक्षण की व्यवस्था उनके परिवारों के लिए वहां पर चलती रहेगी, क्योंकि उनके द्वारा ही नाम recommend किया जाना है? एक परिवार का नाम दूसरा आदमी recommend कर देता है, दूसरे परिवार का नाम दूसरा आदमी recommend कर देता है। यह सामाजिक बुराई है।

इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आपको भेद देखना है, तो आप एक कलेक्टर के ऑफिस में चले जाइए, डीएम के ऑफिस में चले जाइए, पीएम के ऑफिस में चले जाइए। वहां खड़ा हुआ चपरासी, अगर वह दलित जाति का है, पिछड़ी जाति का है, तो उससे तो लोग रे-रे कह कर बात करेंगे, लेकिन अगर वह सवर्ण जाति का है, तो उसको कहेंगे कि "पंडित जी, पाए लागीं", "बाबू साहब, नमस्कार। ई बतावा डीएम साहब हैं कि ना?" यह होता है, यह वास्तविकता है, जमीन की सच्चाई है, इसको हमें स्वीकार करना पड़ेगा। इसलिए यह जो प्रस्ताव लाया गया है, यह जो संकल्प लाया गया है, मुझे कहने में गुरेज नहीं है कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी की सरकार

उत्तर प्रदेश में इसी प्रकार की आरक्षण व्यवस्था में तमाम कमियां निकाल कर पिछड़ों को आपस में लड़ने की योजना बना रही है और इसीलिए योगी जी ने अति-पिछड़ों और अति-दलितों को अलग से आरक्षण देने की बात अभी कही है। उस मंशा के तहत यह प्रस्ताव लाया गया है, यह संकल्प लाया गया है और इसमें यह कहने की कोशिश की गई है कि पिछड़े वर्ग के लोगो, तुम्हारे साथ न्याय नहीं हो रहा है, इसलिए तुम्हारा विभाजन किया जाएगा। दलितों में विभाजन किया जाएगा, उनको आपस में लड़ाया जाएगा और चुनाव के पहले उनका वोट अपने हक में लेने की कोशिश की जाएगी। डॉक्टर लोहिया के नारे की बात विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी ने की। उन्होंने नारा दिया था। डॉक्टर लोहिया का नारा था — "सोशलिस्टों ने बांधी गांठ, पिछड़े पावें सौ में साठ।" उसमें मुस्लिम भी, पिछड़े भी, दलित भी और महिलाएँ भी, सबको शामिल करके उन्होंने 60 प्रतिशत समाज के पिछड़े और वंचित लोगों को आरक्षण देने की बात कही थी।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय संजय जी, आपका समय खत्म हो गया है।

श्री संजय सिंह: अंत में मैं इन्हीं लाइनों के साथ अपनी बात को खत्म करूँगा कि आप लोगों के दर्द को, उनकी पीड़ा को समझने की कोशिश कीजिए, अंतिम आदमी तक जाने की कोशिश कीजिए। अदम गोंडवी की लाइन है,

"दर्द के एहसास को शेरों-सुखन तक ले चलो-2
या अदब को मुफ़लिसों के अंजुमन तक ले चलो।
जो राजल माशूक के जलवों से वाकिफ़ हो चुकी,
उसको अब बेवा के माथे की शिकन तक ले चलो।"

बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, इस रिज़ॉल्यूशन पर चर्चा पूरी हो चुकी है, अब माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब देंगे।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, यह पार्टी की बात नहीं है, यह सदस्यों का विषय है, इसलिए सभी लोग अपनी-अपनी तरह से विचार व्यक्त करते हैं, किन्तु पार्टी के ऊपर इस प्रकार का आक्षेप लगाना ठीक बात नहीं है।

उत्तर-पूर्वी क्षेत्र विकास मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री; प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री; कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत और पेंशन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; परमाणु ऊर्जा विभाग में राज्य मंत्री; तथा अंतरिक्ष विभाग में राज्य मंत्री (**डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह**): उपसभापति महादेय, आदरणीय विकास महात्मे जी ने बड़े महत्वपूर्ण विषय पर प्रस्ताव रखा है और विकास महात्मे जी के प्रस्ताव के ऊपर जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने अपने-अपने विचार प्रकट किए हैं, मैं उनका भी धन्यवाद करता हूँ। श्री बी.के. हरिप्रसाद जी, महंत शम्भुप्रसादजी तुंदिया, श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी, प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा जी, टी.के.एस एलंगोवन जी, श्री रामकुमार वर्मा जी, श्री जावेद अली खान साहब और भाई संजय सिंह जी।

महोदय, इस चर्चा में अलग-अलग तरह के बिंदु आए हैं, किंतु जो मूल विषय रखा गया था, वह सरकारी नौकरियों में आरक्षण को लेकर था। जैसा कि हम सब जानते हैं, साथ ही

[डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह]

5.00 P.M.

आदरणीय सदस्यों ने भी अपने-अपने वक्तव्यों में यह बात स्पष्ट की कि संविधान में बाबा साहेब डा. अम्बेडकर जी ने इस विषय को लेकर बड़ी स्पष्टता के साथ उल्लेख किया है। Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBC, इन तीन श्रेणियों में किस प्रकार से अंतर को समझकर, हम उनको न्याय दे सकते हैं, equitable growth का अवसर दे सकते हैं, इसका प्रावधान भी हमारे नियमों में इस समय मौजूद है। बीच में 'जन्म से ओबीसी' को लेकर बात आई, तो मुझे लगता है कि चूंकि यह विषय इतना व्यापक है, तो सारी बातें मिल-जुल जाती हैं, लेकिन बाबा अम्बेडकर ने एक बड़ी सुन्दर बात कही थी कि Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe is by birth but OBC, the backward class person is like a multi-storeyed building. So, Scheduled Caste has to be born as Scheduled Caste and die as Scheduled Caste but a backward class person is like a multi-storeyed building... वह नीचे के फ्लोर से ऊपर के फ्लोर में जा सकता है, which privilege is not available to Scheduled Caste. अर्थात् बैकवर्ड क्लास में सामाजिक और आर्थिक स्तर में विकास होने की गुंजाइश रहती है, क्योंकि मापदंड दूसरे हैं।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, please.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, my point of order is under Rule 239. I wish to ask something from the hon. Minister. The statement quoting Baba Bhimrao Ambedkar is almost news to me and to many of my colleagues. I want a proper reference and citation. Thank you.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: It is just an exemplification. But, anyhow, I hope you understand the essence of it. रेफरेंस भी दे देंगे, but what I said is just an exemplification. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: He never said it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Okay. I will not go into that. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, at least, all of us agree and as some of the Members also said, Scheduled Caste is by birth and would die as a Scheduled Caste. But for OBCs, there are different parameters involved which have also been put across.

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: OBCs are also OBCs by birth. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot deny that fact. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: It is the Other Backward Classes... ...*(Interruptions)*... and, this is what has been put across in the Resolution. रिजॉल्यूशन में भी यही कहा गया है कि इसके बेनिफिट कुछ लोगों को ही मिल रहे हैं, किंतु अधिकतर लोगों को नहीं मिल

रहे। आपने भी माना कि Backward Class is based on socio-economic parameters. तभी तो उसमें creamy layer की बात आप कर रहे थे। आप ही ने तो की है, कुछ सदस्यों ने की है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... एक मिनट, एक मिनट। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, this is misleading ...**(Interruptions)**...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, एक मिनट। प्लीज आप बैठिए। चूँकि अभी पांच बजने वाले हैं और गैर-सरकारी संकल्प का समय स्वतः खत्म होता है, इसलिए एक विकल्प यह है कि हम इस संकल्प पर चर्चा का समय 15-20 मिनट बढ़ा कर इसको खत्म करना चाहें, तो कर सकते हैं। हाउस की सेंस क्या है, इस पर मैं आपकी राय जानना चाहूँगा, क्योंकि मंत्री जी का जवाब हमें सुनना चाहिए।

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, till the debate ends, मंत्री जी जवाब दे देंगे। उसके बाद वे 5 मिनट बोलेंगे और उसके बाद समाप्त कर देंगे।

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): What about Special Mentions? ...**(Interruptions)**...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपकी अनुमति से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ तक वर्तमान सरकार का सम्बन्ध है, the Government is committed to equitable growth of every section of society. सरकार की प्रतिबद्धता या उसकी commitment में किसी प्रकार का कोई संदेह होने की कोई गुंजाइश नहीं है।

I come straight to the Resolution because otherwise, as rightly mentioned here, the issue is so big that we can go on debating the whole day. इश्यू में दो-तीन सुझाव रखे गये that 97% of all reservation benefits at the Central level for OBCs have been acquired by 25% of OBC groups, and 37% OBC groups have not received any representation. That is the contention of the hon. Member. The hon. Member has also suggested, as was being rightly cited, a 'Weighted Indexing System.' इसमें मैं अपनी बात बहुत लम्बी नहीं खींचूँगा, क्योंकि इस समय सभी सदस्य इस प्रतीक्षा में हैं कि इस बात को कन्क्लूड किया जाए। इतना ही कहना पर्याप्त रहेगा कि 2017 में पहले से ही सरकार की ओर से एक कमीशन नियुक्त किया गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नहीं, OBC Commission है, उसके अतिरिक्त Sub-Categorisation Committee है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... चूँकि ये भी OBC Committee के साथ जुड़े हैं, तो इनके ध्यान में यह बात है। This Committee is headed by a retired Judge. The Chairperson is Justice G. Rohini. There are other four Members. It is in the process of gathering inputs from different quarters, different sections of society, from individuals, and even from States and Union Territories. इस कमेटी के सदस्यों की ही मांग पर इसकी अवधि बढ़ा दी गयी है, लेकिन सरकार ने आग्रहपूर्वक यह कहा है कि 31 मई, 2019 तक यह अपनी रिपोर्ट हमें दे दे। कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि चूँकि ये सारे विषय सरकार

के संज्ञान में हैं और सरकार खुले मन से इसका अध्ययन करने के लिए तैयार भी है और the main intention is to provide justice to every section of society and, therefore, I think the hon. Member will consider withdrawing the Resolution, क्योंकि इनके जितने भी विचार आये हैं या दूसरे आदरणीय सदस्यों के विचार आये हैं, उनका संज्ञान लिया गया है, धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Vikas Mahatme to give reply.

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, मैं एक-दो विषयों की चर्चा करना चाहूँगा।...(व्यवधान)... डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं यह बताना चाहूँगा कि बी.के. हिरप्रसाद जी ने सारी बातें अच्छी तरह से बतायीं। उसमें उन्होंने जो कहा कि reservation is not a poverty alleviation programme, I fully agree with that. What I feel is that today reservation is there for the rich people. That is more than the reservation offered to the SC/ST or OBC. If you see all the institutions, the admission you get is on the basis of fee which an ordinary person will not be able to pay. So, there is reservation which is not visible but still we are giving it to all the rich people. So, I fully agree that it is not a poverty alleviation programme. Then, he mentioned about Marathas in Maharashtra. It is now more than 50 per cent. Sixteen per cent reservation is given to the Marathas and I shall congratulate the hon. Chief Minister Devendraji Fadnavis for that. But still I personally feel; The report says that seven per cent of Marathas are above average; it means that they are the developed people. But 93 per cent Marathas are backward. The total population of Marathas in Maharashtra is two crore and if you take seven per cent, it means 14 lakh people, which they say are not backward in Marathas. But when the reservation comes, these 14 lakh people who are not backward will only take the advantage and will fill all the seats of students as well as jobs. So, ultimately, to whom is this reservation going to reach? That is the most important thing we should be concerned about it. If the reservation is given on the basis of caste. We don't have any problem. But it should reach the last person. हम कहते हैं कि अन्त्योदय होना चाहिए — मेरा मतलब है कि उस अन्त्योदय की definition हम सिस्टम के माध्यम से निर्धारित करें और उस definition द्वारा आरक्षण का लाभ उन तक पहुँचाएं। हम कहते हैं कि पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी की यही मंशा थी और सच में हम इसमें believe करते हैं, काम करते हैं तो एक system बनाना भी बहुत जरूरी है। Village and city में जो फर्क है, उसका मैंने अपने विषय में भी जिक्र किया था। वह बहुत जरूरी है। इसमें एक करोड़ रुपए हम capital करके यदि SC, ST, OBC और Open categories यानी खुले वर्ग को देते हैं तो वह economic capital होगी लेकिन cultural capital में वे सब लोग पीछे रहेंगे। उनके यानि SC, ST, OBC के जो social, capital यानि contacts हैं, उसमें भी पीछे रहेंगे। Ultimately एक करोड़ रुपए से जो भी उत्पादकता वे करना चाहते हैं, नहीं कर पाएंगे — backward class के लोग। इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि जो आरक्षण दिया गया है, वह must है, जरूरी है। इसीलिए मैंने कहा कि quota system होना चाहिए। स्वयं माननीय मोदी जी ने Atrocities Act में अभी 2018 में जो amendment किया है, जिसे confirm भी किया गया है, स्वयं मोदी जी भी इसके favour में हैं।

OBC Commission को Constitutional status भी दिया गया है। इस दिशा में सरकार काम कर रही है। मेरा सिर्फ यही कहना है कि हमारा अन्त्योदय की तरफ पहुंचने का जो लक्ष्य है, उसके लिए हमें एक system बनाना पड़ेगा। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप एक कमीशन बैठाएं। वह कमीशन ऐसा system develop करे। मैंने सिर्फ मुद्दे दिए हैं, निकष दिए हैं, जिन पर विचार करके उन्हें तो incorporate करें तथा उनके अतिरिक्त भी कमीशन में विचार किया जाए।

यहां महंत शम्भुप्रसाद जी ने जो बात कही, वह ठीक है कि आज भी समाज में अस्पृश्यता और असमानता है, जिसे हम सहन नहीं कर सकते। यहां पंडित दीनदयाल उपाध्याय जी के एकात्म-दर्शन के बारे में भी कहा गया — एकात्म मानव-दर्शन के विचार के साथ-साथ आरक्षण भी बहुत जरूरी है, क्योंकि यह भी उसी का पार्ट है, ताकि हमारा पिछड़ा वर्ग भी आगे आए। विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी को मैं धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा। उन्होंने जो विचार सदन के सामने रखे कि 983 castes को कोई reservation benefit नहीं मिला, वह सच है। प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा ने कहा कि हम sub-categorisation करके उन्हें बांटना चाहते हैं, लेकिन इसमें बांटने वाली कोई बात नहीं है। जो भी castes हैं, उनकी जो लिस्ट है, उसे वैसा ही हम रख रहे हैं - सिर्फ जो पिछड़े लोग हैं, उन्हें रिजर्वेशन देने की बात कर रहे हैं। इसमें बांटने की कोई संभावना प्रतीत नहीं होती। किसी ने कहा इस सरकार से कुछ नहीं होता है। लेकिन आपको मैंने माननीय मोदी जी का उदाहरण दिया। यदि विश्वविद्यालय के रोस्टर में लोग नहीं आ रहे हैं, जैसा मैंने पहले भी बताया कि कोई भी पोस्ट खाली न रहे, सिर्फ जो top-most person है, उसे हम शिक्षा दें, skill provide करें, definitely वह पोस्ट suitable candidate नहीं मिल रहा, यह कहकर rotate न करे और उसी कैटेगरी के व्यक्ति का जॉब मिल जाए, ऐसी व्यवस्था हम करें। ये मिथक कह रहे हैं, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि जो भी आंकड़े दिए गए हैं, वे मेरे हैं, ऐसा बिल्कुल नहीं है। मैंने पहले भी बताया कि यह जो किया हुआ है, 983 OBC communities — 37 per cent of the total have zero representation, not in job, but also in a seat of a college. इसलिए ऐसा कुछ नहीं है। ये आंकड़े मेरे नहीं हैं, बल्कि Justice G. Rohini Commission के हैं। **...(व्यवधान)...** मैं इसको टेबल पर रख रहा हूँ और मैं बताता हूँ कि consultation paper prepared by the Commission to examine sub-categorization of OBCs और उन्होंने यह सभी सेक्रेटरीज को दिया हुआ है। ऐसा ही एक पेपर है, जो इंडियन एक्सप्रेस का है, उसको मैं सब्मिट भी कर रहा हूँ। कहने का मतलब यह है कि ये मेरे आंकड़े नहीं हैं, बल्कि यह Justice G. Rohini Commission के आंकड़े हैं, जिन्होंने 1.3 lakh Central jobs का ऐनालिसिस किया हुआ है, उससे ये आंकड़े आए हुए हैं और ये last five years के आंकड़े हैं। इसके साथ ही इसमें admission to Central higher education institution का उल्लेख भी है। इस प्रकार से उन्होंने इसको बहुत prolonged process से ही किया हुआ है, इसलिए यह मिथक नहीं है।

सर, श्री टी. के. एस. एलंगोवन जी ने जो कहा, I fully agree that the seats should be fulfilled, I have told you. Sir, by birth, you are backward, that is true, लेकिन उस बैकवर्डनेस में जितने लोग हैं, उनमें जो ज्यादा पिछड़े हैं, उनको priority मिलनी चाहिए। वह इसलिए है, तो मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपकी backwardness जा रही है। जैसे 5 मार्क्स ऐड करते हैं, वैसे ही यह सिस्टम है, जिसमें मार्क्स ऐड किए जाएंगे, 5 के बजाय कितने मार्क्स ऐड करना है, वह तय किया जाएगा।

सर, जयराम रमेश जी ने सिर्फ information दी है, इसलिए मैं उसके ऊपर कुछ कमेंट्स नहीं करना चाहूंगा। Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah, we are not changing the. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री उपसभापति: डा. विकास जी, कृपया आप इधर देख कर बोलें और brief में बोलें।

डा. विकास महात्मे: ठीक है, सर। उन्होंने जो बसवन्ना जी का casteless society का उदाहरण दिया, तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम यह weighted indexing system से casteless society की तरफ ही बढ़ेंगे, क्योंकि इसमें जो भी लिस्ट है, उनमें से जो पिछड़े हैं, उनको ले रहे हैं। दस साल में हम पहुंचे नहीं हैं, तो अभी कैसे पहुंचेंगे? इसीलिए तो यह कमिशन है, जिस पर सोच होगी कि हम आरक्षण का लाभ उन लोगों तक कैसे पहुंचाएं? इसलिए यह कमिशन बहुत जरूरी है।

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, the Minister should have answered this. *...(Interruptions)...*

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि मैं खुद धनगर कम्युनिटी का हूँ, महाराष्ट्र में एक करोड़ लोग धनगर कम्युनिटी के हैं, फिर भी मैं पहला राज्य सभा सांसद हूँ और मैं अपने पक्ष के लिए बोलूंगा कि उनकी वजह से ही मैं यहां आ पाया हूँ। आप सोचिए कि 70 साल में धनगर कम्युनिटी, जो कि एक करोड़ की संख्या में महाराष्ट्र में है, मैं उसका पहला राज्य सभा सांसद हूँ। अभी तक तो कोई नहीं है और मैं भारतीय जनता पार्टी को उसके लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा।

जावेद अली खान जी ने जो कहा था, उसमें उन्होंने एससी में एक हिन्दू और मुस्लिम... मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा मत कीजिए। डा. बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर ने कहा है कि जो untouchable है, उसको हम एससी में ले रहे हैं और ओबीसी में ही नहीं, बल्कि सभी मुस्लिम धर्म में भी कुछ कास्ट्स हैं ऐसी और अगर उसको बढ़ाना है, तो उसके लिए एक प्रोसीजर है और वह लेना चाहिए। हिन्दुओं में यह untouchability के लिए था।

श्री उपसभापति: डा. विकास जी, आप अपनी बात brief में कहें।

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से अनुरोध है कि यह सिर्फ जॉब्स में नहीं है, आप जैसा बोलें, बल्कि आरक्षण का पढ़ाई में भी है। college admission में भी है दूसरी बात यह है कि वह जो कमिशन है, अगर आप उसको लेटर लिखेंगे कि यह weighted index system कार्यान्वित होना चाहिए, तो वह करेंगे। इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से दरखास्त करूंगा कि आप यह लेटर भेजिए और इसमें economic न होते हुए educational और social backwardness के लिए point system रहे। अगर आप ऐसा लेटर भेजते हैं, तो यह अच्छा होगा।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी *...(व्यवधान)...* प्लीज, प्लीज *...(व्यवधान)...* अब आप बैठ जाइए। *...(व्यवधान)...* मंत्री जी आप अपनी बात कहें, कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। *...(व्यवधान)...*

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: आदरणीय उपसभापति जी, डा. विकास महात्मे जी ने जो बातें रखीं, वे निश्चय ही बड़ी बहुमूल्य बातें हैं। इन पर व्यापक चर्चा भी हुई है। समय की मर्यादा और sense of the House को देखते हुए, मैंने थोड़ा सा संक्षिप्त किया था, पर मैं आभार प्रकट करूंगा कि

हमारे जितने नौ आदरणीय सदस्य थे, उनकी बातों का मैंने समय की संक्षिप्तता को ध्यान में रखते हुए individually respond नहीं किया, उन्होंने वह कार्य पूरा किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं एक ही वाक्य दोहरा कर बात कह दूंगा, यह मैंने पहले भी उल्लेख किया कि sub-categorization of the OBCs के लिए जस्टिस रोहिणी की अध्यक्षता में एक कमीशन गठित कर दिया गया है और 2 अक्टूबर, 2017 से यह कार्य कर रहा है। हमने उनसे आग्रहपूर्व यह निवेदन किया है कि वे इसे 31 मई, 2019 तक conclude कर लें। सर, डा. विकास महात्मे भी ओबीसी के विषय से जुड़े हुए हैं, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से इनसे भी प्रार्थना करूंगा कि इन्होंने जो मुद्दे उठाए हैं, सुझाव दिए हैं, इन्हें वे सीधे-सीधे कमीशन के आगे रख दें या हमें दे दें, तो हम उन तक पहुंचा देंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... यह कमीशन का ही मंडेट है और जिन लोगों ने इस पर शोध किया है, जैसे डा. साहब हैं, उनके सुझाव निश्चय ही उस कमीशन के कार्य के लिए बड़े बहुमूल्य साबित होंगे। अब मैं निवेदन करूंगा कि आप प्रस्ताव वापस ले लें, क्योंकि सभी बातें आ गई हैं।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Wait, wait. ...(Interruptions).. Dr. Vikas Mahatme, are you withdrawing the Resolution or should I put it to vote?

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Sir, as the hon. Minister has given me the assurance that the letter will be sent, I am withdrawing the Resolution.

(The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.)

SPECIAL MENTIONS

श्री उपसभापति: अब अंत में Special Mentions, श्री महेश पोदार, माननीय महेश पोदार। वे उपस्थित नहीं हैं। डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी।

Need to relax the construction guidelines for private people in the vicinity of Air Force and Navy establishments

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, in answer to my Unstarred Question No. 1460 of 1st January 2018, the Minister of State for Defence stated that in respect of No Objection Certificates for building construction in vicinity of Defence Establishments, the Ministry has on 21.10.2016 amended the guidelines in respect of establishments only of the Indian Army.

In Mumbai, there are large private lands near Naval and Air Force establishments. For Army, the guidelines have been relaxed, while for Navy and Air Force the same has not yet been considered.

There are numerous slums, old buildings and rehabilitation projects in Mumbai affecting thousands of people, which are at standstill due to want of amendments to the guidelines of Navy and Air Force establishments. This has led to numerous litigations in courts too.

It is urged, therefore, that the Ministry amend the guidelines for all surrounding lands of other Defence establishments, including for Air Force and Navy, as with the Army now. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Manas Ranjan Bhunia; not present. Shri Santiuse Kujur; not present. Shri M.P. Veerendra Kumar; not present. Shri Tiruchi Siva; not present. Shri Sanjay Seth; not present. Sardar Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, not present.

The House stands adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Monday, 7th January, 2018.

*The House then adjourned at twenty minutes past
five of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Monday, the 7th January, 2019.*

