

Vol. 249

No. 26



सत्यमेव जयते

Thursday,

25 July, 2019

3 Shravana, 1941 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

(FLOOR VERSION)

CONTENTS

Oath or Affirmation (page 1)

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1-4 and pages 7-34)

Message from Lok Sabha —

The Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019 – *Laid on the Table*
(page 5)

The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019 – *Laid on the Table*
(page 578)

Matters raised with Permission —

Concern over Inadequate rainfall in the country (pages 5-7)

Demand for reconsidering shifting of Lebong Military Hospital (pages 34-35)

Pollution free India (page 35)

Need to provide facilities to pregnant women in trains (pages 36-37)

Forced conversion of Hindu minorities, particularly girls and atrocities against them in Pakistan (pages 37-38)

Contract teachers in schools (pages 38-39)

[P.T.O.]

©

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Need for funds for completion of Craft Village Project in Odisha (pages 39-40)

Need for giving benefit of Government schemes to contract farm labourers (pages 40-41)

Discrepancies in entry age in schools in Standard-1 across the country (pages 41-42)

Problems of flat owners *vis-a-vis* builders (pages 42-44)

Need to confer forest rights on STs and other traditional forest dwellers (pages 44-45)

Need to protect Kanwar lake Bird Sanctuary in Begusarai, Bihar (pages 45-46)

Need to withhold the legislation on dam safety (pages 46-48)

Need for an Action Plan to tackle the increasing number of missing children in the country (pages 48-49)

Concern over the non-inclusion of Odisha in new railway stations redevelopment programme (pages 49-50)

Need to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 to check its misuse (pages 50-51)

Need for raising a Kalinga Regiment from Odisha (pages 51-52)

Need to set up Council for translations of Indian literary works (pages 52-53)

Need to ban Ponzi and unregulated deposit schemes (pages 53-54)

Need for more bank branches in West Bengal (pages 54-55)

Need to curtail smuggling of drugs into Punjab (pages 55-57)

Need to begin construction of AYUSH hospitals in J&K (pages 57-58)

Need to fill up the posts of medical practitioners in Railway Medical Services (page 58)

Ruling by the Chair—

Regarding Point of Order raised on 8th July, 2019 on “Judgement of Supreme Court in matter of some MLAs of Karnataka Vidhan Sabha” (pages 59-60)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 60-116)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 117-140)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 141-470)

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

Regarding taking up Short Duration Discussion and Calling Attention Motion as per Rajya Sabha Rules (pages 471-477)

Government Bill —

The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019 – *Passed* (pages 477-575)

Special Mentions —

Demand to conduct examination for Central Government posts region-wise in regional languages (pages 575-576)

Demand to commence more flights from Coimbatore and Madurai airport for connecting various destinations in India and abroad (page 576)

Demand for financial assistance for drought mitigation measures in Tamil Nadu (page 577)

Demand to make policy to check migration of labourers from rural areas (pages 577-578)

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, 25th July, 2019/3 Shravana, 1941 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

Members Sworn

Shri N. Chandrasegharan (Tamil Nadu)

Shri Muhammathjohn (Tamil Nadu)

Shri M. Shanmugam (Tamil Nadu)

Shri Vaiko (Tamil Nadu)

Shri P. Wilson (Tamil Nadu)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Notifications of the Ministry of Law and Justice

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE; THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS; AND THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): Sir, I lay on the Table —

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Legal Affairs), issued under sub-rule (1) of Rule 4 of the Notaries Rules, 1956:—

- (1) S.O. 1622 (E), dated the 22nd April, 2019, designating Shri Praveen Srivastava, Deputy Legal Adviser and Shri Mohd. Muqeem, Deputy Legal Adviser in the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice as competent authority, for the purposes of the Notaries Rules, 1956, in relation to notaries to be appointed by Central Government, for a period upto 15th day of June, 2019.
- (2) S.O. 2444 (E), dated the 9th July, 2019, designating Shri Jay Prakash U., Under Secretary in the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of

Law and Justice as competent authority, for the purposes of the Notaries Rules, 1956, in relation to notaries to be appointed by Central Government. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 509/17/19]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Law and Justice (Legislative Department), under sub-section (3) of Section 169 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951:—

- (1) S.O. 1022 (E), dated the 26th February, 2019, publishing the Conduct of Assembly Elections (Sikkim) Amendment Rules, 2019.
- (2) S.O. 1023 (E), dated the 26th February, 2019, publishing the Conduct of Elections (Amendment) Rules, 2019.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 575/17/19]

Reports and Accounts of BIC, Kanpur (2016-17) and HHEL, Delhi (2017-18) and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT; AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): 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) Ninety-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the British India Corporation Limited (BIC), Kanpur, along with that of its subsidiary Companies, 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 and its subsidiary companies.
- (c) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) (i) above.
- (ii) (a) Sixtieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited (HHEC), 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) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

I Reports and Accounts (2016-17 and 2017-18) of CFSI, Mumbai and related papers.

II MoU (2019-20) between Government of India and BECIL, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- I. (1) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Children's Film Society, India (CFSI), Mumbai, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.
- (2) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Children's Film Society, India (CFSI), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.
- II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Information and Broadcasting) and the Broadcast Engineering Consultants India Limited (BECIL), New Delhi, for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 578/17/19]

I MoU (2019-20) between Government of India and BDL

II MoU (2019-20) between Government of India and Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AYURVEDA, YOGA AND NATUROPATHY, UNANI, SIDDHA AND HOMOEOPATHY (AYUSH); AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO

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

- I. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 513/17/19]

- II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence) and the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 512/17/19]

I Notification of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

II Report (2018) of CVC, New Delhi

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS; THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Sir, I rise to lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), Notification No. G.S.R. 472 (E), dated the 4th July, 2018, publishing the Union Public Service Commission (Exemption from Consultation), Second Amendment, Regulations, 2019, under clause (5) of Article 320 of the Constitution of India.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 517/17/19]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Fifty-fifth Annual Report of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), New Delhi, for the year 2018, under sub-section (3) of Section 14 of the Central Vigilance Commission Act, 2003.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 515/17/19]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA**The Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019**

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:

"in accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Banning of Unregulated Deposit Schemes Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 24th July, 2019."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**Concern over inadequate rainfall in the country**

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the House to a very important matter. Even though monsoon has covered almost all the States of the country, deficient rains in Southern parts of the country continue to push several States into drought-like conditions. There is also acute shortage of drinking water. According to the Indian Meteorological Department, rain deficit in Southern Peninsula has risen to around 28 per cent, which is the highest among all four sub-divisions in the country. As many as seven sub-divisions in the South including Rayalaseema, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Marathwada and Vidarbha are facing rain deficit. The rains are extremely crucial for the rain-fed *kharif* crop planted during this time. Farmers are finding it difficult to irrigate land as they have to start the process of cultivation of *kharif* crop. If the sowing is delayed, the entire season could be wiped out and it will have an adverse impact on the economy of the country. As per the South Asia Drought Monitor, maintained by the Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar, at present, more than 44 per cent area of the country is facing drought-like conditions, of which over 17 per cent is facing 'severe dry' conditions. Several of these areas are facing successive droughts and may not recover after a normal monsoon this year. Some experts have pointed out that the drought has turned acute not only because of the poor monsoon rainfall last year, but also due to the mindless extraction and mismanagement of the groundwater.

Sir, the NITI Aayog, in 2018, in one of its reports, pointed out that groundwater, the source of the country's water needs, is depleting at an unsustainable rate in India. India is the world's largest groundwater extractor, accounting for 12 per cent of the global extraction. The Central Water Commission has stated that water storage in most reservoirs in West and South has dipped to less than average, at least, in the last ten years indicating a worsening water crisis. Every year, we have noticed that the North-Eastern States, Bihar and sometimes in Kerala, during monsoon season, due to excessive rains, floods take place in those States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your suggestion or demand? The time is running out.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Sir, my suggestion is this. There is sufficient water. From Godavari, every year 3,000 TMC of water is going to sea. In Andhra Pradesh, Polavaram is going to come up in another one or two years. From there, you can make a river linking Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. There is 3,000 TMC. If you take 5,000 TMC to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, South India's water problem will be over. I urge the Government of India to kindly look into the river linking of Godavari, Cauvery and Krishna.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI MUHAMMATHJOHN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, please send the names. To associate, you can raise your hand. You need not stand. There is one missing thing in the print and the other one; so, Papers to be Laid, Shri Dhotre Sanjay Shamrao.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE – Contd.

- I Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development**
- II Reports and Accounts of various IIMs for various years and related papers**
- III Accounts of various IITs for various years and related papers**
- IV Report and Accounts (2017-18) of SPA, Vijayawada and related papers**
- V Reports and Accounts of various Universities, Institutes, Company, Councils, Societies, Authorities, Abhiyans, Samiti, Missions and Organisations for various years and related papers**
- VI MoUs (2019-20) between Government of India and various Limiteds.**

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री; और इलेक्ट्रॉनिकी और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education), under sub-section (2) of Section 43 of the Central Universities Act, 2009:—
 - (a) No. CURAJ/R/F89/2017/893-94, dated the 4th July, 2017, publishing certain Ordinances of the Central University of Rajasthan, as mentioned therein.
 - (b) No. 146, dated the 9th April, 2018, publishing the draft amendments Statute 40 of the Central University of Kashmir and addition of Statute

41 to the existing statutes of the Central Universities Act, 2009, along with delay statement. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 437/17/19]

- (c) F. No. CUJ/Statute/1/2010, dated the 11th July, 2018, publishing the Central University of Jharkhand (Amendment) Statutes, 2017.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 11011/16/19]

- (2) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (Department of Higher Education), Notification No. F. 1-2/2018 (CPP-I/DU), dated the 20th February, 2019, publishing the UGC (Institution Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2019, under Section 28 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 650/17/19]

- (3) A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Human Resources Development (Department of Higher Education), Notification No. G.S.R. 496 (E), dated the 15th July, 2019, publishing the Indian Institutes of Information Technology (Public Private Partnership) (Co-ordination Forum Procedure of Meetings) Rules, 2019, under Section 18 of the Indian Institute of Information Technology (Public Private Partnership Act, 2017).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 460/17/19]

- II. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 23 and sub-section (4) of Section 28 of the Indian Institute of Management Act, 2017:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Lucknow, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report for the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 614/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Shillong, 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. 456/17/19]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Calcutta, Joka, Kolkata, 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. 613/17/19]
- (iv) (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIM), Bengaluru, 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. 440/17/19]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Tiruchirappalli, 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. 640/17/19]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Indore, 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. 641/17/19]
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode, 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. 639/17/19]
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Udaipur, 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. 632/17/19]

- (ix) (a) Fifty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad, 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. 420/17/19]
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.
- III. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 23 of the Institutes of Technology Act, 1961:—
 - (i) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indore, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 436/17/19]
 - (ii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Gandhinagar, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 435/17/19]
 - (iii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 434/17/19]
 - (iv) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, Chennai, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 433/17/19]
 - (v) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 432/17/19]
 - (vi) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 431/17/19]
 - (vii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 416/17/19]

- (viii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 627/17/19]
- (ix) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 645/17/19]
- (x) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 647/17/19]
- (xi) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 628/17/19]
- (xii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jodhpur, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 646/17/19]
- (xiii) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi, Himachal Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 629/17/19]
- (xiv) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhilai, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 630/17/19]
- (xv) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 439/17/19]
- (xvi) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Palakkad, Kerala, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 457/17/19]
- (2) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

IV. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (5) of Section 25 of the School of Planning and Architecture Act, 2014:—

(a) Annual Report and Accounts of the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(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. 451/17/19]

V. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 30 and sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Central Universities Act, 2009:—

(i) (a) Annual Report of the Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand, for the year 2017-18.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar, Uttarakhand, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 10989/16/19]

(ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari, Bihar, for the year 2015-16, and the Audit Report thereon.

(b) Annual Accounts of the Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Motihari, Bihar, for the year 2016-17, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 421/17/19]

(iii) Ninth Annual Accounts of the Central University of Kashmir, Ganderbal, Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 422/17/19]

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

(3) (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 22 of the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research Act, 2007:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 622/17/19]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Thiruvananthapuram, 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. 623/17/19]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 438/17/19]
- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur, 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 Institute.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 616/17/19]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Rourkela, Odisha, 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. 457/17/19]
- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, Assam, 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.
- (B) Statements (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 453/17/19]
- (4) (A) 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) Annual Report and Accounts of the EdCIL (India) Limited, Noida, Uttar Pradesh, 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.
- (B) 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. 446/17/19]
- (5) (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 32 of the Sikkim University Act, 2006:—
 - (a) Eleventh Annual Report of the Sikkim University, Gangtok, for the year 2017-18.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above University.
- (B) 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. 447/17/19]
- (6) (A) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (3) of Section 31 and sub-section (4) of Section 32 of the University of Allahabad Act, 2005:—

- (a) Thirteenth Annual Report of the University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18.
 - (b) Annual Accounts of the University of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (c) Review by Government on the working of the above University.
- (B) 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. 444/17/19]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Accounts of the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya Act, 1996.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 443/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Annual Accounts of the Mizoram University, Aizawl, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of Section 31 of the Mizoram University Act, 2000.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 443/17/19]

- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jharkhand Secondary Education Project Council (JSEPC), Ranchi, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Jharkhand, for the year 2012-13, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 625/17/19]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jharkhand Secondary Education Project Council (JSEPC), Ranchi, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Jharkhand, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (iv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 625/17/19]

- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jharkhand Secondary Education Project Council (JSEPC), Ranchi, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Jharkhand, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (v) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 625/17/19]

- (vi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jharkhand Secondary Education Project Council (JSEPC), Ranchi, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, 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 Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 625/17/19]

- (vii) (a) Annual Report of the Jharkhand Secondary Education Project Council (JSEPC), Ranchi, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Jharkhand, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (vii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 625/17/19]

- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla, 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.

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (viii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 612/17/19]

- (ix) (a) Annual Report of the State Society implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mizoram, for the year 2017-18.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (ix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 452/17/19]

- (x) (a) Annual Report of the State Mission Authority, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Sikkim, for the year 2016-17.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (x) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 459/17/19]

- (xi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Mizoram, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 455/17/19]

(xii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Karnataka, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 636/17/19]

(xiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Delhi, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 721/17/19]

(xiv) (a) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Delhi, for the year 2016-17.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 722/17/19]

(xv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Puducherry, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 441/17/19]

(xvi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Puducherry, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 441/17/19]

- (xvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Puducherry, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 441/17/19]

- (xviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan Society, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), U.T. of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 638/17/19]

- (xix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan Society, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), U.T. of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 638/17/19]

(xx) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Bihar, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xx) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 637/17/19]

(xxi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the State Education Mission Authority, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Meghalaya, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 617/17/19]

(xxii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan Samiti, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Bhopal, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 607/17/19]

(xxiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Noor Society, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2013-14, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 621/17/19]

(xxiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Noor Society, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 621/17/19]

(xxv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Noor Society, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 621/17/19]

(xxvi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), 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 Council.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 618/17/19]

(xxvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Nani Daman, UT of Daman and Diu, for the year 2014-15, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 450/17/19]

(xxviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Karnataka, for the year 2015-16, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 427/17/19]

(xxix) (a) Annual Report of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Karnataka, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 427/17/19]

(xxx) (a) Annual Report of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Samithi implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Karnataka, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxx) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 427/17/19]

(xxxi) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Sikkim, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 458/17/19]

(xxxii)(a) Annual Report of the Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal, Agra, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Annual Accounts of the Kendriya Hindi Shikshan Mandal, Agra, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Organisation.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 425/17/19]

- (xxxiii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Technical Teachers Training and Research (NITTTR), Chennai, 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.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 644/17/19]

- (xxxiv) (a) Annual Report of the Tamil Nadu State Mission of Education for All (TNSMEA), implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Chennai, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Mission.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 642/17/19]

- (xxxv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Union Territory of Chandigarh Administration, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Chandigarh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 643/17/19]

- (xxxvi) (a) Annual Report of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedavidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Maharshi Sandipani Rashtriya Vedavidya Pratishthan, Ujjain, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Pratishthan.
- (d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxvi) (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 633/17/19]

- (xxxvii) (a) Annual Report of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 635/17/19]

- (xxxviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 609/17/19]

- (xxxix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Jammu and Kashmir, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xxxix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 624/17/19]

- (xl) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Union Territory Mission Authority, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xl) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 608/17/19]

- (xli) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shikshana Abhiyan Samithi, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Karnataka, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Samithi.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xli) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 631/17/19]

- (xlii) (a) Annual Report of the State Mission Authority, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Nagaland, for the year 2016-17.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 626/17/19]

- (xliii) (a) Annual Report of the State Mission Authority, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Nagaland, for the year 2017-18.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Authority.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xliii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 619/17/19]

(xiv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Meghalaya, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 620/17/19]

(xlv) (a) Annual Report of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Mission, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Madhya Pradesh, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 615/17/19]

(xlv) (a) Annual Report of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Delhi, for the year 2016-17.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 610/17/19]

(xlvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Meghalaya, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 419/17/19]

(xlviii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Digital India Corporation,

(formerly Media Lab Asia), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 185/17/19]

- (xlix) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (SAMEER), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (xlix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 380/17/19]

- (l) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), 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 Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (l) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 379/17/19]

- (li) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the ERNET India, 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 Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (li) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 381/17/19]

- (lii) (a) Annual Report of the Himachal Pradesh School Education Society

implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Shimla, for the year 2016-17.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 424/17/19]

- (liii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Bihar Madhyamik Shiksha Parishad, Patna, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Bihar, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Parishad.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (liii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 423/17/19]

- (liv) (a) Annual Report of the Bihar Education Project Council, Patna, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Bihar, for the year 2016-17.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Council.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (liv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 415/17/19]

- (lv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), Karnataka, for the year 2016-17, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Abhiyan.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 427/17/19]

(lvi) (a) Annual Accounts of the Shri Lai Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.

(b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 442/17/19]

(lvii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the North Eastern Regional Institute of Science and Technology (NERIST), Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, 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.

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 429/17/19]

(lviii) (a) Annual Report of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18.

(b) Annual Accounts of the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.

(c) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.

(d) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lviii) (a) and (b) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 425/17/19]

(lix) (a) Annual Report of the State Mission Authority, implementing the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Gangtok, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 418/17/19]

(lx) (a) Annual Report of the State Education Mission Authority, of Meghalaya, implementing the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan, Meghalaya, for the year 2015-16.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lx) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 419/17/19]

(lxi) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indore, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 436/17/19]

(lxii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Gandhinagar, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 435/17/19]

(lxiii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 434/17/19]

(lxiv) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras, for the year 2017-18.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 433/17/19]

- (lxv) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur, for the year 2017-18.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 432/17/19]

- (lxvi) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur, for the year 2017-18.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 431/17/19]

- (lxvii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati, for the year 2016-17.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxvii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 416/17/19]

- (lxviii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, for the year 2017-18.

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

- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxviii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 627/17/19]

- (lxix) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxix) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 645/17/19]

- (lxx) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxx) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 647/17/19]

- (lxxi) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 628/17/19]

- (lxxii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Jodhpur, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 646/17/19]

- (lxxiii) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Mandi, for the year 2017-18.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxiii) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 629/17/19]

(lxxiv) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhilai, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxiv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 630/17/19]

(lxxv) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxv) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 439/17/19]

(lxxvi) (a) Annual Report of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Palakkad, Kerala, for the year 2017-18.

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

(c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (lxxvi) (a) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 457/17/19]

VI. (i) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications) and the Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 551/17/19]

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Human Resource Development) and the EdCIL (India) Limited, for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 649/17/19]

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications) and the Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), for the year 2019-20.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 382/17/19]

- (iv) Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications) and the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL), for the year 2019-20. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 552/17/19]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Shanta Chhetri.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION OF CHAIR — *Contd.*

Demand for reconsidering shifting of Lebong Military Hospital

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Thank you hon. Chairman, Sir, for allowing me to speak. I seek to draw the kind attention of this august House that as per reports, the Defence Ministry is planning to shift Lebong Military Hospital of Darjeeling to other States, that is, Assam, Arunachal Pradesh. This unfortunate shifting will hit hard on the retired Gorkha personnel. Furthermore, there is no ECHS; therefore, if this sole Hospital, which serves as a lifeline to the retired Gorkha personnel is shifted, then, retired Gorkha personnel will have to travel long distance to avail ECHS facilities. It would cause immense hardships to those valiant soldiers who have served our nation. What is more shocking is that the reason given by the Defence Ministry for shifting has been attributed to low bed occupancy. Sir, the reality is otherwise, the reason being that no specialist doctor has been posted there for a long time. The Defence Ministry should also study the fact that 158-bedded hospital cannot handle additional load at Lebong Hospital. It seems they themselves have a huge load of patients including huge number of outpatients. Therefore, Sir, I would like to humbly request the hon. Defence Minister to reconsider the shifting of Lebong Military Hospital, Darjeeling and immediately post specialist doctor for its best utilisation. By doing so, we will do our bit for the retired Gorkha personnel living in the Darjeeling District for their selfless service to the nation. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI SUBHASISH CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is good. Please, all these names to be associated. Now, Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya.

Pollution free India

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं जलवायु प्रदूषण की समस्याओं की विभीषिका की ओर सदन का ध्यान आकर्षित कर रहा हूँ। जलवायु में जो निरंतर प्रदूषण हो रहा है, उस कारण से हमारी प्रकृति का संतुलन निरंतर बिगड़ता चला जा रहा है। मौसम बदल रहा है, समय पर वर्षा नहीं होती है और समय पर वर्षा नहीं होने के कारण हमारी कृषि प्रभावित होती है। 'का बरखा, जब फसल सुखाने' सूखा हो जाता है, देश की अर्थव्यवस्था पर इसका प्रभाव पड़ता है। इस पर संतुलन बनाने के लिए निश्चित रूप से, जैसा अभी कहा गया है कि नदियों को जोड़ने के उपाय प्रभावी रूप से करने की आवश्यकता है। यह बात बहुत पहले की गई है। अब इसे चरणबद्ध रूप से प्रारंभ करना चाहिए। वायु प्रदूषण निश्चित रूप से मनुष्य के स्वास्थ्य के लिए प्रतिकूल है। मनुष्य के स्वास्थ्य को संभालकर रखने के लिए, अस्थमा तथा अन्य बीमारियों को संभालने के लिए भी यह जरूरी है कि वायु को प्रदूषणमुक्त बनाया जाए। हम देखते हैं कि सल्फर डाई-ऑक्साइड, H₂S, नाइट्रोजन ऑक्साइड, नाइट्रोजन आदि गैसों से आज हमारे शहर प्रदूषित हो रहे हैं। गाँवों में भी प्रदूषण की स्थिति अलग प्रकार की बनी हुई है। नदियों का प्रदूषण हो रहा है, शहर के अवशिष्ट नदियों में मिलाए जा रहे हैं। एक समय में हम कहते थे कि हमारी नदियाँ पवित्र-प्रवाह हैं। "गंगा, सिंधु, कावेरी, यमुना सरस्वती, रेवा महानदी, गोदा, ब्रह्मपुत्रश्च पुनातुमाम्।" परन्तु, ये नदियाँ, जो दिनों-दिन अशुद्ध होती चली जा रही हैं, उनको भी शुद्ध करने की आवश्यकता है। इस प्रकार, पृथ्वी को भी प्रदूषण से बचाना होगा। पृथ्वी के अंदर के जल में से अनेक प्रकार की विकृतियाँ आती हैं, जिसके कारण बीमारियाँ होती हैं। इसलिए पृथ्वी को प्रदूषण से मुक्त करने के लिए, जल को प्रदूषण से मुक्त करने के लिए और वायु को प्रदूषण से मुक्त करने के लिए समयबद्ध कार्यक्रम बनाना चाहिए। हमने "स्वच्छता अभियान" चलाया हुआ है और निश्चित रूप से इस "स्वच्छता अभियान" के कारण जलवायु में सुधार हो रहा है, किन्तु इसको एक जन-अभियान के रूप में स्थापित करने का उपाय करना चाहिए।

मेरा केन्द्र सरकार से आग्रह है कि इस अभियान को और तेज गति से चलाकर इसमें हमारे जन-धन को, हमारे लोगों की शक्ति को इस ओर प्रेरित करने का काम किया जाए, ताकि हम अपने यहाँ की जलवायु को शुद्ध करने में सफल हो सकें, धन्यवाद।

Need to provide facilities to pregnant women in trains

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से एक बहुत ही अहम मुद्दे को सदन में रखना चाहती हूँ।

रेल मंत्रालय ने महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए बहुत सारे काम किए हैं, लेकिन मैं उसका ध्यान उन गर्भवती महिलाओं की तरफ भी दिलाना चाहती हूँ, जो रेल से सफर करती हैं वैसे तो उस हालत में महिलाएँ सफर करना नहीं चाहतीं, लेकिन बहुत मजबूरी के कारण वे सफर करती हैं। ऐसा कहा जाता है कि गर्भवती महिला जब तक बच्चे को जन्म न दे दे, तब तक उसका एक पाँव कब्र में लटका रहता है। सर, मैं यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि यह बात सही है कि हमारे यहाँ डॉक्टर्स की भारी कमी है और जब ये महिलाएँ सफर करती हैं, तो अकसर उनके बारे में टीवी चैनल्स और अखबारों में ऐसी खबरें छपती हैं कि एक ट्रेन में महिला ने बच्चे को जन्म दिया। यह बात सही है कि डॉक्टर्स की कमी है। अभी सोशल मीडिया में यह खबर चल रही थी कि डिब्रूगढ़ राजधानी में जब एक महिला ने बच्चे को जन्म दिया, तो उस ट्रेन पर यात्रा कर रही महिलाओं ने उसकी मदद की।

अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह माँग करना चाहती हूँ कि यह ठीक है कि डॉक्टर्स की कमी है, लेकिन उनको first-aid मुहैया कराई जाए, ताकि इस तरह की जो महिलाएँ ट्रेन से सफर कर रही हैं, उनको कुछ न कुछ राहत मिल सके।

†محترمہ کہکشاں پروین (بہار): سبھا پتی مہودے، میں آپ کے مادھیم سے ایک بہت ہی اہم مدعے کو سدن میں رکھنا چاہتی ہوں۔

رٹل منترالے نے سٹلاؤں کی سرکشا کے لئے بہت سارے کام کئے ہیں، لیکن میں اس کا دھٹان ان حاملہ عورتوں کی طرف بھی دلانا چاہتی ہوں، جو رٹل سے سفر کرتی ہیں۔ ویسے تو اس حالت میں سٹلاؤں سے سفر کرنا نہیں چاہیے، لیکن بہت مجبوری کے کارن وہ سفر کرتی ہیں۔ ایسا کہا جاتا ہے کہ حاملہ عورت جب تک بچے کو جنم نہ دے دے، تب تک اس کا ایک پاؤں قبر میں لٹکا رہتا ہے۔ سر، میں یہ بتانا چاہتی ہوں کہ یہ بات صحیح ہے کہ ہم لوگوں کے یہاں ڈاکٹرس کی بھاری کمی ہے اور جب یہ سٹلاؤں سے سفر کرتی ہیں، تو اکثر ان کے بارے میں نیوی۔ چنٹلس اور اخباروں میں اچیری خبری چھپی ہے کہ ایک ٹریں پر سٹلا نے بچے کو جنم دے دیا، بات صحیح ہے کہ ڈاکٹرس کی کمی ہے۔ ابھی سوشل میڈیا میں یہ خبر چل رہی تھی کہ ڈبرو-گڈھہ راجدھاری میں جب ایک سٹلا نے بچے کو جنم دے دیا تو اس ٹریں پر سفر کر رہی سٹلاؤں نے اس کی مدد کی۔ لہذا میں آپ کے مادھیم سے ماننے منتری جی سے یہ مانگ کرتی ہوں کہ یہ ٹھیک ہے کہ ڈاکٹرس کی کمی ہے، لیکن ان کو فرسٹ-ایڈ میڈ کرائی جائے، تاکہ اس طرح کی جو سٹلاؤں ٹریں سے سفر کر رہی ہیں، ان کو کچھ نہ کچھ راحت مل سکے۔ (ختم شد)

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, धन्यवाद। यह एक अच्छा सुझाव है।

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (TAMIL NADU) : Sir, I too associate my self with the matter raised by the hon. member.

**Forced conversion of Hindu minorities, particularly girls and
atrocities against them in Pakistan**

डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा (राजस्थान): माननीय सभापति महोदय, पाकिस्तान में अल्पसंख्यकों के साथ, विशेषकर हिन्दू लड़कियों को अगवा कर उनका जबरन धर्म-परिवर्तन कराने की प्रवृत्ति पुलवामा एयर स्ट्राइक के बाद ज्यादा बढ़ गई है। पाकिस्तान के उमरकोट, रहीम यार खान, सांगर, सकोरमिठी, अमरकोट, नगरपारकर, थारपारकर जैसे इलाकों से इस दौरान हमारे राजस्थान के जोधपुर में भील और मेघवाल परिवार के कई लोग आए हैं। यह भी सामने आया है कि वहाँ गुरुद्वारे में घुसकर सिखों को बाहर किया गया, जिसके लिए प्रदर्शन हुआ। सिन्ध प्रदेश में कुछ दिन पहले अपहरण और बलात्कार की घटना हुई। ऐसी जानकारी सामने आई है कि थारपारकर में 37 भील परिवारों का धर्म-परिवर्तन करवाया गया। वहाँ एक मौलवी ने इन गरीब लोगों के परिवार के सामने यह शर्त रखी कि अगर तुमको यहाँ रहना है, तो तुम धर्म-परिवर्तन करने के बाद ही पाकिस्तान में रह सकोगे। पाकिस्तान में हर साल 1,000 से ज्यादा हिन्दू युवतियों का धर्म-परिवर्तन कराया जाता है और मानवाधिकार के लिहाज से पाकिस्तान अल्पसंख्यकों के लिए सुरक्षित स्थान नहीं है। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय धार्मिक स्वतंत्रता संबंधी अमेरिकी कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, पाकिस्तान में पाकिस्तान की सरकार अल्पसंख्यकों के प्रति कतई गंभीर नहीं है। सभापति महोदय, 71 साल में 90 फीसदी हिन्दू पाकिस्तान छोड़ चुके हैं। वर्ष 1947 में जहां पाकिस्तान में हिन्दुओं की जनसंख्या 31 प्रतिशत थी, वह इस समय 1.2 प्रतिशत है। पाकिस्तान के 95 प्रतिशत मंदिरों को नष्ट किया जा चुका है।

श्री सभापति: आपका सुझाव क्या है?

डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा: मैं बता रहा हूँ। वर्ष 1990 के बाद वहां पर उनके पूजा स्थलों को ध्वस्त कर दिया गया।

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, विषय गंभीर है।

डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा: अभी प्रधान मंत्री जी की अमेरिका यात्रा के दौरान भी यह मामला वहां पर उठा था। सभापति महोदय, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर सरकार दबाव बनाए और जो हिन्दुओं, सिखों, ईसाइयों और अल्पसंख्यकों पर अत्याचार हो रहा है, उस अत्याचार को कैसे कम किया जा सकता है, इस पर बहुत आवश्यकता है कि भारत सरकार

[डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा]

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर दबाव बनाए और इस अत्याचार, दमन को व धर्म परिवर्तन करने की जबरन प्रवृत्ति को रोका जाए।

डा. सत्यनारायण जटिया (मध्य प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री विजय पाल सिंह तोमर (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

सुश्री सरोज पाण्डेय (छत्तीसगढ़): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उइके (मध्य प्रदेश): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली (नाम निर्देशित): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्री सुरेश गोपी (नाम निर्देशित): सभापति महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. C. P THAKUR (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. J. ALPHONS (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI JUGALSINH MATHURJI LOKHANDWALA (Gujarat): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI OM PRAKASH MATHUR (Rajasthan): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Contract teachers in schools

SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA (Tripura): Sir, my Zero Hour submission is regarding contract teachers in schools in different parts of India. सर, हम जानते हैं कि

बहुत सारे स्टेट्स में 12-15 साल के contract school teachers हैं। Contract school teachers चाहते हैं कि वे इतने सालों से रेगुलर स्कूल में जाकर सर्विस दे रहे हैं, लेकिन उनको स्टेट गवर्नमेंट पर्मनैन्ट नहीं कर रही है और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से भी कोई जवाब नहीं मिला है। इसलिए वे लोग संघर्ष करते हुए आंदोलन में शामिल हो रहे हैं। ऐसा ही एक आंदोलन बिहार स्टेट में 18 जुलाई को हुआ, उसमें 18 स्कूल्स के contract teachers शामिल हुए, इसमें barricade तोड़ा, जिसके बाद पुलिस ने उन्हें इतनी बुरी तरीके से पीटा, जिसमें वे सारे contract teachers घायल हुए। सर, इसमें सिर्फ contract teachers ही नहीं, बल्कि लाखों परिवार जुड़े हुए हैं। इसलिए मैं निवेदन करती हूँ कि सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कुछ करे। आर्थिक सहायता के बिना मदद नहीं मिलेगी। जैसे त्रिपुरा में 10,323 contract teachers हैं, पश्चिमी बंगाल, बिहार, यू.पी., दिल्ली, हरियाणा आदि स्टेट्स में हैं। उन लोगों के लिए मैं सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से यह निवेदन करती हूँ कि उनको रेगुलर करने के लिए स्टेट्स की आर्थिक सहायता करे।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): सभापति महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Need for funds for completion of Craft Village Project in Odisha

श्रीमती सरोजिनी हेम्ब्रम (ओडिशा): सभापति महोदय, मैं रघुराजपुर क्राफ्ट village प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में बोलना चाहती हूँ। पुरी डिस्ट्रिक्ट में रघुराजपुर handicraft के काम के लिए world famous है। वहां wood carving, palm leaf engraving, जिसे पट्टचित्र बोलते हैं और Patroi के काम के लिए world famous है। वर्ष 2015 में भारत सरकार ने क्राफ्ट विलेज प्रोजेक्ट के लिए 10 करोड़ रुपए का फण्ड सैंक्शन किया था। सर, Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) ने 6 करोड़ रुपये का फण्ड रिलीज़ किया है and this has been fully utilised. मैं आपके माध्यम से यह निवेदन करती हूँ कि जो 4 करोड़ रुपये का फण्ड बैलेंस था, उसको जल्द से जल्द रिलीज़ किया जाए, ताकि crafts village project का काम पूरा हो सके, धन्यवाद।

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

Need for giving benefit of Government schemes to contract farm labourers

श्री राम कुमार कश्यप (हरियाणा): सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से ऐसे किसान जो ज़मीन को ठेके पर लेकर खेती करते हैं, उनकी समस्या की तरफ सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। सर, किसानों का राष्ट्र निर्माण में अहम योगदान है, किसान वर्ग एक ऐसा वर्ग है, जो रात-दिन मेहनत करके सारे देशवासियों के पेट पालने का काम करता है। और उनकी मेहनत के कारण ही आज हम खाद्यान्न के मामले में आत्मनिर्भर हैं। आज खेती करना घाटे का सौदा हो गया है। इसके कई कारण हो सकते हैं और मैं कारणों पर नहीं जाना चाहता हूँ, जिसके कारण किसानों की आर्थिक स्थिति कमज़ोर हो गई है। वे कर्ज में डूबे हुए हैं, वे आत्महत्याएँ करने के लिए मजबूर हैं।

महोदय, सरकार ने उनके कल्याण के लिए बहुत-सी कल्याणकारी योजनाएं चलाई हैं - जैसे अभी सरकार ने प्रधान मंत्री किसान सम्मान निधि योजना चलाई है, जिसमें हर किसान को, चाहे परिवार में कितने भी मेम्बर हैं, जिनके नाम ज़मीन है, उसमें हरेक मेम्बर को 6,000 रुपये देने का काम किया है और उससे किसानों का बहुत कल्याण होता जा रहा है। मैं इस योजना का स्वागत करता हूँ।

महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से कहना चाहूंगा कि ऐसे किसान जो ठेके पर लेकर खेती करते हैं, उनको इस प्रकार की योजना का लाभ नहीं हो रहा है क्योंकि इनकी समस्या भी वैसी ही है, जो उनकी समस्या है। इनका कसूर सिर्फ यह है कि ये ऐसे परिवारों में पैदा हुए हैं, और जिनके नाम कोई ज़मीन नहीं है। ये ठेके पर लेकर जमीन करते हैं। आज हरियाणा में एक एकड़ ज़मीन का ठेका 45,000 रुपये से लेकर 65,000 रुपये तक है। मैं कह सकता हूँ ऐसा किसान जो 65,000 रुपये लेकर एक एकड़ में खेती करता है, उसकी समस्या क्या हो सकती है? ऐसे किसानों के बारे में भी हमें सोचना होगा। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहूंगा कि ऐसे किसान जो ठेके पर लेकर काम करते हैं, उनके लिए भी कल्याणकारी योजना बनाएं, तभी वे विकास की धारा से जुड़ सकेंगे।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

Discrepancies in entry age in schools in Standard-1 across the country

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. Through you, Sir, I wish to draw the attention of the Government to the discrepancies in the entry age to Standard-1 in schools across the country.

Sir, every year, in the beginning of the academic year, we witness confusion amongst parents and school management over the fixation of the exact age to admit a child to Standard-1. So, most parents are on tenterhooks as the education department in the States come out with last minute age criteria. Some States increase it, some States decrease it, and many times, the circular comes at a stage where the process of admission has already taken place, and sometimes, even the fees have been paid for.

Sir, the RTE Act 2009 is clear that the entry age for admission to Standard-1 would be six years. But, we see that the cut off age is different in different States; different for different Boards. Sometimes, even in a particular city, the schools have different age, the dates of cut off. Sometimes, it is 31st March, sometimes, 1st June, 31st July, 30th September, etc., etc. Sir, the HRD Ministry's own report recognises that there are discrepancies. Sir, the statistic shows that in twenty States and six Union Territories, the minimum age is five or five plus. So, while in States of Maharashtra, where I come from, Bihar, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Sikkim, Tripura and Lakshadweep, it is six or six plus one. Interestingly, the age criteria does not apply to Kendriya Vidyalaya, and it is five years. So, prima facie, this may seem very simple, but, Sir, the parent organisations have started concern their voice against this, because they feel that the students in States where the minimum criteria is six years, are at an undue disadvantage. They face risk of losing out on great opportunities later in life. Most career avenues of the Government of India also, such as, UPSC examinations, the National Defence Academy, etc., etc., set their age according to the five-year criteria. And, therefore, Sir, when we talk of 'one nation, one tax,' we are applying the idea of 'one nation, one election,' I urge the Government, through you, Sir, that 'one nation, one cut off date, and one age' should be fixed for all the schools in India.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Rameshji, please take note of it. अभी कुछ कहने की जरूरत नहीं है। विषय थोड़ा नाजुक और गंभीर है।

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ (Jammu and Kashmir): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI C. M. RAMESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. D. P. VATS (Haryana): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

श्रीमती मीशा भारती (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

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

Problems of flat owners *vis-a-vis* builders

श्री विजय गोयल (राजस्थान): सभापति महोदय, मैं सदन का ध्यान जो लाखों फ्लैट बायर्स हैं, होम बायर्स हैं, उनकी तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इन लोगों ने पाई-पाई जोड़कर, अपने खून-पसीने की कमाई से और अपना सब कुछ बेचकर इन फ्लैट्स को बुक कराया है। आप देख रहे हैं कि इन्होंने एक आशियाना का सपना बुना और लालची बिल्डर्स ने इनको बुरी तरह से ठग लिया है। सभापति जी, गरीब को भगवान ने गरीबी दी, लेकिन उसे सहन करने की शक्ति भी दी। लेकिन ये मिडिल क्लास लोग किसके पास जाएं? इन बिल्डर्स ने उनके साथ जान-बूझकर ऐसा किया है, उन्होंने उनके साथ cheating की है, fraud किया है, जिन्होंने और ज्यादा

ज़मीनें खरीदने के लिए इन्हें लूट लिया है, उन्हें फांसी की सज़ा होनी चाहिए क्योंकि यह अपराध बलात्कार से कम नहीं है। मैं जब United Home Buyers' Association के लोगों से मिलता हूँ तो वे अपने बाल नोचते हैं क्योंकि उनकी ज़िंदगी भर की कमाई चली गयी है। आज हम अखबारों में देख रहे हैं कि इसमें celebrities के नाम जुड़े हुए हैं, जो कहते हैं कि हम इनके brand ambassador हैं। तो जो लोग इनके brand ambassadors हैं या जो लोग products की advertisements करते हैं और उसके बाद अगर वह product या वह चीज़ खराब निकलती है तो उनके खिलाफ भी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए।

सभापति जी, अभी जो आम्रपाली का केस आया था, उसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने 48,000 buyers को relief दिया है। उसमें सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा है कि पहला अधिकार Noida Authority के पास नहीं रहेगा, पहला अधिकार बैंकों के पास भी नहीं रहेगा, पहला अधिकार home buyers को मिलेगा कि उनका पैसा उन्हें वापस मिले और उनके घर बनाकर दिए जाएं, लेकिन केवल एक आम्रपाली ही नहीं है, ऐसे सैकड़ों builders हैं, जिन्होंने भोले-भाले मिडिल क्लास को ठगा है। महोदय, NBCC कहां से पैसा लाएगा, मुझे नहीं मालूम, लेकिन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार बाकी प्रोजेक्ट्स को भी NBCC के माध्यम से takeover करेगी? सभापति जी, बहुत से builders तो RERA के अंडर registered ही नहीं हैं और बहुत से builders ने अपना बहुत कुछ बेनामी नाम से कर रखा है। इस प्रकार Noida Authority जैसी अन्य authorities और बैंकों के वे अधिकारी, जो घोटालों में शामिल हैं, उनके खिलाफ भी कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए।

सभापति जी, जैसे दिल्ली में unauthorized colonies में भी लोगों ने भोले-भाले लोगों को ज़मीनें बेच दीं और अब उनके regularisation का मुद्दा भी बिल्कुल ऐसा ही है।

श्री सभापति: आप सुझाव दीजिए।

श्री विजय गोयल: उन्हें ठगा जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि लाखों home buyers सरकार की तरफ टकटकी लगाए देख रहे हैं। उन्हें मोदी सरकार से यह उम्मीद है कि उनका जो रुपया डूब गया है और builders ने जो उनके साथ लूट मचाई है, उनके खिलाफ सरकार कड़ी से कड़ी कार्यवाही करेगी, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति: जो लोग associate कर रहे हैं, वे स्लिप भेज दें।

मीर मोहम्मद फ़ैयाज (जम्मू-कश्मीर): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

†جناب محمد فاضل (جموں-کشمیر): میں مائے سلسلے کے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے
وٹنے سے خود کو سمبندھ کرتا ہوں۔

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

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

श्री अजय प्रताप सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

श्री बीरेन्द्र प्रसाद बैश्य (असम): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

**Need to confer forest rights on Scheduled Tribes and other
traditional forest dwellers**

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, the objective of the Forest Rights Act is to protect the interests of forest dwellers as also to rectify the historical injustice that has been done to the forest dwellers, including *Adivasis* and Scheduled Tribes. Even after thirteen years of implementation of the Forest Rights Act, the States are grappling with the issues and rejecting the claims of the forest dwellers. This is unacceptable and detrimental to the very objective with which the enactment has been made.

Sir, the Gram Sabhas, the Divisional Committees and also Sub-Divisional Committees are rejecting the claims on trivial grounds. In India, there are about thirty crore forest dwellers. Out of 45 lakh claims, only 17 lakh claims have been approved and 28 lakh claims have been rejected by the respective States. This high rate of rejection of claims of forest dwellers is unacceptable and detrimental to the objective of the Act.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, in its letter dated 27th July, 2015, admitted the violations of the Act by some of the States. The Act clearly says that the proof of residence is only 75 years of residing there or three generations residing in the forests and not the physical possession or possession of a property. In fact, the Supreme Court, in its recent judgement has given a direction to evict all forest dwellers whose claims have been rejected though, subsequently, the order of the Supreme Court has been stayed.

I urge the Central Government and the concerned hon. Minister to intervene and take immediate steps to protect the livelihood of forest dwellers and to accommodate

the rejected claims, as I am very confident that a majority of them are genuine. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

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

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: All these raising their hands have to write their names on a slip and send it to the Table. It is not possible for officials sitting on the Table to see all the Members who are associating and note their names simultaneously.

Need to protect Kanwar Lake Bird Sanctuary in Begusarai, Bihar

श्री राकेश सिन्हा (नाम निर्देशित): सभापति महोदय, मैं एक ऐसे विषय की ओर सदन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ, जो यह दिखाता है कि किस प्रकार से हम अपनी सांस्कृतिक धरोहरों और पर्यटक स्थलों को खोते जा रहे हैं। बिहार के बेगूसराय के मंझौल में लगभग 5,467 हेक्टेयर जमीन पर एक झील है, जिसे कांवर झील कहते हैं। इसे बाद में बिहार सरकार की अधिसूचना में 6,311 हेक्टेयर किया गया है, जो अपने आप में एशिया की सबसे बड़ी झील है। उसका पानी इतना अच्छा होता था कि उस झील को देखने के लिए और उसका पानी पीने के लिए लाखों लोग वहां आते थे। उसके बारे में सबसे महत्वपूर्ण विषय यह है कि नवम्बर से लेकर मार्च तक साइबेरिया के लाखों अनगिनत रंग-बिरंगे पक्षी वहां आते थे, जोकि इस पर्यटक स्थल को और अधिक आकर्षण का केंद्र बना देते थे। आज वह झील सूख रही है और प्रायः सूख चुकी है। उस पर किसी भी सरकार की नज़र नहीं गई है।

[श्री राकेश सिन्हा]

मैं सरकार और मंत्रालय से यह अपेक्षा रखता हूँ कि उस झील को रिवाइव किया जाए और हमारे लाखों अतिथि, जो साइबेरिया से आते थे, हम उन्हें पुनः भारत में बुलाएं। वे अतिथि जिनका एक अलग रूप होता था, वे रंग-बिरंगे पक्षी इस प्रकार का सौंदर्य देते थे और ऐसा लगता था कि जैसे भारत उनका सेकेन्ड होम हो।

मैं यह उम्मीद करता हूँ कि पर्यटन मंत्रालय, संस्कृति मंत्रालय और बिहार सरकार, तीनों मिलकर उस झील को अविलम्ब रिवाइव करेंगे, जिससे हमारा वह पर्यटक स्थल बचा रहे और यह धरोहर जो कि 700 साल पुरानी है, वह वर्तमान में रहे, भविष्य में भी बनी रहे और पीढ़ियों के लिए वह एक याद के रूप में नहीं बल्कि वर्तमान के रूप में रहे।

श्री जी.वी.एल. नरसिंहा राव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सी.पी. ठाकुर (बिहार): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

Need to withhold legislation on dam safety

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Chairman, Sir, the Central Government is now proposing to introduce the Dam Safety Bill, 2019.

I would like to draw the kind attention of the Central Government to a unanimous resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of Tamil Nadu on 26th June, 2018. I may be permitted to quote the resolution. It says:

"As the proposed draft Dam Safety Bill contain Clauses which violate the rights of Tamil Nadu, especially with respect to dams constructed by the Government of Tamil Nadu in the neighbouring State and would cause various problems in their maintenance and operation, this House urges the Central Government to take up the legislation on dam safety only after consulting the States and after arriving at consensus and till then keep in abeyance the process of legislating on dam safety."

Sir, there are four dams of Tamil Nadu located in Kerala, namely Mullaiperiyar, Parambikulam, Thunakadavu and Peruvuripallam. These are now under the safe custody of the Government of Tamil Nadu. They are maintained by the Government of Tamil Nadu. Now, the State of Tamil Nadu has the existing rights to maintain these dams. Sir, now, the proposed Dam Safety Bill is taking away these rights. It is unfair. It is unconstitutional. It is illegal and it would cause a great loss to us.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is only a proposal. You give your suggestion.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, the State of Tamil Nadu must be heard before introducing this Bill and the existing rights of Tamil Nadu shall not be taken away. Thank you.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by our leader.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by our leader.

SHRI MUHAMMATHJOHN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by my senior colleague.

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by our leader.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by our leader.

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by our leader.

SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by my colleague.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Central Government is ignoring all unanimous resolutions passed by the Assembly of Tamil Nadu. So, Sir, cooperative federalism is completely overlooked.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is the problem; you go from the issue to politics. Then, the issue is gone. Now, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Sir, the State Assembly's resolution is ignored. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Government of India ignored the resolution of a State Assembly! ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: See, the point has been well made. You have also supplemented it, then you made some allegation and then they will not even respond.*(Interruptions)*... I want that justice to be done to the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't argue. ...(Interruptions)... He said it. ...(Interruptions)... This is not going on record. ...(Interruptions)... Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: *

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not just a political body; it is a body to discuss the issues of the people, come to conclusions and also go in for legislation. ...(Interruptions)...

SHIR T.K. RANGARAJAN: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Normally, I look at it from the developmental angle.

**Need for an Action Plan to tackle increasing number of missing
children in the country**

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, over seven lakh children have gone missing in the last ten years; and, in Delhi alone, at least, seventeen children go missing every day. There is a large concentration of families where both parents are working, such as, daily-wage labourers, migrated from other States. And, there is nobody to look after their children in their absence. The National Crime Records Bureau says that, in India, one child goes missing every eight minutes. More worrying is, 60 per cent of those missing children are girls. Maharashtra tops the list, with 60,000 children going missing. The States of Madhya Pradesh, Delhi and Andhra Pradesh also have quite high numbers. Children are trafficked for sex trade, begging, and organ grafting.

The National Human Rights Commission has issued guidelines for tracing missing children. It advocated that vigilance and surveillance systems by police personnel and activists need to be augmented. The Supreme Court has also issued guidelines and directed the Government to set up Children Help Desk or Kiosk at various public places, including important railway stations, to trace the missing children or children looking unattended.

* Not Recorded

The Government has launched various sustained one-month campaigns like Operation Smile, Operation Muskaan from year to year. For tracking missing child, a dedicated website 'Trackchild' has been launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

However, the incidents of child missing are increasing unabatedly. Therefore, I urge upon the Ministry of Home Affairs that there should be constant interaction with the stakeholders to strictly adhere to the guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures.

So, I request the hon. Home Minister to set up special cell to address this burning and sensitive issue, and draft an action plan to tackle this menace.

SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO (Punjab): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

**Concern over non-inclusion of Odisha in new railway stations
redevelopment programme**

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is regarding the recent action of the Indian Railways to redevelop twenty-two stations to world standards. While I welcome this development, the fact is that this redevelopment plan has been based on the revenue model, employing the BOT or the BOOT or the BLT, as per

[Shri Amar Patnaik]

suitability. But, what has happened is that during the expression of interests, there were about twenty-three stations where the results were not very encouraging because they wanted longer lease periods, multiple sub-leasing, restrictions on usage, guaranteed time-bound approval by the Railway functionaries. As a result, the Railways went for a revised scheme to make the revenue model very attractive. And, in the process, some more railway stations were included. However, out of 41 stations, which had been shortlisted for inviting expression of interests, there is not a single railway station from the State of Odisha.

Sir, Odisha, as you know, has two kinds of terrain over there. In the coastal Odisha, we have Bhubaneswar and Puri, which has a large number of passenger footfalls. So, through you, Sir, I would like to remind the hon. Minister and the Government that, at least, one station from the eastern part of Odisha and one station from the Western part should be included because the Western part belongs to the poorest section of the society, the disadvantaged groups of the society. Being a tribal area, it is not so developed area. Once you have a world-class railway station there, it would actually act as a mini growth engine in that area. And, the revenue model can, probably, be integrated with National Highways Project and some kind of a model can come out which would attract private investors to invest in re-development of these railway stations.

This is my demand, Sir.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (KARNATAKA): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said.

**Need to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
Act, 1985 to check its misuse**

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, is a Central Act. The main intention of the Act is to consolidate and amend the law relating narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and thereby make a stringent provision to control and regulate the operations relating to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and the matters connected therewith.

Sir, Section 20 of the Act deals with the punishment for contravention in relation to ganja plants and ganja (cannabis). Section 20, sub-section (b)(ii)(a) specifically relates to the minor punishment for handling small quantity of ganja. The sub-section

says, I quote, "... and involves small quantity with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with a fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both." Sir, even though the Section talks about imprisonment with a fine up to ₹10,000, the usual practice is imposing a very small fine, up to ₹5,000 or below. As per the present schedule, which prescribes the quantity, quantity up to 1,000 grams, that is, up to one kilogram, is treated as small quantity and the offence is treated as bailable one. So, the accused finds it very easy to get bail from the office itself. The traders and carriers of ganja are always ready to remit the fine. The definition of 'small quantity' is a very big loophole. With the help of this loophole, the same persons and criminals are continuously committing the same offence. They keep ganja in small packets of 50 grams or 100 grams and carry less than 1000 grams at a time. This is a very serious issue and it seriously affects the younger generation, especially the student community. In order to get over this situation, one of the remedies is to redefine 'small quantity' by reducing the quantity from 1,000 grams to 100 or 200 grams, and exceeding 100 or 200 grams must be included in the 'medium quantity'. The offence should be treated as non-bailable one and the fine should be enhanced to a minimum of ₹25,000. The most stringent provisions must be incorporated in the Act. The Government of Kerala has already requested the Central Government to make necessary amendment in the Act. Hence, I request the Government to take immediate necessary action to amend the law. Thank you, Sir.

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

SHRI AHMAD ASHFAQUE KARIM (Bihar): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need for raising a Kalinga Regiment from Odisha

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, Odisha is known as the land of gallantry and valour. This goes back into history when we talk about the Kalinga War or the Paika rebellion. Similarly, in terms of defence and contribution to defence by the State, Odisha, through its Integrated Test Range Centre of DRDO at the Abdul Kalam Island has been home to major defence contributions in terms of missile technology. Whether it is Akash, Agni, Astra, BrahMos, Nirbhay, Prithvi, Shaurya, Advanced Air Defence or Prithvi Air Defence, Odisha was and has been contributing

[Shri Sasmit Patra]

substantially to the Defence of this nation. Apart from that, the INS Chilka, which has been a state-of-the-art training facility for the Naval as well as the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd., has contributed immensely to this nation, Sir. I am placing this on record primarily because there has been a long-standing demand for raising a Kalinga Regiment in the Indian Army from the State of Odisha. In this regard, late Shri Biju Patnaik had, actually, raised his demand and had continuously been voicing his demand. In 2015, again, it was placed before the Centre, but it has not materialised so far. Sir, through you, I would like to place before the Government that there should be raising of the Kalinga Regiment, considering the contribution of the State to the nation's Defence establishment, and at the same time, because it is on the Eastern Seaboard of India, ensuring for the protection of such eminent establishments just like the Abdul Kalam Island, Sir.

SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need to set up Council for translations of Indian literary works

DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE (Maharashtra): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we know that literature is one of the strong pillars of soft power all over the world, and a land like India which is known for Ramayana and Mahabharat, I think, is conscious about the influence of these epics in several cultures, in several parts of the world. But, even then the fact remains that after Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, in the last over 100 years, not a single Indian literary work has been found fit for Nobel Prize. Therefore, if we go into the crux of the whole issue, you will find that once it was considered that the Swedish Academy has a Euro-centric thinking, and, therefore, they don't give awards to people beyond Europe or America, for that matter. But, that is not the case any more. For example, during the last several years, the awards have been given to individual literators from Peru, Guatemala, Saint Lucia, even twice of China and South Africa as well. Therefore, we have already missed the bus. We could ensure Nobel Prize for Shri R.K. Narayan, or giants like Utrul-uddin Haider of the Urdu literature or Shri V.S. Khandekar, for that matter, from Maharashtra. But, now, I believe we have

individual literary giants like Joe D'Cruz, who is a Tamil writer and known for his literary works or Shri S.L. Bhyrappa from Karnataka or Bhalchandra Nemade. There are several dalit literary works from Maharashtra, for that matter or Shankari Prasad Basu or even the legendary Gulzar or Mani Shankar Mukherjee or Dinkar Joshi of Gujarati literature. I believe, Sir, that the Government of India and, especially, the relevant Department should be working overtime to ensure that the nominating agencies which are considered as inhospitable to Indian literature are brought here. They are given to understand the strength of the Indian literature. At the same time, Sir, the point is that there are no quality translations of Indian literary work available. We don't have good translations of good Indian literature in Spanish or in other world languages or languages which are recognized by the United Nations and therefore it is pertinent that we establish a Council for translation of literary works, start courses in translation, take this up in a mission mode and give awards to literary works translated in UN languages. Thank you very much.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Good suggestion.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री परशोत्तम रुपाला): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

श्रीमती रुपा गांगुली (नाम निर्देशित): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करती हूँ।

Need to ban Ponzi and unregulated deposit schemes

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the urgent need to ban the Ponzi and unregulated deposit schemes.

[Shri K.C. Ramamurthy]

Sir, unscrupulous elements are finding Ponzi and unregulated schemes a shortcut to mint money illegally. This is spreading from big cities to even Taluka, hobli, and village level.

The *modus operandi* of these promoters is, first, they issue or publicize locally through influential agencies and advertise in print and electronic media to lure poor, lower middle class and middle class who think that they can get some additional income by investing in these deposit schemes. For first few months, Sir, they will be getting huge returns and the others will be tempted to invest more in these firms. Within a few months, the number of people who have deposited multiplies and these people collect crores of rupees. And, one fine morning, they close their shutters and go underground. These promoters will not enter into any agreement or give sureties but the transactions will mostly be document less. In most cases, the address and whereabouts of the promoters will not be known. It all happens because the intention of the promoter is not to do business but to dupe people and, more importantly, they do not have the fear of law as there is no harder legislation at the State and Union level.

Sir, keeping the poor people in mind — and knowing that they have been cheated, they run from pillar to post to get their money back, and we don't have instances where they get back their money — there is a need to ban Ponzi and unregulated deposit schemes in the county, and I request that enforceable — I am saying 'enforceable' — strict regulations should be put in place at the earliest. Thank you, Sir.

Need for more bank branches in West Bengal

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA (West Bengal): Sir, I want to raise one very important issue in relation to the implementation of different schemes of the Union Government and the State Governments.

Sir, today, as on date, the role of the nationalized banks, commercial banks and other banks is very important to deliver the goods to the beneficiary. In our State, out of 3,315 Gram Panchyat areas, we are lacking 700 bank branches in those GP areas. As a result, the people and the beneficiaries are not getting the benefit of the schemes either of the Central Government or of the State Government. Our Government, led by Madam Chief Minister, Mamata Banerjee, and the Finance Minister, Dr. Amit Mitra, repeatedly wrote to the Union Government and the Ministry of Finance to attract the attention for its early implementation to set bank branches in the non-banking GP areas.

Unfortunately, for the last four years, it has not paid any heed to that request and communications.

Sir, it was raised several times in the State Level Bankers' Meeting, SLBC meeting, and the Heads of the Banks repeatedly gave assurance that 'We will implement; we will implement.' But, unfortunately, in the areas of tribal domination, in the dalit areas, in the Scheduled Caste areas, the bank branches are not available for transmission of the effect of the Central Government projects and the State Government projects. I urge upon the Government and, particularly, the Finance Minister, through you, Sir, that this matter should be taken up very seriously for real implementation of the schemes and benefits to the beneficiary in our State of West Bengal. Thank, you, Sir.

PROF. JOGEN CHOWDHURY (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI SUBHASISH CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE (West Bengal): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

Need to curtail smuggling of drugs into Punjab

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा (पंजाब): चेयरमैन सर, मैं जो matter आपके *via* Government of India के नोटिस में ला रहा हूँ, यह सारे देश के लिए बहुत ही important matter है। पाकिस्तान के साथ हमारा जो international border है, वहाँ पर अटारी में हमारा integrated check post है। वहाँ पर इस साल 30 जून को 532 किलोग्राम हेरोइन पकड़ी गई है। देश की आजादी के बाद यह biggest haul है। इसका international price, 2,700 करोड़ रुपए है। इसके साथ करीब 30-40 किलोग्राम और भी दूसरी drugs थीं। इसी हाउस में तकरीबन दो साल पहले Minister of State, Home ने यह बात कही थी कि हम international border पर अमृतसर में full body truck scanner लगाएँगे। इस पर मार्च, 2018 में काम शुरू हुआ, लेकिन अभी तक

[श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा]

वह truck scanner नहीं बना है। मैं यह बेसिक बात आपके ध्यान में लाना चाहता हूँ कि जहाँ भी drugs का काम होता है, वहाँ drugs के साथ weapons आते हैं और weapons के साथ terrorism आता है। पंजाब ने 15 साल तक इसकी बहुत बड़ी कीमत अदा की है। इसलिए Government of India को इस तरफ विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिए। आज Government of India का ज्यादा ध्यान कश्मीर की तरफ है। आज पंजाब के हालात भी ऐसे बन रहे हैं। आप दो ही चीजें देखिए कि वहाँ दो main accused थे, उनमें से एक अमृतसर का लड़का था और दूसरा कश्मीर का था। अमृतसर वाला उसी दिन गिरफ्तार हुआ। इस महीने की 21 जुलाई को अचानक अमृतसर सेंट्रल जेल में उसकी death हो गई। उससे पहले Narcotics Bureau ने उसको interrogate भी किया। जो इतना important witness था, जो आदमी उस गुनाह में शामिल था, उसको किसी isolation में रखना चाहिए था। उसकी death हो गई। सर, पंजाब में दो चीजें हो रही हैं। हमारे लाखों बच्चे अपनी जमीनें बेच कर, घर बेच कर, बैंकों से पैसे उठा कर या तो बाहर के मुल्कों में जा रहे हैं या drugs का शिकार हो रहे हैं। मैं सारे देश का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि ISIS इराक से उखाड़ दिया गया है, by NATO forces, by American forces. वह सीरिया और यमन से निकल आया है। American forces are withdrawing from Afghanistan. आज अफगानिस्तान फिर से तालिबान के हाथ में जा रहा है। जितने Pakistani fundamentalist organizations हैं, वे बैठे हुए हैं। मैं चाहता था कि वह investigation CBI करे, मगर NIA ने वह investigation अपने हाथ में ले लिया है। मैं Government of India से अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि वे लोग, जो smuggling racket में हैं, उनको गिरफ्तार किया जाए, उनको unearth किया जाए और ये सारी चीजें बाहर लाई जाएँ। Government of India को इसको seriously लेना चाहिए, मेरी आपके सामने यही गुजारिश है।

श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद (जम्मू-कश्मीर): सर, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ। †

جناب غلام نبی آزاد (جموں-کشمیر): سر، میں ماننے سدسے کے ذریعے اٹھائے گئے
وشنے سے خود کو سمبڈھ کرتا ہوں۔

श्री भुवनेश्वर कालिता (असम): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री बी.के. हरिप्रसाद (कर्नाटक): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

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

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

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो (पंजाब): सर, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

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

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

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, I too associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

**Need to begin construction of AYUSH hospitals in
Jammu and Kashmir**

श्री नज़ीर अहमद लवाय (जम्मू और कश्मीर): चेयरमैन सर, मैं सरकार का ध्यान इस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जम्मू-कश्मीर में आयुष महकमे की तरफ से कुछ अस्पताल बनाए जाने हैं, जो कुपवाड़ा और कुलगाम में बनाए जाने हैं। पिछले दो साल से उन अस्पताल के लिए पैसे भी जारी किए गए और जमीनें भी दी गई हैं। चवलगाम, कुलगाम डिस्ट्रिक्ट में जमीन भी allot हो गई है और पैसा भी दिया गया है, लेकिन आज तक पिछले दो साल से वहाँ काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है। लिहाजा मेरी सरकार से गुज़ारिश है कि वहाँ पर जल्द से जल्द काम शुरू किया जाए, क्योंकि वहाँ लोग suffer कर रहे हैं। वहाँ जो far-flung areas हैं, वहाँ यह लोगों की जबर्दस्त जरूरत है। यह 50 beds का अस्पताल है, जिसको पिछले दो साल से बनना है, लेकिन यह अभी तक नहीं बन रहा है। लिहाजा आपके माध्यम से मेरी गुज़ारिश है कि सरकार इस पर action ले।

[श्री नज़ीर अहमद लवाय]

جناب نذی احمد لوائے (جموں-کشمیر) : چٹڑ مئی سر، مئی سرکار کا دھٹن اس طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں کہ جموں-کشمیر مئی آئش محکمہ کی طرف سے کچھ اسپتال بنائے جانے مئی، جو کپواڑہ اور کلگام مئی بنائے جانے مئی۔ پچھلے دو سال سے ان اسپتال کے لئے پیسے بھی جاری کئے گئے اور زمیں بھی دی گئی مئی۔ چولگام، کلگام ڈسٹرکٹس مئی زمیں بھی اٹوٹ ہو گئی ہے اور پیسہ بھی دیا گیا ہے، لیکن آج تک پچھلے دو سال سے وہاں کام شروع نہیں ہوا ہے۔ لہذا مئی سرکار سے گزارش ہے کہ وہاں پر جلد سے جلد کام شروع کئی جائے، کہیں کہ وہاں لوگ suffer کر رہے مئی۔ وہاں جو far-flung areas مئی، وہاں یہ لوگوں کی زبردست ضرورت ہے۔ یہ پچاس بیڈس کا اسپتال ہے، جس کو پچھلے دو سال سے بننا ہے، لیکن یہ ابھی تک نہیں بن رہا ہے۔ لہذا آپ کے مادھیم سے مئی ی گزارش ہے کہ سرکار اس پر ایکشن لے۔

**Need to bill up the posts of medical practitioners in
Railway Medical Services**

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं एक ही मिनट लूँगा। Indian Railway Medical Service के डॉक्टर्स की नियुक्ति Union Public Service Commission के माध्यम से होती है। Appointment होने के बाद डॉक्टर्स जब वहाँ join करने जाते हैं और जब वे वहाँ जगह को देखते हैं, infrastructure को देखते हैं, तो वे वहाँ join किए बगैर वापस लौट आते हैं। इन रिक्तियों को पूरा करने के लिए contract पर medical practioners को रखा जाता है और वे हर जगह duty देते हैं। उनको केवल fixed 75 हजार रुपए मिलते हैं, न dearness allowance है, न कोई ओर allowance है, न increment है, न promotion है, और कुछ नहीं होता है। अब रेलवे के द्वारा आदेश जारी किया गया है कि उनसे केवल 12 साल तक की ही सेवा ली जाएगी, उसके बाद उनको हटा दिया जाएगा। वैसे भी उनकी आयु काफी हो गई है और उनके लिए किसी दूसरे विभाग में नियुक्ति पाना भी असंभव है। इसलिए मेरा सुझाव है कि contract पर जिन डॉक्टर्स की नियुक्ति की गई है, उनको regular vacancy के against adjust किया जाए, ताकि रेलवे का भी काम चले और उनका भी वहाँ पर adjustment हो जाए।

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

RULING BY THE CHAIR**Re. Point of Order raised on 18th July, 2019 on "Judgement of Supreme Court
in matter of some M.L. As. of Karnataka Vidhan Sabha"**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, on 18th July, 2019 during Zero Hour Shri Anand Sharma, Deputy Leader of the Congress party in Rajya Sabha raised a point of order. 'Quoting Articles 102 and 191 (2) of the Constitution of India and the Tenth Schedule commonly known as Anti-Defection law, Shri Anand Sharma submitted that under paragraph 2(l)(b) of the Tenth Schedule, a Member who votes or abstains from voting in a House contrary to the direction issued by his political party without obtaining the prior permission of, or condonation of such voting or abstention by that political party within 15 days from the date of such voting or abstention, incurs disqualification for being a Member of that House. Further, stating that the judgement of the Supreme Court of 17th July, 2019, in the matter of some MLAs of Karnataka Vidhan Sabha, Shri Anand Sharma described it as a clear violation of the Constitution and transgression of power and demanded a ruling from the Chair in the matter. I am not going into the merits of voting or abstention; that is left to the respective State Assembly.

Responding to his submission, I made it clear in the House that I cannot allow his point of order as the matter raised by him was not for consideration before the House.

However, on his insistence for a ruling, I said that I would give a detailed order.

Hon. Members as you are aware, the point of order is a procedural device under Rule 258 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha to bring to the notice of the Chair any procedural irregularity being done or observed in the House in relation to the Business of the House at that moment. A Member cannot raise a point of order on a Business that is not before the House. There have been a number of instances in Rajya Sabha when the Presiding Officers have consistently ruled that the point of order can be raised only on a matter which is before the House.

In the instant matter, Shri Anand Sharma wanted my ruling on the judgement given by the Supreme Court on a matter which is between the Speaker of the Karnataka Vidhan Sabha and some of its MLAs. This is obviously outside the ambit of Rule 258 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Rajya Sabha.

[Mr. Chairman]

I, therefore, reiterate, what I had said in the House, that this matter not being before this House, cannot be allowed as a point of order. But I am not commenting on the merits of the issue which he has raised; that is left to the other forum.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Integrated Textile Parks in Andhra Pradesh

*346. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has approved two Integrated Textile Parks in Nellore in Andhra Pradesh under PPP mode;
- (b) if so, the progress of the Textile Parks;
- (c) by when the parks are likely to commence production; and
- (d) the details of allocations made for the Textile Parks during 2018-19 and 2019-20?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) which provides support for creation of world-class infrastructure facilities for setting up of textile units in a Public-Private-Partnership (PPP) model, with a Government of India grant upto 40% of the project cost with ceiling limit of ₹ 40.00 crores for each park. Two Integrated Textile Parks have been sanctioned under the scheme in District of Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. Out of the two, production has commenced in MAS Fabric Park Ltd. The detail of the two SITP textile parks in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh is as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Park	GoI grant (₹ in crores)	GoI grant released (₹ in crores)	Actual Investment (₹ in crores)	Status
1.	MAS Fabric Park Ltd.	40.00	24.00	53.91	Operational
2.	Tarakeswara Textile Park Pvt. Ltd.	40.00	4.00	41.00	Sanctioned

12.00 Noon

(d) The details of the Budget allocations made for the textile parks during the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 is as under:—

	(₹ in crore)	
Budget Allocation under Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP)	2018-19	2019-20
	27.15 (RE)	20.00 (BE)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour; Question No.346. This question relates to my town, so I support it.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*)

SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, five Textile Parks were sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh in 2005. But after fourteen years, only two Parks are operational. One is MAS Textile Park which is operational with above ₹50 crore investment, which they have put in along with the Government. I would like to know from the hon. Minister about the employment opportunities created by this Park. When it was started, it was said that employment for 20,000 people would be created. I would like to know the position today. How many people have been given employment?

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, as is visible from the answer given, one is fully functional and one, which is sanctioned, is in various stages of operation. In so far as the quantum of employment, which is proposed to be undertaken under these Parks is concerned, I must say here, given the textile, especially apparel, it is seasonal in nature in terms of production. The number of employees varies from season to season. Hence to presume that a particular number of people will be employed throughout the functioning of a Park, especially with services like garments and made-ups, would be an anomaly for me to present. I can only say this that the role of the Government of India is curtailed to providing up to 40 per cent of the total capacity of the Park with the ceiling limit of ₹40 crore in terms of investment support to the industry that comes forth requesting for setting up of a Textile Park. I must here also, through you, inform the House that we are in the process of having a stakeholders' meeting as to how to revitalize the current Textile Parks which are functional across the

[Shrimati Smriti Zubin Irani]

country. As the House may be aware, the hon. Finance Minister also made a proposal to both Houses of Parliament for setting up Manufacturing Zones. Then, we would like to correlate our efforts with that of the Ministry of Finance to see how under the new Scheme presented by the hon. Finance Minister, we can enhance our manufacturing capacities within these Parks. Overall, in the country, close to 3,64,000 people are currently employed in these Textile Parks.

SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Sir, what are the reasons that in spite of the Government of India giving directions to PSUs to buy their textiles and fabrics locally, to boost artisans and weavers, PSUs are not coming to buy them? I would like to suggest that, at least, 50 per cent of it should be made mandatory so that PSUs buy the products locally.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, through you, I would like to highlight to the hon. Member that though his concern does not match the question proposed, the Government of India has two PSUs, particularly, in the field of textiles, one being the National Textile Corporation and the other being the cottage Emporium that you see in many cities. In both these PSUs, the sourcing, especially of craft materials and weave materials in the handloom sector, are done through handloom weavers and artisans across the country. In so far as the National Textile Corporation is concerned, it is the PSU, or the Government of India enterprise which produces textile materials.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, महाराष्ट्र में भिवंडी, मालेगांव आदि क्षेत्रों में बड़े पैमाने पर textile production होता है, कपड़े का production होता है। मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या वहां Textile Parks बनाने की सरकार के पास कोई स्कीम है? यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार वहां Textile Parks बनाने पर विचार करेगी?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि पूरे राष्ट्र में यह स्कीम प्रेषित है, जो इस बात पर निर्भर करती है कि यदि कोई व्यक्ति अथवा कम्पनी साथ आकर, एस.पी.वी. के माध्यम से, Textile park बनाने हेतु प्रस्ताव करती है, उस प्रस्ताव के आधार पर, अगर मानकों में वह ठीक बैठता है, तो भारत सरकार उसे अपना समर्थन देती है। यदि भिवंडी या इचलकरंजी से कोई ऐसा प्रस्ताव आएगा, निश्चित रूप से भारत सरकार, मानकों के आधार पर पुष्टि करने के बाद, उसे अपना समर्थन देगी। वर्तमान में कोई ऐसा project हमारी सरकार के पास या मंत्रालय के पास प्रस्तावित नहीं है।

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Sir, through you, I want to know from the hon. Minister of Textiles as to whether the labour law, that is, the law of the land, of giving

minimum wage, PF, ESI, gratuity, etc. is ensured by the concerned Ministry of the Central Government for the workers of the Textile Parks, whether they are seasonal, permanent, casual, contractual or whatever.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: It is ensured that all codified laws including those pertaining to labour are implemented as far as the Government of India is concerned. We also take up these issues in regional textile conferences with the concerned State Governments given that enforcement, especially of labour laws, and ensuring the sanctity of the labour laws is maintained, we have found most State Governments to be supportive of the Government of India's initiative.

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, a number of textile industries are situated in Adoni in Andhra Pradesh. It was used to be called as second Mumbai in the country. Now, almost all the mills in Adoni are in bad shape. Newly proposed textile park, adjacent to Adoni, is yet to be commenced. I would like to know whether any steps are being taken by the Government for revival of textile mills in Adoni and for speedy completion of the Adoni Textile Park.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I would like to state that sometimes there is delay on procurement of equity or money by the SPV, that seeks to make a textile park or a textile mill functional. Sometimes, the projects are delayed due to environmental clearances. Sometimes, there are challenges that a particular institution has to face in the private sector that seeks to produce textiles from the perspective of being internationally competitive, from a designed perspective or a manufacturing perspective. Given the array of challenges, that presents itself to the textile private sector production, I will only say that through the Ministry's effort, irrespective of the fact whether a textile enterprise is within a textile park or singularly operated, we try and give out, through various Departments, support for design upliftment, support through our Councils, which particularly focus on exports, and also engage with the States to ensure that support is adequately given to close to all the MSMEs which are functioning within the sector. Husainji spoke about Maharashtra. Currently, close to 13 parks are functional there, and in Andhra Pradesh, close to five parks have already been sanctioned.

कॉटन मिलों का बंद होना

*347. श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) देश में कॉटन मिलों के बंद होने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) सरकार ने इन समस्याओं को दूर करने के लिए अब तक क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं; और

(ग) इस संबंध में उठाए गए कदमों से कितनी सफलता मिली है?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी): (क) से (ग) विवरण सदन के पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) विगत कुछ वर्षों में मुख्यतः वित्तीय समस्याओं और श्रम से संबंधित मुद्दों के कारण देश में मिलें बंद की गई हैं।

जहां तक नेशनल टेक्सटाइल कारपोरेशन (एनटीसी) का संबंध है, सरकारद्वारा अधिगृहित रुग्ण वस्त्र उपक्रमों के कार्यों का प्रबंधन करने के मुख्य उद्देश्य से एनटीसी को वर्ष 1968 में निगमित किया गया था। एनटीसी को अप्रचलित मशीनरी और अन्य कारणों से भारी हानि हुई। औद्योगिक एवं वित्तीय पुनर्निर्माण बोर्ड (बीआईएफआर) द्वारा अनुमोदित एनटीसी की पुनरुद्धार योजना अर्थात् संशोधित पुनरुद्धार योजना (एमएम)-08 के आधार पर एनटीसी ने औद्योगिक विवाद (आईडी) अधिनियम, 1947 के तहत 78 मिलों को अर्थक्षम न होने के कारण बंद कर दिया है; स्वतः ही अपनी 23 मिलों का आधुनिकीकरण किया; और संयुक्त उद्यम (जेवी) के माध्यम से 5 मिलों का पुनरुद्धार किया। इसे औद्योगिक विवाद अधिनियम, 1947 के तहत बंद की गई अक्षम मिलों का पुनरुद्धार करने के लिए बीआईएफआर के तहत कोई अधिदेश प्राप्त नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग) इस मंत्रालय ने स्वीकृत वस्त्र पार्क योजना (एसआईटीपी), एकीकृत वस्त्र प्रसंस्करण विकास योजना (आईपीडीएस) और संशोधित प्रौद्योगिकी उन्नयन निधि योजना (एटीयूएफएस) जैसी कई योजनाएं शुरू की हैं जिनका उद्देश्य वस्त्र उद्योग को सुदृढ़ बनाना है जिससे उत्पादकता, संपोषणीयता और रोजगार के अवसरों में सुधार होगा। एसआईटीपी में कुल 59 वस्त्र पार्क मंजूर किए गए हैं जिनमें से 22 पार्क पूरे किए जा चुके हैं। भारत सरकार ने सब्सिडी के रूप में कुल 780.22 करोड़ रुपए से इन पार्कों की सहायता की है। इन पार्कों से निवेश के रूप में 9038.96 करोड़ रुपए आकर्षित किए गए हैं और इन्होंने अब तक 82612 लोगों के लिए रोजगार के अवसरों का सृजन किया है। टीयूएसएफएस/एटीयूएफएस के तहत वर्ष 1999-2019 के दौरान 324,585 करोड़ रुपए के निवेश की तुलना में वस्त्र उद्योग को सब्सिडी के रूप में 26,548 करोड़ रुपए जारी किए गए हैं।

इसके अलावा सरकार ने अपैरल और मेड-अप्स क्षेत्र में रोजगार सृजन और निर्यात संवर्धन के लिए विशेष पैकेज क्रियान्वित किया है। पैकेज में मुख्य रूप से कुछ ऐसे उपाय शामिल हैं जो श्रम अनुकूल हैं और जिनमें रोजगार सृजन, इकॉनिमी ऑफ स्केल और निर्यात को बढ़ावा

देंगे। यह पैकेज परिधान और मेड-अप्स इकाइयों के लिए मार्च, 2019 तक उपलब्ध था। उक्त विशेष पैकेज में निम्नलिखित घटक शामिल किए गए हैं:-

- (i) संवर्धिता ड्यूटी ड्रॉ-बैक कवरेज/राज्यफ लेवियों की छूट (आरओएसएल)।
- (ii) संशोधित प्रौद्योगिकी उन्नीयन निधि योजना (एटीयूएसफएस) के तहत अतिरिक्त प्रोत्साहन।
- (iii) नियोक्ताप भविष्यी निधि योजना सुधार।
 - 1. समयोपरि सीमा बढ़ाना।
 - 2. निश्चित अवधि का रोजगार शुरू करना।
- (iv) आयकर अधिनियम की धारा 80जेजेए का क्षेत्र बढ़ाना।
- (v) राज्य और केंद्रीय करों और लेवियों की छूट (आरओएससीटीएल)।
- (vi) संशोधित प्रौद्योगिकी उन्नयन निधि योजना (एटीयूएफएस)।

Closure of cotton mills

†*347. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons for closure of cotton mills in the country;
- (b) the steps taken by Government to address these issues, so far; and
- (c) the success achieved on account of the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The mills have been closed in the country, over the years mainly owing to financial problems and labour related issues.

As far as National Textile Corporation (NTC) is concerned, NTC was incorporated in 1968 with the main objective of managing the affairs of sick textile undertakings taken over by the Government. NTC suffered heavy losses due to obsolete machinery and other reasons. Based on, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR)

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

approved Revival Scheme of NTC *i.e.* Modified Revival Scheme (MS)-08, NTC has closed 78 mills under Industrial Dispute (ID) Act, 1947, on account of being unviable; modernised its 23 mills on its own; and revived 5 mills through Joint Ventures (JV) arrangements. It has no mandate under BIFR scheme to revive the unviable mills closed under Industrial Dispute Act, 1947.

(b) and (c) This ministry has launched many schemes like, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Integrated Textile Processing Development (IPDS), and Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (ATUFS) which are aimed at strengthening the textile industry and thereby improving productivity, sustainability and employment opportunities. In SITP, total 59 textiles parks are sanctioned, out of which 22 parks have been completed. Government of India has supported these parks with total ₹ 780.22 crores as subsidy. These parks have attracted ₹ 9038.96 crores as investment and so far it has generated employment for 82612 persons. Under the TUFS/ATUFS an amount of ₹ 26,548 crores has been released as subsidy to textile industry against an investment of ₹ 324,585 crores during 1999-2019.

Also the Government has implemented a special package for employment generation and promotion of exports in Apparel and Made-ups sector. The package includes a slew of measures which are labour friendly and would promote employment generation, economies of scale and boost exports. This package was available up to March, 2019 for Garment and Made ups units. The following components are included in the said special package:-

- (i) Enhanced Duty Drawback Coverage/Rebate of State Levies (ROSL).
- (ii) Additional incentives under Amended Technology Upgradation Scheme (ATUFS).
- (iii) Employee Provident Fund Scheme Reform.
 - 1. Increasing overtime caps.
 - 2. Introduction of fixed term employment.
- (iv) Enhancing scope of Section 80JJAA of Income Tax Act.
- (v) Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL).
- (vi) Amended Technology Upgradation Scheme (ATUFS).

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा (गुजरात): सर, भारत देश के अंदर Textile Corporation of India की तरफ से 78 मिलें चालू थीं और जवाब में दिया गया है कि ये बंद हो गई हैं। इनके बंद होने का मुख्य कारण पैसों की कमी है। चूंकि जवाब में state-wise ब्यौरा नहीं दिया गया है, खास तौर पर हमारे गुजरात के अंदर भी बहुत टैक्सटाइल मिलें चलती थीं, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि गुजरात में कितनी मिलें चालू थीं और ये क्यों बंद हो गईं? क्या सरकार की तरफ से उनको ज्यादा आर्थिक सहायता देकर चालू करने का विचार है?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि विशेष रूप से प्राइवेट सेक्टर में जो मिलें चलती हैं, भारत सरकार उनका ब्यौरा टैक्सटाइल कमिशनर के ऑफिस के माध्यम से तब रख पाती है, जब वे कोई सब्सिडी भारत सरकार के माध्यम से टैक्सटाइल कमिशनर के ऑफिस के माध्यम से लेती हैं। वर्षों से यह प्रथा चली आ रही है और आज भी देखा जाता है कि गवर्नमेंट insist करती है कि there should be minimum Government and maximum governance. Hence, the Government should not be in the business of being in business. We try and support the cotton industry or cotton-manufacturing industry through various efforts. Regarding the number of mills that have closed down, since the hon. Member has not clarified whether those fall within the purview of only NTC or apart from NTC in the private sector, once he makes that clarity, I can possibly give him the exact number in terms of mills shut down. In so far as increasing competitiveness of cotton and cotton products is concerned, we, along with the Ministry of Agriculture, do engage with the cotton industry to enhance production. Under BIFR, nine mills were closed down in Gujarat, but if the hon. Member seeks details about private mills closing down, that is something I will have to get from the Textile Commissioner office.

श्री नारायणभाई जे. राठवा: सर, जो टैक्सटाइल मिलें बंद हो गई हैं, इसकी वजह से हजारों मजदूर बेरोजगार हो गए हैं और उन पर इसका बहुत असर पड़ा है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसे मजदूरों के लिए कोई इंतजाम किया गया ताकि उनको दोबारा रोजगार मिल सके?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: सर, rehabilitation की दृष्टि से भारत सरकार के उपक्रम के अंतर्गत हमने ऐसे मजदूरों की सहायता के लिए, आर्थिक सहायता के लिए व्यवस्था की। वर्तमान में यह व्यवस्था मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ लेबर के सुपुर्द की गई है। जहां तक generating employment opportunities for those who were employed in the textile sector business is concerned, I might add here that Gujarat is also known for heightened production of MMF products and we have seen that in cities like Surat, we have a bustling textile activity. I am of the opinion that we will follow up with the Ministry of Labour in so far as new

[श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी]

proposals that come to the Ministry of Labour for rehabilitation or economic support to workers of closed textile mills.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: श्रीमन्, कानपुर में लाखों कर्मचारी और मजदूर कॉटन मिल्स में काम किया करते थे, उनके बंद होने से तमाम कर्मचारियों ने आत्महत्याएं की। कोशिश भी हुई। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या NTC ने कोई मिल revive की या modernize की? क्या कानपुर में कोई मिल revive हुई और फिर वहां पर कुछ मजदूरों को रोजगार मिला या नहीं मिला?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: उपसभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से मैं माननीय सदस्य को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि कानपुर के संबंध में British India Corporation के revival की दृष्टि से पिछली सरकार में भी प्रयास हुए, लेकिन वे प्रयास विफल रहे। साथ ही, पिछली सरकार में और इस सरकार में भी अगर मॉडर्न तकनीक अथवा मशीनरी की उपलब्धता की दृष्टि से कोई चिंता थी, उस चिंता पर भी भरसक प्रयास किए गए। तत्पश्चात्, revival के prospects न होने की वजह से नीति आयोग के एक पैनल ने प्रस्तावित किया है कि बीआईसी को consistent efforts fail होने की वजह से अब disinvest किया जाए। लेकिन मैं आदरणीय सांसद से कहना चाहती हूँ कि कानपुर की इंडस्ट्रीज़ ने जब Ministry of Textiles के साथ बातचीत की अथवा पत्राचार किया, तब विशेष knitwear sector को लेकर, उनका यह प्रयास था कि हम इसमें कोई विशेष प्रावधान करें। तत्पश्चात्, हमने knitwear sector के लिए एक विशेष स्कीम Ministry of Textiles के माध्यम से बनाई है। सभी इंडस्ट्रीज़ के stakeholders, जिनमें कानपुर इंडस्ट्रीज़ के प्रतिनिधि भी सम्मिलित थे, वे आए और उन्होंने knitwear industries की resurrection के लिए भारत सरकार और Textiles Commissioner office के अंतर्गत इस स्कीम की सराहना भी की। इसके आगे क्रियान्वयन के लिए हम लोग कानपुर स्थित Textiles industry के साथ knitwear की श्रृंखला में काम कर रहे हैं।

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to raise my maiden supplementary after 23 years in this Upper House. Sir, high fluctuations in cotton prices within a short period of time leads to instability in spinning mills every year. The textile mills in Tamil Nadu have zero emission norms and they have to compete with mills in States with lenient and non-existent pollution norms. I would like to know from the hon. Textile Minister whether the same level playing field has been established anywhere and whether the Government has planned to resolve this issue. Sir, countries like Bangladesh are getting apparels from China and they are illegally being thrust on India with Bangladesh brand names. Will the Government take preventive steps in this matter? What is the total number of employees in each State who lost their jobs due to the closure of mills?

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, the hon. Member has asked juxtaposition many questions under the umbrella of one question which seeks to be presented to the Ministry of Textiles. I would like to categorically state that environment and pollution norms are the norms that are applicable throughout the country. Sir, these norms do not seek to devastate the textile industry in the State of Tamil Nadu. In fact, Sir, I would like to reiterate that the Government of India, in conjunction with not only the Government of Tamil Nadu, but also, the industry in Tamil Nadu, explored various methodologies to enhance production, keeping in mind, the sustainable needs of the consumers in the market, even the overseas. Sir, I would like to tell the entire House, through you, that challenges with regard to textiles produced in Bangladesh and especially the access given to Bangladeshi investments and industry through the SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Area) route is something that we along with the textile industry have had a very, very just hearing with the hon. Minister of External Affairs and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. Sir, we are trying to invoke the issue of origin, so that we can ensure that our markets are not flooded *via* Bangladesh by Chinese goods.

SHRI MOTILAL VORA (Chhattisgarh): Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister one thing. The NTC was incorporated in the year 1968 to manage the affairs of sick mills. How much loss the NTC has incurred due to the management of 78 mills? Also, I would like to know from the hon. Minister: What is the number of closed mills in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I would like to state here that since the question pertains to the cotton industry and the closed mills in the cotton sector, NTC actually produces wears even in other aspects, including MMF. I will only say that 78 mills have hence been closed since the incorporation of NTC. The mills were closed after due consideration by the previous Government also when the efforts to revive them had failed. The hon. Member has particularly asked about the closed mills in the State of Madhya Pradesh. I will furnish the information to him. Since, it will include those production areas which include MMF activities, I can only say this in terms of encouraging textile industry in the State of Madhya Pradesh. In fact, I can make a referral here that when the Government announced the ₹ 6,000 crore package for Made-ups, one of the biggest enterprises of Made-ups is functional currently in Hoshangabad, Madhya Pradesh.

Validity period of TET qualifying certificate

*348. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the validity period of Teachers Eligibility Test (TET) qualifying certificate is decided the appropriate Government subject to a maximum of seven years for all categories;

(b) whether, after the expiry of seven years, the qualifying candidates have to take new TET examination;

(c) whether Government proposes to do away with the validity period of the TET qualifying certificate; and

(d) if not, the reasons why such a discriminatory provision of validity of seven years for TET qualifying candidates is maintained?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes Sir, As per Section 23(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has been notified as an academic authority to lay down minimum qualifications for appointment as a teacher. Accordingly, NCTE has issued guidelines for conduct of Teacher Eligibility Test (TET). As per the guidelines, 'the appropriate Government should conduct a TET at least once every year. The Validity Period of TET qualifying certificate for appointment will be decided by the appropriate Government subject to a maximum of seven years for all categories'.

(c) and (d) A proposal to revise TET guidelines has been received from NCTE.

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा (असम): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं मंत्री जी को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ कि एक विद्यार्थी, एक पेड़, जल संरक्षण इत्यादि जैसे कार्यक्रमों से वे कम दिनों में ही एचआरडी मिनिस्ट्री को एक नया रूप देने की चेष्टा कर रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अपने आंसर में बताया है कि TET qualifying teachers के लिए NCTE ने seven years का एक period दिया है। मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो टीचर्स एक बार TET qualify कर लेते हैं, जैसे health

में continuing education policy हैं, वैसे ही क्या उन लोगों को terminate न करके उन लोगों का gradation करने की व्यवस्था करने का कोई विचार है?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, जब वर्ष 2009 में "सबके लिए शिक्षा अधिकार अधिनियम" शुरू हुआ था, तब उस समय यह प्रश्न उठा था कि अध्यापकों की पात्रता को कौन निश्चित करेगा? तब NCTE को इस बात के लिए अधिकृत किया गया था कि वह अध्यापकों की पात्रता सुनिश्चित करेगा। उसी ऐक्ट के तहत NCTE ने TET शुरू किया था, जिसमें यह व्यवस्था है कि TET उत्तीर्ण होने के बाद इसकी वैधता सात वर्ष तक होगी। इसकी वैधता सात वर्ष के आगे इसलिए नहीं रखी गयी, क्योंकि पाठ्यक्रमों में नित्य नए परिवर्तन होते हैं और एक अध्यापक, जिसको एक पीढ़ी को तैयार करना है, उसको निश्चित रूप से नई-नई जानकारीयों होनी चाहिए। इसलिए सात वर्ष के बाद उसको दोबारा यह परीक्षा देकर अध्यापक के रूप में अपनी पात्रता सिद्ध करनी पड़ेगी।

श्री उपसभापति: दूसरा सवाल।

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा: सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने चार वर्ष के लिए एकीकृत बीएड पॉलिसी की व्यवस्था के बारे में जो सोचा है, वह कब तक लागू होगी? उसका नोटिफिकेशन जारी हुआ या नहीं, इसके बारे में मंत्री जी कृपा कर बताएँ।

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, यहाँ यह बात बार-बार आई है कि बच्चों के लिए शुरू से ही यह सुनिश्चित किया जाए कि उनकी दिशा क्या है। विशेषकर अध्यापक, जो निर्माण की दिशा में आधारशिला रखता है, यदि उसकी दिशा पहले से ही तय है कि उसको अध्यापक बनना है, तो उसके लिए हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने यह सुनिश्चित किया है कि एक चार-वर्षीय पाठ्यक्रम होगा। जब वह इंटर पास करने के बाद बीएससी-बीएड, बीकॉम-बीएड या बीए-बीएड करेगा, तो उसके पास एक वर्ष और बचेगा, इसीलिए चार वर्ष का यह पाठ्यक्रम सुनिश्चित किया गया है और इसके लिए अधिसूचना जारी हो गई है। इसके लिए प्रार्थना-पत्र भी आमंत्रित किए गए हैं। जो-जो संस्थाएँ इस दिशा में आगे आती हैं, उनका पाठ्यक्रम भी तय हो गया है और जब ये संस्थाएँ अपना आवेदन करेंगी, तब यह पाठ्यक्रम आगामी वर्ष से शुरू भी हो जाएगा।

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Sir, like Assam, in all the States of the country, thousands and thousands of TET teachers are working. Their posts were advertised as Government posts in provincialised schools but after qualifying TET, they have been engaged as contractual teachers. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government of India, through the Ministry of Human Resource Development, is planning to regularise these TET teachers who are working under the contract system.

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, जब यह ऐक्ट आया था, तो उसमें बहुत स्पष्ट था कि राज्यों में जो भी शिक्षक प्रशिक्षित नहीं हैं, उन सभी को किसी भी स्थिति में 30 अक्टूबर, 2015

[श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक']

तक प्रशिक्षित कर देना पड़ेगा। इस अभियान में लगभग 7 लाख अध्यापक प्रशिक्षित हुए, लेकिन अभी भी उनकी एक बहुत बड़ी संख्या है, जो प्रशिक्षित नहीं हैं। इसलिए इस ऐक्ट में संशोधन करके उनको हम फिर एक बार मौका दे रहे हैं कि जिन राज्यों ने उन अध्यापकों को अभी तक प्रशिक्षित नहीं किया है, जो पढ़ा तो रहे हैं, लेकिन प्रशिक्षित नहीं हैं, उनके लिए यह समय-सीमा आगामी चार वर्षों के लिए, यानी 31 अक्टूबर, 2019 तक के लिए बढ़ा दी गई, लेकिन यह अनिवार्य है कि उनको प्रशिक्षण तो प्राप्त करना ही होगा।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: श्रीमान जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहूँगा कि वर्तमान में शिक्षक-प्रशिक्षण संस्थानों की कुल संख्या कितनी है और पाठ्यक्रमों की कुल संख्या कितनी है?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमान, अभी शिक्षक शिक्षण संस्थाओं की संख्या 19,542 हैं, इनमें हमारे 25,826 पाठ्यक्रम हैं और इनमें लगभग 15 लाख छात्र शिक्षित हो रहे हैं।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि अध्यापक पात्रता परीक्षा में पास होने हेतु न्यूनतम अंक में रियायत देने के संबंध में बिहार सरकार ने दो पत्र लिखे हैं, क्या उन प्राप्त पत्रों पर विचार किया जा रहा है?, चूंकि वहां पर उर्दू शिक्षकों की काफी कमी है।

محترم کہکشال پروین : آپ سبھا پتی مہودے، میں آپ کے مادھی سے مانئے منتری جی سے یہ جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ ادھیٹیک پائرتا پرکشا میں پاس ہونے کے لئے ریٹنٹم انک میں رعایت دینے کے سمبندھ میں بہار سرکار نے دو پتر لکھے ہیں، کئی ان پر اپت پتروں پر وچار کئی جا رہا ہے؟ چونکہ وہاں پر اردو شکشکوں کی کافی کمی ہے۔

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमान, इस परीक्षा में 60 प्रतिशत अंक प्राप्त करने ही होंगे, उन्हीं को ये पात्रता मिलेगी और जो इस वर्ष 60 प्रतिशत अंक प्राप्त नहीं कर सके हैं, वे अनवरत, जब तक प्राप्त नहीं कर लेते, तब तक उनको परीक्षा देनी होगी।

Vacancies in Central Government

*349. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies which arose due to retirement, resignation, etc. in various departments of Central Government since May, 2014 till 1st July, 2019, year-wise, department-wise and group-wise;

(b) the number of vacancies filled out of the above during the above period, year-wise, department-wise and group-wise;

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

(c) the details of vacancies abolished since May, 2014, department-wise and group-wise;

(d) the details of vacancies which are lying vacant for more than two years, department-wise and group-wise and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to fill the above vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (e) Vacancies in Central Government Ministries/Departments, their attached and subordinate offices arise due to retirement, resignation, voluntary retirement, promotion, transfer, transfer on deputation, termination of service, dismissal from service, death etc.

2. The group-wise and department-wise details of sanctioned posts and numbers in position, as per Annual Report of Pay Research Unit of Department of Expenditure, are at Annexure-I, II, III and IV (*See* below).

3. The number of candidates recommended for appointment by the UPSC, SSC and Railways Department, during the last five years, are as under:-

Year	Recruitment by UPSC		Recruitment by SSC	Railways		
	Through Structured Examination	Through Direct Recruitment by Selection		Empanelment Other than Level-1	Level-1	Gazetted vacancies filled up
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2014-15	5120	1244	58,066	15191	31995	1379
2015-16	5117	1707	25,138	27995	51808	1283
2016-17	4661	1442	68,880	19587	6731	1109

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2017-18	3722	427	45,391	19100	5362	1102
2018-19	1060	182	16,748	1727	4766	832
TOTAL	19,680	5002	2,14,223	83600	100662	5705

4. Recruitment against vacant posts is a continuing process. By the time vacancies reported by a Department get filled up, some new vacancies arise. Where a post remains vacant for more than two years/three years (newly created post), the same becomes 'deemed abolished', as per Department of Expenditure OM No. 7(1)/E-Coord-I/2017, dated 12.04.2017. Such posts are revived based on functional justification. There is no system of abolishing posts in the Railways.

5. Based on the vacancies reported by the user Departments, the SSC has started recruitment process to fill up 1,05,338 posts during the year 2019 and 2020.

5.1 During 2017-18, the Centralized Employment Notifications (CENs) for 1,27,573 combined vacancies of various Group 'C' and Level-1 posts were notified by the Ministry of Railways - For new and future vacancies to arise in two years time, another five CENs covering 1,56,138 vacancies of various Group 'C' and Level-1 posts have been issued in 2018-19.

5.2 Thus, recruitment process to fill up 3,89,069 vacancies has already started.

5.3 Department of Personnel and Training (DoP&T) has issued instructions *vide* Office Memorandum (O.M.) No. 22011/4/2013-Estt.(D) dated 08.05.2017, prescribing a model calendar for timely convening of Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meetings, and to ensure that approved select panels are ready on the date of commencement of the vacancy year. The Administrative Ministries/Departments are also reporting vacancy position with respect to Direct Recruitment posts to the concerned recruitment agencies *i.e.* the Union Public Service Commission and the Staff Selection Commission for filling up of such vacancies in a timely manner.

5.4 To reduce the recruitment cycle, some recruiting agencies have switched over to computer based online test, interview for non-gazetted posts has been discontinued and provisional appointment is being made pending verification of antecedents of the candidates.

Annexure-I

Group-wise and Status-wise (G/NG) estimated number of Central Government Civilian Regular Employees as on 1.3.2014

Sl. No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Number of Sanctioned Posts					Number in Position				
		A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total	A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Agricultural Research and Education**	20	0	20	4	44	20	0	20	4	44
2.	Agriculture and Cooperation	571	479	539	3754	5343	401	336	377	2632	3746
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	339	148	117	3434	4038	209	86	70	2411	2776
4.	Atomic Energy	10582	637	10812	15401	37432	9993	592	10059	11183	31827
5.	AYUSH	79	34	96	100	309	65	10	49	72	196
6.	Bio-Technology	79	40	49	87	255	68	15	43	55	181
7.	Cabinet Secretariat	60	51	100	143	354	52	43	81	112	288
8.	Chemicals, Petrochemicals & Pharmaceuticals	99	49	97	235	480	84	38	60	194	376
9.	Civil Aviation	785	96	260	814	1955	398	64	102	463	1027
10.	Coal	53	50	82	234	419	41	34	72	162	309

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

75

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11.	Commerce**	678	897	1019	4409	7003	678	897	1019	4409	7003
12.	Consumer Affairs	194	187	221	608	1210	143	144	119	473	879
13.	Corporate Affairs	448	0	798	1066	2312	337	0	500	632	1469
14.	Culture**	257	351	616	6441	7665	257	351	616	6441	7665
15.	Defence (Civilian)	17405	38807	46132	483132	585476	17160	30576	28839	321847	398422
16.	Development of NE Region	65	74	47	144	330	49	50	33	110	242
17.	Disinvestment	20	8	13	14	55	20	7	13	14	54
18.	Drinking Water and Sanitation	32	27	35	43	137	24	16	24	30	94
19.	Earth Sciences	605	1298	2758	3488	8149	312	1122	1979	1968	5381
20.	Economic Affairs	435	171	23	884	1513	372	132	13	721	1238
21.	Environment and Forests	854	1004	296	2717	4871	665	550	157	1711	3083
22.	Expenditure	327	205	172	707	1411	250	160	102	430	942
23.	External Affairs	2569	1112	2116	2760	8557	2242	952	1761	2267	7222
24.	Fertilizers	65	33	70	164	332	56	31	58	117	262

76
Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

25.	Financial Services	261	146	352	822	1581	220	106	211	608	1145
26.	Food and Public Distribution	244	86	221	804	1355	174	80	156	430	840
27.	Food Processing Industries	30	32	33	65	160	31	32	22	49	134
28.	Health and Family Welfare**	3066	855	1346	22450	27717	3066	855	1346	22450	27717
29.	Heavy Industry	55	45	56	122	278	47	23	37	76	183
30.	Higher Education	206	169	359	513	1247	161	106	205	393	865
31.	Home Affairs	20468	4742	52206	913810	991226	17279	2930	41345	860034	921588
32.	Indian Audit and Accounts	696	25498	0	42417	68611	539	19778	0	27781	48098
33.	industrial Policy and Promotion**	310	181	208	1521	2220	310	181	208	1521	2220
34.	Information and Broadcasting	509	438	912	4647	6506	332	314	629	3096	4371
35.	Information Technology	3387	840	147	1812	6186	3183	766	118	1252	5319
36.	Labour and Employment	1247	1183	700	5316	8446	821	774	481	4206	6282
37.	Land Resources	35	24	29	43	131	27	12	18	25	82
38.	Law and Justice	266	239	266	1102	1873	88	136	147	713	1084
39.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	232	388	56	1204	1880	232	388	56	1204	1880

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

77

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	78
40.	Mines	4356	1602	3077	8900	17935	2447	666	1923	6274	11310	Oral Answers [RAJYA SABHA]
41.	Minority Affairs	59	34	42	142	277	45	31	24	107	207	
42.	New and Renewable Energy	121	56	15	150	342	94	19	9	105	227	
43.	Panchayati Raj	27	13	29	15	84	25	9	16	6	56	
44.	Parliamentary Affairs	21	20	33	85	159	21	18	21	63	123	
45.	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	1402	709	2403	6160	10674	1118	526	1862	5397	8903	
46.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	58	77	70	136	341	54	61	65	84	264	
47.	Planning Commission	621	263	302	650	1836	391	171	252	465	1279	
48.	Posts**	576	1406	6868	191494	200344	576	1406	6868	191494	200344	
49.	Power	616	376	331	681	2004	373	116	212	341	1042	
50.	President's Secretariat	19	37	56	201	313	17	35	51	138	241	to Questions
51.	Prime Minister's Office	56	71	118	280	525	54	69	98	184	405	
52.	Public Enterprises	30	10	30	52	122	24	10	12	24	70	
53.	Railways**	9089	7932	0	1316904	1333925	9089	7932	0	1316904	1333925	

54.	Revenue	13168	30173	36446	105367	185154	8164	19465	24938	50002	102569
55.	Road Transport and Highways	280	188	347	471	1286	241	151	308	370	1070
56.	Rural Development	103	109	121	251	584	92	87	86	163	428
57.	School Education and Literacy	97	31	97	171	396	71	26	65	126	288
58.	Science and Technology	603	831	271	10622	12327	419	1334	204	5266	7223
59.	Shipping	288	215	730	1632	2865	183	171	441	1026	1821
60.	Social Justice and Empowerment	106	85	148	306	645	83	64	99	246	492
61.	Space	8838	604	3290	6016	18748	8378	475	2832	3022	14707
62.	Statistics and Programme Implementation	542	1687	2796	1289	6314	423	1389	1792	959	4563
63.	Steel	51	41	65	120	277	42	35	55	100	232
64.	Telecommunication**	933	462	173	1319	2887	933	462	173	1319	2887
65.	Textiles	319	206	725	3489	4739	262	180	665	3131	4238
66.	Tourism	64	85	58	373	580	51	75	37	329	492
67.	Tribal Affairs	72	41	74	120	307	49	25	37	86	197
68.	Union Public Service Commission	173	269	539	1010	1991	144	185	388	693	1410

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

79

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
69.	Urban Development***	2490	814	5559	15043	23906	2429	639	4546	9146	16760
70.	Vice President's Secretariat	6	5	0	49	60	5	3	0	41	49
71.	Water Resources	1777	2509	2780	6313	13379	1347	1506	1663	4241	8757
72.	Women and Child Development	93	39	192	393	717	72	31	135	286	524
73.	Youth Affairs and Sports	38	80	72	284	474	33	49	46	161	289
TOTAL		114725	131704	191236	3207919	3645584	98155	100108	141068	2884595	3223926

* Includes some non-gazetted posts also.

** Sanctioned strength/In-position are provisional.

*** Including HUPA.

\$ Erstwhile Group D posts have been categorized as Group C after implementation of 6th CPC.

Annexure-II

Group-wise and Status-wise (G/NG) estimated number of Central Government Civilian Regular Employees as on 01.03.2015

Sl. No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Number of Sanctioned Posts					Number in Position				
		A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total	A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Agricultural Research and Education**	22	0	20	7	49	22	0	20	7	49
2.	Agriculture and Cooperation	582	488	550	3828	5448	394	330	370	2587	3681

80

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	329	216	119	3323	3987	205	108	74	2191	2578
4.	Atomic Energy	9330	560	8900	18670	37460	8909	447	8594	14142	32092
5.	AYUSH	70	41	41	85	237	64	20	20	75	179
6.	Bio-Technology**	79	40	49	87	255	68	15	43	55	181
7.	Cabinet Secretariat	111	85	21	137	354	95	73	14	106	288
8.	Chemicals, Petrochemicals and Pharmaceuticals	95	43	87	250	475	80	25	44	183	332
9.	Civil Aviation	788	95	262	797	1942	408	70	103	458	1039
10.	Coal	54	50	90	233	427	38	34	76	152	300
11.	Commerce**	678	897	1019	4409	7003	678	897	1019	4409	7003
12.	Consumer Affairs	185	187	256	594	1222	147	137	160	404	848
13.	Corporate Affairs	548	0	916	862	2326	308	0	448	707	1463
14.	Culture**	252	323	872	6125	7572	252	323	872	6125	7572
15.	Defence (Civilian)**	17405	38807	46132	483132	585476	17160	30576	28839	321847	398422
16.	Development of NE Region	85	55	39	156	335	73	35	31	107	246
17.	Disinvestment	21	8	14	13	56	20	6	11	13	50

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

81

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
18.	Drinking Water and Sanitation	34	31	37	48	150	23	16	20	26	85
19.	Earth Sciences	605	1298	2755	2828	7486	301	1065	1745	1849	4960
20.	Economic Affairs	392	179	213	709	1493	311	133	195	546	1185
21.	Environment and Forests	919	1103	245	2753	5020	671	643	116	1688	3118
22.	Expenditure	203	359	199	661	1422	174	294	117	406	991
23.	External Affairs	2683	1161	2136	2637	8617	1954	829	1894	2090	6767
24.	Fertilizers	44	33	43	147	267	38	30	92	109	269
25.	Financial Services	265	135	341	814	1555	218	103	230	604	1155
26.	Food and Public Distribution	235	85	311	669	1300	210	79	177	417	883
27.	Food Processing Industries	40	26	29	65	160	50	23	21	54	148
28.	Health and Family Welfare**	2556	713	1122	18720	23111	2556	713	1122	18720	23111
29.	Heavy Industry	55	44	57	132	288	44	27	29	87	187
30.	Higher Education	211	169	339	675	1394	156	117	199	448	920
31.	Home Affairs	21784	12981	58688	923048	1016501	17471	9690	43159	887407	957727

82

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

32.	Indian Audit and Accounts	694	18391	0	49246	68331	570	14966	0	31338	46874
33.	Industrial Policy and Promotion**	310	181	208	1521	2220	310	101	208	1521	2220
34.	Information and Broadcasting	515	596	887	4324	6322	349	364	703	2725	4141
35.	Information Technology	3699	575	727	1566	6567	3510	492	649	938	5589
36.	Labour and Employment	1564	1668	1173	6416	10821	1058	1191	985	5013	8247
37.	Land Resources	35	24	30	42	131	26	11	17	22	76
38.	Law and Justice	282	157	257	663	1359	197	115	204	530	1046
39.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises**	217	362	52	1124	1755	217	362	52	1124	1755
40.	Mines	4350	1011	3433	5318	14112	2654	525	1993	3192	8364
41.	Minority Affairs	62	30	60	131	283	47	23	43	80	193
42.	New and Renewable Energy	118	40	53	93	304	79	23	35	64	201
43.	Panchayati Raj	27	13	29	15	84	26	9	20	11	66
44.	Parliamentary Affairs	21	20	33	85	159	21	22	26	56	125
45.	Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions*	* 1402	709	2403	6160	10674	1118	526	1862	5397	8903

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	84
46.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	55	77	66	127	325	52	67	52	66	237	<i>Oral Answers</i>
47.	Planning Commission	548	295	321	587	1751	344	196	224	329	1093	
48.	Posts**	576	1406	6868	191494	200344	655	1563	7634	182931	192783	
49.	Power	540	309	371	718	1938	405	148	198	427	1178	
50.	President's Secretariat	29	36	68	190	323	48	16	69	134	267	
51.	Prime Minister's Office	57	62	108	279	506	56	63	104	172	395	[RAJYA SABHA]
52.	Public Enterprises	31	10	30	52	123	24	9	13	24	70	
53.	Railways**	9462	7610	0	1309365	1326437	9462	7610	0	1309365	1326437	
54.	Revenue	12492	32220	34345	98511	177568	7952	24338	17370	46876	96536	
55.	Road Transport and Highways	311	127	279	423	1140	257	113	180	298	848	
56.	Rural Development	96	118	85	239	538	86	100	66	169	421	<i>to Questions</i>
57.	School Education and Literacy**	97	31	97	171	396	71	26	65	126	288	
58.	Science and Technology**	603	831	271	10622	12327	419	1334	204	5266	7223	
59.	Shipping	284	249	632	1689	2854	196	214	417	1083	1910	
60.	Social Justice and Empowerment	136	124	211	322	793	105	90	157	271	623	

61.	Space	7251	496	2699	4936	15382	7034	399	2377	2537	12347
62.	Statistics and Programme Implementation	488	1627	2780	1346	6241	351	1310	1732	1007	4400
63.	Steel	51	41	72	113	277	46	38	65	94	243
64.	Telecommunication**	933	462	173	1319	2887	933	462	173	1319	2887
65.	Textiles	319	206	725	3489	4739	262	180	665	3131	4238
66.	Tourism**	64	85	58	373	580	51	75	37	329	492
67.	Tribal Affairs	72	42	47	146	307	51	29	35	77	192
68.	Union Public Service Commission	173	269	539	1004	1985	145	218	354	746	1463
69.	Urban Development***	2839	999	5882	20830	30550	2649	1036	5565	9233	18483
70.	Vice President's Secretariat	6	5	7	42	60	5	3	5	34	47
71.	Water Resources	1652	1160	2584	6001	11397	1246	771	1465	3891	7373
72.	Women and Child Development	108	79	142	388	717	80	68	90	278	516
73.	Youth Affairs and Sports	50	71	99	253	473	44	43	79	136	302
TOTAL		113279	133036	194806	3208347	3649468	96309	106187	136046	2890379	3228921

* Includes some non-gazetted posts also.

** Sanctioned strength/In-position are provisional/repeated.

*** Including HUPA.

\$ Erstwhile Group D posts have been categorized as Group C after implementation of 6th CPC.

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

85

Annexure-III

Group-wise and Status-wise (G/NG) estimated number of Central Government Civilian Regular Employees as on 01.03.2016

Sl. No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Number of Sanctioned Posts					Number in Position				
		A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total	A(G)*	B(G)	B(NG)	C (NG)\$	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Agricultural Research and Education**	20	0	19	7	46	20	0	19	7	46
2.	Agriculture and Cooperation	652	545	614	4274	6085	432	362	405	2837	4036
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	327	169	187	3269	3952	194	86	102	2072	2454
4.	Atomic Energy	11439	561	9770	15040	36810	11006	532	9174	11337	32049
5.	AYUSH	73	38	37	89	237	60	26	25	68	179
6.	Bio-Technology	78	29	69	78	254	61	19	42	49	171
7.	Cabinet Secretariat**	96	0	80	122	298	96	0	80	122	298
8.	Chemicals, Petrochemicals and Pharmaceuticals	70	45	65	209	389	60	39	62	165	326
9.	Civil Aviation	807	70	464	883	2224	452	48	169	444	1113

86

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

10.	Coal	58	51	94	221	424	42	29	83	146	300
11.	Commerce**	669	886	1006	4354	6915	669	886	1006	4354	6915
12.	Consumer Affairs	228	140	255	564	1187	176	97	147	393	813
13.	Corporate Affairs	495	172	696	1110	2473	318	97	359	602	1376
14.	Culture**	206	269	259	7128	7862	206	269	259	7128	7862
15.	Defence (Civilian)**	17405	38807	46132	483132	585476	17160	30576	28839	321847	398422
16.	Development of NE Region	68	56	50	174	348	58	37	37	105	237
17.	Drinking Water and Sanitation	37.	33	43	51	164	36	15	33	28	112
18.	Earth Sciences	747	1625	2252	2861	7485	382	1355	1342	1784	4863
19.	Economic Affairs**	256	132	198	499	1085	256	132	198	499	1085
20.	Environment and Forests	855	1104	278	2730	4967	638	637	145	1509	2929
21.	Expenditure	218	336	252	602	1408	176	284	151	332	943
22.	External Affairs	2376	1028	2571	2727	8702	2125	901	1820	2347	7193
23.	Fertilizers	47	51	13	88	199	39	34	8	55	136
24.	Financial Services	299	51	495	855	1700	242	36	307	576	1161

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
25.	Food and Public Distribution	228	82	299	503	1112	206	78	258	385	927
26.	Food Processing Industries	47	27	45	70	189	53	14	30	47	144
27.	Health and Family Welfare**	2357	658	1035	17264	21314	2357	658	1035	17264	21314
28.	Heavy Industry	55	44	57	132	288	47	26	43	82	198
29.	Higher Education	283	132	341	651	1407	175	93	234	441	943
30.	Home Affairs	24780	17005	34600	944246	1020631	20540	13041	27766	886919	948266
31.	Indian Audit and Accounts	696	18022	288	49189	68195	553	14590	242	30494	45879
32.	Industrial Policy and Promotion**	227	133	198	1451	2009	227	133	198	1451	2009
33.	Information and Broadcasting	516	644	784	4314	6258	347	411	630	2624	4012
34.	Information Technology	3852	605	511	1599	6567	3649	539	437	897	5522
35.	Investment and Public Asset Management	21	8	16	14	59	20	7	13	13	53
36.	Labour and Employment	1373	511	1237	4914	8035	941	346	883	3100	5270
37.	Land Resources	35	24	30	42	131	26	11	17	22	76

88

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

38.	Law and Justice**	282	157	257	663	1359	197	115	204	530	1046
39.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	222	370	96	2090	2778	173	289	73	1576	2111
40.	Mines	3039	741	2104	3841	9725	2791	561	1791	3248	8394
41.	Minority Affairs	69	59	36	97	261	42	43	22	62	169
42.	New and Renewable Energy	115	34	52	88	289	81	18	41	70	210
43.	Panchayati Raj	31	21	29	51	132	29	16	20	36	101
44.	Parliamentary Affairs	23	21	45	59	148	23	12	35	52	122
45.	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	1549	620	2598	6331	11098	1159	436	1816	5271	8682
46.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	56	77	66	113	312	50	65	64	65	244
47.	Planning	225	124	121	176	646	171	96	99	165	531
48.	Posts**	614	3070	5588	184539	193811	614	3070	5588	184539	193811
49.	Power	545	240	441	631	1857	415	124	235	432	1206
50.	President's Secretariat	29	36	68	190	323	48	16	69	134	267
51.	Prime Minister's Office	57	62	115	271	505	59	63	102	179	403

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
52.	Public Enterprises	31	10	25	56	122	24	7	16	24	71
53.	Railways**	9557	7103	0	1314773	1331433	9557	7103	0	1314773	1331433
54.	Revenue	12456	32395	34590	99492	178933	7848	25239	18022	49171	100280
55.	Road Transport and Highways	347	69	289	371	1076	321	66	237	296	920
56.	Rural Development	106	110	127	244	587	94	91	98	178	461
57.	School Education and Literacy	82	74	131	172	459	60	47	102	109	318
58.	Science and Technology	592	789	291	10505	12177	267	660	777	3693	5397
59.	Shipping	371	156	620	1739	2886	203	164	378	1089	1834
60.	Social Justice and Empowerment	127	122	192	309	750	106	89	159	241	595
61.	Space**	7251	496	2699	4936	15382	7034	399	2377	2537	12347
62.	Statistics and Programme Implementation	518	1801	2751	1285	6355	375	1492	1776	968	4611
63.	Steel	53	40	77	107	277	45	44	71	82	242
64.	Telecommunication**	1048	391	94	1230	2763	1048	391	94	1230	2763
65.	Textiles	319	206	725	3489	4739	262	180	665	3131	4238

90
Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

66.	Tourism	73	102	1	402	578	64	91	1	334	490
67.	Tribal Affairs	76	42	47	145	310	60	31	41	109	241
68.	Union Public Service Commission	172	282	433	1046	1933	155	191	384	678	1408
69.	Urban Development ***	3281	891	5620	10586	20378	3978	1186	5207	8922	18393
70.	Vice President's Secretariat	6	5	2	47	60	5	4	1	39	49
71.	Water Resources and River Development	1724	1155	2565	6000	11444	1271	834	1428	3760	7293
72.	Women and Child Developments	93	79	151	391	714	78	59	82	249	468
73.	Youth Affairs and Sports	50	36	95	269	450	49	30	68	255	402
TOTAL		117185	136079	168481	3212190	3633935	101901	109769	118741	2890772	3221183

* Includes some non-gazetted posts also.

** Sanctioned strength/In-position are provisional/repeated.

*** Including HUPA.

\$Erstwhile Group D posts have been categorised as Group C after implementation of 6th CPC.

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

91

Annexure-IV

Group-wise and Status wise (G/NG) estimated number of Central Government Civilian Regular Employees as on 1.3.2018

Sl. No.	Ministry/Deptt.	Number of Sanctioned Posts					Number in Position				
		A(G)	B(G)	B(NG)	C	Total	A(G)	B(G)	B(NG)	C	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Agricultural Research and Education	17	8	10	14	49	16	7	6	7	36
2.	Agriculture and Cooperation	636	533	599	4172	5940	421	354	395	2769	3939
3.	Animal Husbandry and Dairying	319	165	183	3194	3861	189	84	100	2024	2397
4.	Atomic Energy	11825	742	9730	14523	36820	11145	579	8626	10289	30639
5.	AYUSH	77	29	50	66	222	61	10	39	41	151
6.	Bio-Technology	72	40	49	86	247	53	23	40	56	172
7.	Cabinet Secretariat	65	51	100	143	359	60	45	83	112	300
8.	Chemicals, Petrochemicals and Pharmaceuticals	70	45	65	209	389	60	39	62	165	326
9.	Civil Aviation	808	85	559	947	2399	470	50	174	540	1234
10.	Coal	56	49	95	224	424	40	27	86	132	285

11.	Commerce	645	856	970	4200	6671	532	705	800	3462	5499
12.	Consumer Affairs	218	142	285	579	1224	170	110	158	364	802
13.	Corporate Affairs	455	175	709	1202	2541	297	114	424	462	1297
14.	Culture	206	269	259	7128	7862	211	231	260	6973	7675
15.	Defence (Civilian)	17405	38807	46132	483132	585476	17160	30576	28839	321847	398422
16.	Development of NE Region	68	56	50	174	348	58	37	37	105	237
17.	Drinking Water and Sanitation	40	28	49	22	139	30	11	42	13	96
18.	Earth Sciences	458	267	3840	2791	7356	250	83	2436	1504	4273
19.	Economic Affairs	376	183	238	665	1462	283	145	201	484	1113
20.	Environment and Forests	940	443	1038	2690	5111	732	233	544	1422	2931
21.	Expenditure	149	229	253	392	1023	111	166	190	178	645
22.	External Affairs	2241	970	2425	2572	8208	2071	879	1774	2288	7012
23.	Fertilizers	43	17	97	130	287	35	14	79	71	199
24.	Financial Services	299	51	495	855	1700	242	36	307	576	1161
25.	Food and Public Distribution ^	231	84	303	510	1128	182	69	228	341	820
26.	Food Processing Industries	57	34	35	65	191	50	21	20	50	141

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

93

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
27.	Health and Family Welfare	2357	658	1035	17264	21314	2357	658	1035	17264	21314
28.	Heavy Industry	50	40	51	120	261	43	24	38	75	180
29.	Higher Education	274	222	240	528	1264	184	108	229	406	927
30.	Home Affairs	24780	17005	34600	944246	1020631	20540	13041	27766	886919	948266
31.	Indian Audit and Accounts	723	18642	24063	20930	64358	570	14594	16680	12873	44717
32.	Industrial Policy and Promotion	313	184	272	1998	2767	239	140	209	1533	2121
33.	Information and Broadcasting	473	592	719	3959	5743	318	378	578	2408	3682
34.	Information Technology	3831	602	508	1590	6531	3629	536	434	892	5491
35.	Investment and Public Asset Managemnent	26	13	21	13	73	24	6	14	12	56
36.	Labour and Employment	1170	412	1378	3808	6768	604	252	1040	2606	4502
37.	Land Resources	36	33	22	31	122	30	11	12	24	77
38.	Law and Justice	533	297	486	1254	2570	372	218	386	1002	1978
39.	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	411	526	395	1638	2970	193	419	206	1002	1820

94

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

40.	Mines	4354	1000	3074	5627	14055	2796	619	1406	2753	7574
41.	Minority Affairs	64	31	62	88	245	42	19	46	73	180
42.	New and Renewable Energy	124	54	33	85	296	77	21	37	77	212
43.	Panchayati Raj	32	23	30	39	124	20	15	19	13	67
44.	Parliamentary Affairs	24	21	45	59	149	22	12	35	50	119
45.	Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions	1514	606	2538	6186	10844	1133	426	1774	5150	8483
46.	Petroleum and Natural Gas	57	64	72	104	297	45	50	64	55	214
47.	Planning Commission	245	135	132	192	704	186	104	108	180	578
48.	Posts	621	354	8222	175221	184418	619	354	8222	175221	184416
49.	Power	532	96	628	600	1856	478	69	343	371	1261
50.	President's Secretariat	37	41	68	200	346	26	39	63	143	271
51.	Prime Minister's Office	63	60	115	273	511	59	57	117	164	397
52.	Public Enterprises	33	13	22	51	119	26	9	11	23	69
53.	Railways	13662	5318	620	1488094	1507694	11928	4032	565	1231800	1248325
54.	Revenue	12456	32395	34590	99492	178933	7848	25239	18022	49171	100280

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
55.	Road Transport and Highways	303	62	180	198	743	286	50	154	150	640
56.	Rural Development	102	95	127	191	515	82	70	98	135	385
57.	School Education and Literacy	86	72	122	166	446	72	45	105	110	332
58.	Science and Technology	592	789	291	10505	12177	264	569	1647	2704	5184
59.	Shipping	371	156	620	1739	2886	203	154	427	1055	1839
60.	Social Justice and Empowerment	142	103	227	234	706	108	75	170	207	560
61.	Space	7264	497	2703	4945	15409	7047	400	2380	2542	12369
62.	Statistics and Programme Implementation	1530	1841	2658	1262	7291	723	1599	1596	1165	5083
63.	Steel	89	30	49	92	260	65	27	39	70	201
64.	Telecommunication	1056	1104	314	2154	4628	899	588	130	1106	2723
65.	Textiles	260	201	853	3591	4905	172	149	467	1718	2506
66.	Tourism	74	102	134	267	577	68	101	118	200	487
67.	Tribal Affairs	76	42	47	145	310	60	31	41	109	241

96
Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

68.	Union Public Service Commission	206	259	520	843	1828	161	129	433	555	1278
69.	Urban Development	3323	831	5694	10407	20255	3101	992	4978	9044	18115
70.	Vice-President's Secretariat	6	5	8	41	60	5	4	5	37	51
71.	Water Resources	1742	1163	2678	5808	11391	1266	771	1426	3363	6826
72.	Women and Child Development	94	80	131	372	677	77	42	98	240	457
73.	Youth Affairs and Sports	45	42	65	163	315	40	42	54	164	300
TOTAL		123932	131269	200080	3347498	3802779	104036	101936	139775	2773209	3118956

Oral Answers

[25 July, 2019]

to Questions

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY (Karnataka): Sir, I thank the hon. Minister for the detailed reply. It is mentioned here that there are currently seven lakh vacancies. Out of that, only three lakh vacancies are in the process of being filled. There are still at least four lakh vacancies. By the time they fill three lakh vacancies, train those people and put them on job, the number of vacancies will keep multiplying. I would like to know this from the hon. Minister. Why can't the Ministry prepare a separate calendar to fill the vacancies, both regular vacancies and anticipated vacancies, so that the number of vacancies in all the departments remains constant? I know that you can't fill hundred per cent vacancies, but there should be a process wherein it should be done automatically.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ramamurthy ji, please be brief.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. But I would just like to bring it to his notice that the Government is already working in this direction. If you go by the figures that I have with me, the vacancy percentage of the sanctioned strength has been progressively reducing over the last 4-6 years. In the period 2013-14, ending March, before the Government took over, the vacancy percentage was 16.2 per cent. In the successive year, it was 11.57 per cent. Then in 2015-16, it was 11.52 per cent. Then in 2016-17, it was 11.36 per cent. In fact, the record is better than the record of many States, including the State from which the hon. Member comes. Interestingly, I have the figures with me. In Karnataka, it has been going up progressively. If it was 27.3 per cent in 2014-15, then in 2015-16, it was 29.58 per cent. In 2016-17, it was 34.58 per cent. In 2018-19, it is 32.56 per cent. What I am trying to say is this. Of course, there is always a scope for improvement and we would always endeavour to do that. But the record is quite appreciable and the effort is in the positive direction.

As far as the number of vacancies, which has been mentioned by the hon. Member, is concerned, cumulatively the number of vacancies in 2017-18 was 6,83,823. This figure pertains mainly to those which are being dealt with by the SSC, the Railway Board, and some of them by the UPSC. Out of these, almost half, which means 3,89,069, which is almost four lakh, were already in the process of being filled in the beginning of this year somewhere around February-March. Interestingly, there is a different angle also to it. In the manifesto of Congress Party, released during elections, it was stated that four lakh vacancies as on 1st April, 2019 in the Central Government, Central Public Sector Enterprises, judiciary and Parliament would be filled before the end of March

2020. But the catch is that the process of filling them had already begun before March 2019. I think my colleagues in the Congress Party will appreciate that we have been proactive in carrying forward what they envisaged in their manifesto.

SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: It is not regarding political parties. It is about the actual position in the country. My second supplementary is this. There is a total decline in the UPSC recruitment also. In 2014, the recruitment was 1,236. In 2018, it is only 759. I would like to ask the hon. Minister: Why is the number decreasing in UPSC recruitment also?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, I appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. Through you, Sir, I would like to state that the recruitment process, as all of us would appreciate, is a continuous process. You have certain vacancies existing. By the time the process of filling them up is completed, some more vacancies come up. Sometimes, vacancies come up in bulk when you have retirements happening simultaneously of a number of officials. So, there is no definite pattern followed in the manner in which the number of vacancies would arise from time to time. But, we have tried to streamline it. For example, whenever a vacancy remains vacant for more than two years, or in case of a newly created post, it remains vacant for three years, it is known to be 'deemed abolished'. So, we do not then take it into consideration. Of course, the Railway Board does not follow that pattern. I agree with you that there is delay on account of a number of factors which are outside the control of DoPT or the Central Government. For example, through DoPT, we have been time and again reiterating to various State Governments to be prompt in their cadre reviews so that we could carry forward fulfilment of the induction processes which is not happening as we would have ideally desired it to be. So, timely reporting of vacancies by various agencies is one factor. Timely conduct of DPCs is another factor. Of course, we are very well conscious of this and we are continuously pursuing it. As far as our part is concerned, we have been so prompt that even when an empanelment or an appointment is made, it is on the website the same evening even before the copy of the letter reaches the concerned official.

श्री उपसभापति: मेरा माननीय सदस्यों और माननीय मंत्री जी, दोनों से आग्रह होगा कि कृपया अपने सवाल बहुत brief में पूछें और संक्षिप्त उत्तर दें, ताकि हम आगे अधिक से अधिक सवालों को ले सकें। माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, through you, I want to ask the hon. Minister this. In recent years, a practice has been adopted by the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, that the vacancies or the positions, which fall vacant in various Central Government Departments and in the Central Government institutions, in particular, the scientific research institutions, the nuclear research institutions and the sector as a whole, don't get sanctioned. The final sanction does not come and those posts are allowed to lapse. A large number of organizations are working without these vacancies being filled up. There is an ongoing dispute between the Department of Personnel and the Department of Expenditure on this issue. The Minister is aware of it. We want him to enlighten the House. Top scientific institutions of the country are working short of strength when it comes to senior scientific positions and also, as I mentioned, nuclear scientific positions.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, generally speaking, we have 20 recruitment agencies in the Government of India. DoPT does not necessarily have a control over all of these. We are more or less a coordinating agency. We try to expedite and facilitate the processes. As far as *per se* filling up of scientific posts is concerned — the hon. Member is very learned and he knows the subject quite well there have been a number of factors. One of them is, of course, what he has pointed out. The other would possibly be that there is less number of candidates available even at the lower level. The recruitment process also gets interrupted in that way. Therefore, sometimes, at the top level, we have a deficiency of scientists. This has been the process even before this Government came in. So, I agree with him that this is something which has been witnessed over the last one decade. That is why, sometimes, we are constrained to give extensions to scientists at the senior level. But, gradually, we are making every effort to overcome this deficit and this missing lapse.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri R.C.P. Singh. Before that, Mr. Vaiko, you have been raising your hand since long. I have already given you an opportunity. There is no need for it. Whenever an opportunity comes, we will note your name and call you.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार ग्रुप 'ए' के requirement में subjectivity को समाप्त करने और लोगों में system को और transparent बनाने के लिए interview में videography कराने की व्यवस्था करने पर विचार कर रही है?

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह : उपसभापति महोदय, जैसा कि हम सब जानते हैं कि पिछले पांच वर्षों में अनेकों ऐसे निर्णय लिए गए, जो बड़े क्रान्तिकारी निर्णय थे - कभी-कभी यह भी प्रश्न आता है कि वे पहले भी लिए जा सकते थे - उदाहरण के तौर पर ग्रुप 'B' और 'C' में interview की प्रथा को समाप्त कर दिया गया और जिस subjectivity की ओर माननीय सदस्य ठीक ही इशारा कर रहे हैं कि कभी-कभी ऐसी शिकायत आती थी कि written में 100 में से 10 अंक आए और interview में 90 लेकर वह पास हो गया। इस प्रकार का बड़ा घोर पाप हो रहा था - वह बात भी जाती रही। एक तो interview के level पर माननीय सदस्य ने ऐसा करने के बारे में कहा। इसके अतिरिक्त अनेकों और कदम उठाए गए हैं। उदाहरण के तौर पर पिछले तीन-चार वर्षों से SSC के अंदर - जो हमारा Staff Selection Commission है - एक world class centre establish किया गया है, जिसके माध्यम से monitoring होती है। जो आप videography कह रहे हैं, उसी से एक कदम आगे चलकर वह है। Videography तो पहले भी हो रही थी - viva-voice की भी और interview की भी, लेकिन इसके माध्यम से headquarter, दिल्ली में बैठे हुए, राष्ट्रीय राजधानी में बैठे हुए आप देश के किसी भी centre में focus कर सकते हैं - यह इतनी आधुनिक और अद्भुत technology है। न केवल इतना ही, अगर कहीं कोई संदिग्ध गतिविधि दिखायी देती है तो उस candidate विशेष के table पर भी focus किया जा सकता है। It is worth seeing; it is so fascinating. यह अभी एक साल पहले ही शुरू हुआ है। इसके अतिरिक्त पहले OMR सिस्टम हुआ करता था - Optical Marks Reader - उसे भी अब बदलकर computer पर ला दिया गया है तो उससे human interface भी कम हो गया, paper कहां से किसने डाला, किस उम्मीदवार ने किस पेपर का उत्तर दिया, वह भी चूंकि सबके बीच एक समान नहीं रहेगा और उस उत्तर की key कहां से tally हुई, वह भी नहीं रहेगा। तो दिन-प्रतिदिन इसमें पारदर्शिता और objectivity लाने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है।

श्री अमर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश) : धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मात्र इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि अभी इस प्रश्न-उत्तर के काल में यह स्पष्ट दिखा कि समन्वय की कमी है। यह कह देना कि 6 लाख था और 3 लाख हो गया है, काफी नहीं है। हमने यह नारा सुना है और महसूस भी किया है कि "मोदी है, तो मुमकिन है" तो आप इसे मुमकिन बनाइए।

श्री उपसभापति: अमर सिंह जी, आप अपना सवाल करें, यह आपका सुझाव है।

श्री अमर सिंह: मेरा सुझाव यह है कि...

श्री उपसभापति: सुझाव नहीं, आप सवाल करें।

श्री अमर सिंह: सुझाव नहीं है, मेरा सवाल है कि क्या सरकार कोई ऐसा संयंत्र या उपक्रम बनाएगी, जिससे यह lacuna बंद हो कि उत्तर नहीं आ रहा है? क्या सरकार एक uniform नीति बनाएगी, ताकि vacancy भर जाए?

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: उपसभापति महोदय, आदरणीय सदस्य की चिंता समझ में आती है। जैसा मैंने कहा कि vacancies का creation एक ongoing process है। उसी प्रकार से vacancies को भरने की प्रक्रिया में और अधिक पारदर्शिता लाना, उसमें और ज्यादा गति लाना भी ongoing process है। पिछले प्रश्न के उत्तर में मैं एक-दो ऐसे कदम गिनवा रहा था, यह उसी दिशा में है। जो चार लाख के लगभग का मैंने उल्लेख किया, वह मात्र तीन agencies के माध्यम से हुआ है, अगर हम 20 की 20 agencies देख लें तो उसकी संख्या बढ़ जाती है, लेकिन दिन-प्रति-दिन, जैसे मैंने आरम्भ में ही vacancy strength के बारे में गिनवाया था, उसको दोहराने की आवश्यकता नहीं है क्योंकि पहले प्रश्न के उत्तर में मैं उसके बारे में कह चुका हूँ। जब यह सरकार आयी तो यदि वह 16.21 प्रतिशत था तो घटते-घटते आज वह 11.30 प्रतिशत है, जो vacancy percentage against the strength of the vacancy है। कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि यह ongoing process है, आगे चलकर इसकी गति में भी और ज्यादा improvement होगी और साथ ही साथ इसकी objectivity और पारदर्शिता में भी improvement होगी।

Gross Enrolment Ratio

*350. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the current Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER);
- (b) whether it has changed during the last three years and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken by Government to ensure an increase in the GER?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country in the years 2016-17 to 2018-19 is as follows:—

Year	Elementary (I-VIII)	Secondary (IX-X)	Higher Secondary (XI-XII)	Higher Education
2016-17	93.55	79.35	55.40	25.2
2017-18	92.98	79.28	56.46	25.8
2018-19	92.19	78.66	56.41	26.3

The figures for 2018-19 are provisional.

The Government has taken following steps to increase GER:—

- (i) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act (RTE) came into effect from 1st April, 2010. The Act makes elementary education a fundamental right of all children in the age group of 6-14 years. The Section 6 of the Act provides that every child of the six to fourteen years shall have the right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education. The RTE Act places a compulsion on the appropriate Government to ensure that no child from weaker sections or disadvantaged groups is discriminated against in any manner or prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education.
- (ii) Centrally sponsored scheme of Samagra Shiksha has been launched from the year 2018-19, which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities to increase enrolment including opening/upgradation of new schools upto. senior secondary level, strengthening of existing school infrastructure, setting up and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBV), setting up of residential schools/hostels, free uniforms, free text books and undertaking enrolment and retention drives. Further, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training of older children, seasonal hostels/residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/escort facilities are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Also, mid-day meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education.
- (iii) Strategic funding and reforms in the State Higher Education sector are being undertaken through the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA).
- (iv) Moreover, Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) has been established under the Companies Act, 2013 to leverage funds from market to finance improvement in infrastructure in top institutions of education.

- (v) With the devolution of more funds to the States as recommended by the Fourteenth Finance Commission, States are in position to prioritize allocation of funds to education sector.
- (vi) Also in order to increase enrolment in higher educational institutions, various measures have been taken by the Government which includes issuing of new UGC regulation for Open and Distance Learning that allows entry of reputed institutions to offer education on the distance mode, Using of ICT technology-SWAYAM portal to reach out of people and allow them to secure good quality education and Opening of more centrally funded institutions.

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): मान्यवर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने काफी विस्तार से मेरे प्रश्नों का जवाब दिया है। किस तरीके से enrolment बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार के द्वारा प्रयास किया गया है, उसका भी इन्होंने जिक्र किया है, लेकिन जो उच्चतर शिक्षा की बात है, वह सबके लिए बहुत चिंताजनक स्थिति है। खास तौर से दिल्ली में 92, 93 और 94 परसेंट नम्बर पाने के बाद भी बच्चों का दाखिला नहीं हो पा रहा है। सागर में एक बच्ची का मामला सामने आया था, उसके 84 परसेंट नम्बर आए। उसके पिता पान की दुकान लगाते थे और उसका एडमिशन नहीं हुआ, तो उसने सल्फास खा कर जान दे दी।

श्री उपसभापति: आप अपना सवाल पूछिए।

श्री संजय सिंह: मान्यवर, आपके माध्यम से मेरा सवाल है कि क्या अधिक संख्या में डिग्री कॉलेज की स्थापना करने की सरकार की कोई नीति है, जिससे जो उच्चतर शिक्षा में दाखिले की समस्या आ रही है, उसका समाधान हो सके?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, हम लोग यदि देखें कि उच्च शिक्षा में सार्क देशों में जो हमारा जीईआर है, वह नम्बर एक पर है। स्कूली शिक्षा में भी यदि भूटान और श्रीलंका को देखा जाए, तो हम उनके आस-पास हैं। माननीय सदस्य ने जो चिंता व्यक्त की है, मैं उसके बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ। उच्च शिक्षा में जो नामांकन से संबंधित क्षेत्र है, तो उसमें भी हम बड़ी तेजी से आगे बढ़े हैं। यदि मैं 2014-15 को देखें और आज 2018-19 को देखें, तो हम देखेंगे कि आज हम 24.3 से 26.3 पर आ गए हैं। उच्चतर शिक्षा को और व्यवस्थित करना है और जो प्रवेश की समस्या है उसे भी ठीक करना है। श्रीमन्, यदि पीछे के पांच वर्षों में देखा जाए, तो इस बीच हमारी Government ने तमाम एनआईटी, आईआईटी, आईआईएम में कई गुना ज्यादा उच्च शिक्षा में बढ़ोतरी की है। अनेक विश्वविद्यालयों की स्थापना हुई। अभी 903 से भी अधिक विश्वविद्यालय हैं, जबकि 40 हजार से भी अधिक डिग्री कॉलेज हैं और इस दिशा में नामांकन करने के लिए हम लोगों ने जो दूरस्थ क्षेत्र में कस्तूरबा गांधी विद्यालय हैं, उनको भी विकसित किया है। नामांकन

कैसे बढ़ सकें, जैसा कि सबके लिए शिक्षा अधिकार अधिनियम में है, उसमें भी प्राइवेट संस्थानों के लिए 25 प्रतिशत तक का प्रावधान किया गया है, जिसमें 44 लाख तक नामांकन हुए हैं। जो माननीय सदस्य की चिंता है कि प्रवेश के लिए बहुत हाई मेरिट जाती है, तो जो संस्थाएं हैं, वे संस्थाएं तो अपने में विशालता लिए हुए हैं और मुझे लगता है कि अगर चीन के बाद देखा जाए, तो यह दुनिया का सबसे बड़ा नेटवर्क है।

श्री उपसभापति: संजय सिंह जी, आपका दूसरा सवाल।

श्री संजय सिंह: मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्राथमिक शिक्षा में 6-14 वर्ष तक के बच्चों के लिए जो आरटीई का कानून है, जिसमें अनिवार्य रूप से प्राइवेट स्कूलों को भी 25 प्रतिशत तक गरीब बच्चों को शिक्षा देने लिए एडमिशन देना अनिवार्य है, ऐसा अक्सर देखने को मिलता है कि प्राइवेट स्कूल गरीब बच्चों का एडमिशन नहीं करते हैं और पूरे देश में यह समस्या है। क्या सरकार की कोई ऐसी योजना है कि उसको ऑनलाइन किया जाए, जिससे यह पता चल सके कि क्या प्राइवेट स्कूलों ने 25 प्रतिशत गरीब बच्चों का अपने यहां दाखिला किया या नहीं? क्या सरकार इसकी कोई व्यवस्था कर रही है?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, माननीय सदस्य का यह सवाल बहुत अहम है और यह बात सही है कि पहले जो प्राइवेट स्कूल होते थे, वे प्रवेश नहीं देते थे और इसीलिए हमने इसका पालन बड़ी कड़ाई से किया। मुझे इस सदन को बताते हुए यह खुशी होती है कि 2014-15 में 16 राज्यों ने 18.10 लाख बच्चों का नामांकन इसके तहत किया। 2015-16 में यह संख्या बढ़कर 44.22 लाख हो गई, 2016-17 में यह संख्या 29.25 लाख थी और 2017-18 में 34.84 लाख पहुंच गई और 2018-19 में हम 41.35 लाख बच्चों का नामांकन करने में सफल हुए हैं।

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, India lags behind in Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) when compared to other countries due to low density of colleges, particularly, in the poorer States. I would like to know as to what steps the Government is taking to increase the density of colleges in the country, particularly, in the poorer States.

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, अभी मैंने कहा कि ऐसा भी नहीं है कि हमारा नामांकन कम हुआ है। मैंने कहा था कि सार्क देशों में हम नम्बर एक पर हैं। गरीब जनता और दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में शिक्षा के लिए उच्च शिक्षा में रूस के तहत हम आदर्श महाविद्यालयों की स्थापना कर रहे हैं। हमने यूजीसी के माध्यम से, स्वयं पोर्टल के आधार पर दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में पहुंचने की कोशिश की है। इसके साथ ही हमने दूरस्थ क्षेत्रों में रूस के माध्यम से महाविद्यालयों की स्थापना का एक अभियान चलाया हुआ है।

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, the Right to Education Act mandates to provide quality education to the children within their relevant age group. I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps the Government is taking for ensuring quality

[Shri K.K. Ragesh]

education to the children and whether ICT or possibilities of information and communications technology is being tried in the classrooms. Are you going to take any steps to replace the blackboards with interactive smartboards?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, सबके लिए शिक्षा अधिकार अधिनियम के तहत सभी को शिक्षा मिले, लेकिन उत्कृष्ट और गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा मिले, इसके लिए जो अध्यापक हैं, हमने उनके लिए अनिवार्य रूप से प्रशिक्षण की व्यवस्था की है। श्रीमन्, अभी जितने भी अध्यापक हैं, उनको एक अभियान के तहत राज्यों के SCERT और जो जिला स्तर पर DIET हैं, उनके साथ मिलकर के सभी अध्यापक प्रशिक्षित हों, वर्तमान की शिक्षा से वे अवगत हों, इसके लिए 300 प्रोफेसर्स SCERT से हम लोगों ने लगाए हैं।

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS (Rajasthan): Over the past five years, gross enrolment rate has gone up dramatically. It is about 96 per cent for girls and about 95 per cent for boys. Even the dropout rate is only about 6 per cent at the lower primary and primary levels. Sir, the dropout rate...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Sir, the dropout rate at the secondary level is about 19.7 per cent and 19.6 per cent for boys and girls. Why is there such a dramatic dropout rate at secondary level and what is the Government doing about it?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, यह बात सही है कि माध्यमिक स्तर पर अपेक्षाकृत थोड़ा-सा कम हुआ है, लेकिन ऐसा भी नहीं है। श्रीमन्, यदि आप देखेंगे कि माध्यमिक स्तर पर जो नामांकन हुए हैं, उन नामांकनों में कमी नहीं आई है, लेकिन उसमें वृद्धि कैसे हो, यह हमारे लिए चिंता का विषय है, उसमें कमी नहीं आई है। इसकी वृद्धि के लिए माध्यमिक स्तर पर शिक्षा के लिए तमाम प्रकार की योजनाएं बनी हैं। श्रीमन्, सबके लिए शिक्षा अधिकार और समग्र शिक्षा, जो समग्र शिक्षा कक्षा एक से लेकर बारहवीं तक के लिए है, उसमें तमाम प्रकार की योजनाएं हैं, ताकि हाई स्कूल और इंटर करने के बाद बच्चा उच्चतर शिक्षा में जा सके।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Q. No. 351.

Progress in digital transactions

***351. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:** Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the progress made in the number of digital payment transactions from 2016 to till date;

- (b) the initiatives taken by Government to promote digital transaction; and
- (c) the details of policies framed to prevent fraudulent and illegal transactions and data theft arising out of digital transactions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DHOTRE SANJAY SHAMRAO): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) There has been a significant increase in the usage of the digital payments across the country since 2016.

Financial Year (FY)	Total Digital Transactions	Year on Year Growth % of Digital transactions
FY 2016-17	1013 crores	-
FY 2017-18	2070.39 crores	104.38%
FY 2018-19	3133.58 crores	51.35%
FY 2019-20 (till 11th July 2019)	975.98 crores	-

- (b) Government of India has taken several initiatives to promote digital transactions across the country as listed below:—

- (i) Digital Payments Dashboard was launched by Hon'ble Minister of Electronics and IT on 13th February, 2018 during the conference of State IT Ministers and State IT Secretaries held on 12-13 February, 2018.
- (ii) DigiVaarta was launched in Delhi by Hon'ble Minister for Electronics and IT. on 28th September, 2018, with the express intention of spreading awareness on DigiDhan, and also to spread popularity of BHIM's barcode-based merchant payment mode with merchants and traders at large.
- (iii) A special campaign has been undertaken with the 100 smart cities and 10 Ministries/Departments to promote digital payments during the period from 1st July, 2018 to 31st October, 2018. Various State and Central Government

agencies collecting payments from citizens in various Smart Cities were requested to report information related to actual collections and share of digital payments in such collections, on the Digidhan Dashboard.

- (iv) An awareness campaign was organized in the SMART Cities of North East to promote digital payments.
- (v) Government has waived off Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) applicable on Debit Card/BHIM UPI/Aadhaar-Pay transactions less than or equal to ₹ 2000/- in value for a period of two years with effect from 1st January, 2018.
- (vi) Government of India has initiated incentive schemes such as BHIM cashback scheme for individuals, BHIM incentive scheme for merchants, BHIM Aadhaar merchant incentive scheme for promotion and wider adoption of digital payment.
- (vii) Government has launched Digidhan Dashboard as a platform for accurate reporting, monitoring and analysis of all digital payments transactions occurring in the country. It will help in monitoring and tracking the growth of digital transactions in the country.
- (viii) MeitY ran various campaigns on radio and hoarding campaigns to promote digital payments in India.
- (ix) Government is coordinating with Ministries/Departments/States to enable digital payment acceptance infrastructure:—
 - Utilities (Electricity/Water/Gas/Telecom/DTH) have been requested for on-boarding on Bharat Bill Payment System (BBPS) for easy accessibility to digital payments.
 - All Public transport operators have been requested to enable National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) for digital payments.
 - All Ministries/Departments/States have been requested to integrate BHIM with their online payment systems.
 - All Ministries/Departments/States have been requested to enable BHIM/Bharat QR in their concerned physical payment receipt counters.

- (x) Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA): The Government of India has approved a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household) by 31.03.2020. To ensure equitable geographical reach, each of the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats across the country are registering an average of 200-300 candidates.

Special focus of the said scheme is on training the beneficiaries on use of Electronic Payment System. The outcome measurement criteria include undertaking at least 5 electronic payments transactions by each beneficiary using UPI (including BHIM app), .USSD, PoS, AEPS, Cards, Internet Banking.

As on 4th July, 2019, more than 2.31 crore candidates have been enrolled and around 2.21 crore have been trained, out of which more than 1.35 crore candidates have been certified under the PMGDISHA Scheme.

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

Government has taken following measures to enhance the cyber security posture of digital payment systems:—

- (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 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 on a priority basis and to take immediate steps thereafter 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 84 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. 43 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 sectors participated. Out of total 43 cyber security exercises, financial sector organisations had participated in 22 such cyber security exercises till date.
- (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. 24 trainings covering 845 participants conducted in the year 2018.
- (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.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Sir, in the answer, the digital transactions growth from year to year shows that in 2017-18, it was 104.38 per cent. In 2018-19, it became 51.35 per cent and in the year, 2019-20, it has come down drastically. The Government wants to encourage digital payments, whereas, the statistics shows that it is decreasing. So what are the actions taken? They have given a big list of the initiatives taken by the Government. But, in spite of that, it is decreasing. What are the reasons?

श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव: उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है कि 2017-2018 में 104 परसेंट बढ़ गया और 2018-19 में 51 परसेंट बढ़ रहा है, यह तो सही है, क्योंकि शुरुआत की बढ़त ज्यादा रहती है और बाद की जो figure उन्होंने बोली है, तो वह figure 11 जुलाई तक की है। वह साल भर की फिगर नहीं है। इसके कारण हम यह नहीं कह सकते हैं कि वह कम हुआ, क्योंकि वह बढ़ रहा है और गवर्नमेंट ने इसके लिए कई initiatives लिए हैं। इसके कई नये-नये modes आ रहे हैं, जिनमें credit card, debit card तो पहले से ही चल रहा था, अब इसमें BHIM App, NETC, mobile banking इस तरह की कई सुविधाएं आ रही हैं। इसलिए यह कहना उचित नहीं होगा कि यह कम हो रहा है। वह बढ़ ही रहा है, लेकिन उसके बढ़ने का जो percentage है, वह पहले बहुत ज्यादा था, अब वह थोड़ा कम हो गया है।

DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: However, the Minister says and in spite of his own statistics, it is increasing, it is okay. To increase digital transactions, the Government should reduce the cost of debit cards and credit cards. Instead, the banks have restricted the debit card transactions that in a month, it should be four or it should be five or it should be eight. If you transact with other banks, you have to pay penalty on that. See, these are all the things which are decreasing the digital payment. Sir, one more thing, which is, very, very, important, and I would like to submit that.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please put your question.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Sir, again, I am putting a question. Sir, the Chairman of RBI Committee on Digital Payments has said, "seeing increasing number of transactions, at the same time, less security issues, less fraud issues, less disputes, are our concern today". What are the steps taken by the Government to take care of the security issues in the digital payment? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव: उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने सिक्योरिटी इश्यूज के बारे में जो चिन्ता व्यक्त की है, मैं उन्हें बताना चाहता हूं कि उसके लिए गवर्नमेंट ने कई उपाय सोचे हैं। RBI ने इसके लिए एक सर्कुलर निकाला है, जिसके अनुसार यदि किसी के खाते से कोई पेमेंट होती है, जिसमें उसकी खुद की कोई गलती नहीं है और वह यदि तीन दिन के अंदर संबंधित बैंक अथवा RBI को उसके बारे में सूचित करता है, तो उसे उसका पूरा पैसा मिलने का प्रावधान है। इस प्रकार के और अन्य अनेक कार्य किए गए हैं। एक साइबर स्वच्छता केन्द्र, बॉटलनेक क्लीनिंग भी बनाया गया है। यह एंटी वायरस की तरह काम करता है। इस तरह से कई कदम उठाए गए हैं। दूसरे, जो सवाल माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है, उसका भी मैं जवाब देना चाहता हूं। उन्होंने डेबिट कार्ड के बारे में जो कहा, वह सही है कि डेबिट कार्ड से एक माह में सिर्फ चार बार पैसा निकालने पर कोई चार्ज नहीं लगता है और उससे अधिक ट्रांजेक्शन पर

[श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव]

चार्ज लगता है। उसे प्रमोट करने के लिए आपका जो सुझाव है, उसके ऊपर हम निश्चित रूप से विचार करेंगे।

SHRI SUBHASISH CHAKRABORTY (West Bengal): Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister one thing. We are going forward with Digital India. But, it is a matter of regret that each and every moment, we are facing call-drop problems. What policy decision is the hon. Minister taking to prevent it?

श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने कॉल ड्रॉप के बारे में जो सवाल पूछा है, वह इस प्रश्न से सीधे रूप में जुड़ा हुआ नहीं है। वह इससे अलग है।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है।

श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली (पश्चिम बंगाल): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, इस देश में डिजिटल ट्रांजेक्शन्स तो पहले भी होते थे, लेकिन अब "आधार" के बाद इसमें बहुत प्रोग्रेस हुई है और बहुत स्वच्छता आई है। इसके कारण आम जनता को बहुत सुविधा भी हो रही है।

श्री उपसभापति: आप कृपया सवाल पूछिए।

श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली: महोदय, मेरा सवाल यह है कि अभी कुछ ही दिन पहले NEFT फ्री कर दिया गया है, फिर भी, जब NEFT फोन बैंकिंग के माध्यम से की जाती है, तो उसकी प्रोग्रेस को कुछ बैंक रोकने की कोशिश करते हैं। अतः मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहती हूँ कि क्या वे वित्त मंत्रालय के अधिकारियों से बैठकर बातचीत करेंगे, ताकि फोन बैंकिंग में जो डिफिकल्टी थ्रू दि सॉफ्टवेयर पैदा कर रहे हैं, उसे दूर किया जा सके या उसे थोड़ा कंट्रोल किया जा सके?

श्री धोत्रे संजय शामराव: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, माननीय सदस्य ने जो समस्या बताई है, अगर वे इस बारे में थोड़ा स्पेसिफिक बताएं या लिखकर दें, तो हम उसके ऊपर जरूर कार्रवाई करेंगे।

Setting up Textile Parks under SITP

*352. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Textile Parks set up under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the estimated amount spent in terms of grants on these projects;

(c) the total amount invested by private entities on these projects; and

(d) the number of new jobs, if any, created by these projects?

THE MINISTER FOR TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d)
The statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) The Government is implementing the Scheme for Integrated Textile Park (SITP) which provides support for creation of world-class infrastructure facilities for textile units. A total of 59 textile parks have been sanctioned under SITP by the Ministry of Textiles, out of which 3 parks have been sanctioned in the last three years including current year and are under various stages of construction. The details, including Government of India grant spent, amount invested by private entities and proposed employment generation may be seen as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Park	State	Date of Sanction	GOI grant (₹ in crore)	GOI grant released (₹ in crore)	Investment excluding GOI grant (₹ in crores)	Employment Proposed (persons)	Status
1.	Karanj Integrated Textile Park	Gujarat	02.02.16	40.00	10.00	37.23	885	Sanctioned
2.	Shahlon Textile Park	Gujarat	30.06.16	40.00	4.00	28.66	1865	Sanctioned
3.	Farukhabad Integrated Textile Park	Uttar Pradesh	02.02.16	40.00	0	0	2850	Sanctioned

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे (महाराष्ट्र): माननीय उपसभापति जी, माननीय मंत्री महोदया ने जो उत्तर दिया है, उससे ऐसा लगता है कि यह योजना पहले से चल रही है। अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदया से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस योजना की समीक्षा करने की दृष्टि से सरकार ने क्या कोई इनिशिएटिव लिया है, जिसके आधार पर इस योजना के परिणामों के बारे में कुछ आकलन बन पाए?

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ुबिन इरानी : माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सांसद को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि समीक्षा मात्र मिनिस्ट्री ऑफ़ टैक्सटाइल के अन्तर्गत ही नहीं, बल्कि

[श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी]

राज्यस्तरीय टैक्सटाइल कॉन्फ्रेंसेज़ के माध्यम से प्रदेश सरकारों से भी की जाती है। इस बारे में मैंने पहले भी सदन को अवगत कराया है कि मेरा ध्येय है कि आगामी एक महीने में रिवाइटलाइजिंग ऑफ़ टैक्सटाइल पार्क्स की दृष्टि से स्टैकहोल्डर्स के साथ भी हम लोग परामर्श करें।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: माननीय उपसभापति जी, मेरा दूसरा उपप्रश्न यह है कि हमारे देश में ऐसे कई परम्परागत टैक्सटाइल व्यवसाय के केन्द्र हैं—जैसे मध्य प्रदेश में चंदेरी है, महाराष्ट्र में येवला में पैठणी है, आसाम की मोगा सिल्क है - इन ट्रेडिशनल आर्टिजन्स को इस सिस्टम के अन्तर्गत अथवा इस योजना के अन्तर्गत इंटीग्रेट करने की क्या कोई कोशिश की जा रही है?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: उपसभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सांसद को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि यह स्कीम उन लोगों के लिए निर्धारित है, जो वर्तमान में एस.पी.वी. के माध्यम से भारत सरकार को अपना प्रस्तुतिकरण देते हैं। क्योंकि इन्होंने ट्रेडिशनल क्राफ्ट की दृष्टि से प्रश्न पूछा है, इसलिए मैं इन्हें अवगत कराना चाहूँगी कि हमने पहले से ही पोचमपल्ली पार्क की हैंडलूम की श्रृंखला में प्रस्तावना करके कि इसको और बेहतर कैसे किया जा सके, इसके लिए प्रदेश सरकार और पोचमपल्ली पार्क से संबंधित लोगों से चर्चा और विमर्श किए हैं। हम उन्हें अपनी ओर से पूर्ण सहायता भी प्रदान करते हैं। मैं आपको इससे भी अवगत कराना चाहूँगी कि कोई भी व्यक्ति हैंडलूम की दृष्टि से, हैंडिक्राफ्ट की दृष्टि से नहीं, बल्कि विशेषकर हैंडलूम की दृष्टि से यदि एस.आई.टी.पी. के अंतर्गत कोई प्रस्ताव लाना चाहे, तो हम उसे मानक के आधार पर स्वीकृत करेंगे और अपनी ओर से भरसक प्रयत्न भी करेंगे कि उन्हें support मिले।

श्री दिग्विजय सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले तीन वर्षों में आपने तीन एस.आई.टी.पी. मंजूर किए हैं, ऐसे कितने और प्रस्ताव आपके मंत्रालय में लंबित हैं और ये किन राज्यों से संबंधित हैं?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहती हूँ कि वर्तमान में ऐसा कोई भी प्रस्ताव किसी भी राज्य से लंबित नहीं है।

श्री संजय राउत (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति जी, आज Textile Parks पर तीन प्रश्न हैं। Textile Park का, textile mills का यह प्रश्न बहुत ही गंभीर प्रश्न है। मेरा यह कहना है कि हमेशा से मुंबई की पहचान textile mills की रही है। मुंबई में लगभग 200 Textile mills बंद हो चुकी हैं, लाखों लोग बेरोजगार हो चुके हैं। मेरा सीधा सवाल है कि ये जो Textile Parks की योजना है - मुंबई में textile mills बंद होने के बाद जो लाखों लोग बेरोजगार हुए हैं, क्या सरकार के पास मुंबई जैसे शहर में इस प्रकार का कोई Textile Park बनाने की योजना या प्रस्ताव है?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: उपसभापति जी, वर्तमान में किसी भी एस.पी.वी. के माध्यम से या प्रदेश सरकार के माध्यम से विभाग में ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव लंबित नहीं है। क्योंकि माननीय सांसद महाराष्ट्र के प्रतिनिधि हैं, इसलिए मैं उनसे कहना चाहूँगी कि इस स्कीम के अंतर्गत अब तक महाराष्ट्र

में 322 करोड़ तक की लागत की सहायता राशि भारत सरकार के अंतर्गत, विशेषकर इस स्कीम के अंतर्गत दी गई है और पिछले तीन सालों में महाराष्ट्र में दो विशेष स्थानों, धुले और इचलकरंजी में textile scheme के अंतर्गत पार्कों की व्यवस्था में भारत सरकार की ओर से सहायता दी गई है।

श्री चुनीभाई कानजीभाई गोहेल (गुजरात): उपसभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि गुजरात में बहुत सारे लोग हथकरघा कार्य में लिप्त हैं। वे अपने घरों में कपड़े, शॉल वगैरह बनाते हैं, लेकिन जब उन्हें कोई ऊन खरीदनी पड़ती है, तो कोई डायरेक्ट सब्सिडी या ग्रांट नहीं मिलती है। माननीय मंत्री जी भी इस बात को जानती हैं। मैं आपके द्वारा माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूँ और मेरा ऐसा प्रस्ताव भी है कि जब वे इसको मार्केट से डायरेक्ट परचेज करें, तो उनको डायरेक्ट ग्रांट मिलनी चाहिए।

श्री उपसभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए, प्रस्ताव मत दीजिए।

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी : उपसभापति जी, आपके माध्यम से आदरणीय सांसद ने सदन के समक्ष जो प्रस्ताव प्रस्तुत किया है, वह प्रस्ताव विशेषतः हैंडलूम वीवर्स के संदर्भ में है। जब हमारी कच्छ में हैंडलूम वीवर्स से वार्ता हुई, तो ध्यान में आया कि वे एक्रिलिक श्रेड इस्तेमाल करना चाहते हैं, वूल से थोड़ा डायवर्ट कर रहे हैं। वर्तमान में नेशनल हैंडलूम डेवलपमेंट कॉर्पोरेशन के अंतर्गत 10 प्रतिशत की सब्सिडी हैंडलूम वीवर्स को नेचुरल श्रेड और फाइबर में दी जाती है। चूंकि एक्रिलिक material उसकी संरचना में नहीं आता है, इसलिए वर्तमान में यह सहायता हैंडलूम से परे हटकर देना थोड़ा-बहुत चुनौतीपूर्ण है, लेकिन मैं आपसे कहना चाहती हूँ कि कच्छ के जितने वीवर्स हैं, हमने उनके साथ विशेषतः हैंडलूम विभाग के माध्यम से और गुजरात सरकार के माध्यम से यह प्रस्तावना की है कि अगर कोई सब्सिडी की दृष्टि से हैंडलूम सेगमेंट में आता है, तो उसे विशेष यार्न की पास बुक देकर सब्सिडी की सुविधा दिलवाने का हमारा पूरा प्रयास है। उन्हें यह सब्सिडी दिलवाने का मेरा पूरा प्रयास है और मैं उस प्रयास में एक हद तक सफल भी हो पाई हूँ।

श्री उपसभापति: Q. No. 353 श्रीमती सरोजिनी हेम्ब्रम। अनुपस्थित। Are there any supplementaries?

* 353 [*The Questioner was absent.*]

E-passport for citizens

*353. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposed to introduce e-passport for the citizens of the country in the near future;

(b) if so, the purpose of introduction of e-passport in place of the present system; and

1.00 P.M.

(c) the manner in which it would be different from the present form of passport and the details of advantages of using such passport?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (DR. SUBRAHMANYAM JAISHANKAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Yes. The Ministry has plans to issue chip-enabled e-passports to citizens with advanced security features.

The personal particulars of the applicants would be digitally signed and stored in the chip which would be embedded in the present form of physical passport booklet. In case anyone tampers with the chip, the system shall be able to identify it resulting in the failure of the passport authentication.

The Government has given its approval for procurement of electronic contactless inlays for manufacturing of e-passports to India Security Press (ISP) Nashik. In this regard, ISP, Nashik has been authorized to float a global three-stage tender for procurement of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)-compliant electronic contactless inlays along with its operating system, which is required for manufacture of e-passports. Manufacture of e-passport will commence on the successful completion of the tendering and procurement process by ISP, Nashik.

SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI (Punjab): Sir, the answer is very explicit but I have a supplementary question. Has the Government already decided the time-frame which proposes to allow the passport holders of this country to change over once the security features are in place and the order is supplied to the Government?

DR. S. JAISHANKAR: Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member, through you, that, at this moment, we are still in the last stages of the tender. The tender has two components, an international component and a domestic component. Once we open the tender and make the decisions, it is only then that we can come to the timeline within which in the first phase we want to bring in about 22 million electronic passports. So, we have not reached that stage.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall move to Q. No. 354.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, it is 1 o' clock.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. The House stands adjourned for lunch till 2.00 p.m.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STATED QUESTIONS**Payment of penalty for call drop**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has imposed penalty on telecom companies for call drop;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of service providers who paid the penalty imposed on them for call drop alongwith the details of payments made?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of telecom service providers against the benchmarks for various Quality of Service parameters including call drops, laid down by TRAI by way of Quality of Service regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). The performance is assessed for the Licence Service Area (LSA) as a whole. TRAI Act 1997 does not provide for imposition of penalty on telecom service providers directly by TRAI. Only the courts can impose penalty under the Act based on a complaint filed by TRAI for violation of its Directions, Regulations and Orders.

However, in the Quality of Service Regulations issued by TRAI, provisions have been made for imposition of financial disincentives for non-compliance with the benchmarks for various quality of service parameters including call drop.

TRAI has issued "The Standards for Quality of Service for Basic (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Services (Fifth Amendment) Regulations, 2017" effective from 1st October 2017. These Regulations have prescribed two revised parameters for assessing call drop in mobile network, viz. Drop Call Rate (DCR) spatial distribution measure (benchmark $\leq 2\%$) implies that at-least 90% of Cells in the network should perform better than specified 2% benchmark on at-least 90% of days. Similarly, another new parameter, DCR temporal distribution measure (benchmark $\leq 3\%$) will give confidence that on at-least 90% of Days, network performed better than specified 3% benchmark for at-least 97% of the Cells.

With effect from 1st October 2017, TRAI has also introduced a revised graded Financial Disincentives (FD) structure for DCR parameters, based on the extent to which a TSP's performance deviates from the specified DCR benchmark. Details of financial disincentives imposed is given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of financial disincentives imposed on the Telecom Service Providers for non-compliance of call drop parameters*

TSP	Parameters	December 2017	March 2018	June 2018	Amount Received So far
1	2	3	4	5	5
Aircel	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	23.00 lakhs for 16 LSAs			Nil
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	27.00 lakhs for 16 LSAs			Nil
BSNL	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	3.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs	1.50 lakhs for 1 LSA	2.00 lakhs for 1 LSA	4.50 lakhs
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	3.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs	1.50 lakhs for 1 LSA	2.00 lakhs for 1 LSA	4.50 lakhs
IDEA	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	12.00 lakhs for 12 LSAs	7.50 lakhs for 5 LSAs	8.00 lakhs for 4 LSAs	19.50 lakhs
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	6.00 lakhs for 6 LSAs	3.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs	4.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs	9.00 lakhs

Tata	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	3.00 lakhs for 3 LSAs	7.50 lakhs for 5 LSAs		10.50 lakhs
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	4.00 lakhs for 4 LSAs	15.00 lakhs for 7 LSAs		19 lakhs
Telenor	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	4.00 lakhs for 4 LSAs	3.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs		7.00 lakhs
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	3.00 lakhs for 3 LSAs	3.00 lakhs for 2 LSAs		6.00 lakhs
Vodafone	Network QoS DCR Spatial Distribution Measure	5.00 lakhs for 5 LSAs			5.00 lakhs
	Network QoS DCR Temporal Distribution Measure	93.00 lakhs	42.00 lakhs	16.00 lakhs	85.00 lakhs

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Starred Questions

119

Progress of major projects

*355. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any step to reduce time and cost overruns of various major projects of Central Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that several Central projects have reported cost and time overrun; and

(d) if so, the number of projects under implementation, the projects with cost and time overruns, alongwith the details of expenditure incurred?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The major steps undertaken to ensure completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns include: Periodic review of projects under PRAGATI through video conferencing; rigorous project appraisal; On-line Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks; and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above on time and cost overruns, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies. As on 01.05.2019, total 1453 projects are on the monitor of this Ministry for which an expenditure of ₹ 8.85 lakh crore has been incurred. Of these, 388 projects are showing time overruns, 345 projects are showing cost overruns and 134 projects are showing both time and cost overruns with respect to their original project implementation schedules. The expenditure on the projects showing time overruns, cost overruns and both time and cost overruns are ₹ 4.76 lakh crore, ₹ 4.26 lakh crore and ₹ 2.71 lakh crore respectively.

Expansion of list of Institutions of Eminence

*356. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to expand the list of Institutions of Eminence in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has identified some institutions for shortlisting; and
- (c) if so, the details of criteria followed and whether any such institution is located in the North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) Yes, Sir.
- (c) The following criteria are followed by Empowered Expert Committee (EEC) for shortlisting the name of Institutions for selection of Institutions of Eminence (IoEs):
 - (i) Fifteen year detailed strategic vision plan of the Institution.
 - (ii) Five year rolling implementation plan which includes Academic Plan, Faculty Recruitment Plan, Students Admission Plan, Research Plan, Networking Plan, Infrastructure Development Plan, Finance Plan, Administrative Plan, Governance Plan, etc. with clear annual milestones.
 - (iii) Action plans on how the Institutions of Eminence are to be set up, with identifiable outputs and outcomes and how their plan to meet the criteria for attaining the status of an Institution of Eminence, as mentioned in their application.

One Institution from North Eastern State has been recommended for selection of Institution of Eminence.

Status of civil nuclear deal

*357. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of civil nuclear deal signed by india with foreign countries;

(b) the details of plans to use nuclear technology for generating energy for civilian use in the country; and

(c) the details of partnerships, if any, entered into with other countries for furthering atomic energy cooperation and development of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (c) Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for co-operation in peaceful uses of nuclear energy have been signed with the following seventeen (17) countries: Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Czech Republic, European Union, France, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mongolia, Namibia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Sri Lanka, United Kingdom, United States of America and Vietnam. Collaboration in power and non-power uses of nuclear energy for the societal purpose including in cancer care, agriculture, industrial application have been established with a number of countries.

(b) India's three-stage nuclear power programme is formulated to achieve country's long-term energy security and independence, through the use of uranium and vast thorium reserves.

The three stages are:—

1. Natural uranium fuelled Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWR).
2. Fast Breeder Reactors (FBRs) utilizing plutonium based fuel.
3. Advanced nuclear power systems for utilization of thorium.

The present installed nuclear power capacity comprises of 22 nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 6780 MW. A total of nine nuclear power reactors with an aggregate capacity of 6700 MW are presently under construction. In addition, the Government has accorded administrative approval and financial sanction for setting up 12 more nuclear power reactors with a total capacity of 9000 MW.

Textile and apparel industry

*358. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of major problems of the cotton textile industry in our country;
- (b) the present-day value of the textile and apparel industry, category-wise; and
- (c) the total employment in the textile sector, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Indian Cotton Textile Industry is largely of unorganized character with high production and labour costs. Ageing machinery, quality of raw material and absence of level playing field for value added cotton products in consuming markets are some of the key challenges faced by the Indian cotton textile industry.

In order to address the problems faced by Indian Cotton Textile Industry Government has taken various initiatives/measures that make Textile Industry globally competitive, boost exports and facilitate modernization, thereby increase the productivity and employment. SPVs formed by textile entrepreneurs and individual textile units are supported for development of common infrastructure, common facilities, group workshops and with technologically upgraded machinery through subsidies under various schemes, namely, Scheme for Integrated Textile Park, Integrated Processing Development Scheme, Group Workshop Scheme, Common Facility Centre and Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme, Scheme for the Development of the Powerloom Sector (Power-Tex), SAMARTH- The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS), Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Rebate of State and Centre Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL) etc.

(b) The Indian textile industry is the second largest manufacturer and exporter in the world. The share of textile and clothing (T&C) in India's total exports stands at a significant 13% in 2017-18. India has a share of 5% of the global trade in textiles and apparel. The present day value of domestic textile industry is given below:—

Industry	Estimated figure (Bn. USD)
Apparel	79
Home Textile	6
Technical Textile	16
TOTAL	101

(c) The Textile industry holds importance from the employment point of view as well. It employs 4.5 crore people directly and another 6 crore people in allied sectors, including a large number of women and rural population. The details of employment in some of the activities under Textile sector State-wise are given in the Statement.

Statement*Cotton and manmade textiles mills/workers details*

Sl. No.	State	As on March-2019	
		No. of Mills	Workers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	154	43039
2.	Assam	9	3931
3.	Bihar	4	1206
4.	Chhattisgarh	1	1225
5.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	14	6268
6.	Daman and Diu	3	271
7.	Delhi	3	2076
8.	Goa	1	72
9.	Gujarat	150	116379
10.	Haryana	194	16149
11.	Himachal Pradesh	21	14041
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2	6956
13.	Jharkhand	1	707
14.	Karnataka	51	14964
15.	Kerala	40	13027
16.	Madhya Pradesh	71	68124
17.	Maharashtra	285	116307
18.	Manipur	1	350
19.	Odisha	23	14249
20.	Puducherry	15	5158
21.	Punjab	158	75610

1	2	3	4
22.	Rajasthan	96	84251
23.	Tamil Nadu	2032	282607
24.	Telangana	44	14887
25.	Uttar Pradesh	120	54772
26.	Uttarakhand	14	4751
27.	West Bengal	37	32746
TOTAL		3544	9,94,123

Silk sector

State	Employment Generation (Lakh Persons)				
	Mulberry	Tasar	Eri	Muga	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
Karnataka	19.0114				19.0114
Andhra Pradesh	12.2606	0.0185			12.2791
Telangana	0.3513	0.0398			0.3910
Tamil Nadu	3.3989				3.3989
Kerala	0.0305				0.0305
Maharashtra	0.8140	0.0930			0.9070
Uttar Pradesh	0.3781	0.0913	0.1788		0.6482
Madhya Pradesh	0.1197	0.0410			0.1607
Chhattisgarh	0.0126	1.4346			1.4473
Rajasthan	0.0000				0.0000
Gujarat	0.0000				0.0000
West Bengal	3.8786	0.1005	0.0193	0.0007	3.9990
Bihar	0.0123	0.1497	0.0417		0.2036
Jharkhand	0.0049	9.7252			9.7301

1	2	3	4	5	6
Odisha	0.0049	0.4920	0.0294		0.5263
Jammu and Kashmir	0.1933				0.1933
Himachal Pradesh	0.0556				0.0556
Uttarakhand	0.0592	0.0002	0.0018		0.0611
Haryana	0.0011				0.0011
Punjab	0.0051				0.0051
Assam	0.0866		17.4623	0.7263	18.2753
Bodoland	0.0285		5.8838	0.1666	6.0790
Arunachal Pradesh	0.0054	0.0000	0.2626	0.0118	0.2799
Manipur	0.2249	0.0213	1.5680	0.0081	1.8224
Meghalaya	0.0850		5.0522	0.1472	5.2844
Mizoram	0.1366	0.0002	0.0385	0.0037	0.1790
Nagaland	0.0215	0.0003	2.9714	0.0026	2.9957
Sikkim	0.0006				0.0006
Tripura	0.1679				0.1679
TOTAL	41.3493	12.2074	33.5098	1.0671	88.1336
Import of Raw Silk					3.0635
GRAND TOTAL					91.20

Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS)

Sl. No.	State	Trained	Placed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	96017	76671
2.	Assam	5593	3246
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	723	185
4.	Bihar	28748	22390

Sl. No.	State	Trained	Placed
5.	Chandigarh	131	130
6.	Chhattisgarh	11741	8163
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	174	0
8.	Daman and Diu	585	349
9.	Delhi	19477	12050
10.	Gujarat	111166	87823
11.	Haryana	53966	39111
12.	Himachal Pradesh	1660	1022
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	3625	2371
14.	Jharkhand	11543	7410
15.	Karnataka	127676	111860
16.	Kerala	7838	7415
17.	Madhya Pradesh	80015	55523
18.	Maharashtra	37017	23377
19.	Manipur	4268	1692
20.	Meghalaya	921	517
21.	Mizoram	59	0
22.	Nagaland	79	29
23.	Odisha	43085	24761
24.	Puducherry	989	807
25.	Punjab	10837	7461
26.	Rajasthan	53170	37502
27.	Sikkim	526	307
28.	Tamil Nadu	179350	153079
29.	Telangana	36404	29593

Sl. No.	State	Trained	Placed
30.	Tripura	8627	5810
31.	Uttar Pradesh	116671	75202
32.	Uttarakhand	481	187
33.	West Bengal	61383	47039
	TOTAL	11,14,545	8,43,082

Handloom Sector

Sl. No.	State	No. of handloom weavers and allied workers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2,89,809
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	33,041
3.	Assam	16,43,453
4.	Bihar	43,392
5.	Chhattisgarh	8,191
6.	Delhi	2,738
7.	Goa	0
8.	Gujarat	11,009
9.	Haryana	7,967
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13,458
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	33,209
12.	Jharkhand	21,160
13.	Karnataka	89,256
14.	Kerala	14,679
15.	Madhya Pradesh	14,761
16.	Maharashtra	3,418

1	2	3
17.	Manipur	2,18,753
18.	Mizoram	43,528
19.	Meghalaya	13,612
20.	Nagaland	66,490
21.	Odisha	1,14,106
22.	Puducherry	2,803
23.	Punjab	2,636
24.	Rajasthan	31,958
25.	Sikkim	568
26.	Tamil Nadu	3,52,321
27.	Telangana	66,029
28.	Tripura	1,37,177
29.	Uttar Pradesh	2,57,783
30.	Uttarakhand	15,468
31.	West Bengal	7,79,103
	TOTAL	43,31,876

Handicrafts Sector

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total No. of persons benefitted
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8938
2.	Andhra Pradesh	18457
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	5126
4.	Assam	56616
5.	Bihar	8370

1	2	3
6.	Chandigarh	518
7.	Chhattisgarh	5242
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0
10.	Delhi	18643
11.	Goa	780
12.	Gujarat	35266
13.	Haryana	4046
14.	Himachal Pradesh	11382
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	59668
16.	Jharkhand	4793
17.	Karnataka	10130
18.	Kerala	20693
19.	Lakshadweep	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	38906
21.	Maharashtra	10780
22.	Manipur	38323
23.	Meghalaya	4877
24.	Mizoram	2546
25.	Nagaland	4710
26.	Odisha	11198
27.	Puducherry	32009
28.	Punjab	8958
29.	Rajasthan	33513
30.	Sikkim	2573

1	2	3
31.	Tamil Nadu	15341
32.	Telangana	15276
33.	Tripura	9249
34.	Uttar Pradesh	67481
35.	Uttarakhand	34667
36.	West Bengal	25567
37.	All India	0
TOTAL		6,24,642

Scheme for Integrated Textiles Park (SITP)

Sl. No.	State	Employment
1.	Andhra Pradesh	19550
2.	Gujarat	21725
3.	Himachal Pradesh	900
4.	Jammu and Kashmir	390
5.	Karnataka	550
6.	Maharashtra	31081
7.	Punjab	4650
8.	Rajasthan	3403
9.	Tamil Nadu	11974
10.	Telangana	450
TOTAL		94673

National Textile Corporation Limited

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total
1.	Tamil Nadu	3592
2.	Kerala	2172

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total
3.	Puducherry	364
4.	Andhra Pradesh	220
5.	Karnataka	536
6.	Maharashtra	3622
7.	Gujarat	574
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1882
9.	West Bengal	522
10.	Bihar	32
11.	Assam	21
12.	Odisha	22
13.	Delhi/New Delhi	141
14.	Uttar Pradesh	39
15.	Punjab	4
16.	Rajasthan	17
TOTAL		13760

The Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total
1.	Uttar Pradesh	72
2.	Delhi	22
3.	Tamil Nadu	112
4.	West Bengal	6
5.	Maharashtra	2
6.	Telangana	4
TOTAL		218

Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIC)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total
1.	Karnataka	12
2.	Delhi	219
3.	Tamil Nadu	06
4.	West Bengal	13
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2
TOTAL		252

The British India Corporation Ltd.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total
1.	Uttar Pradesh	637
2.	Punjab	318
TOTAL		955
GRAND TOTAL (NTC+HHEC+CCIC+BIC)		15,185

Meeting service quality norms by telecom companies

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

(a) whether it is a fact that all the major telecom companies had failed to meet service quality norms during June to September, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any action against the service providers who failed to meet the said norms; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the performance of telecom service providers against the benchmarks for various Quality

of Service parameters laid down by TRAI by way of Quality of Service regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs). The performance is assessed for the Licence Service Area (LSA) as a whole.

As per PMR for the quarter ending September 2018 (July 2018 to September, 2018), for Basic Wireline Services, all the service providers are largely complying with benchmark for all the parameters in all the LSAs. Non-Compliance is noticed in the network of M/s Airtel in 11 LSAs, M/s Tata in 9 LSAs and M/s MTNL in 2 LSAs.

As per PMR for the quarter ending September 2018, for Cellular Mobile Telephone Services, all the service providers are largely complying with benchmark for all the parameters in all the LSAs. Non-Compliance is noticed in the network of M/s Tata in 18 LSAs, M/s Idea in 15 LSAs, M/s Vodafone in 5 LSAs, M/s Airtel and BSNL in 3 LSAs each and M/s RJio in 1 LSA.

As per PMR for the quarter ending September 2018, for Broadband Services, all the service providers are largely complying with benchmark for all the parameters in all the LSAs. Non-Compliance is noticed in the network of M/s Ishan Netsol in 4 LSAs, M/s Atria Convergence and Intech Online in 3 LSAs each, M/s MTNL, TTSL and TTS (M)L in 2 LSAs each and M/s You Broadband in 1 LSA.

(c) and (d) TRAI had issued show cause notice to those service providers who had failed to meet the benchmarks for the various quality of service parameters. After considering their response to the show cause notice, TRAI has imposed the Financial Disincentives (FDs) are given in Statement.

Statement

Financial Disincentives imposed by TRAI

Basic Service (Wireline)		Broadband Service		Cellular Service	
Service Provider	Amount of FD imposed (₹)	Service Provider	Amount of FD imposed (₹)	Service Provider	Amount of FD being considered (₹)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Bharti Airtel Ltd.	5,50,000	Atria Convergence	2,00,000	Bharti Airtel Ltd.	3,00,000

1	2	3	4	5	6
Tata	4,50,000	Intech Online	1,50,000	BSNL	5,50,000
		Ishan Netsol	2,00,000	RJio	1,00,000
		Tata	4,00,000	Tata	21,50,000
				Vodafone	30,00,000
				Idea Ltd.	
TOTAL AMOUNT	10,00,000		9,50,000		61,00,000

Procurement of cotton by CCI

*360. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) has procured cotton from farmers of various States at Minimum Support Price during each of the last three years and the current year and if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether the cotton growers are getting adequate price for their produce to enable them to repay their loans and meet their household expenses during the said period and if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to give remunerative price of cotton to the farmers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) is undertaking Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations when prices of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) grade seed cotton (kapas) fall below the MSP level and procure entire quantity of FAQ grade kapas offered by the cotton farmers in various Agricultural Produce Market Committees (APMCs) market yards at MSP. Statement showing procurement of cotton under MSP by CCI during last three cotton season (starts from 1st October to 30th September) and current cotton season is given below:-

(Quantity in lakh bales of 170 kg. each)				
	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
	(As on 17.7.2019)			
1	2	3	4	5
Punjab	-	-	-	-

1	2	3	4	5
Haryana	-	-	-	-
Rajasthan	-	-	-	-
Gujarat	0.515	-	0.951	0.08
Maharashtra	1.168	-	0.146	1.96
Madhya Pradesh	0.291	-	0.078	0.51
Telangana	5.952	-	2.635	7.77
Andhra Pradesh	0.400	-	0.065	0.05
Karnataka	-	-	0.003	0.08
Odisha	0.116	-	0.020	0.25
West Bengal and Others	0.004	0.005	0.004	-
TOTAL	8.445	0.005	3.902	10.70

Note: During cotton season 2016-17, since beginning average seed cotton prices were ruling above MSP level. Hence, there were no offers of cotton at MSP from farmers, though CCI remained present in the market yards throughout the cotton season for procuring cotton at MSP rate.

(b) Yes, Sir. Cotton growers are getting adequate price for their produce. Statement showing comparison between market rates and MSP rate of jmaior Cotton varieties during last three years and current year is attached herewith at Statement which shows that during last three years and current year, most of the time, market rates of kapas have been ruling higher in comparison to MSP (*See below*).

(c) With a view to give remunerative price of cotton to the farmers, Government has taken following initiatives:-

- (i) Every year before commencement of the cotton season (October to September), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India fixes the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of two varieties of seed cotton (kapas) viz. Medium Staple and Long Staple. In order to ensure better productivity and production and to protect the interest of farmers, Government of India increased the MSP for cotton season 2018-19 from ₹4020 and ₹4320 to ₹ 5150 and ₹5450 per quintal

for Medium Staple Cotton and Long Staple Cotton respectively. For the cotton season 2019-20, Government of India has since increased the MSP rate from ₹5150 to 5255 and ₹ 5450 to ₹5550 per quintal.

- (ii) Nominated the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) as nodal agency to undertake MSP operation in all cotton growing States, in the event when prices of seed cotton (kapas) touches the MSP level, to purchase entire quantity of kapas (FAQ grade) offered by the cotton farmers in various APMC market yards at MSP rates.
- (iii) Around 350 procurement centres have been opened in all the cotton growing States. CCI Procurement Officials remain present at procurement centres right from the beginning of the cotton season to ensure minimum support prices to the cotton farmers wherever the prevailing kapas prices fall below MSP.
- (iv) Disseminating the necessary information regarding MSP rates to cotton farmers by displaying banners in APMCs, advertisements in newspapers, distribution of pamphlets to individual farmers etc.
- (v) Initiated electronic generation of purchase bill/takpatti against the cotton procured from farmers in APMCs to avoid delay in releasing the payments to the cotton farmers.
- (vi) Implemented 100% payment of kapas purchased under MSP to the cotton farmers directly in their bank account through online.
- (vii) Developed a farmer friendly mobile app, "Cott-Ally" to have direct interaction and outreach with the cotton farmers and to keep the cotton farmers informed about various information related to Minimum Support Price operations, tracking of payments status etc.

Statement*Details of comparison between market rates of major cotton varieties and MSP during last three years and current year*

Date	2018-19			2017-18			2016-17			2015-16		
	Market Rate	MSP	% increase/ Decrease in market rates over MSP	Market Rate	MSP	% increase/ decrease in market rates over MSP	Market Rate	MSP	% increase/ decrease in market rates over MSP	Market Rate	MSP	% increase/ decrease in market rates over MSP
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Bunny Brahma variety (30 mm) (Gujarat, Maharashtra, M.P., A.P., Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha)												
1-Oct.	5250	5450	-3.8%	4375	4320	1.3%	4500	4160	7.6%	4200	4050	3.6%
31-Oct.	5500	5450	0.9%	4250	4320	-1.6%	4650	4160	10.5%	4000	4050	-1.3%
30-Nov.	5350	5450	-1.9%	4250	4320	-1.6%	4850	4160	14.2%	4070	4050	0.5%
31-Dec.	5320	5450	-2.4%	4800	4320	10.0%	5100	4160	18.4%	4250	4050	4.7%
31-Jan.	5400	5450	-0.9%	4700	4320	8.1%	5450	4160	23.7%	4270	4050	5.2%
28-Feb.	5408	5450	-0.8%	4650	4320	7.1%	5425	4160	23.3%	4150	4050	2.4%
30-Mar	5596	5450	2.6%	4650	4320	7.1%	5400	4160	23.0%	4160	4050	2.6%

30-Apr.	5850	5450	6.8%	4600	4320	6.1%	5350	4160	22.2%	4715	4050	14.1%
31-May	5970	5450	8.7%	4650	4320	7.1%	5150	4160	19.2%	5003	4050	19.0%
S-6 variety (28.5 mm) (Gujarat)												
1-Oct.	5650	5400	4.4%	4100	4270	-4.1%	5650	4110	27.3%	4325	4000	7.5%
31-Oct.	5625	5400	4.0%	4625	4270	7.7%	5050	4110	18.6%	4275	4000	6.4%
30-Nov.	5550	5400	2.7%	4575	4270	6.7%	5075	4110	19.0%	4375	4000	8.6%
31-Dec.	5475	5400	1.4%	4950	4270	13.7%	5300	4110	22.5%	4775	4000	16.2%
31-Jan.	5465	5400	1.2%	4740	4270	9.9%	5700	4110	27.9%	4700	4000	14.9%
28-Feb.	5425	5400	0.5%	4750	4270	10.1%	5775	4110	28.8%	4700	4000	14.9%
30-Mar.	5855	5400	7.8%	4625	4270	7.7%	5850	4110	29.7%	4700	4000	14.9%
30-Apr.	6050	5400	10.7%	5000	4270	14.6%	5700	4110	27.9%	4825	4000	17.1%
31-May	6025	5400	10.4%	5050	4270	15.4%	5675	4110	27.6%	5200	4000	23.1%
J-34 variety (27.5mm) (Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan)												
1-Oct.	5150	5350	-3.9%	4275	4220	1.3%	5325	4060	23.8%	4520	4000	11.5%
31-Oct.	5270	5350	-1.5%	4625	4220	8.8%	5150	4060	21.2%	4645	4000	13.9%

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Starred Questions

139

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
30-Nov.	5400	5350	0.9%	4630	4220	8.9%	5270	4060	23.0%	4370	4000	8.5%
31-Dec.	5450	5350	1.8%	5240	4220	19.5%	5390	4060	24.7%	4770	4000	16.1%
31-Jan.	5410	5350	1.1%	5110	4220	17.4%	5830	4060	30.4%	4680	4000	14.5%
28-Feb.	5417	5350	1.2%	4950	4220	14.7%	5990	4060	32.2%	4720	4000	15.3%
30-Mar.	5840	5350	8.4%	4600	4220	8.3%	6000	4060	32.3%	4650	4000	14.0%
30-Apr.	6115	5350	12.5%	4860	4220	13.2%						
31-May	5990	5350	10.7%	5130	4220	17.7%						

140

Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Starred Questions

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Breakdown of Kudankulam nuclear power plant**

3654. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether power generation has been frequently stopped in 1000 MW Unit I of Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KNPP) during the last three years;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government to address the frequent breakdowns and resultant shutdowns of reactors of KNPP; and

(d) the initiatives taken to allay the concerns and fears of the local people and general public in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the last three years (2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19), the Kudankulam Unit-1 reactor was shutdown on eight occasions. Two of these outages were for planned refueling.

(c) A major maintenance and overhaul of the Turbogenerator of Unit-1 was carried out indigenously by Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) through Indian contractors and the unit is now operating at its rated power. Further, NPCIL is closely working with Russian experts to address the issues in the conventional areas to ensure long continuous operation of the units.

(d) NPCIL has taken up an exhaustive structured public outreach programme at Kudankulam and its surrounding areas to reach out to all sections of the society and allay the apprehensions about the safety of nuclear power, the project and all related issues in a credible manner. The initiatives taken in this regard, include distribution of single sheets in simple local language addressing each of the issues concerning the local people, arranging visits to nuclear power plants, holding exhibitions, briefing local press and media and addressing community leaders and people's representatives. An information center is also being setup at the entrance of the site to disseminate information about nuclear energy and the plant to the locals and general public.

Achievements in Atomic Energy sector

†3655. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the details, of remarkable achievements made in the atomic energy sector, the additional capacity added in the field of power generation and the achievements made in the discovery of indigenous atomic energy sources during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): The remarkable achievements in the nuclear power sector during the last three years include:—

- (i) Setting of World Record in continuous operation of 962 days by Unit-1 of Kaiga Generating Station among nuclear power plants of all technologies.
- (ii) Completion of 50 years of safe operation of Units 1 and 2 of Tarapur Atomic Power Station (TAPS-1&2), which are currently the oldest reactors in operation in the world.
- (iii) Addition of a nuclear power capacity of 1000 MW by completion of KKNPP-2 at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu.
- (iv) First Pour of Concrete (FPC) in KKNPP-3&4 (2X1000 MW) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu.
- (v) Ground break for KKNPP-5&6 (2X1000 MW) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu.
- (vi) Environmental clearance from MoEF&CC for setting up nuclear power plants at Chutka in Madhya Pradesh.
- (vii) Accord of administrative approval and financial sanction of - ten (10) indigenous 700 MW Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors (PHWRs) to be set up in fleet mode and two (02) units of Light Water Reactors (LWRs) being set up in cooperation with Russian Federation.
- (viii) Entering into enabling agreements with foreign countries for nuclear power cooperation including supply of fuel.
- (ix) During the last three years (*i.e.* since July 2016), AMD has augmented atomic mineral resources as detailed below.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (1) 80,221 tonne (t) *in-situ* uranium oxide (U_3O_8). The total uranium resources of the country is 3,20,445t *in-situ* U_3O_8 (2,71,737 t U).
- (2) 108.28 million tonnes beach sand heavy minerals resources, thereby updating the country's beach sand heavy mineral resources to 1173.07 million tonnes.
- (3) 3,46,462 tonne Rare Earth Elements Oxide and 19,564t Nb_2O_5 (Niobium Oxide) is estimated in Ambadongar area, Chhota Udepur district, Gujarat.
- (x) Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. (UCIL) has commissioned the Tummalapalle Uranium mining and milling project in Andhra Pradesh in January 2017.

Delay in installation of nuclear reactors

3656. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of nuclear reactors that have been installed/are under construction after the Indo-US nuclear deal;
- (b) whether there are delays in installing the reactors;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) by when the nuclear reactors being installed would be operational?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Following the fruition of International cooperation in nuclear energy or Indo-US nuclear deal as is commonly known, the work on four reactors with foreign cooperation, Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) - 3&4 (2X1000 MW) and KKNPP - 5&6 (2X1000 MW) at Kudankulam, Tamil Nadu in cooperation with Russian Federation has commenced.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.
- (d) The KKNPP - 3&4 and KKNPP - 5&6 projects are expected to be completed by the year 2023 and 2025 respectively.

Infrastructure development programme

3657. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is committed to increase its nuclear power capacity as a part of its massive infrastructure development programme;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has set ambitious target therefor;
- (d) whether it is also a fact that at the start of 2018 six reactors were under construction with a combined capacity of 4.4 GWe; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The present installed nuclear power capacity of 6780 MW is set to grow to 22480 MW by the year 2031 on progressive completion of the projects under construction (6700 MW) and accorded administrative approval and financial sanction (9000 MW). In addition, the Government has accorded 'In-Principle' approval of five sites for setting up nuclear power reactors in future.

(d) At the start of the year 2018, seven reactors with a capacity of 5300 MW (5.3GW) were under construction.

(e) The details are as follows:—

State	Location	Unit	Capacity (MW)
Gujarat	Kakrapar	KAPP-3&4	2 X 700
Rajasthan	Rawatbhata	RAPP-7&8	2 X 700
Tamil Nadu	Kudankulam	KKNPP-3&4	2 X 1000
	Kalpakkam	PFBR*	500

* Being implemented by BHAVINI

Storage of spent fuel near Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project

3658. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether villagers are opposing the move to set up an 'Away from Reactor' facility for storage of spent fuel near Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government would take to convince the villagers that their interests would be protected and they should not create hurdles in the way of setting up the facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No public hearing has taken place so far. There has been some opposition to setting up of "Away From Reactor"(AFR) facility at Kudankulam by a section of the people living around the site because of misinformation being spread by some groups.

(c) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), a public sector undertaking under the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) has enhanced its public awareness programme and is addressing the concerns of the public related to AFR. The measures taken in this regard include issue of press releases giving clarifications on the concerns raised in the media, distribution of pamphlets in simple local language about the AFR in surrounding villages, explaining about the proposed AFR to public during site visits, inviting more local people to visit the site, briefing of State officials and addressing public about the AFR during public functions.

Foreign Direct Investment in telecom sector

3659. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in telecom sector during each of the last three years and the current year;

(b) whether the new telecom policy envisages FDI in telecom sector to reach USD hundred billion by 2022 and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) whether massive investment is needed in developing newer technologies which are accessible to the people at affordable rates and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Foreign Direct Investment in Telecom Sector during each of the last five years and the current year are as per the table below:—

FDI Equity Inflow in Telecom Sector (April, 2014 to April, 2019)

Sl. No.	Financial Year	FDI Equity Inflow (in US\$ million)
1.	2014-15	2894.94
2.	2015-16	1324.40
3.	2016-17	5563.69
4.	2017-18	6211.84
5.	2018-19	2667.91
6.	2019-20 (upto April, 2019)	88.70
GRAND TOTAL		18751.48

(b) and (c) The National Digital Communications Policy, 2018 has been notified on 22nd October, 2018 with a vision to support India's transition into a digitally empowered economy and society by fulfilling the information and communication needs of the citizens and enterprises by establishment of a ubiquitous, resilient and affordable Digital Communication Infrastructure and Services with one of the goals to attract investments of USD 100 Billion in the Digital Communications Sector.

Need of additional mobile towers

3660. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that around 1,00,000 additional mobile towers are needed to take care of the growing data and voice requirements;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country has currently about 4,61,000 mobile towers for a customer base of 1.18 billion; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the above needs in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) The Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) install additional mobile towers to improve coverage and/ or capacity of their networks based on their techno-commercial requirements on a regular basis. A total of 72,000 additional mobile towers were installed in the country during the financial year 2018-19. No authentic estimate of addition in mobile tower base in future is available with the Department.

(b) There were 5,57,543 mobile towers in the country as on 30.06.2019.

(c) In order to facilitate expansion of telecommunication services, the Department of Telecommunications has initiated a series of policy initiatives and development programs as below:-

- (i) Making available sufficient spectrum for mobile services including auction of 965 MHz across different bands (700, 800, 900, 1800, 2100, 2300 and 2500 MHz bands) in 2016.
- (ii) Allowing spectrum sharing, trading and liberalisation of administratively allocated spectrum.
- (iii) Permitting sharing of active as well as passive infrastructure by the TSPs for achieving higher utilisation efficiency.
- (iv) Notification of Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 dated 15.11.2016 for enabling development of underground infrastructure (optical fibre) and over-ground infrastructure (mobile towers).
- (v) Periodic review of expansion of mobile networks and related improvements carried out by TSPs.

Mobile phone penetration

3661. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile phone penetration in the country is set to rise to 85 per cent to 90 per cent by 2020;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that half of the smartphone owners in the country are going to subscribe to network data service by 2020; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) As per Performance Indicator Report dated 10.07.2019 for the quarter January, 2019 to March, 2019 released by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), tele-density for Wireless services is 88.46% as on 31st March, 2019. The tele-density is expected to improve with the further increase in coverage.

(c) and (d) More than 52% of the total mobile telecom users have subscribed to data services. The information regarding subscription of data services by smartphone owners is not maintained.

Poor services of BSNL

†3662. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is disillusionment among consumers of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) due to its poor services and the consumers are opting the service of private companies and if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) the details of action plan proposed to make the services, particularly the internet services of BSNL, exemplary?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) monitors the performance of telecom service providers including Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) against the benchmark for various Quality of Service (QoS) parameters laid down by TRAI by way of QoS regulations issued from time to time, through Quarterly Performance Monitoring Reports (PMRs).

As per PMR issued by TRAI for the quarter ending March 2019, BSNL is meeting all the benchmarks for Basic (Wireline) and Broadband Services throughout the country. For Cellular Mobile Telephone Service, BSNL is meeting the benchmark for all the parameters in all of its Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) except for the parameter for call drop in West Bengal service area only.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Total market share (wireline and mobile) of BSNL during last three years are as under:—

Market Share (in %age) as on

31.03.2017	31.03.2018	31.03.2019
9.63	10.26	10.72

Detail of port-in and port-out of mobile consumers of BSNL

Year	Port in	Port out
2016-17	27,77,935	20,61,542
2017-18	41,32,600	34,96,128
2018-19	53,64,649	28,27,440

(b) Steps taken by BSNL to improve its network services are as under:—

1. Augmentation of mobile equipment capacity/upgradation of mobile network in its areas under Phase-VIII. 4 project by replacing old equipment having high operational cost and Annual Maintenance Charges, addition of 3G capacity for increasing 3G footprints and introduction of 4G services.
2. To improve quality of wireline telephone network, BSNL is replacing Legacy Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) switches to Next Generation Network (NGN) which support different kind of services. 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 has been commissioned.
4. BSNL is deploying Wi-Fi hotspots through various projects which includes revenue share model with Hotspots Service Providers (HSSPs). A total number of 43500 Wi-Fi Hotspots have been commissioned till 30.04.2019.
5. Routers have been installed and commissioned where by IP-MPLS (Internet Protocol-Multiprotocol Label Switching) network has increased from 106 cities to 205 cities providing connectivity for broadband, NGN (fixed line) and 2G/3G requirements.

6. BSNL is also focusing on customer care services by installing exclusive call centers for GSM services, wire-line and broadband services.
7. Regular monitoring of network to improve the quality of service.
8. Launching of new services and bundling schemes in the network for retention of the subscribers.
9. Network outage is being monitored for further optimisation/improvement.

Insufficient mobile towers

3663. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has a little over 4.5 lakh towers expected to grow at a rate of 3-5 per cent per year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that the private service providers were not putting up sufficient mobile towers across the country as per fixed target; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (d) Sir, Mobile towers are established/provided by the telecom service providers at suitable locations, as per their Radio Frequency (RF) network planning for proper coverage of the area to fulfil the license conditions, regulatory compliances and to meet their business requirements.

As on 30-06-2019, there are 5,57,543 mobile towers installed across the country. Licensed Service Area (LSA)-wise details of number of mobile towers is provided Statement (*See below*).

In this regard, with a view to ensure Quality of Service of telecom services, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) notifies Quality of Services regulations namely "The Standards of Quality of Service of Basic Telephone Service (Wireline) and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service Regulations" and in accordance with this regulation regularly undertakes assessment of performance of all telecom service providers. Whenever the benchmarks are not met, actions are taken by TRAI to impose Financial Disincentives (FD).

Statement

*Licensed Service area (LSA) A wise details of number of mobile towers
as on 30-06-2019*

Sl. No.	Licensed Service Area (LSA)	Number of Mobile Towers
1.	Andhra Pradesh	43442
2.	Assam	12762
3.	Bihar	39710
4.	Delhi	26605
5.	Gujarat	33400
6.	Himachal Pradesh	6798
7.	Haryana	12802
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	9533
9.	Karnataka	36137
10.	Kolkata	13048
11.	Kerala	17434
12.	Mumbai	16539
13.	Maharashtra	42692
14.	Madhya Pradesh	41438
15.	North East	8188
16.	Odisha	17918
17.	Punjab	20189
18.	Rajasthan	30280
19.	Tamil Nadu	43187
20.	Uttar Pradesh (East)	33872
21.	Uttar Pradesh (West)	29120
22.	West Bengal	22449
GRAND TOTAL		557543

Internet connectivity in panchayats

‡3664. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has provided Internet facility in the panchayats to extend the benefits of communication and information technology to the people living in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of funds released and utilised in this respect during the last three years, State/Union Territory-wise; and

(d) the total number of people who were benefited through the facility during the said period, State/Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. As on 11.07.2019, by laying 3,48,161 km. Optical Fibre Cable (OFC), a total of 1,31,756 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been connected, out of which 1,20,791 Gram Panchayats (GPs) have been made Service Ready. In addition, 882 GPs have been made Service Ready on satellite media.

As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is being provided at all the GPs in the country. The Digital Communications Commission (DCC) has approved to award the work of provisioning of 2 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) in about 10,000 GPs of Rajasthan for implementation through Government of Rajasthan and in the remaining GPs of BharatNet Phase-I through CSC e-Governance Services India Limited. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 43,558 GPs and out of them, services are being provided in 14,770 GPs, catering to about 12.4 lakh users. Further, 31531 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided.

Further, the following initiatives have been taken for providing broadband/internet facility in the GPs:

- (i) **Setting up of Wi-Fi Choupals at 5,000 Gram Panchayats using BharatNet infrastructure :** Wi-Fi Choupals are being set up in 5,000 GPs by CSC

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

e-Governance Services India Limited. As of now, Wi-Fi Choupals have been setup/installed at all the 5000 GPs and services are being provided in 3145 GPs.

- (ii) **Wi-Fi hotspots at 200 Gram Panchayats by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) using BharatNet backhaul :** BSNL pilot is to provide last mile connectivity for broadband services through Wi-Fi in 200 Gram Panchayats (GPs). Wi-Fi hotspots have been set up/installed at 75 GPs.

(c) ₹ 19512.5 crore has been disbursed by Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) to Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL) for BharatNet project. The State-wise details of utilisation/expenditure are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

For other schemes, the details of funds disbursed/utilized are given in Statement-II (*See below*).

- (d) The State/Union Territory-wise details are given in Statement-III.

Statement

Details of State-wise expenditure under BharatNet project

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Year 16-17 (in INR)	Year 17-18 (in INR)	Year 18-19 (in INR)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	18464332	1600000	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0	847980000	1812083295
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	176787282.9	139671853	5967951
4.	Assam	891768154	30088614	41069932
5.	Bihar	1900995444	225376634	483712053
6.	Chhattisgarh	2412033156	2368208766	2395577291
7.	Gujarat, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	1297999723	2304089756	3110068187

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	906575955	1346574610	94664743
9.	Himachal Pradesh	525127700	13045540	6356752
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	423750351	36357422	137758733
11.	Jharkhand	813945657	481310822	1121262052
12.	Karnataka	12490077	2246872986	238419660
13.	Kerala	259560814	0	0
14.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	4519556872	1902222230	1536060473
16.	Maharashtra	5851859025	4235640248	3701109151
17.	Manipur	185186215.2	146307480	31312662
18.	Meghalaya	247461225.6	195508225	20819377
19.	Mizoram	132129545.2	123487397	16933556
20.	Nagaland	203622895.9	160873490	137020415
21.	Odisha	1158064960	468995146	778596908
22.	Puducherry	22342903	5316342	0
23.	Punjab	2362941194	0	526383240
24.	Rajasthan	1624698933	1082712706	1224720159
25.	Sikkim	432268500	5780972	0
26.	Tamil Nadu	0	1106410000	0
27.	Telangana	82389383	1122780000	74344690
28.	Tripura	209153900.2	165243293	36899351
29.	Uttar Pradesh	6353029478	777627666	2436499542
30.	Uttarakhand	1274448954	30802089	28550190

1	2	3	4	5
31.	West Bengal	1416285784	910420748	114694430
	TOTAL	35714938415	22481305036	20110884793
	*GPON and OFC	5554481492	2584191463	
	**Advance given to BSNL for Phase- II		23020000000	8630000000
	GRAND TOTAL	41269419907	48085496499	28740884793

*The Payment has been made to 3 CPSUs for decentralized procurements. State-wise data is not available as the payment has been released on lumpsum basis. The State-wise reconciliation is being done.

** BSNL has been given work for 7 States namely Assam, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. The payment has been released on lumpsum basis. Hence, data is not available State-wise.

Note: Funds have been disbursed to three CPSUs namely BSNL, PGCIL and RailTel for Phase-I and to CPSUs and State Governments for Phase-II implementation of BharatNet Project. Reconciliation of Data regarding Utilization of funds by CPSUs/State Governments is underway.

Statement-II

Details of funds disbursed/utilized for other Wi-Fi schemes of USOF

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Disbursed (₹ in crore)
1.	Bihar	6.42
2.	Chhattisgarh	8.16
3.	Chandigarh	0.25
4.	Haryana	1.27
5.	Jharkhand	7.37
6.	Karnataka	2.48
7.	Maharashtra	3.09
8.	Madhya Pradesh	27.34
9.	Odisha	1.87
10.	Puducherry	1.68
11.	Uttar Pradesh	39.41
12.	Uttarakhand	7.33
	TOTAL	106.67

Statement-III*Details of total number of Wi-Fi and FTTH subscribers*

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of active subscribers	
		Wi-Fi	FTTH
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	0	70
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
4.	Assam	0	955
5.	Bihar	18019	1111
6.	Chandigarh	36	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	33846	1085
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	0	0
10.	Gujarat	0	1039
11.	Haryana	63681	531
12.	Himachal Pradesh	293	21
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	7
14.	Jharkhand	32398	940
15.	Karnataka	87478	5140
16.	Kerala	53164	1640
17.	Lakshadweep	0	0
18.	Madhya Pradesh	99404	3965
19.	Maharashtra	103742	4191
20.	Manipur	13	0
21.	Meghalaya	0	0

1	2	3	4
22.	Mizoram	0	0
23.	Nagaland	0	0
24.	Odisha	7986	284
25.	Puducherry	6954	52
26.	Punjab	0	210
27.	Rajasthan	15000	1838
28.	Sikkim	0	0
29.	Telangana	0	305
30.	Tripura	0	12
31.	Uttar Pradesh	660112	6704
32.	Uttarakhand	64008	1048
33.	West Bengal	0	383
TOTAL		1246134	31531

Validity of 2G license

†3665. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the validity of license for 2G services of the public sector telecom company BSNL is getting expired;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to extend the validity of license;

(c) if not, whether Government would clarify the apprehensions of 1.76 lakh BSNL employees with regard to the status of the license and convince them; and

(d) the reasons for delay in 4G and 5G services of BSNL and by when it would get clearance for those services?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) BSNL is presently providing mobile services through Cellular Mobile Telephone

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Service (CMTS) license. CMTS License is technology agnostic and any mobile service including 2G, 3G or 4G services can be provided. Present CMTS license of BSNL is expiring on 28/02/2020.

(b) As per the present policy enumerated in Unified Licence (UL) guidelines issued on 19.08.2013, extension of CMTS/Unified Access Service Licence (UASL) has been discontinued. Policy clearly states that on expiry of any of their current license(s), the Telecom Service Providers shall have to migrate its license(s) to Unified License with relevant authorisation(s) at the time of renewal/extension of license and obtain spectrum separately, which is delinked from Unified License.

(c) BSNL can obtain UL License with AS authorisation to continue providing mobile services beyond 28/02/2020.

(d) BSNL has already started 4G services in its Licensed Service Areas (LSAs) by using existing spectrum of 2100 MHz band and 5921 numbers of 4G BTSs have been commissioned so far. BSNL has requested DoT to grant additional spectrum with Government support for providing 4G services. The above said requests have been included in the revival plan of BSNL. 5G services are still to be launched by Telecom Service Providers (including BSNL) in India.

Construction of post office in Kankavli

†3666. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post office has not been constructed yet on the reserved land at NH-66 in Kankavli under Kankavli Nagar Panchayat in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg region of Maharashtra;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government for timely construction of the said post office and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir. The departmental building for Kankavli Post Office on the reserved land at NH-66 in Kankavli under Kankavli Nagar Panchayat in Ratnagiri-Sindhudurg region of Maharashtra has not yet been constructed.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) For construction of departmental building, request was made to Kankavli Nagar Panchayat for issue of No Objection Certificate (NOC). But, Nagar Panchayat has asked to first surrender an area of land measuring 360 sq. mts. to them out of the total reserved land for issue of NOC.

(c) At present, there is no proposal for construction of departmental building for Kankavli Post Office.

Proposals to issue postal stamps

3667. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals received for issuing postal stamps/cover from Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether many of the proposals are pending for several years especially from that State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) Yes, Sir. The Department has received 21 proposals for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps from Tamil Nadu since the last meeting of Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) which was held on 28-11-2016. 168 proposals for issue of Special Covers have been received by Tamil Nadu circle from 2016 till date.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The proposals for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps are considered on the basis of extant guidelines by the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) in its meeting. The last meeting of PAC was held on 28-11-2016. Of the 21 proposals received for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps since the last meeting of Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) in respect of Tamil Nadu, 7 proposals were approved and accordingly 7 stamps have already been issued on various dates. It is further submitted that 3 proposals for issue of Commemorative Postage Stamps have not been accepted as these were not conforming to the guidelines for issue of stamps. Remaining 11 proposals shall be placed before the Philatelic Advisory Committee (PAC) in its next meeting for consideration. All the 168 proposals for issue of Special Covers in respect of Tamil Nadu have been approved and Special Covers have been released accordingly in 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.

High Level Committee on 5G

3668. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any High Level Committee on 5G has asked to go for 5G trials immediately with all opposed to include Chinese vendors due to security concerns;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for getting affordable and secured services of 5G in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) An inter-ministerial High Level Forum for 5G India 2020 was constituted in September, 2017 to articulate the Vision for 5G in India and to recommend policy initiatives and action plans to realize this vision. The High Level Forum submitted its report titled as "Making India 5G Ready" in August, 2018. Based on the report, the Government is creating an enabling framework for deployment of affordable and secure 5G services in India. A sub-Committee on 5G and technology trials having representatives from relevant Departments/Ministries has been thereafter constituted under the Chairmanship of Principal Scientific Advisor to give recommendations on various issues, including security, relating to 5G and technology trials in India.

Poor utilisation of digital infrastructure

3669. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is poor utilisation of digital infrastructure/fiber assets that has been created across more than 1,00,000 Gram Panchayats in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto;
- (c) whether the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) proposes to monetise fibre assets built by Government under the BharatNet through outright sale to private players or by leasing these assets for a 20-year period after a bidding process; and
- (d) if so, Government's response thereto and the steps proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country.

As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is being provided at all the GPs in the country. The Digital Communications Commission (DCC) has approved to award the work of provisioning of 2 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) in about 10,000 GPs of Rajasthan for implementation through Government of Rajasthan and the remaining GPs of BharatNet Phase-I through CSC e-Governance Services India Limited. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 43,558 GPs and out of them, services are being provided in 14,770 GPs, catering to about 12.4 lakh users. Further, 31531 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided.

(c) and (d) Based on the report of a committee chaired by CEO, NITI Aayog, Digital Communications Commission (DCC) on 13.06.2019 has approved a revised strategy for creation, maintenance and utilisation of BharatNet through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Model and the same is being taken to the Union Cabinet for information.

Mobile towers in Jammu and Kashmir

3670. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to telephonically connect Machil, Keran, Budanamel and Jumagurd border areas in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) whether there is any plan to install mobile towers in these areas and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) A total 148 Mobile Towers in Jammu and Kashmir State have been approved under the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) Schemes for providing connectivity to the 361 villages of uncovered areas of Ladakh and Kargil (Jammu and Kashmir region), border areas and other priority areas. However, presently, there is no specific plan to install mobile towers to connect Machil, Keran, Budanamel and Jumagurd border areas in Jammu and Kashmir.

Sops to BSNL and MTNL customers

3671. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to offer sops for the landline subscribers of both BSNL and MTNL across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that this has been done with a view to prevent customers surrendering landline connections;

(d) whether the surrendering of landline connections has reached at an alarming level; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) have informed that they offer competitive and affordable tariff plans as per market trend and category of customers, from time to time in order to retain existing customers and attract new customers.

(d) and (e) Due to shifting to cheaper and handy mobile services, landline subscribers are generally surrendering their connections. Number of landline connections surrendered by customers of BSNL and MTNL during the last three years are as under:-

PSU	Surrendered landline connections during		
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
BSNL	19,86,154	24,13,401	21,06,485
MTNL	1,25,023	1,56,235	1,46,773

Payment of dues of vendors

3672. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether BSNL has piled up dues amounting to ₹2500 crore with cash strapped vendors pressing hard for clearance of dues;

(b) whether the vendors including multinationals Nokia, ZTE, ATC group and UTStarcom and domestic firms including Bharti Infratel and Aksh Opti Fiber have warned to disrupt services to BSNL customers unless payments are cleared; and

(c) whether this crisis is likely to affect the launch of 5G services in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) to (c) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has informed that the bills of vendors are being paid as per agreement and availability of funds. BSNL has also informed that no warning to disrupt services has been received from any multinational/domestic vendors.

Telecommunication coverage in Odisha

3673. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the present coverage of telecommunications in Odisha as a percentage, district-wise;

(b) the steps being taken to increase the coverage in that State; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the telecommunication coverage specifically in the Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected districts of the State?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Telecommunications coverage basically includes telephone penetration (wireless and wireline) in rural and urban areas of the country. The coverage can also be assessed by the number of telephone exchanges for wireline services and Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) for wireless services. Licenses are given service area-wise, therefore data is also maintained in the Department service area-wise and not district wise. The number of connections, teledensity (percentage of population covered) and the percentage share of Odisha License Service Area (LSA) in total number of connections in India as on 31st May, 2019 are as under:—

Service Area	Number of connections (in Million)					Teledensity (in %)	Share of Odisha LSA in Total telephone connection in India (in %)
	Rural	Urban	Total	Wireline	Wireless		
Odisha	21.34	11.42	32.76	0.23	32.53	75.27	2.77

Source: DoT.

The number of telephone exchanges in Odisha License Service Area as on 31st March 2019 is 1080. The number of Base Transceiver Stations for (2G), Node-Bs (3G), eNode-Bs (4G) as on 31st May 2019 in Odisha License Service Area is as follows:—

Licensed Service Area	2G (BTS)	3G (Node-Bs)	4G (eNode-Bs)
Odisha	14398	6709	40955

Source: TRAI.

(b) and (c) USOF is implementing projects to provide mobile connectivity in remote and rural uncovered areas. A project to provide mobile service in LWE (Left Wing Extremism) affected areas of Odisha is being implemented. Under Phase-I of this project, 256 towers have been installed. Under Phase-II, a provision has been made to install 252 towers in the State.

In addition, under the flagship programme BharatNet, the Government plans to create network infrastructure for providing Broadband connectivity to all Gram Panchayats (GPs) (approx. 2,50,000) in the country, including Odisha. As on 1st July 2019, a total of 6843 Gram Panchayats (GPs) in the State of Odisha have been connected, out of which 3660 GPs have been made service ready.

Problem of non-performing networks or defective equipments

†3674. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of panchayats linked by commercial and operational broadband connections under the BharatNet programme;

(b) whether it is a fact that out of one lakh Gram Panchayats, that have been defined as "services (sic) open", more than 50 per cent of them had non-performing networks or defective equipments due to which they faced difficulty in providing connectivity;

(c) if so, whether Government had taken any steps to resolve the problems;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (e) the extent of 'BharatNet coverage' in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) BharatNet project is being implemented in a phased manner to provide broadband connectivity to all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2,50,000) in the country. Out of them, about, 1,18,105 Gram Panchayats (including Block Headquarters) have been tested with broadband connections. At present, 31,531 commercial broadband connections have been provided in the Gram Panchayats (GPs).

(c) and (d) For proper maintenance and functioning as well as for providing stable broadband connections, the following steps have been taken:—

- Network is being monitored through Network Operating Centre (NOC) and its reports are being monitored on a regular basis.
- The Digital Communications Commission (DCC) on 13.06.2019 has approved to award the work of maintenance [*i.e.* Operations and Maintenance of incremental Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) network and First Line Maintenance of equipment and supporting infrastructure] in each of 1.25 lakh GPs of the BharatNet Phase-I, to CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.
- The Operations and Maintenance (O&M) of BharatNet Phase-II network, is to be carried out mainly through the respective Project Implementation Agencies (PIA).

As the enhanced utilisation of the network would help in better up-keep/operations of the network, the following steps have been taken towards this end:—

- The infrastructure created under BharatNet Project to provide broadband connections is being utilized through Service Provider(s), particularly BSNL and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited.
- The matter has already been taken up with the State Governments for taking broadband connections by utilizing the BharatNet infrastructure in all the GPs of the country.
- Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections are being provided from BharatNet network.
- As part of this project, the last mile connectivity, through Wi-Fi or any other suitable broadband technology, is being provided at all the GPs in the

country. The Digital Communications Commission (DCC) has approved to award the work of provisioning of 2 Wi-Fi Access Points (APs) in about 10,000 GPs of Rajasthan for implementation through Government of Rajasthan and the remaining GPs of BharatNet Phase-I through CSC e-Governance Services India Limited. So far, Wi-Fi hotspots have been installed at 43,558 GPs and out of them, services are being provided in 14,770 GPs, catering to about 12.4 lakh users. Further, 31531 Fibre to the Home (FTTH) connections have been provided.

(e) In Bihar, out of total 8,842 (approx.) GPs (including Block Headquarters), a total of about 6,268 GPs (including Block Headquarters) have been made Service Ready.

Internet speed in post offices of Delhi

†3675. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that internet speed is slow in post offices of Delhi, causing inconvenience to the customers, the officers and employees working there; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the facility?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) No Sir. All the Post Offices in Delhi are networked through Single Wide Area Network where in connectivity is provided through two service providers (NSP) viz, BSNL and Sify. The bandwidth of each office is provided based on prescribed norms and as per the justification. When new computers are added and if the utilisation of bandwidth exceeds the fixed capacity the same is upgraded as per the latest justification.

Project details of North Eastern States

3676. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects undertaken during UPA and NDA Governments since 2004 for connectivity and development of North Eastern States;

(b) whether compared to the period of 2004 to 2009 and 2009 to 2014, Government of 2014 to 2019 has sanctioned and undertook less projects;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether compared to UPA regimes, average progress of projects are marginally low; and

(d) the details of present status of completion/pendency of the projects, State-wise and project-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

North Eastern Region Vision 2020

3677. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the status of implementation of the North Eastern Region Vision 2020 unveiled by the Prime Minister; and

(b) whether the construction work of new airports at Itanagar, Kohima, Tuensang, Gangtok, Lunglei, Tura, Belomia and Churachandpur as outlined in the Vision Document has been completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) North Eastern Region Vision 2020 document provides an overarching framework for the development of the North Eastern Region to bring it at par with other developed regions under which different Ministries, including Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region have undertaken various initiatives.

The outlays by Central Ministries in the North Eastern Region have increased substantially. Mandatory earmarking of at least 10% of GBS of Central Ministries/ Departments for North Eastern Region (NER) and creation of Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR) has augmented resource flow to the region. There has been a sharp rise in provisional expenditure (subject to final vetting by Ministry of Finance) by Central Ministries in NER by 83% from ₹24819.18 crore in 2014-15 to ₹45,518.14 crore in 2018-19. An allocation of ₹59,369.90 crore (BE) during 2019-20 has been made for the North Eastern Region, including Ministry of DoNER.

Strengthening infrastructure and connectivity is a major thrust area identified by the Vision document. Several connectivity initiatives have been undertaken in the

recent past. In the last five years under the schemes of Ministry of DoNER, road projects worth ₹ 1711.19 crore were sanctioned and under schemes of North Eastern Council (NEC) ₹ 1573.56 crore was released for development of infrastructure like roads and bridges, ISBT, airports, railway in North Eastern Region. Under the SARDP-NE including Arunachal Package of Roads and Highways, 1,514 km. of road length worth ₹20,065 crore has been completed in the last five years in the North East Region (NER). Under Bharatmala Pariyojana (BMP) roads stretches aggregating to about 5,301 km. in NER have been approved for improvement. Out of this, 3246 km. road length has been approved for development of Economic Corridors in the North East. Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), road length of 20,708 km. has been constructed at a cost of ₹9033.76 crore, thereby connecting 3,123 habitations in North Eastern Region. In respect of Rail Connectivity, during the last four years the entire North East Region has been converted to the Broad Gauge (BG) network. In respect of Air Connectivity, modernization and development of Airports have been taken up. This includes construction of a new integrated terminal building at Guwahati, Imphal and Agartala Airports; Extension of Runway at Dibrugarh Airport; Strengthening of Runway, Taxiway at Dimapur Airport; and upgradation works at Tezu Airport. Moreover, Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS-UDAN) has been launched to provide connectivity to unserved and underserved Airports within the country and to promote regional connectivity by making the airfare affordable through Viability Gap Funding (VGF). The North East has been kept as a priority area under RCS-UDAN.

Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme of Ministry of Tourism, projects worth ₹ 1400.03 crore have been sanctioned for the North East Region in the last five years and ₹ 896.12 crore has been released for the same. Other major initiatives taken up in the North-East Region *inter alia* include Promotion of MSMEs in North Eastern Region and Sikkim, Comprehensive Telecom Development Project (CTDP) for the North-Eastern Region, Comprehensive Scheme for strengthening of Transmission and Distribution Systems (CSST&DS), North Eastern Region Power System Improvement Project (NERPSIP), Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region scheme, North East Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), National Sports University at Imphal, Agartala-Akhaura Rail-Link to connect the existing Agartala station in Tripura to Akhaura Station of Bangladesh Railways, development of Brahmaputra and 19 new waterways including Barak.

(b) Ministry of Civil Aviation has granted 'Site Clearance' and 'In-principle' approval on 18.01.2019 for setting up a New Greenfield Airport at Holongi, Itanagar, for which Airports Authority of India (AAI) has already initiated preparation of bidding documents. The State Government of Nagaland has proposed to set up a Greenfield airport at Ciethu, Kohima. As per the feasibility study conducted by the multi-disciplinary team comprising officials from Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and AAI in August, 2018; though the project is technically feasible, the financial implication of site development is exorbitant making the project financially unviable. A Greenfield airport at Pakyong, Sikkim was inaugurated on 24.09.2018 and is now operational. Tura airport, in the State of Meghalaya, is a non-operational airport. AAI has projected a requirement of 50.50 acres of land to the State Government of Meghalaya for the development of the airport for operation of ATR-72 type of aircraft.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has not received any proposal from the respective State Governments for the construction of an airport at Tuensang, Lunglei, Belomia and Churachandpur.

Monitoring of policies and special schemes in NER

3678. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has undertaken a review of policies and special schemes that are being implemented in the North Eastern Region (NER) during the last year;
- (b) if so, whether Government has made any changes in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region has not undertaken any review of its policies and special schemes that are under implementation in the North Eastern Region during the last financial year.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) Does not arise.

Fake news on social media

3679. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to control fake news on social media in the country; and

(b) if not, the details of the steps Government proposes to take to control fake news?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for misuse of cyberspace and social media platforms for criminal activities is a global issue. There are media reports about social media platforms being misused to spread rumours and fake news.

The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has provisions for removal of objectionable online content. Social media platforms are intermediaries as defined in the Act. Section 79 of the Act provides that intermediaries are required to disable/remove unlawful content on being notified by appropriate Government or its agency. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under this section require that the intermediaries, which includes social media platforms, 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, and unlawful in any way.

Further, Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of sovereignty and integrity of India, defence of India, security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.

Government has taken several steps to address the challenges of misinformation and rumors spreading via social media platforms. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) MeitY took note of media reports about spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet particularly using social media platforms. Social

media platforms have implemented a number of steps to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.

- (ii) 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 fueled by rumors of lifting/kidnapping of children dated 04.07.2018.
- (iii) 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.
- (iv) 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 rumors/fake news. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) provides all the relevant awareness material.
- (v) 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.

Storage service of social media sites

3680. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether several social media sites like facebook, whatsapp, instagram are not keeping their storage services in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken to safeguard the data and personal profile of Indian citizen on these sites?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Presently there are no restrictions on cross border transfers of such data. Government is considering bringing comprehensive data protection legislation in the country which is under formulation. The Government

constituted a Committee of Experts on Data Protection, chaired by Justice (Retd.) Shri 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) on which consultations have been conducted and the bill is intended to be placed in Parliament soon. The Bill seeks to bring in place a culture of privacy by design and promoting concepts such as consent framework, purpose limitation, and data minimization among various other privacy-oriented concepts. It also proposes restrictions on cross border transfers of certain critical personal data.

Regulating mobile applications

3681. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that several mobile applications like TikTok are reportedly encroaching upon Indian culture and traditions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether the said applications are having adverse effects on children also and if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (d) whether Government proposes to ban or regulate such applications; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) There had been media reports that some mobile applications like TikTok are reportedly deteriorating our culture and are having adverse effects on children. TikTok App is an intermediary as defined in the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000. The IT Act has provisions for removal of objectionable online content. Section 79 of the Act and The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 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, *inter alia*, grossly harmful, harassing, defamatory, libellous, invasive of another's privacy, hateful, or racially, ethnically objectionable, disparaging, or otherwise unlawful in any manner.

They are also expected to remove any unlawful activity relatable to Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India as and when brought to their knowledge either through a court order or through a notice by an appropriate Government or its agency. In addition, Section 69A of the Information Technology Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any computer resource in the interest of - (i) sovereignty and integrity of India, (ii) defence of India, (iii) security of the State, (iv) friendly relations with foreign States, (v) public order, or (vi) for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above following due process as defined under the The Information Technology (Procedure and Safeguards for Blocking for Access of Information by Public) Rules, 2009.

Government has sought detailed clarifications from TikTok and have asked them to respond by 22.7.2019. Also a writ petition (Civil) No. 7855 of 2019 filed in Hon'ble High Court of Madras (Madurai Bench) is *sub-judice*.

(d) and (e) Cyber space is a complex environment of people, software, hardware and services on the Internet. With a borderless cyberspace coupled with the possibility of instant communication and anonymity, the potential for circulation of misinformation and malicious content is a global issue. Government is committed to freedom of speech and expression and privacy of its citizens as enshrined in the constitution of India.

Government does not monitor content appearing on internet. Moreover, 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and States are primarily responsible for prevention, detection and investigation of cybercrimes through their law enforcement machinery. The Law Enforcement Agencies take legal action against the cyber-crime offenders as per the provisions of applicable laws.

Design, manufacture and deployment of NavIC systems

3682. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number and details of NavIC SPS (Commercial application) receivers deployed during the last three years under the initiative of development of NavIC chip for commercial/civilian purpose;

(b) the details of recent developments under the Ministry for the design, manufacture and deployment of the system; and

- (c) the estimated amount spent under the above initiatives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) About 8,900 NavIC SPS receivers were deployed for use by fishermen, Academic Institutes, R&D Organisations, vehicle trackers etc.

- (b) The recent developments in connection with NavIC Systems is as follows:—

- (i) ISRO has developed core technologies required for Standard Positioning Services (SPS) and Restricted Services (RS) services of IRNSS/NavIC.
- (ii) In order to miniaturize and provide cost-effective NavIC solution, ISRO is developing various Application Specific Integrated Circuit (ASIC) based modules through industries and in-house projects.

- (c) The estimated amount spent towards above mentioned initiatives is approx. ₹32.50 crore.

Setting up of National Data Grid

3683. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are a large number of cases relating to data theft and the data pertaining to Indian citizens are unprotected;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up a National Data Grid in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the other steps taken/being taken by Government as protection measures?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Sir. Government has not received complaints of data theft and misuse of mails with breach of privacy.

- (c) and (d) Government is considering bringing data protection legislation in the country to strengthen the protection of personal data. A comprehensive legislation on data privacy is under formulation. The Government constituted a Committee of Experts

on Data Protection, chaired by Justice (Retd.) Shri 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) on which consultations have been conducted and the Bill is intended to be placed in Parliament soon.

Manufacturing chip

3684. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is still far behind in the manufacturing of key components in spite of making huge advances in electronics manufacturing; and
- (b) by when the country would manufacture the chip which is the most essential component in electronics?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As a result of steps taken by the Government for promotion of electronics hardware manufacturing and efforts of the industry, domestic electronics production has increased from INR 1,90,366 crore in 2014-15 to an estimated INR 4,58,006 crore in 2018-19, at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of about 25% during the last four years.

India is a signatory to the Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) of WTO and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with various countries/trading blocs such as ASEAN, Korea and Japan under which the electronic components, including semiconductor integrated circuits (chips), are being imported at nil Basic Custom Duty (BCD). The electronics hardware manufacturing sector faces lack of level playing field *vis-a-vis* competing nations on account of several disabilities which render the domestic industry uncompetitive. These *inter alia* include lack of adequate infrastructure, domestic supply chain and logistics; high cost of finance; inadequate availability of quality power and water; and limited design capabilities and focus on R&D by the industry.

However, domestic manufacturing of electronic products and their inputs (parts, sub-assemblies and components) are being encouraged for significantly increasing value addition by building a comprehensive ecosystem, covering the entire supply chain, through suitable incentive mechanisms and fiscal interventions, including the phased manufacturing programme, and removal of anomalies. This has resulted in

considerable increase in manufacturing of electronic products and their sub-assemblies/ parts in the country, leading to increased domestic value addition.

(b) Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Chandigarh, an autonomous body under the Department of Space, has produced over 200 different types of chips for ISRO and other Government Organizations. However, there is no commercial Semiconductor wafer fabrication (FAB) facility in the country. Setting up of commercial facilities for chip manufacturing is highly capital and technology intensive. The leading edge technology is available with only a few players globally. The Government has constituted an Empowered Committee (EC) for setting up of Semiconductor FAB manufacturing facilities in the country.

Based on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee (EC), Government had approved two proposals for setting up of Semiconductor FAB facility in India - one from the consortium led by M/s. HSMC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. (with ST Microelectronics and Silterra Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. as partners) and the other from consortium led by M/s. Jaiprakash Associates Ltd. (with IBM, USA and Tower Semiconductor Limited, Israel as partners). Letter of Intent (LoI) dated 19.03.2014 were issued to both the consortia. As per the LoI, both the consortia were required to submit certain documents for demonstration of commitment. The consortium led by M/s. Jaiprakash Associates Ltd. withdrew their proposal on 02.03.2016 and the consortium led by M/s. HSMC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. could not submit the requisite documents for demonstration of commitment, despite being provided extension of time on several occasions. Hence, the LoI issued to M/s. HSMC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. was cancelled on 20.04.2018.

In order to attract investment for setting up semiconductor FAB facilities in the country, capital subsidy of 25% of capital expenditure for units set up in Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) and 20% of capital expenditure for units set up in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) was available under the Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS). The scheme was open to receive applications till 31.12.2018. However, no proposal was received for setting up Semiconductor FAB facilities in the country under M-SIPS.

Following incentives are available to companies for setting up of Semiconductor FAB facilities in India:—

- (i) Machinery, electrical equipment, other instruments and their parts except populated Printed Circuit Boards for use in fabrication of semiconductor

wafer are exempted from Basic Customs Duty (BCD) *vide* Sl.No.422 of Notification No.50/2017-Customs dated 30.06.2017, as amended from time to time.

- (ii) Investment linked deduction under Section 35AD of the Income-tax Act.
- (iii) Deduction of expenditure on research and development as admissible under Section 35(2AB) of the Income-tax Act.

Making consultation on Data Protection Bill public

3685. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has decided to make the consultations received from the stakeholders on Data Protection Bill Public;
- (b) if so, by when and what kind of information would be made available; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not releasing the content of the submissions received through consultations?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Government constituted a Committee of Experts chaired by Justice (Retd.) Shri B. N. Srikrishna. The Committee released its official report and the draft Personal Data Protection Bill that were put in public domain in July, 2018 and submission on it were received till October, 2018. The submissions made to the Committee by any entity are confidential and meant for examination by the Committee.

Digital awareness in rural areas

3686. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote digital awareness in rural areas;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has made any allocations for this purpose in the recent budget; and

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

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) had implemented two schemes to increase digital awareness in rural areas of the country namely 'National Digital Literacy Mission (NDLM)' and 'Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (DISHA)' with a cumulative target of training 52.5 lakh persons covering one person per household during year 2014-16. Further, MeitY has initiated a scheme titled "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyan (PMGDISHA)" in 2017 to usher in digital literacy among masses by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). Special focus of the PMGDISHA Scheme is on training the beneficiaries on use of Electronic Payment System. The outcome measurement criteria include undertaking at least 5 electronic payments transactions by each beneficiary using UPI (including BHIM app), USSD, PoS, AEPS, Cards, Internet Banking. As on 31st July, 2019, a total of 2.35 crore candidates have been enrolled under PMGDISHA. Training has been imparted to 2.21 crore candidates and out of this more than 1.36 crore candidates have been certified.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. An amount of ₹ 400 crore has been allocated for PMGDISHA scheme for Financial Year 2019-20.

Availability of Aadhaar data with private companies

3687. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Telangana Government has registered a case regarding availability of Aadhaar Data with private companies;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has taken a serious note of the issue and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has registered a complaint with Telangana Police. Based on the Report of Inspector General of Police, West Zone, Hyderabad and I/c SIT, a complaint was lodged by the UIDAI which has been registered *vide* FIR No. 278/2019 on 12.04.2019 at Madhapur Gutalla PS, Cyberabad against Management of M/s IT Grids India Pvt. Ltd. and others.

Passport Seva Kendras in Telangana

3688. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a huge demand from the people of newly formed districts in Telangana for starting Passport Seva Kendras in district headquarters;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal for establishing such Kendras in each district of the State; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) The Ministry receives requests for opening of Passport Seva Kendras in various places, including in Telangana.

(b) and (c) The Ministry in association with the Department of Posts decided in January, 2017 to open Passport Seva Kendras at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/Post Offices (PO) in the country called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendra' (POPSK). Under this initiative, there are 412 POPSK operational in the country as on 20 July, 2019. Also, there are 93 Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) operational in the country as on 20 July, 2019. Thus, 505 Passport Seva Kendras are operational in the country as on 20 July, 2019. The list is given in the Statement.

Statement*List of operational Passport Kendras as on 20.07.2019*

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
1.	Amalapuram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
2.	Anantpur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
3.	Bapatla	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
4.	Bhimavaram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
5.	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
6.	Eluru	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
7.	Gudivada	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
8.	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
9.	Hindupur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
10.	Kadappa	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
11.	Kakinada	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
12.	Kodur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
13.	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
14.	Nandyal	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
15.	Narasaraopet	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
16.	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
17.	Ongole	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
18.	Rajahmundry	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
19.	Srikakulam	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
20.	Tirupati	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
21.	Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
22.	Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
23.	Vizianagaram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
24.	Yelamanchili	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
25.	Changlang	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
26.	Itanagar	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
27.	Khonsa	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
28.	Barpeta	Assam	Guwahati
29.	Dhubri	Assam	Guwahati
30.	Dibrugarh	Assam	Guwahati
31.	Goalpara	Assam	Guwahati
32.	Golaghat	Assam	Guwahati

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
33.	Guwahati	Assam	Guwahati
34.	Jorhat	Assam	Guwahati
35.	Karbi Anglong	Assam	Guwahati
36.	Karimganj	Assam	Guwahati
37.	Kokrajhar	Assam	Guwahati
38.	Mangaldoi	Assam	Guwahati
39.	Nawgong	Assam	Guwahati
40.	North Lakhimpur	Assam	Guwahati
41.	Silchar	Assam	Guwahati
42.	Tezpur	Assam	Guwahati
43.	Tinsukia	Assam	Guwahati
44.	Arrah	Bihar	Patna
45.	Banka	Bihar	Patna
46.	Begusarai	Bihar	Patna
47.	Bettiah	Bihar	Patna
48.	Bhagalpur	Bihar	Patna
49.	Buxar	Bihar	Patna
50.	Chhapra	Bihar	Patna
51.	Dalmia Nagar	Bihar	Patna
52.	Dalsingh Sarai	Bihar	Patna
53.	Darbhanga	Bihar	Patna
54.	Forbesganj	Bihar	Patna
55.	Gaya	Bihar	Patna
56.	Hajipur	Bihar	Patna
57.	Jahanabad	Bihar	Patna

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
58.	Jamui	Bihar	Patna
59.	Katihar	Bihar	Patna
60.	Khagaria	Bihar	Patna
61.	Madhubani	Bihar	Patna
62.	Maner	Bihar	Patna
63.	Motihari	Bihar	Patna
64.	Munger	Bihar	Patna
65.	Muzaffarpur	Bihar	Patna
66.	Nalanda	Bihar	Patna
67.	Navada	Bihar	Patna
68.	Patna	Bihar	Patna
69.	Purnea	Bihar	Patna
70.	Saharsa	Bihar	Patna
71.	Samastipur	Bihar	Patna
72.	Sasaram	Bihar	Patna
73.	Sheohar	Bihar	Patna
74.	Sitamarhi	Bihar	Patna
75.	Siwan	Bihar	Patna
76.	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	Chandigarh
77.	Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
78.	Durg	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
79.	Janjgir-Champa	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
80.	Korba	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
81.	Raigarh	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
82.	Raipur	Chhattisgarh	Raipur

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
83.	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
84.	Surguja	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
85.	Silvasa	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Mumbai
86.	Daman	Daman	Mumbai
87.	Bhikaji Cama Place	Delhi	Delhi
88.	Herald House	Delhi	Delhi
89.	Janak Puri	Delhi	Delhi
90.	Mehrauli	Delhi	Delhi
91.	Nehru Place	Delhi	Delhi
92.	Patparganj	Delhi	Delhi
93.	Shalimar Place	Delhi	Delhi
94.	Yamuna Vihar	Delhi	Delhi
95.	Margao	Goa	Panaji
96.	Panaji	Goa	Panaji
97.	Amreli	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
98.	Anand	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
99.	Bardoli	Gujarat	Surat
100.	Bharuch	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
101.	Bhavnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
102.	Bhuj	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
103.	Chhota Udaipur	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
104.	Dahod	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
105.	Gandhinagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
106.	Godhra	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
107.	Jamnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
108.	Junagadh	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
109.	Kheda	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
110.	Mehsana	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
111.	Mithakali	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
112.	Navsari	Gujarat	Surat
113.	Palanpur	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
114.	Patan	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
115.	Porbandar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
116.	Rajkot	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
117.	Sabarkantha	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
118.	Surat	Gujarat	Surat
119.	Surendranagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
120.	Vadodara	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
121.	Valsad	Gujarat	Surat
122.	Veraval	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
123.	Vijay Cross Road	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
124.	Ambala	Haryana	Chandigarh
125.	Bhiwani Mahendragarh	Haryana	Chandigarh
126.	Faridabad	Haryana	Delhi
127.	Gurugram	Haryana	Delhi
128.	Hisar	Haryana	Chandigarh
129.	Kaithal	Haryana	Chandigarh
130.	Karnal	Haryana	Chandigarh
131.	Narnaul	Haryana	Delhi
132.	Panipat	Haryana	Chandigarh

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
133.	Rohtak	Haryana	Delhi
134.	Sirsa	Haryana	Chandigarh
135.	Sonipat	Haryana	Delhi
136.	Yamunanagar	Haryana	Chandigarh
137.	Hamirpur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
138.	Kangra	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
139.	Kullu	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
140.	Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
141.	Palampur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
142.	Shimla	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
143.	Una	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
144.	Anantnag	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
145.	Baramulla	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
146.	Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
147.	Kathua	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
148.	Leh	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
149.	Rajouri	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
150.	Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar
151.	Udhampur	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu
152.	Bokaro	Jharkhand	Ranchi
153.	Chaibasha	Jharkhand	Ranchi
154.	Deoghar	Jharkhand	Ranchi
155.	Dhanbad	Jharkhand	Ranchi
156.	Dumka	Jharkhand	Ranchi
157.	Giridih	Jharkhand	Ranchi

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
158.	Gumla	Jharkhand	Ranchi
159.	Hazaribagh	Jharkhand	Ranchi
160.	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand	Ranchi
161.	Jumri Tilaiya	Jharkhand	Ranchi
162.	Khunti	Jharkhand	Ranchi
163.	Medininagar	Jharkhand	Ranchi
164.	Ranchi	Jharkhand	Ranchi
165.	Sahibganj	Jharkhand	Ranchi
166.	Shimaria	Jharkhand	Ranchi
167.	Ankola	Karnataka	Bengaluru
168.	Belagavi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
169.	Bellary	Karnataka	Bengaluru
170.	Bidar	Karnataka	Bengaluru
171.	Chamrajanagar	Karnataka	Bengaluru
172.	Channapatna	Karnataka	Bengaluru
173.	Chikballapur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
174.	Chikkodi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
175.	Chitradurga	Karnataka	Bengaluru
176.	Davangere	Karnataka	Bengaluru
177.	Gadag	Karnataka	Bengaluru
178.	Hassan	Karnataka	Bengaluru
179.	Hubli	Karnataka	Bengaluru
180.	Jalahalli	Karnataka	Bengaluru
181.	Kalaburagi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
182.	Koppal	Karnataka	Bengaluru

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
183.	Lalbagh	Karnataka	Bengaluru
184.	Maddur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
185.	Mangalore	Karnataka	Bengaluru
186.	Marathahalli	Karnataka	Bengaluru
187.	Mysuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru
188.	Raichur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
189.	Robertsonpet	Karnataka	Bengaluru
190.	Shivamogga	Karnataka	Bengaluru
191.	Tumakuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru
192.	Udupi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
193.	Vijayapur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
194.	Alapuzha	Kerala	Cochin
195.	Aluva	Kerala	Cochin
196.	Attingal	Kerala	Trivandrum
197.	Chengannur	Kerala	Cochin
198.	Kannur	Kerala	Kozhikode
199.	Kasargod	Kerala	Kozhikode
200.	Kattappana	Kerala	Cochin
201.	Kollam	Kerala	Trivandrum
202.	Kottayam	Kerala	Cochin
203.	Kozhikode	Kerala	Kozhikode
204.	Malappuram	Kerala	Kozhikode
205.	Neyyattinkara	Kerala	Trivandrum
206.	Palakkad	Kerala	Cochin
207.	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	Trivandrum

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
208.	Payyanur	Kerala	Kozhikode
209.	Thrissur	Kerala	Cochin
210.	Tripunithura	Kerala	Cochin
211.	Vadakara	Kerala	Kozhikode
212.	Vazhuthacaud	Kerala	Trivandrum
213.	Kavaratti	Lakshadweep	Cochin
214.	Balaghat	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
215.	Betul	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
216.	Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
217.	Chhatarpur	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
218.	Chhindwara	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
219.	Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
220.	Dewas	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
221.	Dhar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
222.	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
223.	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
224.	Indore	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
225.	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
226.	Ratlam	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
227.	Rewa	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
228.	Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
229.	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
230.	Tikamgarh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
231.	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
232.	Vidisha	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
233.	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	Pune
234.	Akola	Maharashtra	Nagpur
235.	Amravati	Maharashtra	Nagpur
236.	Andheri	Maharashtra	Mumbai
237.	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Mumbai
238.	Baramati	Maharashtra	Pune
239.	Beed	Maharashtra	Pune
240.	Bhandara	Maharashtra	Nagpur
241.	Bhusawal	Maharashtra	Mumbai
242.	Buldhana	Maharashtra	Nagpur
243.	Chandrapur	Maharashtra	Nagpur
244.	Dhule	Maharashtra	Mumbai
245.	Gadchiroli	Maharashtra	Nagpur
246.	Hingoli	Maharashtra	Nagpur
247.	Ichalkaranji	Maharashtra	Pune
248.	Jalgaon	Maharashtra	Mumbai
249.	Jalna	Maharashtra	Pune
250.	Katoal	Maharashtra	Nagpur
251.	Kolhapur	Maharashtra	Pune
252.	Latur	Maharashtra	Pune
253.	Lower Parel	Maharashtra	Mumbai
254.	Madha	Maharashtra	Pune
255.	Malad	Maharashtra	Mumbai
256.	Nagpur	Maharashtra	Nagpur
257.	Nanded	Maharashtra	Pune

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
258.	Nashik	Maharashtra	Mumbai
259.	Osmanabad	Maharashtra	Pune
260.	Pandharpur	Maharashtra	Pune
261.	Parbhani	Maharashtra	Pune
262.	Pimpri Chinchwad	Maharashtra	Pune
263.	Pune	Maharashtra	Pune
264.	Rajapur	Maharashtra	Mumbai
265.	Sangli	Maharashtra	Pune
266.	Satara	Maharashtra	Pune
267.	Shirur	Maharashtra	Pune
268.	Sion	Maharashtra	Mumbai
269.	Solapur	Maharashtra	Pune
270.	Srirampur	Maharashtra	Pune
271.	Thane	Maharashtra	Mumbai
272.	Vashi	Maharashtra	Mumbai
273.	Vikroli	Maharashtra	Mumbai
274.	Wardha	Maharashtra	Nagpur
275.	Yavatmal	Maharashtra	Nagpur
276.	Imphal	Manipur	Guwahati
277.	Kakching	Manipur	Guwahati
278.	Shillong	Meghalaya	Guwahati
279.	Tura	Meghalaya	Guwahati
280.	Aizawl	Mizoram	Guwahati
281.	Dimapur	Nagaland	Guwahati
282.	Aska	Odisha	Bhubaneswar

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
283.	Balasore	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
284.	Bargarh	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
285.	Baripada	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
286.	Berharnpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
287.	Bhadrak	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
288.	Bhawanipatna	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
289.	Bhubaneswar	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
290.	Bolangir	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
291.	Cuttack	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
292.	Dhenkanal	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
293.	Jagatsinghpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
294.	Jajpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
295.	Kendrapara	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
296.	Keonjhar	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
297.	Koraput	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
298.	Nabarangpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
299.	Phulbani	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
300.	Puri	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
301.	Rourkela	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
302.	Sambalpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
303.	Karaikal	Puducherry	Tiruchirapalli
304.	Puducherry	Puducherry	Tiruchirapalli
305.	Amritsar	Punjab	Amritsar
306.	Basi Pattana	Punjab	Chandigarh
307.	Bathinda	Punjab	Chandigarh

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
308.	Firozpur	Punjab	Amritsar
309.	Hoshiarpur	Punjab	Jalandhar
310.	Jalandhar I	Punjab	Jalandhar
311.	Jalandhar II	Punjab	Jalandhar
312.	Ludhiana	Punjab	Chandigarh
313.	Malerkotla	Punjab	Chandigarh
314.	Moga	Punjab	Jalandhar
315.	Pathankot	Punjab	Jalandhar
316.	Patiala	Punjab	Chandigarh
317.	Phagwara	Punjab	Jalandhar
318.	Ropar	Punjab	Chandigarh
319.	Ajmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
320.	Alwar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
321.	Banswara	Rajasthan	Jaipur
322.	Banner	Rajasthan	Jaipur
323.	Bharatpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
324.	Bhilwara	Rajasthan	Jaipur
325.	Bikaner	Rajasthan	Jaipur
326.	Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
327.	Churu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
328.	Dausa	Rajasthan	Jaipur
329.	Hanumangarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
330.	Jaipur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
331.	Jaisalmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
332.	Jhalawar	Rajasthan	Jaipur

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
333.	Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
334.	Jodhpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
335.	Kankroli	Rajasthan	Jaipur
336.	Karauli-Dhaulpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
337.	Kota	Rajasthan	Jaipur
338.	Kotputli	Rajasthan	Jaipur
339.	Nagaur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
340.	Pali	Rajasthan	Jaipur
341.	Pratapgarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
342.	Sawai Madhopur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
343.	Sikar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
344.	Sirohi	Rajasthan	Jaipur
345.	Sriganganagar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
346.	Udaipur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
347.	Gangtok	Sikkim	Guwahati
348.	Aminjikarai	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
349.	Arani	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
350.	Bodineyaknur	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
351.	Chennai GPO	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
352.	Chidambaram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
353.	Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
354.	Coonoor	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
355.	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
356.	Devakottai	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
357.	Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu	Chennai

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
358.	Erode	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
359.	Kallakurichi	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
360.	Kancheepuram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
361.	Karur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
362.	Kodairoad	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
363.	Krishnagiri	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
364.	Madurai	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
365.	Nagercoil	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
366.	Perambalur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
367.	Rajpalyam	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
368.	Ranipet	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
369.	Rasipuram	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
370.	Salem	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
371.	Saligramam	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
372.	Sirkali	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
373.	Tambaram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
374.	Thanjavur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
375.	Thiruthuraiipoondi	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
376.	Thoothukkudi	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
377.	Tiruchirappalli	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
378.	Tirunelveli	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
379.	Tiruvallur	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
380.	Tiruvannamalai	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
381.	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
382.	Viluppuram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
383.	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
384.	Adilabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
385.	Ameerpet	Telangana	Hyderabad
386.	Begumpet	Telangana	Hyderabad
387.	Bhongir	Telangana	Hyderabad
388.	Kamareddy	Telangana	Hyderabad
389.	Karimnagar	Telangana	Hyderabad
390.	Khammam	Telangana	Hyderabad
391.	Mahabubabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
392.	Mancherial	Telangana	Hyderabad
393.	Medak	Telangana	Hyderabad
394.	Medchal	Telangana	Hyderabad
395.	Mahabubnagar	Telangana	Hyderabad
396.	Nalgonda	Telangana	Hyderabad
397.	Nizamabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
398.	Siddipet	Telangana	Hyderabad
399.	Toli Chowki	Telangana	Hyderabad
400.	Vikarabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
401.	Wanaparthi	Telangana	Hyderabad
402.	Warangal	Telangana	Hyderabad
403.	Agartala	Tripura	Kolkata
404.	Achnera	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
405.	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
406.	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
407.	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
408.	Ambedkar Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
409.	Amethi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
410.	Amroha	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
411.	Ayodhya	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
412.	Azamgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
413.	Badaun	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
414.	Baghpat	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
415.	Bahraich	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
416.	Ballia	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
417.	Balrampur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
418.	Banda	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
419.	Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
420.	Bhadohi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
421.	Bijnaur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
422.	Bulandshahr	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
423.	Chunar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
424.	Deoria	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
425.	Fatehpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
426.	Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
427.	Ghazipur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
428.	Gonda	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
429.	Gorakhpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
430.	Goshi (Mau)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
431.	Hamirpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
432.	Hathras	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
433.	Jaunpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
434.	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
435.	Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
436.	Kheri	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
437.	Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
438.	Maharajganj	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
439.	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
440.	Misrikh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
441.	Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
442.	Muzaffarnagar	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
443.	Noida	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
444.	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
445.	Pratapgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
446.	Rae Bareli	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
447.	Rampur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
448.	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
449.	Shahjahanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
450.	Siddharth Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
451.	Sitapur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
452.	Sultanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
453.	Unnao	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
454.	Varanasi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
455.	Vrindawan	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
456.	Almora	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
457.	Dehradun	Uttarakhand	Dehradun

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
458.	Kathgodam	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
459.	Nainital	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
460.	Roorkee	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
461.	Rudrapur	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
462.	Srinagar	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
463.	Alipurduar	West Bengal	Kolkata
464.	Amta	West Bengal	Kolkata
465.	Arambagh	West Bengal	Kolkata
466.	Asansol	West Bengal	Kolkata
467.	Ashok Nagar	West Bengal	Kolkata
468.	Balurghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
469.	Bangaon	West Bengal	Kolkata
470.	Bankura	West Bengal	Kolkata
471.	Bardhaman	West Bengal	Kolkata
472.	Barrackpore	West Bengal	Kolkata
473.	Basirhat	West Bengal	Kolkata
474.	Beadon Street	West Bengal	Kolkata
475.	Berhampore	West Bengal	Kolkata
476.	Bishnupur	West Bengal	Kolkata
477.	Bolpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
478.	Canning Road Ferry Ghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
479.	Chinsurah	West Bengal	Kolkata
480.	Coochbehar	West Bengal	Kolkata
481.	Darjeeling	West Bengal	Kolkata

Sl. No.	Locations	State/UT	Passport Office
482.	Diamond Harbour	West Bengal	Kolkata
483.	Dum Dum	West Bengal	Kolkata
484.	Ghatal	West Bengal	Kolkata
485.	Howrah	West Bengal	Kolkata
486.	Jadavpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
487.	Jalpaiguri	West Bengal	Kolkata
488.	Jhargram	West Bengal	Kolkata
489.	Jiyaganj	West Bengal	Kolkata
490.	Kakdweep	West Bengal	Kolkata
491.	Kanthi	West Bengal	Kolkata
492.	Katwa	West Bengal	Kolkata
493.	Kharagpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
494.	Kolkata	West Bengal	Kolkata
495.	Krishnanagar	West Bengal	Kolkata
496.	Makdumpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
497.	North Dinajpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
498.	Purulia	West Bengal	Kolkata
499.	Raghunathganj	West Bengal	Kolkata
500.	Rampurhat	West Bengal	Kolkata
501.	Ranaghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
502.	Samsi	West Bengal	Kolkata
503.	Serampore	West Bengal	Kolkata
504.	Siliguri	West Bengal	Kolkata
505.	Tamluk	West Bengal	Kolkata

Promotion of Indian official language in UN

3689. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is promoting any particular Indian official language in the United Nations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether other official languages are also promoted in UN;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) The Government has been making efforts for the promotion of Hindi as an official language of the United Nations (UN) and its propagation worldwide.

Government of India signed a MoU with the UN Secretariat in March, 2018 for an initial period of 2 years for increasing the volume and frequency of Hindi content produced by the UN to serve Hindi language audiences around the world. In July 2018, UN launched Hindi versions of its social media content on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Hindi website of UN News was initiated on the occasion of World Hindi Day in January, 2019. The UN News audio bulletins in Hindi (UN Radio) are being released on a weekly basis.

In addition, Indian leaders have delivered statements at the UN in Hindi, including Prime Minister's statement at the 69th UN General Assembly in September, 2014 and at the UN Sustainable Development Summit in September, 2015.

(c) to (e) Currently no proposal has been made by the Government for making any other language as an official language of the United Nations. The United Nations has a specific procedure for any language to be recognised as an Official Language of the UN. According to the procedure, this will involve adoption of a Resolution by the UN General Assembly with a minimum of two-third majority of its membership. The additional expenditure, according to UN rules, will have to be contributed by all UN members.

Complaints from Indian workers abroad

3690. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has received any complaints from the Indian workers in other countries for unpaid wages and pitiable working conditions;
- (b) if so, the number of such complaints received during the last one year; and
- (c) the steps taken to help these workers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Information regarding Indian workers holding ECR Passports, going for overseas employment to 18 notified Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries (namely Afghanistan, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, North Sudan, South Sudan, Syria, Thailand, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen), is maintained by this Ministry. As per information given by our Missions and Posts in the Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries, the number of complaints by Indian workers due to various reasons during 2018 are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Country	2018
1.	Bahrain	734
2.	Qatar	3244
3.	Saudi Arabia	8272
4.	Oman	3594
5.	Kuwait	3287
6.	United Arab Emirates	2153
7.	Indonesia	8
8.	Lebanon	67
9.	Thailand	Nil
10.	Afghanistan	1
11.	Malaysia	4514

Sl. No.	Country	2018
12.	Jordan	5
13.	South Sudan	Nil
14.	Iraq	166
15.	Sudan	Nil
16.	Syria	40
17.	Libya	10

Most of the complaints received from and on behalf of Indian workers are regarding non-payment of salaries and denial of legitimate labour rights and benefits such as non-issuance/renewal of residence permits, non-payment/grant of overtime allowance, weekly holidays, longer working hours, refusal to grant exit/re-entry permits for visit to India, refusal to allow the workers on final exit visa after completion of their contracts, non-provision of medical and insurance facilities, and non-payment of compensation to the next of kin upon death of the worker, etc.

(c) On receipt of complaints from or on behalf of the emigrants, the same are addressed urgently by the Indian Missions by taking them up with the concerned local Government authorities for resolution. Complaints pertaining to employment related issues are taken up by the Indian Missions with the concerned foreign employer/Labour Department and other concerned officials in that country for prompt redressal. The Government has taken several steps to safeguard the interests of Indian emigrants to the Gulf and other ECR countries. These include:—

- (i) The online MADAD portal enables the emigrant workers and their family members to register their consular grievances online and track their redressal.
- (ii) Grievances related to Overseas Employment in notified Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries can also be lodged directly by emigrants/relatives or through the Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK) on e-Migrate portal. These grievances are settled by respective jurisdictional Protectors of Emigrants (PoEs) as per laid down procedures.
- (iii) Indian Missions conduct Open Houses on a regular basis where workers can speak on their working conditions and seek redressal of their grievances.

- (iv) A multi-lingual 24X7 Helpline of Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra (PBSK) in New Delhi provides information, guidance and grievance redressal on all issues and problems pertaining to overseas employment of Indian nationals.
- (v) Missions have also established 24x7 Helplines and Toll Free Helplines for the benefit of Indian workers to seek help.
- (vi) Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSKs) have been set up at Dubai (UAE), Sharjah (UAE), Riyadh, Jeddah (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia) and Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), to provide guidance and counseling on all matters pertaining to overseas Indian workers.
- (vii) Kshetriya Pravasi Sahayata Kendras (KPSKs) have also been setup in Kochi, Hyderabad, Chennai and Lucknow to assist emigrants or their relatives to redress their problems/complaints regarding overseas employment.
- (viii) Grievances brought to the notice of the Ministry and the Missions through social media, including twitter, are also promptly addressed.
- (ix) The Missions utilise the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF) to provide assistance to overseas Indian nationals in times of distress. The guidelines of the Indian community welfare fund have been revised recently to expand the scope of welfare measures and to cover three key areas, namely, assisting overseas Indian nationals in distress situations, community welfare activities and improvement in consular services.
- (x) Labour and Manpower Cooperation MoUs/Agreements are in place with the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries that provide the institutional framework to comprehensively discuss and review labour related issues. In accordance with the Labour and Manpower Cooperation/Agreement, Joint Working Group (JWG) meetings are held on regular basis to discuss various labour related issues.

External funding to research organisations

3691. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government provides external fundings to research organisations and independent think tanks; and

(b) if so, the details of such funds given to research organisations and think tanks during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Financial support is provided to various research organizations and think tanks from the Ministry's budgetary allocations to support activities and events related to foreign and national security policy. These include autonomous bodies such as ICWA, IDSA and RIS, as well as independent organizations, located both at New Delhi and in other parts of India such as Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai and Pune. The year-wise funding by MEA to various research organizations was ₹ 28,33,57,119 in 2016-17, ₹ 27,88,90,027 in 2017-18 and ₹35,38,58,155 in 2018-19.

Neighbourhood First policy

3692. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the goals of the Neighbourhood First policy of the Government;
- (b) the status of the goals, at present; and
- (c) the future steps, if any, proposed to be taken in accordance with the policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Under its 'Neighbourhood First' policy, Government is committed to developing friendly and mutually beneficial relations with all its neighbours. India is an active development partner and is involved in several projects in these countries. India's policy of 'Neighbourhood First' focuses on creating mutually beneficial, people-oriented, regional frameworks for stability and prosperity. Our engagement with these countries is based on a consultative, non-reciprocal and outcome-oriented approach, which focuses on delivering benefits like greater connectivity, improved infrastructure, stronger development cooperation in various sectors area, security and broader people-to-people contacts.

With Pakistan, the Government desires normal neighbourly relations and is committed to addressing all outstanding issues bilaterally and peacefully in accordance with the Simla Agreement and the Lahore Declaration. However, any meaningful dialogue can only be held in an atmosphere free from terror, hostility and violence. The onus is on Pakistan to create such a conducive atmosphere.

Rejection of H-1B visa for Indian software companies

3693. SHRI T. K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of H-1B visas issued by US for software companies in India during 2018-19;
- (b) the details of visa issued for the Indian software companies and foreign software companies operating from India;
- (c) whether it is a fact that there were more rejections of H-1B visa for the Indian software companies in comparison to foreign companies operating in India; and
- (d) if so, the manner in which Government proposes to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) According to U.S. official data, the total number of H-1B visas issued to Indian nationals in U.S. Fiscal Year 2018 is 125,528; the total number of these visas issued to software companies in India is not separately available.

(b) and (c) The top 30 companies accounting for 24.34% of all H-1B visas issued in U.S. Fiscal Year 2018 include 8 Indian IT companies and 8 foreign IT companies that also operate in India. The detailed official data on approval and denial of H-1B visa in respect of these companies for U.S. Fiscal Year 2018 are given below:—

H-1 B Approval and Denial data for eight (in Top 30) Indian IT companies

Company	Approvals for Initial Employ- ment	Denials for Initial Employ- ment	Approvals for Continuing Employ- ment	Denials for Continuing Employ- ment	Total Approvals	Approval Percentage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
TCS	528	152	8,232	1,744	8,760	82%
Infosys	69	80	5,897	2,042	5,966	74%
Wipro	273	82	2,877	599	3,150	82%
HCL	196	100	2,105	509	2,301	79%

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tech Mahindra	579	201	1,781	300	2,360	82%
L&T Infotech	154	43	1,285	171	1,439	87%
L&T Tech services	253	50	906	102	1,159	88%
Mindtree	148	98	762	89	910	83%

H-1B Approval and Denial data for eight (in Top 30) Foreign IT companies operating in India

Company	Approvals for Initial Employment	Denials for Initial Employment	Approvals for Continuing Employment	Denials for Continuing Employment	Total Approvals	Approval Percentage
Cognizant	500	790	8,746	3,548	9,246	68%
Deloitte	593	295	4,193	1,281	4,786	75%
CapGemini	273	1,061	2,664	914	2,937	60%
Microsoft	1,252	13	3,200	54	4,452	99%
Amazon	2,399	23	1,993	45	4,392	98%
Accenture	363	160	2,656	451	3,019	83%
Apple	698	13	2,387	25	3,085	99%
Ernst and Young	716	93	1,760	150	2,476	91%

Source: U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

(d) Government of India has closely consulted all stakeholders and engaged with the U.S. Administration and Congress on issues related to the movement of Indian professionals, including those pertaining to the H-1B programme. Most recently, issues of H-1B visa were raised during the visit of the U.S. Secretary of State, Michael R.

Pompeo, to India on 26 June, 2019. In our engagements, we have emphasized that this has been a mutually-beneficial partnership which should be nurtured. Indian skilled professionals have contributed to the growth and development of the U.S. economy and have helped the U.S. retain its competitive edge and innovation advantage.

India-Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting

3694. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has, in the India-Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting held recently, pledged for mutual legal assistance on civil and commercial matters with Islamic Republic of Iran extending longer duration of e-Visa for nationals of each other on reciprocity and visa facilitation for greater people to people contacts; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) An Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance on Civil and Commercial Matters is presently being negotiated with Islamic Republic of Iran. During the India-Iran Joint Consular Committee Meeting (JCCM) which was held in New Delhi on May 14, 2019, the proposed Agreement was discussed with a view to its expeditious conclusion.

During the India-Iran JCCM both sides agreed to take steps to further streamline visa issuance process on reciprocal basis to facilitate people to people contacts and promote friendly exchanges. Iran is one of the 167 countries to whom the Indian e-Visa facility has been extended. Pursuant to discussions in JCCM, Iran has now extended the Visa on Arrival facility for Indian nationals from 30 to 90 days. Further, Indian nationals can now receive one-year multiple-entry Entry Visa from the Missions and Consulates of the Islamic Republic of Iran located in India.

Relationship with Buddhist countries

3695. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which Government is planning to strengthen relationship with Buddhist countries;

(b) whether Government has started cultural centres in these countries;

(c) whether the Government is soliciting services of Buddhist monks to develop bond with India; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to attract students from the countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) Buddhism is practiced in many parts of the world including Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Lao PDR, Cambodia, Vietnam, China, Mongolia, Japan and Republic of Korea. India has long standing historical ties with these countries.

The Government will continue to engage proactively with these countries through high level visits, development partnerships, cultural cooperation and people-to-people contacts. The number of citizens/tourists from these countries visiting Buddhist holy places in India has been growing rapidly over the years. India is partnering in conservation and preservation of important archaeological, religious and cultural heritage monuments/sites in many of these countries.

(b) Indian Cultural Centres have been established in most of the above mentioned countries. Chair of Indian Studies have also been set in several universities of many of these countries.

(c) Conferences and seminars on Buddhist themes organised in India have been attended in large numbers by scholars, monks and Indologists from these countries. The six International Buddhist Enclaves organised so far in India have witnessed large participation from these countries.

(d) Government of India offers scholarships to students from these countries to study in various educational institutions in India, including courses in Buddhist history and literature.

Database of Indian working abroad

3696. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has made a comprehensive data base of Indians working abroad to solve various problems that are being faced by them while working in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) The data of Indian nationals holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) category passports and emigrating for employment purpose to any notified ECR country is captured in the e-Migrate system that provides the Government a comprehensive and online database of Emigrant workers, Missions, Recruiting Agents, Foreign Employers, and Insurance Agencies. e-Migrate is aimed at making the emigration process faster, transparent and allows online authentication/verification of credentials of all stakeholders. In addition, the data in e-Migrate also includes those persons going for employment under Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) category if they voluntarily register in the system. The numbers of such persons as per e-Migrate for the last three years are given in Statement (*See* below).

Currently, except for Emigration Check Required (ECR) passport holders going for employment to ECR countries, ECNR passport holders seeking employment or ECR passport holders going to non-ECR countries are not required to mandatorily register with the e-Migrate system. Further, it is advisable but not mandatory for Indians working abroad to register themselves with the concerned Indian Mission.

Statement

Number of Emigration Clearances granted to ECR passport holding Indian workers, country-wise, during the last three years

Sl. No.	Name of Countries	2016	2017	2018
1.	Afghanistan	0	0	0
2.	Bahrain	11964	11516	9142
3.	Indonesia	01	10	10
4.	Iraq	0	0	0
5.	Jordan	2742	2341	1941
6.	Kuwait	72384	56380	57613
7.	Lebanon	316	110	109
8.	Libya	0	0	0
9.	Malaysia	10604	14002	16370

Sl. No.	Name of Countries	2016	2017	2018
10.	Oman	63236	53332	36037
11.	Qatar	30619	24759	34471
12.	S. Arabia	165355	78611	72399
13.	Sudan	0	1	0
14.	South Sudan	0	0	0
15.	Syria	0	0	0
16.	Thailand	01	0	6
17.	U. A. E.	163716	149962	112059
18.	Yemen	0	0	0
TOTAL		520938	391024	340157

Source: e-Migrate portal.

Cap on H-1B work visa

3697. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any communication from US Administration regarding the cap on H-1B work visa to Indian citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of action taken by Government to safeguard the interests of Indian Citizens working in the US; and

(d) the number of people who are likely to be affected by this move?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) No.

(c) and (d) Government of India has closely consulted all stakeholders and engaged with the U.S. Administration and Congress on issues related to the movement of Indian professionals, including those pertaining to the H-1B programme. In our engagements, we have emphasized that this has been a mutually-beneficial partnership

which should be nurtured. Indian skilled professionals have contributed to the growth and development of the U.S. economy and have helped the U.S. retain its competitive edge and innovation advantage. They are a big stakeholder in India-U.S. relations and their backward linkages to India have helped U.S. businesses. Most recently, issues of H-1B visa were raised during the visit of the U.S. Secretary of State, Michael R. Pompeo, to India on 26 June, 2019. We have conveyed our expectation to the U.S. Administration for a non-discriminatory and predictable H-1B visa regime.

Relationship with SAARC countries

3698. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of relations between India and the SAARC countries at present; and

(b) the measures proposed to be taken for improving relations between India and the SAARC countries during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) India enjoys excellent bilateral relations with Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka. As per our 'Neighbourhood First' policy, Government is committed to developing friendly and mutually beneficial relations with all its neighbours. India is an active development partner and is engaged in several projects in these countries. Our engagement with these countries will continue to be based on a consultative, non-reciprocal and outcome-oriented approach, while focussing on delivering benefits like greater connectivity, improved infrastructure, stronger development cooperation in various sectors area, security and broader people-to-people contacts. With regards to Pakistan, the Government has conveyed that it desires normal neighbourly relations with Pakistan in an atmosphere free from terror, hostility and violence. The onus is on Pakistan for creating such an environment.

Funding of Kashmiri separatists

3699. SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has sought any explanation from Pakistan Government about the funding received by Kashmiri separatists from Pakistan or on its behalf;

- (b) if so, the nature of communication sent;
- (c) the nature of violations committed by Pakistan by lending such financial support to Kashmiri separatists;
- (d) the response of Government of Pakistan to such communications; and
- (e) if no communications has been sent, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (e) The Government has, through diplomatic channels, persistently taken up with Pakistan, the issue of cross-border terrorism, including funding of secessionist and terrorist activities in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan has been asked to abide by its commitment to not allow any territory under its control to be used for terrorism against India in any manner and take credible, verifiable and irreversible steps in the matter. Pakistan is yet to demonstrate such steps.

India-UAE relations

3700. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of India-UAE relations;
- (b) whether the meeting with Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed would result in a change in the relations between the two nations;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the details of plans for action in the international sphere if any?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) India-UAE bilateral relations are deep rooted in age-old trade and cultural links and nourished by people to people contacts. In the last five years, with intensive high-level engagements, the relationship has been elevated to a 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership'. UAE is India's third largest trading partner and fourth largest energy supplier. UAE is the first foreign country to participate in the India's 'Strategic Petroleum Reserves'.

His Highness Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed, Foreign Minister of the UAE paid an official visit on 7-9 July, 2019 to India. During the visit he called on Prime Minister and

held bilateral meeting with External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar. The visit provided an opportunity to both sides to constructively build on the vision of the comprehensive strategic partnership and to broaden cooperation in various sectors of mutual interest.

(d) India-UAE expressed interest in South-South Cooperation in February, 2016. An MoU for cooperation between India and the UAE for cooperation in developmental projects in Africa was signed in December, 2018.

Vacancies in government schools

3701. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has asked all the educational institutions such as Kendriya Vidyalayas, Navodaya Vidyalayas, National Institute of Open Schooling and Central Board of Secondary Education, to fill up the vacancies quickly;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many schools under the Ministry are running with teachers on contract basis to meet the shortage of teachers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The organizations functioning under the Ministry of Human Resource Development such as Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti (NVS), National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) have been advised to fill up their vacancies in order to increase quality and efficiency.

(c) Teachers are also engaged on contractual basis in the Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) and Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) for temporary durations to ensure that the teaching learning process is not hampered.

(d) The details of the teachers engaged on contract basis in the KVs and JNVs during the last academic year 2018-19 are as under:—

Name of Post	KVs	JNVs
Post Graduate Teachers	1785	609
Trained Graduate Teachers	3436	710

Name of Post	KVs	JNVs
Primary Teachers	2496	-
Misc. Teachers	-	248

Smart Education Method

3702. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to introduce Smart Education Method in the education system; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) In order to provide good quality education by effective use of technology and telecom services, the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), in its meetings held on 15th and 16th January, 2018 resolved to launch 'Operation Digital Board'. An Expert Committee was constituted to prepare the concept note and an approach paper defining specifications, modalities, financing systems for this project. The Expert Committee has given its recommendations which are under active consideration of the Government.

Hindi in Undergraduate courses

3703. SHRI K. K. RAGESH:

SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UGC is pushing for making Hindi a compulsory subject in all the Undergraduate courses all across the country; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that a reference was made to the Universities to seek their opinion/suggestions regarding teaching of Hindi. However, Universities are autonomous bodies and any decision to teach any particular subject is under their control.

Extending reservation to EWS category

‡3704. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH NAGAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit of 10 per cent reservation provided to the EWS category is still not being extended in educational institutions;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of beneficiaries of this reservation in educational institutions of the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued instructions for providing 10% reservation in admissions to the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), from the academic year 2019-20, in the Central Educational Institutions without adversely affecting the proportionate seats of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class categories. Additional seats shall be created over a period of two years.

The increase in the seats shall be done over a two year period as detailed below:—

Name of Institutions	IITs	NITs	IIMs	IISERs	Central Universities	IIITs	IIITs (PPP)	SPAs/ CFTIs	IGNOU	Total
Additional seats 2019-20	2388	4480	620	333	20240	213	270	439	90000	118983
Additional seats 2020-21	4320	2151	743	372	26983	233	323	658	60000	95783
TOTAL	6708	6631	1363	705	47223	446	593	1097	150000	214766

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Special focus areas in higher education

3705. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified any area/sector in higher education which is likely to be given special focus/attention after the recent survey on higher education is published;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Following measures have been taken by Government to give special focus/attention to Higher Education:—

- (i) Issuing of new University Grants Commission (UGC) regulation for Open and Distance Learning that allows entry of reputed institutions to offer education on the distance mode.
- (ii) Using of ICT technology- Study Webs of Active-Learning for Young Aspiring Minds (SWAYAM) portal to reach out of people and allow them to secure good quality education.
- (iii) Opening of more centrally funded institutions.
- (iv) Encouraging opening of institutions by State Governments through the Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) which aims to achieve equity, access and excellence in higher education. The scheme supports components such as upgrading autonomous colleges to universities, clustering colleges to establish a university, setting up of new professional colleges in unserved and underserved areas as well as providing infrastructure grants to universities and colleges to scale up capacity.
- (v) More scholarship programmes to supplement the cost of education.

School infrastructure under SSA

3706. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under SSA States/UTs are supported to augment school infrastructure to meet RTE norms, including those in rural areas;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) to what extent the norms have been met, so far in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 stipulates norms and standards for a recognized school imparting elementary education. The RTE norms provide for an all-weather building in elementary schools including those in rural area. The school building should *inter alia*, consist of at least one classroom for every teacher and an office-cum-store-cum-Head teacher's room, barrier free access, separate toilets for boys and girls, safe and adequate drinking water facility to all children and playground. Sections 8 and 9 of the RTE Act, 2009 lays down the duties of appropriate Government and local authority to *inter alia* provide infrastructure including school building, teaching staff and learning equipment.

Earlier, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) effective till 2017-18 was the designated Centrally Sponsored Scheme to meet the objectives of the RTE Act in elementary schools, *inter alia* for creation and augmentation of school infrastructure. The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha w.e.f. 2018-19, which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). The new integrated scheme envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education. Under Samagra Shiksha, States and UTs are supported for strengthening of existing government schools, and for creation and augmentation of infrastructure facilities based on proposals received from respective State/UT. The scheme also envisages an annual recurring composite school grant varying upto ₹ 1,00,000/- per annum depending upon the number of students, for all government schools. Each school is required to spend at least 10% of the composite school grant on activities related to Swachhata Action Plan. The scheme also provides for annual maintenance and repair of existing school building, toilets and other facilities to upkeep the infrastructure in good condition.

Under erstwhile SSA till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha effective from 2018-19, construction of 3.13 lakh school buildings, 18.89 lakh additional classrooms, provision of 2.41 lakh drinking water facility, construction of 3.99 lakh Boys' toilets, 5.22 lakh separate girls' toilets and 1.41 lakh Children with Special Needs (CwSN) toilets and

internal electrification of 2.08 lakh schools have been sanctioned to States and UTs for elementary schools, out of which States and UTs have reported construction of 2.97 lakh school buildings, 18.17 lakh additional classrooms, provision of 2.34 lakh drinking water facility, construction of 3.83 lakh Boys' toilets, 5.14 lakh separate girls' toilets, 1.25 lakh CwSN toilets and internal electrification of 1.95 lakh schools, till 31.03.2019.

Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE) collects data on various indicators on school education. As per U-DISE, 2017-18(prov.), 95.54% of Government elementary schools have girls' toilet, 98.74% of Government elementary schools have boys' toilet, 97.18% of Government elementary schools have provision of drinking water facility, 72.26% of Government elementary schools have ramps, 59.86% of Government elementary schools have boundary wall, 56.72% of Government elementary schools have playground facility and 79.30% of Government elementary schools have library. Also, 63.14% schools are having electricity connection.

Book Fairs organised by NBT

3707. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Book Trust (NBT) of India organises Book Fairs in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of such Book Fairs organised during the last three years;
- (c) whether NBT would organise a Book Fair in Jharkhand also in the near future;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) National Book Trust (NBT), India mandated by the Government of India to organize Book Fairs across the country throughout the year to promote reading habits among the masses:

- (b) A list of National and Regional level Book Fairs organised by the NBT during last Five years is enclosed at Statement (*See* below). The NBT also organises annual New Delhi World Book Fair and the next Fair's date is 4 to 12 January 2020.

(c) to (e) A list of the Book Fairs has been finalised for the current financial year 2019-20.

However, NBT has decided to organise a Book Fair in Jamshedpur (Jharkhand) in the month of March-April, 2020.

Statement

Details of Regional Level Book Fairs organised by NBT during last five years

List of National and Regional Book Fairs - During 2016-17

1.	Greater Noida Book Fair, Uttar Pradesh	12-18 September, 2016
2.	Kalburagi Book Fair, Karnataka	17-25 September, 2016
3.	Patiala Book Fair, Punjab	3-9 October, 2016
4.	Goalpara Book Fair, Assam	22-30 October, 2016
5.	New Delhi World Book Fair, New Delhi	7-15 January, 2017
6.	Perambalur Book Fair, Tamil Nadu	27 Jan-5 Feb., 2017
7.	Varanasi Book Fair, Uttar Pradesh	4-12 February, 2017
8.	Ranchi Book Fair, Jharkhand	4-12 March, 2017
9.	Aizawl Book Fair, Mizoram	6-11 March, 2017
10.	Udaipur-Gomati National Book Fair, Tripura	18-26 March, 2017
11.	National Book Festival, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi	18-26 March, 2017

List of National and Regional Book Fairs - During 2017-18

1.	Amritsar Book Fair, Punjab	22-30 April, 2017
2.	Shimla Book Fair, Himachal Pradesh	13-21 May, 2017
3.	Tirunnamalai Book Fair, Tamil Nadu	18-27 August, 2017
4.	Dehradun Book Fair, Uttarakhand	28 Aug-5 Sept., 2017
5.	Varanasi Book Fair, Uttar Pradesh	9-17 September, 2017
6.	New Delhi World Book Fair, New Delhi	6-14 January, 2018
7.	Tirunelveli Book Fair, Tamil Nadu	3-11 February, 2018

8.	Gaya Book Fair, Bihar	10-18 February 2018
9.	Rashtriya Panchayat Pustak Mela, Uttarakhand	24-28 February 2018
10.	Agra Book Fair, Uttar Pradesh	10-18 February 2018

List of National and Regional Book Fairs- During 2018-19

1.	Gwalior Book Fair, Madhya Pradesh	12-20 May 2018
2.	Imphal Book Fair, Manipur	26 May-3 June 2018
3.	Kullu Book Fair, Himachal Pradesh	9-17 June 2018
4.	Haldwani Book Fair, Uttarakhand	22 June-1 July 2018
5.	Silvassa Book Fair, Dadra and Nagar Haveli	30 Sept-7 Oct 2018
6.	Pustak Kumbh Mela, Prayag Raj	28 Jan- 28 Feb 2019

List of National and Regional Book Fairs- During 2019-20

1.	Ajmer Book Fair, Rajasthan	13-21 April, 2019
2.	Dharamshala Book Fair, Himachal Pradesh	27 April-5 May, 2019
3.	Ujjain Book Fair, Madhya Pradesh	31 Aug-8 Sept., 2019
4.	Tuticorin Book Fair, Tamil Nadu	7-15 September, 2019
5.	Chandigarh Book Fair, Punjab	21-29 September, 2019
6.	Udaipur Book Fair, Rajasthan	12-20 October, 2019
7.	Bilaspur Book Fair, Chhattisgarh	9-17 November, 2019
8.	Panaji Book Fair, Goa	1-9 February, 2020 (Tentative)
9.	Barnala Book Fair, Punjab	15-23 February, 2020
10.	Jammu Book Fair, J&K	March, 2020 (Tentative)
11.	Jamshedpur Book Fair, Jharkhand	March-April, 2020 (Tentative)

Encouraging Yoga in schools

†3708. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals made in the draft New Education Policy (NEP) recently announced to encourage Yoga;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether NCERT is publishing the textbooks and whether education of Yoga is being included in the National Curriculum Framework and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the proposal of Government to appoint Yoga teachers in the schools of the country under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Committee for the Draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan has submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May, 2019. Draft NEP, 2019 *inter alia* proposes that all students at all levels of school will have regular periods and opportunities to participate in physical activity and exercise, including sports, games, yoga, martial arts, dance, gardening, and more, in accordance with local availability of teachers and facilities. All undergraduate programmes will also emphasise music, visual arts, performing arts, and sports. This shall include India's deep traditions in the arts, music and sports, including the numerous remarkable local regional traditions. Yoga shall form an integral part of such efforts as well. Institutions will be encouraged and funded to offer full-fledged programmes and courses in these areas.

(b) National Curriculum Framework (NCF), 2005 recommended Yoga as an integral part of Health and Physical Education. Health and Physical Education is a compulsory subject from Class I to Class X and optional from Class XI to XII. The National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has already developed integrated syllabi on Health and Physical Education from Class I to Class X. The syllabus is available on NCERT website www.ncert.nic.in.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has made Health and Physical Education compulsory in all classes from I-XII. It has been advised to schools that Health and Physical Education includes three areas *i.e.* Health Education, Physical Education and Yoga and all three areas are essential to achieve holistic health (physical, mental, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual).

(c) Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha subsuming three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha

Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) with effect from 1st April, 2018 which envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels. Realizing the need for holistic development of children, under the Samagra Shiksha, Sports and Physical Education component has been introduced for the first time for encouragement of Sports, Physical activities, Yoga, Co-curricular activities etc. A provision has been made for grants for sports equipments in all government schools at the rate of ₹ 5000 for Primary Schools, ₹ 10,000 for upper primary schools and upto ₹ 25,000 for secondary and senior secondary schools per annum. In the year 2018-19, an outlay of ₹ 506.90 crore was approved under sports grant for 894307 government schools.

Further, Education is a subject in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and majority of schools, the recruitment, service conditions and deployment of teachers are under the jurisdiction of the State/Union Territory Governments and it is for the respective State/Union Territory Government to take a decision in the matter for their schools.

Female students in various IIMs

3709. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of female students in various IIMs during the last three years, year-wise and IIM-wise;
- (b) whether the percentage of female students has gone down from 30 per cent in 2017 to 26 per cent in 2018 in those institutes;
- (c) the details of such reduction during 2019;
- (d) the reasons therefor;
- (e) the short-term, medium-term and long-term targets set for admitting female students in such institutes;
- (f) whether there are any plans to give higher weightage to female students; and
- (g) if not, in what manner the Ministry is going to achieve the set targets?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): Details of female students in all the 20 Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) during the last three years, year-wise and institute-wise are as under:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	2017-19 Batch	2018-20 Batch	2019-21 Batch
		No. of Female Students	No. of Female Students	No. of Female Students
1	2	3	4	5
1.	IIM Ahmedabad	132	121	114
2.	IIM Bangalore	114	121	165
3.	IIM Kozhikode	103	108	111
4.	IIM Lucknow	98	123	124
5.	IIM Indore	256	232	220
6.	IIM Calcutta	143	124	152
7.	IIM Shillong	25	77	83
8.	IIM Rohtak	22	120	124
9.	IIM Raipur	52	42	38
10.	IIM Ranchi	88	106	117
11.	IIM Udaipur	60	66	88
12.	IIM Tiruchirappalli	33	24	95
13.	IIM Kashipur	14	06	29
14.	IIM Amritsar	20	03	17
15.	IIM Nagpur	02	25	20
16.	IIM Sirmaur	01	16	15
17.	IIM Sambalpur	11	00	46
18.	IIM Visakhapatnam	13	18	45
19.	IIM Bodhgaya	00	01	03
20.	IIM Jammu	12	16	13
TOTAL		1199	1349	1619

(b) and (c) No, Sir. The percentage of female students to the total students admitted in IIMs for the year 2017, 2018 and 2019 are 25.69%, 26.85% and 30.61% respectively.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) to (g) The Government has not fixed any target for admission of female students. IIMs are free to frame their own admission policy and Government does not interfere in it. However, all IIMs have given some additional weightage for increasing the number of female students.

Reimbursement claimed by States under SSA

3710. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1837 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd August, 2018 and state:

(a) the reasons why reimbursement under Section 12.1c of the Right to Education Act is limited to classes I and above only, when the Act itself caters to pre-primary classes as well;

(b) the details of States which have notified reimbursement norms and procedures;

(c) the way in which the students are tracked in those States where reimbursement are based on attendance and regular student tracking; and

(d) the details of State-specific attendance and drop-out rates for each such States?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education, 2009, mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age 6 to 14 years in a neighbourhood school. Section 12(1)(c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides for admission of children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups in the neighbourhood schools in class I to the extent of at least 25 per cent of the strength of that class. Further, there is a provision that where a school imparts pre-school education, the provisions of Section 12(1) (c) shall apply for admission to such pre-school education also.

Section 11 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides that in order to prepare children above the age of three years for elementary education and to provide early childhood care and education for all children until they complete the age of six years, the appropriate Government may make necessary arrangement for providing free pre-school education for such children.

As defined in Section 2(a) of the RTE Act, 2009, the Central Government is the appropriate Government only in relation to a school established, owned or controlled by the Central Government, or the Union Territory(UT), having no legislature. In other cases, State and UT Government are the appropriate Governments, in relation to a school established within the territory of a State or a UT having legislature, respectively.

Further, as per Section 7(1) of the RTE Act, 2009, the Central Government and the State Government shall have concurrent responsibility for providing funds for carrying out the provisions of this Act.

The Central Government has been supporting States and UTs for implementation of various provisions of the Act including expenditure incurred towards reimbursement to private schools for admissions of children under Section 12(1)(c) from 2014-15. The support is provided on the basis of per-child expenditure notified by the concerned State and UT for children in class 1 and above. This financial support is in continuum to the assistance provided under the erstwhile scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, and is continued under the new scheme of Samagra Shiksha.

(b) 17 States and UTs, namely, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand have notified per child expenditure for reimbursement to private unaided schools against admission of children belonging to disadvantaged groups and weaker sections under Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act, 2009. The RTE Act is not applicable to Jammu and Kashmir and Section 12(1)(c) of the RTE Act is not applicable to Lakshadweep as it does not have any private unaided schools.

(c) and (d) No such data is Centrally maintained.

Opening of new colleges

3711.DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals are pending with Government for opening of new

medical, dental or engineering universities either in Government sector or in private sector; and

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

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) No, Sir.

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

Sanskrit Central University in Maharashtra

3712. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:

SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up Sanskrit Central Universities in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the places where these are proposed to be set up;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

- (d) the number and details of Sanskrit Central Universities proposed to be set up in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government for conversion of the three existing Deemed to be Universities namely, Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, Delhi, Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh and Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha, New Delhi into Central Universities for Sanskrit which is presently under inter-ministerial consultations stage. However, at present, there is no such proposal with the Government to set up Sanskrit Central Universities in Maharashtra.

Upgradation of schools under Samagra Shiksha

3713. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of new composite schools from classes-I to XII that were

sanctioned during 2018-19 and the number of existing upper primary schools that were upgraded to composite schools under the Samagra Shiksha Scheme, State-wise;

(b) the number of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) at upper primary level that were sanctioned for upgradation to provide residential and schooling facilities upto class-XII during 2018-19; and

(c) the estimated amount spent under the schemes?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) During 2018-19, under Samagra Shiksha scheme approval was given for opening of 19 primary schools, 86 upper primary schools, 44 higher secondary schools, 24 residential schools at elementary level and 11 residential schools at secondary level. Also, approval was given for upgradation of 214 existing upper primary schools to composite secondary schools. Further, approval was given for provision of additional stream of study in 851 existing higher secondary schools. The State/UT-wise details are given in Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) During 2018-19, under Samagra Shiksha scheme approval was given for upgradation of 1232 Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs). Out of this approval was given for upgradation for 729 KGBVs from Class VIII to X and for 503 KGBVs from class VIII to XII. The State-wise details are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Under Samagra Shiksha scheme, funds are not released component-wise but in lump sum. Total Central Share of ₹ 29294.23 crore was released to States and UTs for undertaking the approved activities under Samagra Shiksha during 2018-19. States and UTs have reported a total expenditure of ₹ 45284.87 crore in 2018-19. The expenditure is against Central Share, State Share and other receipts.

Statement-I

Primary schools approved in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Jammu and Kashmir	12
West Bengal	7
TOTAL	19

Upper Primary schools approved in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Chhattisgarh	1
Himachal Pradesh	6
Jammu and Kashmir	15
Meghalaya	2
Rajasthan	36
Tripura	4
Uttar Pradesh	22
TOTAL	86

Higher Secondary schools approved in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
Chhattisgarh	17
Himachal Pradesh	1
Jammu and Kashmir	6
Mizoram	2
Odisha	7
Sikkim	4
Tamil Nadu	5
Tripura	1
TOTAL	44

Residential schools approved at elementary level in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Bihar	6
Chhattisgarh	7

State	Number of Schools
Jharkhand	7
Maharashtra	1
Odisha	3
TOTAL	24

Residential schools approved at secondary level in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Chhattisgarh	4
Manipur	7
TOTAL	11

Upper Primary schools approved for upgradation to Secondary schools in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Arunachal Pradesh	3
Chhattisgarh	22
Gujarat	70
Jammu and Kashmir	12
Karnataka	24
Meghalaya	6
Odisha	10
Rajasthan	67
TOTAL	214

Additional stream in Higher Secondary schools approved in 2018-19

State	Number of Schools
Madhya Pradesh	525
Mizoram	4

State	Number of Schools
Rajasthan	316
Tripura	6
TOTAL	851

Source: Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2018-19.

Statement-II

Details of State-wise number of KGBVs upgraded

State	No. of schools upgraded from Class VIII to X	No. of schools upgraded from Class VIII to XII
Andhra Pradesh	244	31
Arunachal Pradesh	2	
Assam	67	
Bihar		48
Gujarat	54	
Haryana		24
Himachal Pradesh		7
Jharkhand		203
Madhya Pradesh		21
Manipur	6	
Odisha	82	
Rajasthan		68
Sikkim	1	
Telangana	246	94
Uttarakhand		7
Uttar Pradesh	27	
TOTAL	729	503

Source: Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2018-19.

Use of Government school and college buildings on holidays

3714. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has any proposal to use Government school and college buildings on holidays to impart education to those who are not able to afford formal education;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Department of School Education and Literacy has issued advisory to all States and UTs to explore possibilities of using school infrastructure after working hours for implementation of skill training programmes for youth, school dropouts, unemployed etc. However, Education is in the Concurrent list of the Constitution and most of the school buildings are under the administrative control of the respective State Government and UT Administration, and it is up to them to decide on the utilization of the school buildings.

University Grants Commission (UGC) has informed that there is a provision for setting up of Learner Support Centres and Examination Centres in Government schools and college buildings.

Delay in disbursement of fellowships

3715. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is delay in disbursement of fellowships given to students in universities such as JRF, MANF, CSIR, RGNF and OBC fellowships;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government is aware that the students who are dependent on these scholarships are from economically backward sections, belonging to the dalit, bahun or adivasi communities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) As informed by the University Grants Commission

(UGC), the students/scholars, who are selected for any scholarship of UGC get their scholarships, through Direct Benefit Transfer mode, only after linking of his/her ID on the Portal by their respective institution and thereafter uploading of monthly confirmation data on that portal by their institution. The university/institution is required to provide monthly confirmation for any particular candidate by 15th of that month, failing which the data can be uploaded in the succeeding month also.

UGC regularly conducts workshops/training programmes for the institutions in this regard.

As informed by the Department of Science and Technology, the CSIR releases fellowship amount to its research fellows upon receipt of duly signed Grant-in-Aid fellowship claim bill from the host institutes along-with the attendance certificate in respect of research fellows.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government is aware that the students who are dependent on these scholarships are from economically backward sections, belonging to the dalit, bahunjan or adivasi communities.

Wages to contractual and *ad hoc* teachers

3716. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that thousands of teachers working on *ad hoc*/ contract basis in the country are reportedly not getting even minimum wages;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise particularly in Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by respective State Governments to correct the situation and bring the wages of teachers at respectable level; and

(d) the measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to streamline the system and ensure that at least minimum wages are paid to all contractual and *ad hoc* teachers across the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, therefore, majority of the schools are under the jurisdiction of the respective State and Union Territory (UT). Hence, the recruitment, service conditions and

redeployment of teachers are primarily in the domain of the respective State Government and UT Administration. As per Section 23 (3) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the salary and allowances payable to, and the terms and conditions of services of teachers, shall be such as may be prescribed. Further, as per Rule 18(1) of the Model RTE Rules, 2009, the State Government or the local authority, as the case may be, shall notify terms and conditions of service and salary and allowances of teachers in order to create a professional and permanent cadre of teachers. Accordingly, State and UT Government which are the 'appropriate Government' under the RTE Act, have formulated their own RTE Rules for implementation of the provisions of the RTE Act.

Implementing reservation to EWS category

3717. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the ten per cent reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) from General Category has been implemented;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of States where the said reservation is still to be implemented;
- (d) the details of increase in the number of seats in various Government institutions, thereafter, State/UT-wise; and
- (e) whether many of these newly added seats have gone vacant?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) In accordance with the provisions of the Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act 2019, the Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued instructions for providing 10% reservation in admissions to the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), from the academic year 2019-20, in the Central Educational Institutions without adversely affecting the proportionate seats of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class categories. Additional seats shall be created over a period of two years.

(d) and (e) The increase in the seats shall be done over a two year period as detailed below:—

Name of Institutions	IITs	NITs	IIMs	IISERs	Central Universities	IIITs	IIITs (PPP)	SPAs/ CFTIs	IGNOU	Total
Additional seats 2019-20	2388	4480	620	333	20240	213	270	439	90000	118983
Additional seats 2020-21	4320	2151	743	372	26983	233	323	658	60000	95783
TOTAL	6708	6631	1363	705	47223	446	593	1097	150000	214766

Vacancies in Central University of Karnataka

3718. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 posts of Professors out of 21, 33 posts of Associate Professors out of 41 and 55 posts of Assistant Professors out of 75 are lying vacant in Central University of Karnataka;

(b) whether 67 per cent of vacancies of faculty positions are lying vacant;

(c) since when the above vacancies are there; and

(d) the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government to fill up these vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Occurring of vacancies and filling up is a continuous process. Presently, 21 posts of Professor out of 27, 46 posts of Associate Professor out of 53 and 78 posts of Assistant Professor out of 126 are lying vacant in Central University of Karnataka. The senior level teaching posts of Associate Professors and Professors are lying vacant in all the new Central Universities including Central University of Karnataka due to non-availability of suitable candidates and immobility of the senior level faculty members due to the Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) and non-availability of pension portability. Some of these vacancies exist since 2010-11. Litigation over reservation roster issue also delayed the recruitment process of filling up of teaching

posts in all the Central Universities. Now the University has advertised all the vacant teaching posts on 5.5.2019.

Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and University Grants Commission (UGC) have issued repeated instructions to all the Central Universities to fill up the vacancies on priority basis. UGC has prepared the Guidelines for Recruitment of Faculty in Universities, Colleges and Institutions Deemed to be Universities outlining the selection procedure and the time frame for recruitment which has been circulated *vide* its letter dated 4th June, 2019 to all Universities to adhere to the guidelines.

Besides this, a number of other steps taken to fill up the vacant teaching posts in Central Universities, include regular monitoring by Ministry/UGC, review during various meetings including Visitor's Conferences, providing of Visitor's nominees for Selection Committees for selection of teachers, increase in age of superannuation to 65 years, re-employment of retired teachers beyond the age of 65 years, etc.

Marks in Board examinations

3719. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is something unusual about the large number of students scoring near perfect marks in 10th and 12th board examinations; and

(b) whether it produces conscientious citizens committed to make a difference?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Yes, Sir. There is a perception that a number of students are scoring near perfect marks in 10th and 12th Board examination. However, it may be mentioned that Education is a subject matter in the Concurrent List of the Constitution and a substantial majority of schools are under the jurisdiction of the State/Union Territory Government. The 10th and 12th Board examinations in a substantial majority of cases are conducted by the respective Examination Boards of the concerned States/UTs.

As far as Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is concerned, the question papers are based on the syllabus and design prescribed by CBSE and the NCERT textbooks. The overall result of a candidate has 2 components - internal assessment/practical and external assessment. It is the school that is responsible for allocating

marks for internal assessment, while external assessment is done by the Board. Practicals are also conducted in school with an external examiner.

For external assessment/evaluation the board has a robust system of preparing marking scheme, based on value points. Most established boards such as IB, Cambridge and ICSE also follow a system of marking scheme. This scheme allows flexibility to the child to cover all listed value points creatively. Therefore, this system encourages clear conceptual understanding and also leads to child scoring on value points.

(b) Whether it produces conscientious citizens, it is stated that no study or assessment has been done in this regard. In any case, the substantial majority of the cases fall under the jurisdiction of the Boards of different States/UTs.

In so far as CBSE is concerned, the Board does not track its students after school. But the Board lays emphasis on life skill and value education as a part of its curriculum. The Board has also made Sports and Physical Education mandatory from Class 10th to 12th and Art Education from Class I to X.

Non-teaching work by teachers

†3720. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether teachers are made to perform many additional works other than teaching in primary schools and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Supreme Court has issued any orders stating that teachers must not be compelled to perform non-teaching assignments and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether teachers are still being entrusted with non-teaching assignments despite the issuance of circulars by respective State Governments and Uttar Pradesh Government, in particular?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Section 27 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 states that no teacher shall be deployed for any non-educational purposes other than the decennial population census, disaster relief duties or duties relating to elections to the local authority or the State Legislatures or

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Parliament, as the case may be. The Ministry of Human Resource Development has also issued guidelines to all States and UTs that emphasize that teachers should not be deployed for non-educational duties other than those which are in accordance with the RTE Act.

(b) Yes, Sir. Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its judgement dated 06.12.2007 in Civil Appeal no.5659 of 2007 has, *inter alia*, directed that all teaching staff shall be put on the duties of roll revisions and election works on holidays and non-teaching days. Teachers should not ordinarily be put on duty on teaching days and within teaching hours.

(c) With reference to the RTE Act, 2009, the State Government of Uttar Pradesh has issued a Government Order dated 3.9.2012, stating that the teachers of Primary and Upper Primary Schools may not be deployed for Non-academic duties except as per the provisions of the U.P. Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Rules, 2011. Further, Education is in the Concurrent List of the Constitution, therefore, a majority of the schools are under the administrative control of respective States and Union Territories (UTs). The recruitment, service conditions and deployment of teachers come under the purview of the respective State/Union Territory (UT) Government.

National Research Foundation

3721. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the objective of encouraging research in higher educational institutions, Government proposes to set up National Research Foundation (NRF);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of activities proposed to be conducted by this Foundation; and

(d) whether Government would propose to establish the branch of NRF in Southern India, particularly in Andhra Pradesh and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) In the Budget Speech, 2019-20, it has been announced to establish National Research Foundation (NRF) to fund, coordinate and promote research in the country with focus on identified thrust areas relevant to our national priorities. The funds available for research with all Ministries will be integrated

in NRF so as to ensure that the overall research eco-system in the country is strengthened. Government will adequately supplement NRF with additional funds as per its requirement. NRF will set up Centres of Excellence and Institutional Innovation and Research Councils in Higher Educational Institutions in the country and also fund selected research projects. No specific locations for the purpose have been identified so far.

Colleges without principals

3722. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a large number of colleges across the country, getting financial grants from UGC are running without a permanent Principal;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to ensure full time regular Principals in all the colleges?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) As informed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the appointment of Principals in State Universities comes under the purview of the respective State Governments. No such data is maintained by the Central Government.

However, UGC provides financial assistance to the colleges affiliated by Delhi University, Allahabad University and BHU. The status of Principals in these colleges is as under:—

Name of the Central University	Number of Colleges	Vacant position of Principals in Colleges
Delhi	64	21
BHU	4	-
Allahabad	11	3

Instructions/advisories are issued by the UGC to Delhi University for appointment of regular Principals. In this regard, UGC *vide* its DO Letter No. F.1-14/2019(CPP-II) dated 04.06.2019 has prepared the guidelines for Recruitment of Faculty in Universities,

Colleges and Institutions Deemed to be Universities outlining the selection procedure and the time frame for recruitment. These guidelines have been circulated to all universities to adhere to them. The universities have also been requested to take steps to ensure that the vacancies in the university as well as in the colleges affiliated to university are filled up in a time bound manner. A copy of the guidelines circulated to all universities is available https://www.ugc.ac.in/ugc_notices.aspx?id=2418.

Further, this Ministry has requested all Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) to fill up faculty related data on National Higher Education Resource Centre (NHERC) portal at <https://nherc.in> in order to fill up all vacancies in various higher educational institutions on an urgent basis.

Scholarships to NER students

3723. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to increase the amount of scholarships for meritorious students from the North Eastern Region (NER);
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of scholarships given to students in various categories, category-wise;
- (c) whether Government is aware that it is not possible to submit the applications for scholarships in time due to fault in online uploading system; and
- (d) if so, the details of action taken/proposed to be taken by Government to rectify the fault?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The University Grants Commission is implementing the 'Ishan Uday' Special Scholarship Scheme for North Eastern Region with the objective to promote higher education and to encourage children belonging to economically weaker section of the North Eastern Region for pursuing general degree, technical and professional degree courses including medical and para-medical courses. Rate of scholarship is, ₹ 5400/- per month for general degree course and ₹ 7800/- per month for technical/medical/professional/paramedical courses. It is targeted to provide 10,000 scholarships annually under the scheme.

University Grants Commission has constituted a Committee to consider revision of scholarship amount under 'Ishan Uday' Scheme. The category-wise details of the scholarships provided to the students during the financial year 2018-19 are as follows:-

Name of Scholarship Scheme	Scholarships provided (fresh + renewal)		
	General	Schedule Caste	Schedule Tribe
Ishan Uday- Special Scholarship for North Eastern Region.	16,028	1,240	2,702

(c) and (d) The scholarship scheme is implemented through online mode, no specific grievances regarding default in the online uploading system has been received.

Inclusion of history of SC and ST communities in school curriculum

3724. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is working with State Governments to include texts on the history and culture of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities in the school curriculum; and

(b) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Refund of tuition/hostel fees on cancellation of provisional admission

3725. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of guidelines/directions framed by Government for refund of tuition and hostel fees of applicants on withdrawal/cancellation of provisional admission granted by private engineering colleges and whether there is any monitoring mechanisms therefor;

(b) the amount of deduction in tuition/hostel fees and time for refund on withdrawal/cancellation of admission;

(c) whether any complaint regarding excessive deduction by private engineering colleges have been received by the Ministry and if so, the action taken thereon; and

(d) the details of officers of the Ministry who could be approached for redressal of grievances for excessive deduction?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) All India Council for Technical education (AICTE) has notified Regulations for establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal Committee and Ombudsman for all AICTE approved Technical Institutions, which are available on [https://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/AICTE%20 \(Establishment %20of%20Mechanism%20for%20Grievance%20Redressal\) %20 Regulations, %202012.pdf](https://www.aicte-india.org/downloads/AICTE%20(Establishment%20of%20Mechanism%20for%20Grievance%20Redressal)%20Regulations,%202012.pdf). The fee refund policy has been given in detail in Approval Process Handbook 2019-20 of AICTE (Para 7.13), which is available at <https://www.aicte-india.org/sites/default/files/APH%202019-20.pdf>. Complaints regarding excessive deduction by private colleges received in the Ministry are forwarded to AICTE for necessary action as per Rules, which takes action against the erring institutes as per the provisions of All India Council for Technical Education (Establishment of Mechanism for Grievance Redressal) Regulations, 2012. The details of the Officers who could be approached for redressal of grievances for excessive deduction is available at <https://pgportal.gov.in/Home/NodalPgOfficers>.

Job-oriented education system

3726. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the higher education system in the country is not job-oriented in the present scenario;

(b) if so, whether Government is contemplating changes to make the higher education system job-oriented;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up institutions connecting higher education with skill development with the support of States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Higher education system has many educational streams which are directly job-oriented. Further, in order to enhance job orientation and employability, the following steps have been taken:—

- (i) There are 1109 skill oriented courses being run by University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education(AICTE) through 556 institutions (300 B.VoC. Colleges, 188 Community Colleges and 68 DDU Kaushal Kendra Colleges), in which 38414 students are receiving skill training with education.
 - (ii) New and updated vocational curricula are being developed in line with industry demand in B.VoC. programmes.
 - (iii) AICTE has launched an internship portal to facilitate industry internship to students. Internship has been made mandatory for students of engineering colleges.
 - (iv) Wheebox Employability Skill Test (WEST) for all pre-final and final year graduates of AICTE approved institutions to identify the core strengths of students and certify the same.
 - (v) Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) Phase-III is under implementation to enhance quality, equity and employability in selected engineering education institutions.
 - (vi) National Career Service (NCS) portal has been launched as a common platform to bring together stakeholders like job seekers, employers, counsellors, local service providers and trainer etc. to facilitate convergence of information and link job seekers with job providers.
 - (vii) MHRD is working in co-operation with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) which comprise representatives of Industry, and Service Sectors to develop curricula that reflect industry -demanded skills so that higher education can be linked with employment opportunities.
- (c) and (d) No, Sir.

Zero percentage results in Jharkhand

3727. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the NCERT has conducted a study of schools having zero percentage results in secondary and senior secondary classes in Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps Government has taken to improve the education system in those schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In 2017-18, Regional Institute of Education, Bhubaneswar of National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has conducted a study on schools having zero percentage results in Secondary and Senior Secondary schools of Jharkhand. The objective of this study was to find out the causes of zero percentage result in Secondary and Senior Secondary classes and to suggest measures/interventions for improving results. The study was conducted in three districts, namely Ranchi, Simdega and East Singhbhum. 4 Senior Secondary and 17 Secondary schools of these districts participated in the study.

(c) NCERT has shared 125 e-content (audio videos) with Jharkhand Government along with four offline mobile apps of e-pathshala for primary, upper primary, secondary and senior secondary classes and disseminated in collaboration with Government of Jharkhand.

As per information received from Government of Jharkhand, the following steps have been taken for improving Learning Outcomes in Secondary and Senior Secondary Schools:—

- Subject specific teacher's training based on the Teachers Need Analysis (TNA)
- 1380 teacher appointed in +2 schools and 8602 teachers have been appointed in High Schools.
- Central Board of Secondary Education board evaluation pattern has been adopted by Jharkhand Academic council in Class IX.

- Remediation classes started in class IX under Gyan Setu.

Central Government through Samagra Shiksha focuses on improvement in quality of education by providing support for different interventions like in-service training of teachers and school heads, conduct of achievement surveys at State and national level, composite school grant to every school for providing a conducive learning environment, grants for library, sports and physical activities, support for Rashtriya Avishkar Abhiyan, ICT and digital initiatives, School Leadership Development Programme, remedial teaching for academically weaker students, support for Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat, etc.

Implementation of RTE Act, 2009 in rural India

3728. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large part of rural areas of the country is not aware about the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009;
- (b) if so, whether Government has conducted any study to identify the problem and its solutions to spread the awareness about RTE Act among rural population; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise, including Jharkhand?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Section 8 of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 mandates the appropriate Government to provide free and compulsory elementary education to every child of the age six to fourteen years in a neighbourhood school. As defined in Section 2(a) of the RTE Act, 2009, the Central Government is the appropriate Government only in relation to a school established, owned or controlled by the Central Government, or the Union Territory, having no legislature. In other cases, State and UT Governments are the appropriate Governments, in relation to a school established within the territory of a State or a UT having legislature, respectively. Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act, 2009, stipulates the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, to an elementary education in the neighbourhood school.

In order to provide free and compulsory elementary education, 97.15% habitations including rural areas are served by primary schools within a radius of 1 kilometre, and 96.49% habitations including rural areas are served by upper primary schools within a

radius of 3 kilometres as per information provided by States and UTs in 2018-19. The remaining 3% habitations are largely remote and sparsely populated which do not qualify for opening of schools as per neighbourhood norms and are covered through residential schools, hostels and transport and escort facility as per provisions of the RTE Act, 2009.

All the States/UTs except the State of Jammu and Kashmir are implementing the RTE Act, 2009 to provide free and compulsory elementary education to the children of 6 to 14 years. The Central Government supports States and UTs *inter alia* for implementation of the RTE Act, 2009 through Samagra Shiksha Scheme. As per information provided by the States and UTs in their Annual Work Plan and Budget (AWP&B) 2018-19, the Gross Access Ratio (GAR) in respect of Jharkhand is 99.78 % for primary level and 98.89% for upper primary level. The State/UT-wise details of GAR are given in the Statement.

Statement

Gross Access Ratio (GAR) at primary and upper primary level

Sl. No.	State	(In percentage)	
		Primary Level	Upper Primary Level
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	86.36	39.14
2.	Andhra Pradesh	96.49	94.82
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	86.70	79.46
4.	Assam	99.60	99.72
5.	Bihar	96.68	97.52
6.	Chandigarh UT	100.00	100.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	97.91	97.07
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100.00	100.00
9.	Daman and Diu	100.00	100.00
10.	Delhi	100.00	100.00
11.	Goa	100.00	100.00

Sl. No.	State	Primary Level	Upper Primary Level
12.	Gujarat	100.00	100.00
13.	Haryana	97.94	93.40
14.	Himachal Pradesh	95.52	94.29
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	87.67	87.35
16.	Jharkhand	99.78	98.89
17.	Karnataka	96.21	95.43
18.	Kerala	97.74	96.84
19.	Lakshadweep	100.00	100.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	99.45	99.69
21.	Maharashtra	95.51	84.84
22.	Manipur	85.42	43.19
23.	Meghalaya	91.92	87.09
24.	Mizoram	97.99	95.59
25.	Nagaland	87.12	70.91
26.	Odisha	96.71	97.78
27.	Puducherry	100.00	100.00
28.	Punjab	99.71	99.76
29.	Rajasthan	96.36	97.36
30.	Sikkim	100.00	100.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	97.52	98.71
32.	Telangana	98.24	87.68
33.	Tripura	92.54	92.68
34.	Uttar Pradesh	96.08	97.64

Sl. No.	State	Primary Level	Upper Primary Level
35.	Uttarakhand	97.70	98.48
36.	West Bengal	99.52	99.41
TOTAL		97.15	96.49

Source: AWP&B 2018-19.

Developing attraction towards technology among children

†3729. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that infrastructures are being created to develop an attraction for technology among children at school level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the setting up of Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in about nine thousand schools under the Atal Innovation Mission is in progress; and
- (d) if so, the details of ATLs being set up in schools of Bihar, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India is encouraging the schools to provide exposure of science and technology to students so that they can be exposed with futuristic technology platforms. Government has setup the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) at NITI Aayog. The objective of establishing AIM is to create scientific temper and cultivate the spirit of curiosity and innovation among young minds. In Schools, AIM facilitates to set up network of Atal Tinkering Laboratories (ATL). The vision of Atal Tinkering Lab initiative is to 'Cultivate 1 Million children in India as Neoteric Innovators'. The objective of this scheme is to foster curiosity, creativity and imagination in young minds and inculcate skills such as design mind-set, computational thinking, adaptive learning, physical computing, rapid calculations, measurements etc.

(c) and (d) A total of 8878 schools have been selected and 3020 schools have been given the ATL Grant-in-Aid for establishment of ATL. As on date, 44 schools across the State of Bihar have made ATLs operational. The district-wise details are given in the Statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement*District-wise details of the schools with ATLs in Bihar*

Sl. No.	Name of School	Address	District
1.	Sandhya Modern High School	Ashoknagar Dubahal Gaya, Bihar -823001	Gaya
2.	School of Creative Learning	Nargada Village, Danapur Cantt-Shivala Road, Patna-801503	Patna
3.	Saraswati Vidya Mandir run by Shishu Shiksha Prabandh Samiti	Saraswati Vidya Mandir Dr. Hedgewar Nagar Barwat Sena Bettiah	West Champaran
4.	RBR Plus Two School Rafiganj (Rani Brajraj Senior Secondary School Rafiganj)	At Rafiganj PO+Ps-Rafiganj Distt.-Aurangabad Bihar-824101	Aurangabad
5.	Mother Teresa Vidyapeeth	Manika Bishunpur Chand Mushahari Muzaffarpur-843119	Muzaffarpur
6.	Anandram Dhandhanias Saraswati Vidya Mandir, Bhagalpur	Bansij Jha Lane, Budhanath Road, Bhagalpur, Bihar 812001	Bhagalpur
7.	Plus Two LNLN Project Girls School (+2 L.N.L.N. Project Girl's School)	Triveniganj, Supaul-852139	Supaul
8.	Bishweshwar Seminary Chapra Saran	Sri Nandan Path Chapra Saran-841301	Saran
9.	D.N. Higher Secondary School	Vill. Gorpa, P.O. Diliya, P.S. Chauri, Distt. Bhojpur Pin-802201	Bhojpur
10.	Zila School Gaya	Near D.M. Office Gaya	Gaya
11.	Saraswati Vidya Mandir Kishanganj	Saraswati Nagar Ring Bandh Bhavdepur Sitamarhi- 843302	Sitamarhi

Sl. No.	Name of School	Address	District
12.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Saharsa	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Bariyahi P.O.- Bangaon, District- Saharsa (Bihar), Pin Code- 852212	Saharsa
13.	A. N. Inter School Rani Sakarpura Khagaria	At+Pohani Sakarpura PS+ District Khagaria Pin 851204	Khagaria
14.	Philip High School	Philip High School, Bariyarpur, Munger Bihar, Pin-813211	Munger (Monghyr)
15.	Kendriya Vidyalaya AFS Darbhanga	Kendriya Vidyalaya Air Force Station Post PTC Dist Darbhanga Pin 846005	Darbhanga
16.	River Valley School	Anand Vihar Institutional Area Begusarai- 851218	Begusarai
17.	Saraswati Shishu Vidya Mandir	Darshan Nagar Chapra Saran Bihar Pin- 841301	Saran
18.	Senior Secondary School Nawagarhi Munger	Senior Secondary School Nawagarhi P.O. - Nawagarhi P. S.- Naya Ramnagar District- Munger Pin Code - 811211	Munger (Monghyr)
19.	Saraswati Shishu Mandir	Saraswati Shishu Mandir Rastriya Uchcha Path, Aurangabad	Aurangabad (Bihar)
20.	Chaman Sah Saraswati Vidya Mandir	Chaman Sah Saraswati Vidya Mandir, At-Jagatpur, P.O-Banka	Banka
21.	Hit Narayan Kshatriya Plus Two School	Bandhan Tola, Nawada	Bhojpur
22.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Bihiya Bhojpur Bihar	Bihiya District Bhojpur Bihar	Bhojpur
23.	Foundation School	Village- Gurudas Mathiya, Post- Sonahaila, Itarhi Road, Buxar- 802103	Buxar

Sl. No.	Name of School	Address	District
24.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Buxar	Post Nawanagar	Buxar
25.	Sri Ganesh Mahavir S. S. School Ramgarhwa East Champaran	At-Nawkathwa, PO-Ramgarhwa, PS-Ramgarhwa	East Champaran (Motihari)
26.	D.A.V. +2 High School	Station Road Gopalganj	Gopalganj
27.	High School Ramgarh	High School Ramgarh Kaimur Bihar- 821110	Kaimur (Bhabua)
28.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Nalanda	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Rajgir	Nalanda
29.	Inter School Nardiganj	PO+PS- Nardiganj, Dist-Nawada, State-Bihar, Pin- 805109	Nawada
30.	The Tribhuvan School	Off South of Danapur, Khagaul, Patna	Patna
31.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya	Village- Karmalihata P.O.-Tarwa Distt.-Siwan Bihar-841226	Siwan
32.	S.S. Girls High School Nathnagar Bhagalpur	PO-Nathnagar Bhagalpur	Bhagalpur
33.	High School Sudhani	At+PO- Sudhani, Via-Barsoi Ghat, District- Katihar Bihar Pin-854317	Katihar
34.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Araria	Araria R.S. Rahikpur	Araria
35.	Sainik School Nalanda	Sainik School Nalanda At Village Nanand, PO Pawapuri Dist. Nalanda, Bihar- 803115	Nalanda
36.	Delhi Public Secondary School	At-Mahmadpur, near-N.H.-31, Mahmadpur, PO-Mirzapur Bandaaur, Distt.-Begusarai-851129	Begusarai
37.	ST. Judes Vidyalaya	Phulwaria Barauni	Begusarai

Sl. No.	Name of School	Address	District
38.	B. L. Inter School Murliganj	B. L. Inter School Murliganj At+ Po-Murliganj, Distt- Madhepura, Bihar -852122	Madhepura
39.	Kiran Public School	By Pass Road, Madhepura	Madhepura
40.	Krishna Public School	Shiksha Nagar, Station Road, Neora, PS-Neora, Patna, Bihar-801113	Patna
41.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Bhagalpur	At + P.O. - Nagarpara District - Bhagalpur State-Bihar Pin-853203	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Bhagalpur
42.	Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya Rewar Nawada	Vill. Rewar Post Eruri Dist. Nawada	Nawada
43.	Rashtriya Inter School	Daudnagar, Aurangabad (Bihar)-824143	Aurangabad (Bihar)
44.	Intermediate Rashtriya High School Sanokhar Hat	Rasrtiya High School Sanokhar Hat Post Office Sanokhar Bazar Police Station Sanokhar Block Sanhoula Dist. Bhagalpur Bihar, Pin-813204	Bhagalpur

Language of JEE mains exam paper

3730. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the JEE mains exam paper is available in English, Hindi and Gujarati languages;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for giving special preference to Gujarat, Daman and Diu, Dadra and Nagar Haveli only and the reasons why other States are not considered for their respective State languages?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The candidates appearing in the Joint Entrance Examination (Main) in the State of Gujarat and Union Territories of Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli have the option to select the medium of question papers from English, Hindi or Gujarati languages. This option has been available since Joint Entrance Examination (Main), 2013 in accordance with the notification dated 14.08.2012 issued by this Ministry, which stipulates that in case any State opts to admit students in the engineering colleges affiliated to State Universities where States require separate merit list to be provided based on the relative weightages adopted by the States, then the merit list shall be prepared with relative weightages as may be indicated by the States. The examination will be conducted in the regional language on the express request of the concerned State.

Attrition in IITS and IIMs

3731. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has tried to find out the reasons for attrition in IITs and IIMs in the country;
- (b) whether it is a fact that nearly 2,000 students dropped out from IITs and IIMs during the last two years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, IIT-wise and IIM-wise and the remedial measures taken or proposed to be taken by the Ministry to arrest this trend; and
- (d) the details of SC, ST and OBC students who dropped out of above institutions during that period?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Out of 2461 students who dropped out from Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in the last two years, 371 were from the Scheduled Caste (SC), 199 from the Scheduled Tribe (ST) and 601 from the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). In case of Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), out of 99 students who dropped out, 14 were from SC, 21 from ST and 27 from OBC category. The Institute-wise details are given in Statement (*See below*). The maximum dropouts were from the Postgraduate and Ph.D. programmes. The reasons may be attributed to shifting to other colleges/institutions, personal reasons, medical reasons, placement during PG courses

and pursuing higher education abroad. The drop-out in Undergraduate programmes is attributed to withdrawal due to wrong choices filled, poor academic performance, personal and medical reasons. Institutes have taken various corrective measures including appointment of advisors to monitor the academic progress of students, provision of additional classes for academically weaker students, peer assisted learning, counseling on family and personal issues, psychological motivation, appointment of liaison officers, internal complaints committee and extra curricular activities to de-stress students.

Statement

*Details of number of Students dropped-out from IITs and IIMs
during the last two years*

Sl. No.	Name of the Institute	Drop-outs during the last 2 years			
		Total	SC	ST	OBC
1	2	3	4	5	6
Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs)					
1.	IIT Bombay	263	37	12	66
2.	IIT Delhi	782	111	84	161
3.	IIT Kanpur	190	18	5	61
4.	IIT Madras	128	14	6	38
5.	IIT Kharagpur	622	120	63	140
6.	IIT Guwahati	12	3	5	2
7.	IIT Roorkee	57	14	5	38
8.	IIT BHU (Varanasi)	7	0	0	0
9.	IIT Hyderabad	85	8	4	25
10.	IIT Patna	92	8	2	25
11.	IIT Jodhpur	21	3	0	7
12.	IIT Bhubaneswar	39	8	2	9
13.	IIT Gandhinagar	4	2	1	1
14.	IIT Indore	50	6	3	8

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	IIT Ropar	34	8	4	8
16.	IIT Mandi	34	3	0	6
17.	IIT Tirupati	18	6	3	3
18.	IIT Palakkad	2	1	0	0
19.	IIT Bhilai	5	0	0	0
20.	IIT Jammu	6	0	0	0
21.	IIT Goa	0	0	0	0
22.	IIT Dharwad	1	0	0	1
23.	IIT (ISM) Dhanbad	9	1	0	2
TOTAL		2461	371	199	601

Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)

1.	IIM Ahmedabad	3	1	0	1
2.	IIM Bangalore	2	0	1	1
3.	IIM Kozhikode	12	2	2	3
4.	IIM Lucknow	9	0	6	1
5.	IIM Indore	17	2	4	3
6.	IIM Calcutta	5	1	2	1
7.	IIM Shillong	0	0	0	0
8.	IIM Rohtak	0	0	0	0
9.	IIM Raipur	5	1	0	0
10.	IIM Ranchi	0	0	0	0
11.	IIM Udaipur	0	0	0	0
12.	IIM Tiruchirappalli	12	3	1	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
13.	IIM Kashipur	13	0	2	11
14.	IIM Amritsar	2	1	0	0
15.	IIM Nagpur	3	0	1	0
16.	IIM Sirmaur	0	0	0	0
17.	IIM Sambalpur	0	0	0	0
18.	IIM Visakhapatnam	4	1	1	0
19.	IIM Bodhgaya	4	0	1	0
20.	IIM Jammu	8	2	0	3
TOTAL		99	14	21	27

Central institutions in Andhra Pradesh

3732. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why special attention in releasing funds, etc., is not paid on Central institutions in Andhra Pradesh under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014;

(b) the details of Central institutions set up, so far in the State and funds allocated, sanctioned, released and spent on each of such institution, institution-wise; and

(c) by when each of the above institution is going to operate from their permanent campuses?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Government is fully attentive to the requirement of funds released to set up new educational institutions in Andhra Pradesh. The details of fund allotted are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Institute	Funds Allocated	Funds Sanctioned	Funds Released	Funds Spent
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Tirupati	1074.00	525.00	478.36	332.53
National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tadepalligudem	460.50	410.05	248.65	184.65
Indian Institute of Information Technology Design and Manufacturing, Kurnool	297.00	159.30	43.46	30.25
Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Vishakhapatnam	594.32	594.32	110.87	88.62
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati	1137.16	525	140.09	140.09
Central University, Ananthapur	A provision of ₹ 450 crore (First Phase expenditure) has been approved by Union Cabinet. During 2018-19 there was a token allocation of ₹ 10 crore. An amount of ₹ 8.00 crore has been released, out of which ₹ 2.46 crore has been spent.			
Tribal University, Vizianagaram	A provision of ₹ 420 crore (First Phase expenditure) has been approved by Union Cabinet. During 2018-19 there was a token allocation of ₹ 10 crore. An amount of ₹ 0.5 crore has been released, out of which ₹ 0.14 crore has been spent.			

(c) The status of permanent campuses is as under:—

Institute	Completion of Permanent Campus
1	2
Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Tirupati	March, 2020 (Phase-A)
National Institute of Technology (NIT), Tadepalligudem	December, 2020

1	2
Indian Institute of Information Technology Design and Manufacturing, Kurnool	July, 2018 (Already shifted)
Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Vishakhapatnam	June, 2021
Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Tirupati	December, 2021
Central University, Ananthapur	Work for permanent campuses not started
Tribal University, Vizianagaram	

Checking brain drain

3733. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has assessed the extent of brain drain from the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any steps during the last one year to check brain drain; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) The Government is committed to not only retain the students passing out of the premier educational institutions in the country, but also attract the non-resident Indians back to the country. For attracting highly skilled researchers to pursue their R&D interests in Indian Institutions, several initiatives have been launched such as: Faculty Recharge Programme, CV Raman Post-Doctoral Fellowship Scheme by University Grants Commission (UGC), Ramanujan Fellowship, JC Bose Fellowship, Swarnjayanti Fellowship, Young Scientist Project Award, Women Scientist Scheme by Department of Science and Technology (DST), and Ramalinga Swami Re-entry Fellowship by Department of Biotechnology. Ministry of Human Resource Development have launched Global Initiative for Academic Network (GIAN) which

seeks to tap the talent pool of scientists and entrepreneurs from abroad, including those of Indian origin to augment the country's existing academic resources.

Non-implementation of MDMS

†3734. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the mid-day meal is not being provided to a large number of children in some States including Uttar Pradesh and Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that clean and healthy food is necessary;

(d) if so, the dates on which States have been issued guidelines/suggestions by Government to provide hygienic and healthy mid-day meal during the last three years and the results thereof; and

(e) if no guidelines/suggestions have been issued, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Mid -Day Meal Scheme (MDMS) is an on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme which covers all school children studying in Classes I-VIII of Government, Government-Aided schools, Special Training Centres including Madarsas and Maqtabas supported under Samagra Shiksha (SS). On an average basis 9.17 crore children studying in 11.34 lakh schools are served hot cooked mid-day meal on each school working day in all the States and UTs during the year 2018-19.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. One of the objectives of the scheme is to improve the nutritional status of children covered under the Scheme. The Government of India has issued guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene in school level kitchens to all the States and UTs on 13.02.2015. These guidelines *inter alia* provide for instructions to schools to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of mid-day meals, tasting of meals by 2-3 adult members of School Management Committee including at least one teacher before serving to children and to put in place a system of testing of food samples by accredited laboratories. During the last three years, the above provisions of the guidelines have been reiterated in various meetings and workshops with the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

States and UTs. These guidelines and continuous monitoring has helped in maintaining good quality of Mid Day Meal in schools.

Financial allocation for education

†3735. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of improvement in education level, provisions for compulsory education and share of total budget for education and funds allocated for the purpose at various levels for general public for the financial year 2019-20; and

(b) the details of action plan proposed for goals set in the field of higher education and meeting the international standards outlined for best education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) and All India Survey on Higher education (AISHE) available on websites reveals that the number of students in schools and higher education institutes as well as number of schools and higher education institutes have increased significantly. An integrated scheme "Samagra Shiksha" has been launched by Department of School Education and Literacy. It ensures provisioning of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students, bridging social and gender gaps in school education, ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels of school education, ensuring minimum standards in schooling, promoting vocationalisation of education, supporting States and UTs in implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009. The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, provides for free and compulsory education to every child of age six to fourteen years in a neighbourhood school till the completion of elementary education in all States and UTs except Jammu and Kashmir.

In the Financial Year 2019-20, the total Budget allocation for Department of School Education and Literacy and Department of Higher Education is ₹ 56536.63 crore and ₹ 38317.01 crore respectively.

(b) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has notified regulations pertaining to recognition, accreditation of the higher educational institutions, minimum qualifications for appointment as teacher/academic staff, for enhancing the quality of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

higher education in the institutions. Besides this, Government has started the Institution of Eminence Programme wherein objective is to provide for greater academic, administrative, financial and other regulatory autonomy to ten Public and ten Private Higher Educational Institutions, to emerge as world class teaching and research institutions. Six institutions have already been given the status of Institution of Eminence. The Institutions declared as Institution of Eminence will be free from the usual regulatory mechanism to choose their path to become institutions of global repute with emphasis on multi-disciplinary initiatives, high quality research, global best practices and international collaboration.

Free education to EWS students

†3736. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to provide free education to students of Economically Weaker Sections studying in private schools till 12th standard in all parts of the country including Delhi;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any steps in this direction, so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) A draft proposal has been prepared in this regard.

Making environment education mandatory

†3737. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to make environment education mandatory in universities and institutions of higher education;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard, so far; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

framed an 8 unit module syllabus for Ability in Enhancement Compulsory Courses (AECC-Environment Studies) under Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). The UGC has requested the Universities from time to time to take appropriate steps to introduce courses on Environmental Studies and compulsory implementation of module syllabus on Environmental Studies for Under Graduate course of all branches of Higher Education in Universities and Colleges. Universities are autonomous bodies established under Central/State/Provincial Acts and the onus of formulation and revision of syllabus lies with these Universities.

Further, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has launched Model Curriculum in Engineering in which Environment Science is a mandatory subject and Universities are asked to implement the Model Curriculum after making suitable changes as per the local requirement and expertise of the Institutes/Universities. Suitable books have been prescribed for it. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) on Environment Science are also available on SWAYAM Portal.

Appointment of Hindi teachers

3738. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has allocated a large sum of money to support the appointment of Hindi teachers in non-Hindi speaking States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether the States have been consulted regarding the move?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Central Sector Scheme of Financial Assistance for Appointment of Language Teachers in the States and UTs was in operation till the end of 12th Plan Period *i.e.* 2016-17. Under the scheme, financial assistance was given for appointment of Hindi and Urdu Teachers based on the proposals received from States/UTs. *vide* letter dated 8th March, 2017, it was informed to the States that the responsibility of the teachers recruited in the 11th and 12th plan period under the scheme shall rest upon the concerned State from the year 2017-18.

Kendriya Hindi Sansthan is an educational institution under the aegis of Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. This institution conducts

various activities related to teaching, training and promotion of Hindi in and outside the country. This institution also provides Hindi teaching and training to students in non-Hindi speaking States. Along with the headquarters at Agra this institution has 9 centres across the country. Refresher training is provided to Hindi Teachers in non Hindi speaking States through these centres. Every year this institution trains approximately 2000 teachers and teacher trainers.

Job vis-a-vis level of education

3739. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that even the post graduate students are being forced to apply for jobs much below their level of education in the country, like attendants, peons, etc.; and

(b) the details of steps taken by Government to increase the employment opportunities, particularly for highly educated sections of the society?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Employment of post graduates is dependent on opportunities generated by economic growth. Data on jobs applied for by post graduates is not maintained in the Ministry. Under the purview of Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the following steps have been taken to enhance employability of students:—

- (i) There are 1109 skill oriented courses being run by University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) through 556 institutions (300 B.VoC. colleges, 188 Community colleges and 68 DDU Kaushal Kendra Colleges), in which 38414 students are receiving skill training with education.
- (ii) New and updated vocational curricula are being developed in line with industry demand in B.VoC. programmes.
- (iii) AICTE has launched an internship portal to facilitate industry internship to students. Internship has been made mandatory for students of engineering colleges.

- (iv) Wheebox Employability Skill Test (WEST) for all pre-final and final year graduates of AICTE approved institutions to identify the core strengths of students and certify the same.
- (v) Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) Phase-III is under implementation to enhance quality, equity and employability in selected engineering education institutions.
- (vi) National Career Service (NCS) portal has been launched as a common platform to bring together stakeholders like job seekers, employers, counsellors, local service providers and trainer etc. to facilitate convergence of information and link job seekers with job providers.
- (vii) MHPvD is working in co-operation with Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) which comprise representatives of Industry and Service Sectors to develop curricula that reflect industry-demanded skills so that higher education can be linked with employment opportunities.

Quality of professional technical education

3740. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any specific steps are being taken to improve the quality of professional technical education in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any specific plans are being made or resources allocated to AICTE for this; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) In order to enhance the level of professional technical education in the country and to bridge the industry-academia gap, the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) is implementing the following initiatives out of its own funds:—

- (i) Preparation of outcome based Model Curriculum with mandatory internship.

- (ii) Introduction of exam reforms to assess the learning outcomes.
- (iii) Preparation of Perspective Plan to encourage new and emerging fields, with high employment potential.
- (iv) Initiatives for Teachers' Training for enhancing their core skills and make them up to-date with latest teaching methods.
- (v) Industry readiness cell in each institute to strengthen industry institute links and mandatory signing of at least 5 Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with Industry.
- (vi) Encourage institutions for accreditation of courses to improve quality of education.
- (vii) Start-up initiatives to promote entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- (viii) Organisation of Smart India Hackathons to encourage innovations and act as funnel for "Startup India".
- (ix) Introduction of mandatory induction programme for students/career counselling.

Reduction in money allocated for teachers' training

3741. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any reduction in the money allocated for teachers' training during the last three years; and
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the funds allocated therefor during that period?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Central Government has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education-Samagra Shiksha with effect from 2018-19 which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). Under Samagra Shiksha, funds are allocated to the States and UTs for various components including Teacher's Training as per the norms of the schemes and proposals

received from State and UT Governments. The fund allocated for teacher's training during last three years are as under:—

(₹ in lakh)

Year	SSA	RMSA	
2016-17	40570.42	35738.51	-
2017-18	64632.50	32751.25	-
2018-19	Samagra Shiksha		84091.34

Retirement and death gratuity to KVs employees

3742. SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has extended the benefit of retirement and death gratuity to employees of autonomous bodies under the Central Government;
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has directed the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) for stoppage of retirement and death gratuity to the employees under the National Pension System (NPS);
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the details of KVS employees benefitted so far;
- (e) whether representations have been received from various stakeholders regarding restoration of the above benefit; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has conveyed approval for revision of pension as per recommendation of the 7th CPC to the employees of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan who retired after 1.1.2016 as well as revision of pension/family pension of those pensioners/family pensioners who retired prior to 1.1.2016. Several other autonomous bodies under the MHRD have also been extended these benefits on a case to case basis in consultation with Ministry of Finance.

- (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) As per the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure OM No. F. No. 1/1/2016-E.III(A) dated 13th January, 2017, the benefits implemented by Central Government in respect of Central Government employees (as part of their service conditions) are not directly applicable to the employees working in autonomous organizations. An advisory had accordingly been issued on 12.4.2017 that in case the benefits of retirement gratuity and death gratuity have been extended to the employees of any autonomous bodies/organisations covered under NPS, the same may be withdrawn till a final decision is taken in the matter with the approval of Department of Expenditure.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Reservation in education for girl children of trafficked women

3743. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some States offer reservation in education for girl children of trafficked women;

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

(c) the steps being taken by the Central Government to enact a law in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) All States and UTs except the State of Jammu and Kashmir are implementing the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, which entitles every child of age 6 to 14 years to a right to free and compulsory education in a neighbourhood school till completion of elementary education. Section 8(c) of the RTE Act, 2009 provides that the appropriate Government would ensure that the child belonging to weaker section and the child belonging to disadvantaged group are not discriminated against and prevented from pursuing and completing elementary education on any grounds. Further, Section 12 (1) (c) of RTE Act, 2009 provides that all specified category schools and unaided schools shall admit at least 25% children belonging to weaker section and disadvantaged group in the neighbourhood in class I and provide free and compulsory elementary education till its completion. In schools imparting pre-school education, this provision applies to admission to such pre-school education.

The Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing Integrated Scheme for School Education namely Samagra Shiksha, from 2018-19 by subsuming the schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA), and Teacher Education (TE), which supports States and UTs in implementation of the RTE Act, 2009. Samagra Shiksha is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and has the broader goal of improving school effectiveness measured in terms of equal opportunities for schooling and equitable learning outcomes. One of the objectives of Samagra Shiksha is to ensure equity and inclusion at all levels of school education.

In addition to this, there is provision of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) under Samagra Shiksha, which are residential schools from class VI to XII for girls belonging to disadvantaged groups. The objective behind establishing KGBVs is to ensure access and quality education to girls from disadvantaged groups by setting up residential schools and to reduce gender gaps at all levels of school education. The KGBVs are set up in Educationally Backward Blocks (EBBs) of a State/UT where the female rural literacy rate is below the national average. A total of 5970 KGBVs have been sanctioned under Samagra Shiksha as on 31.03.2019, out of which, 4841 are operational.

Developing schools under RMSA in Andhra Pradesh

3744. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of schools developed under the Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (b) the fund allocated to the State therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) was launched in 2009 and implemented till 2017-18. Now, RMSA along-with other two centrally sponsored schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Teacher Education (TE) have been subsumed under a new scheme-Samagra Shiksha, which is under implementation in the country with effect from 1st April, 2018.

Since the inception of RMSA in the State of Andhra Pradesh, 96 new secondary schools, 5182 additional classrooms, 2474 science labs, 2015 computer labs,

2825 libraries, 2879 art and culture rooms, 1399 drinking water facilities, 4226 toilets have been sanctioned. Out of these 48 schools are functional. In addition to these 3689 additional classrooms, 1794 science labs, 1593 computer labs, 1969 libraries, 1911 art and culture rooms, 1232 drinking water facilities and 2860 toilets have been constructed.

(b) Since the inception of RMSA, an amount of ₹ 120979.11 lakh was approved/sanctioned to the State of Andhra Pradesh for opening of new schools and strengthening of existing secondary schools.

Human Rights Courts in each district

3745. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for delay in setting up of exclusive Human Rights Courts in each district and appointing special public prosecutors in them; and

(b) the corrective steps proposed to be taken in future in each State?

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

(a) The courts at District and Subordinate Judiciary level including special courts and human rights courts are established by the respective State Governments in consultation with the concerned High Courts, as per their need and resources. Under Section 30 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993, the State Governments for the purpose of providing speedy trial of offences may with the concurrence of Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, by a notification specify a Court of Sessions in each district a Human Rights Court to try the offences arising out of the violation of Human Rights. It is, therefore, upto the respective State Governments to decide as to the need for setting up of Human Rights Courts, with the concurrence of the Chief Justices of the concerned High Courts.

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

Putting deliberations in public domain

3746. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to consider that the deliberations in the Multi-Member Election Commission of India may be put in public domain to make it more transparent and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government proposes to examine the demand of openness voiced by one of the erstwhile legal experts in the Election Commission who had argued for transparency unless it deals with security for conducting elections and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The Election Commission of India is a constitutional body. The functioning of the Commission is governed by the 'The Election Commission (Conditions of Service of Election Commissioners and Transaction of Business) Act, 1991.' According to Section 10 thereof, the Election Commission may, by unanimous decision, regulate the procedure for transaction of its business as also allocation of its business amongst the Chief Commissioner and other Election Commissioner.

Speedy trial of cases involving legislators

3747. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the progress made on the speedy trial of cases involving legislators;
- (b) the details of fast-track courts set up in this regard;
- (c) whether any deadline has been fixed by which this initiative would be finished; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (d) In compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) 699/2016 dated 01.11.2017 and 14.12.2017, 12 Special Courts were set up in 11 States involving a proposed expenditure of ₹7.80 crore for a period of one year. *vide* its Order dated 04.12.2018, the Apex Court gave directions to High Courts to begin working on cases involving former and sitting legislators in the States of Bihar and Kerala, to assign/allocate criminal cases involving former and sitting legislators to as many Sessions Courts and Magisterial Courts that each High Court may consider proper, fit and expedient. As on date, 10 Special Courts are functional. The progress made regarding the speedy trial of cases involving legislators in these 10 Special Courts is as per Statement (*See* below). No deadline has been fixed by which this initiative

would be completed. The progress issue is being monitored by the respective High Courts and the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Statement

Details of progress made in Special Courts

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court under which Special Court functions	No. of cases disposed off during the quarter (01.01.2019-31.03.2019)	No. of cases pending at the end of the quarter (01.01.2019-31.03.2019)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	04	101
2.	Delhi	0	96
3.	Bombay	04	20*
4.	Karnataka	130**	144**
5.	Madhya Pradesh	57	157
6.	Madras	02	77
7.	Allahabad	69	1254
8.	Calcutta	45	195
9.	Telangana	02	97

* as on 26.06.2019

** information pertains to the period 01.03.2019-30.06.2019

Appointment of Court Managers

3748. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has recently advocated for appointment of Court Managers to render assistance in performing the court administration;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has proposed any action plan in this regard and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Supreme Court has also advised all the State Governments to

regulate the services of all Court Managers at the district level to ensure proper administration?

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

(a) to (d) The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* its Order dated 02.08.2018 in the matter of Interlocutory Application No. 279 of 2010 in Writ Petition (Civil) no. 1022 of 1989 impressed upon the State Governments that professionally qualified Court Managers preferably with MBA degree, must be appointed to render assistance in the performance of court administration. The said post of Court Managers must be created in each judicial district for assisting Principal District and Sessions Judges. The Apex Court in its order further mentioned that the services of any person already working as Court Manager in any district should be regularized by the State Government as their assistance is needed for a proper administrative set up in a Court. The above Order has been forwarded to all the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and High Courts with the request that a report on the actions taken in this regard may be submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Guidelines of Supreme Court for infrastructure of courts

3749. SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Supreme Court has issued some guidelines with regard to improving infrastructure of courts in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government has initiated any action in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) and (b) It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to provide Judicial Infrastructure and Court Rooms District and Subordinate Courts. The Union Government has been administering a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in order to augment the resources of State Governments, in association with the States/UT Governments. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court halls and court complexes and residential accommodations of judicial officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As on date, ₹ 6,986 crores have been sanctioned since the inception of the scheme in

1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 3,542 crores (50.70%) have been sanctioned to the States and UTs since April, 2014. 19,179 court halls and 16,852 residential accommodations have been made available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts under this scheme as on date against the working strength of 17,970 Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts of the country. In addition, 2,818 court halls and 1,856 residential units are under construction.

Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is being monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case.

(c) The Central Government had approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an outlay is ₹3,320 crore for completion of on-going projects for construction of 3,000 court halls and 1,800 residential units for judicial officers of District and Subordinate Courts. The Central Government also approved setting up of an on-line monitoring system with geo-tagging enabling data collection on progress, completion of court halls and residential units under construction, including for future projects as well as better asset management and formulation of norms and specification of court halls to be constructed under scheme for implementation throughout the country for future.

Accordingly, the guidelines of the scheme have been revised from 2018-19 for smooth and effective implementation of the scheme. An on-line monitoring system has been developed with the technical assistance of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). For the purpose, a web portal and mobile app named "Nyaya Vikas" has been developed for monitoring of construction projects with facility of geo-tagging. Norms and specifications for construction of court halls have also been developed and circulated to all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Policy for affordable justice to poor and backwards

† 3750. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate any effective policy to provide affordable and accessible justice to dalits, backwards and poor people and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any requests from various social organization or State Governments in this regard; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the response of Government thereto?

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

(a) Yes Sir. Article 39 A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all. In the year 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted by the Parliament which came into force on 9 November, 1995 to establish a nationwide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of equal opportunity. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes. Legal services institutions have been set up at all level from Taluk Courts to the Supreme Court. Apart from these legal services institutions, High Court Legal Services Committees have been constituted at all High Courts and the Supreme Courts Legal Services Committee at the Supreme Court level to provide free legal services to the persons eligible under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act. The free Legal Aid Services include:—

- (i) Payment of court fee, process fees and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings;
- (ii) Providing service of lawyers in legal proceedings;
- (iii) Obtaining and supply of certified copies of orders and another documents in legal proceedings; and
- (iv) Preparation of appeal paper book including printing and translation of document in legal proceedings.

(b) and (c) Receipts of requests in this regard is a continuous process. These are received very often and the same are forwarded to NALSA for taking up the matter with the concerned State Legal Services Institutions for appropriate action. NALSA closely monitors the action on such requests. Social organizations are also involved in various awareness and out reach programmes conducted by the State Authorities.

Modernisation of District Courts

3751. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the pathetic conditions, in which the courts functions for administering justice, such as lack of adequate facilities like toilets and

drinking water especially for women, senior citizens and children on the court premises and even the bad state of courtrooms of our judges which requires immediate attention; and

(b) whether Government proposes to modernise District Courts and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a) It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to provide Judicial Infrastructure and Court Rooms in District and Subordinate Courts. The Union Government has been administering a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in order to augment the resources of State Governments, in association with the States/UT Governments. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court halls and court complexes and residential accommodations of judicial officers of District and subordinate Judiciary. As on date, ₹ 6,986 crores have been sanctioned since the inception of the Scheme in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 3,542 crores (50.70%) have been sanctioned to the States and UTs since April, 2014. 19,179 court halls and 16,852 residential accommodations have been made available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts under this scheme as on date against the working strength of 17,970 Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts of the country. In addition, 2,818 court halls and 1,856 residential units are under construction.

(b) The Central Government has also been administering a Central Sector Scheme of eCourt Mission Mode Project (Phase-II), (2015-19) under which funds are made available to various organisations involved in the implementation of the project and High Courts with the aim for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enablement of district and subordinate courts, across the country in association with eCommittee of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. So far, out of total outlay of ₹ 1,670 crore, the Government has sanctioned a sum of ₹ 1,248 crore as on date to various organizations involved in the implementation of the project. This includes a sum of ₹ 955.86 crore sanctioned to High Courts. Number of computerised District and Subordinate courts in the country, by the end of first phase of eCourts Project (2014) increased from 13,672 to 16,845 registering an increase of 3,173.

Recommendations on Uniform Civil Code

3752. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has requested the Law Commission to examine various issues relating to Uniform Civil Code and to make recommendations thereon;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken/being taken by the Law Commission on such requests so far;
- (c) whether the Law Commission has submitted its recommendations;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to submit its recommendations; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to introduce Uniform Civil Code across the country?

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

- (a) Yes, Sir.
- (b) The Law Commission, after detailed research and number of consultations, had uploaded a consultation paper titled "Reform of Family Law" on its website for wider discussions.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) In view of the nature of the subject matter, it may not be possible to lay down any rigid time frame in the matter.
- (e) Does not arise.

Engagement of Nyaya Mitras at designated courts

3753. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is engaging Nyaya Mitras in designated courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of districts and High Courts in which this facility is provided, State-wise; and
- (d) whether Government has achieved some positive results by appointing these Nyaya Mitras during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, process to engage 93 Nyaya Mitras in 93 District Courts and 7 Nyaya Mitra in 7 High Courts in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, West Bengal and Odisha in the year 2019-20 has been undertaken.

(c) and (d) The services of Nyaya Mitra have been provided in the districts of Sri Ganganagar, Bhilwara, Alwar (Rajasthan) and 24 North Paragnas (West Bengal). Nyaya Mitras in various districts have helped in disposal of 236 cases, which include civil cases such as matrimonial cases, accident claim cases and also criminal cases.

Conflict of Interest policy

3754. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the definition of Conflict of interest;
- (b) whether Government has laid down any Conflict of Interest policy and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the details of situations under which interests may be in conflict;
- (d) the details of disclosure and recusal rules to avoid such conflicts; and
- (e) the details of enforcement and penalty mechanism laid down for such situations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Black's Law Dictionary defines 'Conflict of Interest' as a real or seeming incompatibility between one's private interest and one's public or fiduciary duties. The Government has not laid down any specific Conflict of Interest policy, however, certain norms are in vogue for judges and civil servants. Supreme Court and High Court Judges take on oath to perform the duties of office without fear or favour and their conduct is regulated by case laws and non-binding resolutions. The Civil Servants are governed by various laws and service rules.

(d) and (e) These norms prohibit a Judge, to take up or hear a matter/cases in which he or his family or friend's interest is involved, or a matter of a company in which the judge or his family holds share unless he discloses his interest and no objection is raised. Similarly, the Civil Servants recuse themselves from a contract award in which

their dependent is employed. If the dependent of an Officer wants to take up employment in a private firms with which the Officers has an official dealing, then the permission of the Head of the Department has to be taken by the officers. As regards enforcement and penalty mechanism for Civil Servant, necessary provisions have been made in the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964 and the Central Civil Service (Pension) Rules, 1972.

Meeting for One Nation One Poll

3755. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister has recently called a meeting of the heads of political parties to discuss the issue of One Nation One Poll to push forward holding elections to Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies simultaneously; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the outcome of the said meeting?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) A meeting was convened by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs with the presidents of all political parties on 19.06.2019, wherein, among other subjects, the issue of 'One Country One Election' was also discussed. Hon'ble Prime Minister was present during the meeting. While some of the political parties supported the proposition, a few others wanted the issue to be discussed and examined carefully.

Fee for translation of proceedings and verdict

3756. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Indian languages in which court proceedings are translated; and

(b) whether the court charges fee for providing translation of proceedings and verdict to the concerned parties?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) At present, translated versions of selected judgments of the Supreme Court in nine vernacular languages are being uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court

of India. The nine languages are: Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu.

The judgements relate to cases arising under the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India in relation to the following subject categories:—

1. Labour matters;
2. Rent Act matters;
3. Land Acquisition and Requisition matters;
4. Service matters;
5. Compensation matters;
6. Criminal matters;
7. Family Law matters;
8. Ordinary Civil matters
9. Personal Law matters;
10. Religious and Charitable Endowments matters;
11. Simple money and Mortgage matters;
12. Eviction under the Public Premises (Eviction) Act matters;
13. Land Laws and Agriculture Tenancies; and
14. Matters relating to Consumer Protection.

The use of Hindi in the proceedings of High Court of Rajasthan was authorized under the clause (2) of the Article 348 of the Constitution in 1950. Thereafter, the use of Hindi has been authorized in the High Courts of Uttar Pradesh (1969), Madhya Pradesh (1971), and Bihar (1972).

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Use of regional language in lower courts is the subject matter of the States.

Special Courts for SCs/STs related cases

3757. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Special Courts set up throughout the country for hearing

cases registered under the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, as per the amendments in the Act; and

(b) the number and details of cases disposed of during 2014 to 2019 with the number of cases lying pending till date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The constitution of Special Courts for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and their functioning/monitoring falls within the domain of the State and Union Territory Governments, who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the High Courts in accordance with Section 14 of the 'The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Amendment Act, 2015', the Gazette Notification of which was published on 01.01.2016. State Governments and Union Territory Administrations either establish Exclusive Special Courts for one or more districts or designate for such districts where less number of cases under this Act are recorded, the Court of Session to be a Special Court to try, offences under the Act. As per available information, many State Governments and Union Territory Administrations have designated District Session Courts as Special Courts.

As per information received from the High Courts, total number of Special Courts set up throughout the country along with number and details of cases disposed of during 2014 to 2019 and the number of cases lying pending in such Courts till date, State/UT-wise is given in the Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Special Courts and cases disposed off/pending till date

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of Special Courts set up as per the provisions of The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (PoA) Amendment Act, 2015 (as on 31.03.2019)	Number of cases disposed off in Special Courts during 2014 to 2019	Number of cases pending in Special Courts of the State/UT
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13	-	3698 as on 31.03.2019

1	2	3	4	5
2.	Mizoram	02	-	0 as on 31.03.2019
3.	Nagaland	08	-	0 as on 31.03.2019
4.	Bihar	37	12982 as on 30.06.21019	46951 as on 30.06.2019
5.	Chhattisgarh	23	3628 as on 30.06.2019	1002 as on 30.06.2019
6.	Delhi	11	-	271 as on 31.03.2019
7.	Goa	02	-	27 as on 31.03.2019
8.	Maharashtra	170	5857 as on 30.06.2019	6611 as on 30.06.2019
9.	Gujarat	63	154*	4462 as on 15.07.2019
10.	Haryana	21	1153	982 as on 30.06.2019
11.	Punjab	22	554	267 as on 30.06.2019
12.	Chandigarh	01	08	02 as on 30.06.2019
13.	Jharkhand	24	-	1952 as on 31.03.2019
14.	Karnataka	32	7259 as on June, 2019	5373 as on 01.07.2019

1	2	3	4	5
15.	Kerala and Lakshadweep	14	902	2174 as on 31.03.2019
16.	Madhya Pradesh	50	-	18042 as on 30.06.2019
17.	Odisha	94	5607 as on 31.03.2019	11495 as on 31.03.2019
18.	Rajasthan	35	10872 as on 30.06.2019	10830 as on 30.06.2019
19.	Sikkim	04	09 as on June, 2019	03 as on 31.03.2019
20.	Tamil Nadu	06	-	1356 as on 31.03.2019
21.	Tripura	05	06 as on 30.06.2019	08 as on 30.06.2019
22.	Uttar Pradesh	40	-	70266 as on 31.03.2019
23.	Uttarakhand	13	227 as on 30.06.2019	262 as on 30.06.2019
24.	Telangana	10	-	3115 as on 31.03.2019
25.	Daman and Diu	01	-	01 as on 31.03.2019
26.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	01	-	06 as on 31.03.2019

* Cases disposed off within a period of 15.05.2019 to 15.07.2019.

Sanctioning of additional posts for States

3758. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has sanctioned additional posts of All India Services particularly IAS and IPS to each State, including the State of Maharashtra and Rajasthan;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years; and
- (c) the number of posts in each cadre and the actual demand of each State for each post, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) The Central Government ordinarily at the interval of every five years re-examines the strength and composition of each cadre in consultation with the State Governments concerned and makes suitable alterations therein and fixes the Total Authorized Strength as per the functional requirement of the State/Cadre. The details of Cadre Review of IAS and IPS carried out since July, 2016 is given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

The last IAS and IPS Cadre Reviews for Maharashtra State were carried out in 2018 wherein the Total Authorized Strength for IAS was increased from 361 to 415 and for IPS from 302 to 317. Similarly, the last IAS and IPS Cadre Reviews for Rajasthan State were carried out in 2016 and 2015 respectively, wherein the Total Authorized Strength for IAS was increased from 296 to 313 and for IPS from 205 to 215.

- (c) The sanctioned Total Authorized Strengths for IAS and IPS as per the respective last Cadre Review are given in Statement-III.

Statement-I***Details of Cadre Review of Indian Administrative Service since July, 2016***

Sl. No.	Cadre	Cadre Review carried out in year	Total Authorized Strength
1	2	3	4
1.	Chhattisgarh	2016	193
2.	Madhya Pradesh	2016	439

1	2	3	4
3.	Manipur	2016	115
4.	Rajasthan	2016	313
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2017	239
6.	Tripura	2017	102
7.	West Bengal	2017	378
8.	AGMUT	2018	403
9.	Gujarat	2018	313
10.	Haryana	2018	215
11.	Maharashtra	2018	415
12.	Punjab	2019	231

Statement-II*Details of Cadre Review of Indian Police Service Since July, 2016*

Sl. No.	Cadre	Cadre Review carried out in year	Total Authorized Strength
1	2	3	4
1.	AGMUT	2017	309
2.	Bihar	2017	242
3.	Chhattisgarh	2017	142
4.	Gujarat	2017	208
5.	Haryana	2017	144
6.	Nagaland	2017	75
7.	Sikkim	2017	32
8.	Tripura	2017	69
9.	Uttarakhand	2017	73
10.	Assam-Meghalaya	2018	195

1	2	3	4
11.	Maharashtra	2018	317
12.	Odisha	2018	195
13.	Tamil Nadu	2018	276

Statement-III*Details of sanctioned Total Authorized Strength for IAS and IPS**(Updated As on 24.07.2019)**(As per respective last Cadre Reviews)*

Sl. No.	Cadre	Total Authorized Strength	
		IAS	IPS
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	239	144
2.	AGMUT	403	309
3.	Assam-Meghalaya	263	195
4.	Bihar	342	242
5.	Chhattisgarh	193	142
6.	Gujarat	313	208
7.	Haryana	215	144
8.	Himachal Pradesh	147	94
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	137	147
10.	Jharkhand	215	149
11.	Karnataka	314	215
12.	Kerala	231	172
13.	Madhya Pradesh	439	305
14.	Maharashtra	415	317
15.	Manipur	115	89

1	2	3	4
16.	Nagaland	94	75
17.	Odisha	237	195
18.	Punjab	231	172
19.	Rajasthan	313	215
20.	Sikkim	48	32
21.	Tamil Nadu	376	276
22.	Telangana	208	139
23.	Tripura	102	69
24.	Uttarakhand	120	73
25.	Uttar Pradesh	621	517
26.	West Bengal	378	347

Finalisation of select list of Deputy Secretaries

3759. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been delay in the finalisation of select list of Deputy Secretaries in the Central Secretariat Services and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there has been discrimination towards CSS compared to Central Secretariat Stenographers Service in finalising the select lists and giving promotions; and

(c) whether the select list of Deputy Secretaries for the year 2013 onwards upto 2018 would be finalised soon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Regular vacancies in the grade of Deputy Secretary are filled by promotion of regular Under Secretaries who have rendered not less than five years' approved service in that Grade and are included in the Select List for the Selection Grade (Deputy Secretary). The last Select List for Deputy Secretaries was finalized for the year 2012.

For finalising the Select List of Selection Grade (Deputy Secretary) of the CSS for the year 2013 onwards, the zone of consideration includes Under Secretaries belonging to Under Secretary Select List 2003 onwards, which is presently *sub-judice* in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(b) No, Sir. Because both Central Secretariat Service (CSS) and Central Secretariat Stenographers Service (CSSS) are governed by different sets of Rules and Regulations.

(c) In the grade of Deputy Secretary no regular promotion from the Select List Year, 2013 onwards is possible due to an ongoing litigation pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Freedom of expression to Government employees

3760. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government employees have been given freedom of expression as per Government manual;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government employees can not participate in any form of debate/write-ups/other public activities beyond office hours; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (d) It is mentioned that as per Rule 8 of Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, no Government servant shall, except with the previous sanction of the Government, own wholly or in part, or conduct or participate in the editing or management of, any newspaper or other periodical publication or electronic in a public media. Further, Rule 9 of Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules provides *inter alia* that no Government servant shall make any statement of fact or opinion in any form of communication, (i) which has the effect of an adverse criticism of any current or recent policy or action of the Central Government or a State Government or (ii) which is capable of embarrassing the relations between the Central Government and the Government of any State or (iii) which is capable of embarrassing the relations between the Central Government and the Government of any foreign State; subject to exceptions for bonafide expression of views by office-bearers

of a trade union or association of Government servants for the purpose of safeguarding the conditions of service of such Government servants or for securing an improvement thereof or for views expressed by a Government servant in his official capacity or in the due performance of the duties assigned to him.

Criteria for Aspirational Districts

3761. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of criteria set for selecting Aspirational Districts and the details of districts already included under it, State-wise;
- (b) the major terms of references for Social Economic Survey of Aspirational Districts;
- (c) the details of centralised and decentralised arrangements put in place for monitoring developmental activities being executed in Aspirational Districts; and
- (d) whether the performance audit has been done regarding development works undertaken in 115 Aspirational Districts during the last three years and if not, by when such audit would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Currently, the Aspirational Districts Programme is being implemented in 112 districts. State-wise list of these districts is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The list includes 35 districts selected by the Ministry of Home Affairs on the basis of their being affected by Left Wing Extremism (L.W.E). For the selection of the rest of the districts, they have been identified on the basis of a composite index. List of the data bashes and their weightage in the composite index is given in Statement-II (*See below*). After selection, States were requested that in case they want any replacement on the basis of objective criteria, they may suggest such modification. Accordingly, six States, namely, Sikkim, Odisha, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan and Gujarat suggested changes in the list which were accepted.

(b) At present, NITI Aayog is not conducting any socio-economic survey in these districts. Under the programme, districts are being encouraged to undertake validation of development related data so that progress made in districts could be objectively reported.

(c) Aspirational Districts are uploading the progress made in different key performance indicators on a web-portal www.championsofchange.gov.in. The portal is designed to calculate ranking of the identified districts in terms of progress made in different indicators on a monthly basis. Uploading of indicators and ranking of the districts are being used for monitoring the progress under this programme besides generating competition among different districts for better performance. In addition, Government of India has nominated a Central Prabhari Officer for each district whose functions include monitoring of the performance of the district and acting as a bridge between Central and State Government in addressing the emerging challenges in these districts. States have been requested to undertake review of the programme frequently. At Central level, the programme is anchored in NITI Aayog which regularly monitors the progress in the programme and places the same to an Empowered Committee of Secretaries, constituted for this programme.

(d) The programme was launched on January 5, 2018 and hence has not completed three years. At the same time as stated above, performance of the programme is being regularly monitored by State and Central Government especially on the basis of progress being captured on a web portal www.championsofchange.gov.in. This portal is accessed by Central and State Governments for assessing the performance of these districts.

Statement-I

List of 112 Aspirational Districts

Sl. No.	State	District
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Vizianagaram
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
3.	Andhra Pradesh	Y.S.R. Kadapa
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	Namsai
5.	Assam	Goalpara
6.	Assam	Barpeta
7.	Assam	Hailakandi
8.	Assam	Baksa

Sl. No.	State	District
9.	Assam	Darrang
10.	Assam	Udalguri
11.	Assam	Dhubri
12.	Bihar	Sitamarhi
13.	Bihar	Araria
14.	Bihar	Purnia
15.	Bihar	Katihar
16.	Bihar	Muzaffarpur
17.	Bihar	Begusarai
18.	Bihar	Khagaria
19.	Bihar	Banka
20.	Bihar	Sheikhpura
21.	Bihar	Aurangabad
22.	Bihar	Gaya
23.	Bihar	Nawada
24.	Bihar	Jamui
25.	Chhattisgarh	Korba
26.	Chhattisgarh	Rajnandgaon
27.	Chhattisgarh	Mahasamund
28.	Chhattisgarh	Kanker
29.	Chhattisgarh	Narayanpur
30.	Chhattisgarh	Dantewada
31.	Chhattisgarh	Bijapur
32.	Chhattisgarh	Bastar
33.	Chhattisgarh	Kondagaon

Sl. No.	State	District
34.	Chhattisgarh	Sukma
35.	Gujarat	Dahod
36.	Gujarat	Narmada
37.	Haryana	Mewat
38.	Himachal Pradesh	Chamba
39.	Jammu and Kashmir	Kupwara
40.	Jammu and Kashmir	Baramula
41.	Jharkhand	Garhwa
42.	Jharkhand	Chatra
43.	Jharkhand	Giridih
44.	Jharkhand	Godda
45.	Jharkhand	Sahibganj
46.	Jharkhand	Pakur
47.	Jharkhand	Bokaro
48.	Jharkhand	Lohardaga
49.	Jharkhand	Purbi Singhbhum
50.	Jharkhand	Palamu
51.	Jharkhand	Latehar
52.	Jharkhand	Hazaribagh
53.	Jharkhand	Ramgarh
54.	Jharkhand	Dumka
55.	Jharkhand	Ranchi
56.	Jharkhand	Khunti
57.	Jharkhand	Gumla
58.	Jharkhand	Simdega

Sl. No.	State	District
59.	Jharkhand	Pashchimi Singhbhum
60.	Karnataka	Raichur
61.	Karnataka	Yadgir
62.	Kerala	Wayanad
63.	Madhya Pradesh	Chhatarpur
64.	Madhya Pradesh	Damoh
65.	Madhya Pradesh	Barwani
66.	Madhya Pradesh	Rajgarh
67.	Madhya Pradesh	Vidisha
68.	Madhya Pradesh	Guna
69.	Madhya Pradesh	Singrauli
70.	Madhya Pradesh	Khandwa
71.	Maharashtra	Nandurbar
72.	Maharashtra	Washim
73.	Maharashtra	Gadchiroli
74.	Maharashtra	Osmanabad
75.	Manipur	Chandel
76.	Meghalaya	Ribhoi
77.	Mizoram	Mamit
78.	Nagaland	Kiphire
79.	Odisha	Dhenkanal
80.	Odisha	Gajapati
81.	Odisha	Kandhamal
82.	Odisha	Balangir
83.	Odisha	Kalahandi

Sl. No.	State	District
84.	Odisha	Rayagada
85.	Odisha	Koraput
86.	Odisha	Malkangiri
87.	Odisha	Nawarangpur
88.	Odisha	Nuapada
89.	Punjab	Moga
90.	Punjab	Firozpur
91.	Rajasthan	Dholpur
92.	Rajasthan	Karauli
93.	Rajasthan	Jaisalmer
94.	Rajasthan	Sirohi
95.	Rajasthan	Baran
96.	Sikkim	West Sikkim
97.	Tamil Nadu	Virudhunagar
98.	Tamil Nadu	Ramanathapuram
99.	Telangana	Asifabad
100.	Telangana	Bhopapalli
101.	Telangana	Bhadradi Kothagudem
102.	Tripura	Dhalai
103.	Uttar Pradesh	Chitrakoot
104.	Uttar Pradesh	Fatehpur
105.	Uttar Pradesh	Bahraich
106.	Uttar Pradesh	Shrawasti
107.	Uttar Pradesh	Balrampur
108.	Uttar Pradesh	Siddharthnagar

Sl. No.	State	District
109.	Uttar Pradesh	Chandauli
110.	Uttar Pradesh	Sonebhadra
111.	Uttarakhand	Udham Singh Nagar
112.	Uttarakhand	Haridwar

Statement-II*Transforming Aspirational District***Composite Index**

Databases	Sector	Weight
Landless households dependent on Manual labour (Socio Economic Caste Census - Deprivation 7)	Deprivation	25%
Ante natal care [National Health and Family Survey (NHFS-4)]	Health & Nutrition	7.5%
Institutional delivery (NHFS-4)		7.5%
Stunting of children below 5 years (NHFS-4)		7.5%
Wasting in children below 5 years (NHFS-4)		7.5%
Elementary dropout rate [(Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE 2015-16)]	Education	7.5%
Adverse pupil teacher ratio (U-DISE 2015-16)		7.5%
Un-electrified households (Ministry of Power)	Infra	7.5%
Households without individual toilets (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation)		7.5%
Un-connected PMGSY village (Ministry of Rural Development)		7.5%
Rural Household without access to water (Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation)		7.5%
TOTAL		100%

Impact Assessment Survey of schemes

3762. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to conduct an Impact Assessment Survey of various Government schemes;
- (b) if so, the details of schemes that are proposed to be surveyed; and
- (c) whether any such exercise was done earlier and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministries/Departments of the Government of India conduct evaluation of the schemes/programmes under their implementation. In States, the State Evaluation Offices conduct evaluations of prominent schemes/programmes implemented by them. DMEO, NITI Aayog conducts concurrent evaluations of the selected programmes/schemes. The impact evaluation of schemes is an ongoing exercise and respective Ministries/Departments conducts these studies, depending on the life cycle of the schemes and its stage of implementation.

Startups processing technical capabilities

3763. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a number of startups in the country have developed required technology to launch satellites and build rockets and related support systems using electric or cleaner fuel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the total number of such startups possessing technical capabilities;
- (c) whether ISRO has any plan to involve these startups in its own programme to give a push to its space programme planned for future; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir. As on date, there are no start-ups in the country who have developed required technology to launch satellites and build rockets and related support systems using electric or cleaner fuel.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) ISRO has plans to involve start-ups in its own space programme in future.
- (d) ISRO has plans to involve and engage start-ups for its space programme through nation's ARISE programme under the ATAL INNOVATION MISSION. In addition, ISRO is also establishing its own Space Technology Incubation Centres at various locations at academic institutes to promote start-ups and young entrepreneurs to contribute to the space programme.

Launch of satellite made by students

3764. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Technology Congress Association (ITCA) has planned to launch 75 satellites built by students marking 75th Anniversary of Independence of the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the project and the extent of ISRO's association with the venture;
- (c) whether Indian students are far behind many countries in launching of satellites since only nine satellites have so far been launched whereas the number of satellites launched in other countries exceeds 3,500; and
- (d) the approximate cost of satellites proposed to be launched and from where the funds are likely to be generated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Department of Space/ISRO does not have any information on the subject.

- (b) Does not arise.
- (c) and (d) ISRO has already launched ten student satellites till date. ISRO is aggressively encouraging universities and colleges to build student satellites.

Slow progress of works sanctioned under MPLADS

3765. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is very slow progress in sanctioning and execution of MPLADS works in certain States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several district authorities are not submitting Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs) and Utilization Certificate to Government regularly due to which there is delay in releasing of MPLADS installments; and

(d) the details of pending installments of MPLADS funds of MPs of the last Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SING): (a) and (b) The implementation of the MPLADS in the field is undertaken by the District Authorities in accordance with the State Government's technical, administrative and financial rules. Out of the total 4,24,329 works recommended by Hon'ble MPs, 3,62,612 works have been sanctioned. Out of these 3,62,612 sanctioned works 2,61,481 have been completed till June, 2019.

(c) Delay is primarily caused due to delay in receipt of prescribed documents for release *viz.* Utilisation Certificate, Audit Certificate and Monthly Progress Reports (MPRs) from the Nodal District Authorities.

(d) Details of number of instalments of MPLADS released *vis-a-vis* number of entitled instalments are available on public domain *i.e.* www.mplads.gov.in.

Periodic labour force survey

3766. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of quarterly employment survey data based on Periodic Labour Force Surveys conducted by Government;

(b) the number of rural and urban households surveyed for collection of data, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether the survey is better in comparison to previous attempts of measuring employment;

(d) the definition of unemployed and employed persons used by Government for the survey;

(e) the details of technological interventions made by Government for conducting this survey; and

(f) whether Government proposes to carry out such surveys by collecting data from industries and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) Based on the quarterly employment surveys under the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), quarterly estimates of the employment are given in terms of the indicator on 'Worker Population Ratio (WPR)' (*i.e.* number of persons employed per 100 persons) in Current Weekly Status (CWS) for urban areas. The Worker Population Ratios (WPR) for the quarters April-June, 2018, July - September 2018 and October - December, 2018 are given below:

(Figs in per cent)

Survey period	All ages All India	Male	Female	Person
April- June, 2018		51.0	12.8	32.1
July - September, 2018		51.2	13.4	32.6
October - December, 2018		51.2	13.5	32.7

(b) Number of urban households surveyed in the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) conducted during the above quarters *i.e.* April-June, 2018, July - September, 2018 and October - December, 2018 by States are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). Besides the above household surveyed for quarterly survey in urban area, State-wise number of households covered in rural and urban areas for deriving annual estimates for rural and urban areas for 2017-18 (*i.e.* July, 2017 - June, 2018) are given in Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) The earlier surveys on Employment - Unemployment were conducted by the NSS once every five years and provided annual estimates for different labour market indicators after a gap of five years. The Government launched Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) during 2017-18 to measure the quarterly changes of various labour market statistical indicators in urban areas and to also generate the annual estimates for rural and urban areas every year.

(d) The definitions of employed and unemployed persons used in the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) are given below:—

Employed: Persons who, during the reference period, were engaged in any economic activity or who, despite their attachment to economic activity, temporarily abstained from work for reasons of illness, injury or other physical disability, bad weather, festivals, social or religious functions or other contingencies constituted workers.

Unemployed: Persons who, owing to lack of work, had not worked but either sought work through employment exchanges, intermediaries, friends or relatives or by making applications to prospective employers or expressed their willingness or availability for work under the prevailing conditions of work and remuneration, were considered as those 'seeking or available for work' (or unemployed).

(e) Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI) solution was used in PLFS to capture the data directly from the field by using tablets. This replaced the use of paper schedule for collecting the data and facilitated faster data processing.

(f) Besides Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), the data on employed persons is also collected from establishments through the Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) which is conducted annually to assess and evaluate the changes in the growth, composition and structure of organised manufacturing sector comprising activities related to manufacturing processes, repair services, gas and water supply and cold storage. It covers all factories registered under Sections 2(m)(i) and 2(m)(ii) of the Factories Act, 1948, where the manufacturing process is defined under Section 2(k) of the said Act. The survey also covers bidi and cigar manufacturing establishments registered under the Bidi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act 1966. All electricity undertakings engaged in generation, transmission and distribution of electricity, not registered with the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) are also covered under ASI. The last Annual Survey of Industries (ASI) for which results have been released relates to the period 2016-17.

The Government also conducts the Economic Census which counts the number of establishments engaged in non-farm economic activities within the geographical boundary of India. It provides disaggregated information on various operational and structural economic aspects of the establishments including workers engaged by them. The last Economic Census (*i.e.* sixth EC) was conducted during 2013.

Statement-I

Quarter-wise number of households surveyed by States in urban areas

State	April-June 2018	July-September 2018	October-December 2018
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	1694	1717	1729
Assam	890	893	889

1	2	3	4
Bihar	1336	1336	1335
Chhattisgarh	820	818	817
Delhi	862	855	846
Gujarat	1787	1792	1765
Haryana	1231	1228	1223
Himachal Pradesh	364	365	366
Jammu and Kashmir	1404	1416	1421
Jharkhand	1040	1057	1068
Karnataka	2276	2308	2320
Kerala	2405	2403	2414
Madhya Pradesh	1935	1942	1953
Maharashtra	4262	4259	4271
Odisha	1040	1056	1058
Punjab	1618	1629	1631
Rajasthan	1683	1671	1668
Tamil Nadu	3454	3465	3462
Telangana	1555	1578	1588
Uttarakhand	758	750	750
Uttar Pradesh	3193	3197	3204
West Bengal	2909	2967	2967
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	44697	44887	44963

Statement-II

Number of rural and urban households surveyed in PLFS for deriving annual estimates during 2017-18

State/UT	Rural	Urban
Andhra Pradesh	2176	1791
Arunachal Pradesh	1070	640

State/UT	Rural	Urban
Assam	2624	896
Bihar	3200	1344
Chhattisgarh	1408	832
Delhi	64	949
Goa	192	256
Gujarat	1664	1831
Haryana	1344	1280
Himachal Pradesh	1656	384
Jammu and Kashmir	1912	1467
Jharkhand	1664	1079
Karnataka	1792	2360
Kerala	2112	2432
Madhya Pradesh	2680	1984
Maharashtra	3576	4423
Manipur	1280	1280
Meghalaya	832	448
Mizoram	512	1024
Nagaland	576	448
Odisha	2880	1088
Punjab	1536	1664
Rajasthan	2496	1726
Sikkim	448	312
Tamil Nadu	3136	3503
Telangana	1280	1600
Tripura	1216	640

State/UT	Rural	Urban
Uttarakhand	958	768
Uttar Pradesh	5824	3253
West Bengal	3392	2992
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	240	256
Chandigarh	64	320
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	64	128
Lakshadweep	48	96
Puducherry	128	447
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	56108	46005

Delay in releasing of MPLADS funds

3767. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any complaints regarding release of funds/ delay in releasing of funds under the Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS);

(b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether any mechanism has been framed by Government to redress complaints or control in case of non-adherence to rules in the works of MPLADS; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when it is likely to be framed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) The implementation of the MPLADS in the field is undertaken by the District Authorities in accordance with the State Government's technical, administrative and financial rules.

MPLAD funds are released by the Ministry on the basis of the prescribed documents furnished by the respective District Nodal Authority of the concerned MPs in terms of the guidelines on MPLADS. Release of funds get delayed because of non-receipt of the prescribed documents from the District Nodal Authorities.

Wherever delay, violation of Guidelines etc. in implementation of works is noted, the State Government/District Authority are advised to take appropriate action on a case to case basis and therefore year-wise details are not maintained.

Stalled projects of States

3768. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of projects of various States that have been stalled for more than one year for want of clearance/nod from the Central Government along with the amount stuck therein, State-wise and project-wise;
- (b) whether the cost of the said projects has escalated due to delay in execution of these projects and if so, the details thereof, project-wise; and
- (c) the corrective steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) Project Monitoring - Invest India Cell (PMIC) is an institutional mechanism for resolving a variety of issues with a view to fast tracking the approvals for setting up and expeditious commissioning of large public, private and public-private partnership (PPP) projects. It was set up initially in Cabinet Secretariat in June, 2013. At present PMIC is functioning under the administrative control of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Any investor having issues delaying or likely to delay the execution of a project (costing ₹ 500 crore or above) can bring it before PMIC for taking up with the concerned authority in the Central and State Governments through its portal.

The primary focus of PMIC is to expedite the approvals for clearances from Central and State Authorities for setting up of projects. In accepting a project for resolution of its issues, PMIC does not distinguish between a 'stalled' or an 'under implementation' project. Further, there is no prescribed criterion for classifying a project as a stalled project in so far as PMIC is concerned. It also does not distinguish between a 'State' or 'Central' project.

Project Monitoring - Invest India Cell (PMIC) on its own does not sanction any project or grant any approval for setting up a project or clears any project but facilitates resolution of clearance related issues through discussions and follow up. A list of such public sector projects is given in the Statement.

<i>Statement</i>					
<i>List of public sector project under consideration on PMIC portal (As on 26.06.2019)</i>					
Sl. No.	Project Name	Sponsoring Ministry	Project Location	Impl. Mode	Anticipated Investment (₹ crore)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Implementation of Transmission Systems in the State of Jharkhand consisting of 400/220/132/33 KV transmission lines and substations under Jharkhand Consultancy Project	Power	Jharkhand	Public	1472
2.	Gadarwara STPP	Power	Madhya Pradesh	Public	11638
3.	Multi Modal Transport System (MMTS) Phase-II Hyderabad	Railways	Telangana	Public	1000
4.	Dangoaposi-Rajkharswan 3rd Line Doubling	Railways	Jharkhand	Public	1000
5.	Khagaria-Kusheshwar Asthan (NL)	Railways	Bihar	Public	1000
6.	Bowaichandi-Arambagh	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1000
7.	Phulera-Digana Doubling	Railways	Rajasthan	Public	1000
8.	Bhadrachalam Road- Sattupalli	Railways	Telangana	Public	1000

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

303

1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Banspani-Jakhpura Doubling	Railways	Odisha	Public	1130
10.	Rourkela-Jharsuguda Third Line 101 Km.	Railways	Odisha	Public	1149.98
11.	Maniyachi-Nagercoil (102 Km.) Doubling	Railways	Tamil Nadu	Public	1003.94
12.	Gaya-Chatra (NL)	Railways	Bihar	Public	4543
13.	Chhindwara Nainpur Mandla Fort Gauge Conversion Project	Railways	Madhya Pradesh	Public	1300.44
14.	Vijaywada-Gudur	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	3246
15.	Augmentation of Paradip Haldia Durgapur LPG Pipeline and its extension up to Patna and Muzaffarpur	Petroleum and Natural Gas	West Bengal	Public	1823
16.	Koyali-Ahmednagar-Solapur Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Gujarat	Public	1945
17.	Paradip-Hyderabad Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Odisha	Public	3338
18.	Strengthening of Transmission System beyond Vemagiri	Power	Andhra Pradesh	Public	3564

304
Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

19.	Dwarka Expressway NHAI project	Road Transport and Highways	Haryana	Public	6850
20.	Creation of Intra-State Transmission System in Eight Renewable Energy Rich States	New and Renewable Energy	Tamil Nadu	Public	10141
21.	Advanced Ultra Supercritical (AUSC) Technology	Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises-DHI	Delhi	Public	1554
22.	Kharagpur-Adityapur Third Rail Line: 132 Km.	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1312
23.	Doubling of Hubli-Chikjajur Rail Line: 190 Km.	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1140
24.	Establishment of 220/66 kV, 2x160 MVA GIS Substation at UT Chandigarh and 220 kV D/C line from Chandigarh to Panchkula	Power	Chandigarh UT	Public	1000
25.	Koraput - Singapur Road Doubling	Railways	Odisha	Public	2362
26.	Agartala-Akhaura NL	Railways	Tripura	Public	1000
27.	Jarapada - Budhapank with Fly Over at Talcher Road 3rd and 4th Line	Railways	Odisha	Public	1000
28.	Bhadrak - Nergundi 3rd Line	Railways	Odisha	Public	1000
29.	Digarua-Hojai (102 Km.)	Railways	Assam	Public	1000

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 305

1	2	3	4	5	6
30.	Kalinarayanpur-Krishnanagar Doubling along with Krishnanagar - Chapra New Line and Naihati-Ranaghat 3	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1000
31.	Rajnandgaon - Nagpur - 3rd Line (SECR)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	1908
32.	New B.G. Line from Araria to Galgalia (Thakurgung), NEFR	Railways	Bihar	Public	2135
33.	Gulabpura to Chittorgarh Bypass section	Road Transport and Highways	Rajasthan	Public	1239.82
34.	Tonk Sawai Madhopur	Road Transport and Highways	Rajasthan	Public	398.81
35.	6-laning of Gorhar to Khairatunda Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	860.1
36.	Construction of NH-4B from Km 21.200 to Km. 27.270 and from Km. 0.000 to Km. 4.492	Road Transport and Highways	Maharashtra	Public	589.55
37.	Construction of NH-348A and Amra Marg (Package - III)	Road Transport and Highways	Maharashtra	Public	758.46
38.	Gorhar to Khairatunda Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	917

306 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

39.	Govindpur (Rajgunj) - Chas - West Bengal Border Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	486
40.	Bijupara to Kuru Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	144.1
41.	Kutchery Chowk Ranchi to Bijupara Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	235.9
42.	Ranchi Rargaon-Mahulia Section	Road Transport and Highways	Jharkhand	Public	1479
43.	Sultanpur-Varanasi Section	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	1792
44.	Kaithlighat to Dhalli Section	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	1583.18
45.	Solan to Kaithlighat Section	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	865.27
46.	Programme of Ministry of Home Affairs for Indo-Bangladesh Border (IBB)	Home Affairs	Meghalaya	Public	4394
47.	Four Laning of Ambala-Kaithal Section of NH-65: 95 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Haryana	Public	1000

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 307

1	2	3	4	5	6
48.	Four Laning of Nerchowk-Pandoh (Including Pandoh Bypass) Section of NH-21: 26 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	1273
49.	Master Plan for Jharia	Coal	Jharkhand	Public	7112.11
50.	Four Laning of Udampur-Chenani and Nashri-Ramban of NH-44: 43 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	J & K	Public	1332
51.	Pune Metro Rail Project (Phase-I): 31 Km.	Housing and Urban Affairs	Maharashtra	Public	11420
52.	Transmission System associated with Kishenganga HEP [3x110 MW] - Project Cost ₹ 340.88 crores.	Power	J & K	Public	1000
53.	Katni Grade Separator/Bye Pass	Railways	Madhya Pradesh	Public	582
54.	New BG Rly Line From Eklakhi-Balurghat Including Gazole-Itahar (NL),NEFR	Railways	West Bengal	Public	614
55.	Hathua-Bhatni (N L) (NER)	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	719
56.	Secunderabad-Mahabubnagar Doubling	Railways	Telangana	Public	728
57.	Rosa-Sitapur Cantt. Burhwal Doubling	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	1295
58.	Palanpur-Samakhayali (DL)	Railways	Gujarat	Public	1549

308
Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

59.	Tamluk Digha 88.9 Km. with MM Deshpran Nandigram 18.5 Km. MM Kanthi Egra 26.2 Km. Nadakumar Bolai	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1428
60.	Bondamunda Ranchi Doubling	Railways	Jharkhand	Public	1724
61.	Mau-Ghazipur-Tarighat New Line	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	1766
62.	Kotlpalli-Narasapur (NL) (SCR)	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2125
63.	Guntur-Guntakal	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	3631
64.	Four Laning of Chutmalpur-Ganeshpur and Roorkee- Chutmalpur-Saharanpur-Yamunanagar Section of NH-72A and 73: 104 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Uttarakhand	Public	1819
65.	Four Laning of Biramitrapur to Brahmani By-Pass End Section of NH-23: 29 Km	Road Transport and Highways	Odisha	Public	382
66.	Doubling of New Bongigaon to Kamakhya Via Goalpara: 176 Km.	Railways	Assam	Public	1832
67.	Doubling of Surendranagar-Rajkot Rail Line: 116 Km.	Railways	Gujarat	Public	1002
68.	Wardha - Nagpur - 4th Line (76 Km.)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	1000
69.	Mathura-Palwal 4th Line (80 Km.)	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	1000

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

309

1	2	3	4	5	6
70.	Magrahat-Diamond Harbour with MM Sangrampur-Krishanchandpur and Diamond Hatbour-Bahrahat-Kulpi NL	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1000
71.	Pachhwara North (Sch.- II)	Coal	Jharkhand	Public	1368.32
72.	Wardha-Sewagram NGP 3rd Line	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	540
73.	Arsikere-Tumkur	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1000
74.	Kalyan-Kasara 3rd Line	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	793
75.	Miyagam-Karjan-Dabhoi-Samlaya (GC)	Railways	Gujarat	Public	1000
76.	Rajkot-Veraval,Wansjalia to Jatalsar with New MM for Shapur-Saradiya and Somnath-Kodinar (GC)	Railways	Gujarat	Public	1000
77.	Yelahanka-Penukonda	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1000
78.	Bagalkot-Kudachi NL	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1000
79.	Miraj-Londa	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1191
80.	Manmad - Jalgaon - 3rd Line (160 Km.)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	1035
81.	Wardha-Balharshah - 3rd Line (132 Km.)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	1272

310 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

82.	Hotgi-Kudgi-Gadag	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1615
83.	Kazipet-Balharshah	Railways	Telangana	Public	2063
84.	Itarsi-Nagpur (Bal.) - 3rd Line (267 Km.)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	2450
85.	Pune-Miraj (467 Km.)	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	3627
86.	Gwalior-Seopurkala with Extension to Kota (GC)	Railways	Madhya Pradesh	Public	3846
87.	Establishment of New Medical Colleges Attached with Existing District/Referral Hospitals Phase-II	Health and Family Welfare	Bihar	Public	6000
88.	Rishikesh-Karnaprayag New Rail Line: 125 Km.	Railways	Uttarakhand	Public	4295
89.	Doubling of Kottavalasa-Koraput Rail Line: 189 Km.	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2500
90.	Doubling of Ramna-Singrauli Rail Line: 160 Km.	Railways	Jharkhand	Public	2436
91.	Four Laning of Parwanoo-Solan Section of NH-22:39 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	691
92.	Four/Six Laning of Raipur-Bilaspur Section of NH-30 and 130: 126 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Chhattisgarh	Public	1899
93.	Transmission System under Green Energy Corridors - Part-C: Inter State Transmission Scheme (ISTS)	Power	Gujarat	Public	2247.37

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

311

1	2	3	4	5	6
94.	National Highway from Bellary (Km. 253.600) to Hiriyur (Km. 413.500) section of NH150A	Road Transport and Highways	Karnataka	Public	1371
95.	Banglore to Mysore NH 275	Road Transport and Highways	Karnataka	Public	4473
96.	Four Laning of Aligarh-Kanpur Section of NH-91: 274 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	5900
97.	Ram Pur Dumra- Tal-Rajendrapul Additional Bridge and Doubling	Railways	Bihar	Public	1491
98.	3rd 4th Rail Line Between Budhapank -Salegaon: 170 Km.	Railways	Odisha	Public	1173
99.	Varansi-Dagmagpur-Lalganj-Hanumana	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	2000
100.	400 Kv D/C Teesta III-Kishanganj Transmission Line: 214 Km.	Power	Sikkim	Public	1000
101.	Ahemdabad Metro Rail Project (Phase-I): 36 Km.	Railways	Gujarat	Public	10773
102.	Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail Project: 508 Km.	Railways	Gujarat	Public	108000

312 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

103.	Vizianagaram-Sambalpur (Titlagarh) 3rd Line (BG): 265 Km.	Railways	Odisha	Public	2336
104.	Four Laning of Lucknow to Sultanpur Section of NH-56: 127 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	2016
105.	Construction of Left out work of Junahgadhbypass in the state of Gujarat	Road Transport and Highways	Gujarat	Public	198.55
106.	Construction of Elevated corridor partially access controlled highway from Samrala Chowk at Km. 76+000 to Km. 85+980 of NH-95 (Section Passing through Ludhiana City) in the State of Punjab	Road Transport and Highways	Punjab	Public	756
107.	4/6 laning of Chandigarh-Kharar Section from Sector-39 (Round about) at Chandigarh (Km. 0.00) to Kharar (Km 10.185)	Road Transport and Highways	Punjab	Public	746.38
108.	Rehabilitation and Upgradation of NH-209 from km. 123.550 to Km. 150.400 of Dindigul-Bangalore Road (Pollachi to Coimbatore Section)	Road Transport and Highways	Tamil Nadu	Public	414.9
109.	Ennore-Thiruvallur-Bengaluru-Puducherry-Nagapattinam-Madurai-Tuticorin Gas Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Tamil Nadu	Public	4497

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

313

1	2	3	4	5	6
110.	Sakari-Hasanpur (Harnagar Kusheshwar Asthan) New line:	Railways	Bihar	Public	655
111.	Hajipur-Sagauli New line	Railways	Bihar	Public	1883.3
112.	Pirpainti -Jasidih (97 Km.) New BG line	Railways	Bihar	Public	916
113.	Visakh Refinery Modernisation project	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Andhra Pradesh	Public	20928
114.	MREP	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Maharashtra	Public	5066
115.	Penganga OC Mine (4 MTY)	Coal	Maharashtra	Public	442
116.	Talaipalli Coal Mining Project (18 MMTPA)	Coal	Chhattisgarh	Public	3004
117.	Qadian Beas New Line: 40 Km.	Railways	Punjab	Public	205
118.	Turavur-Ambalapuzha doubling project (50 Km.)	Railways	Kerala	Public	313.44
119.	Kumbalam-Turavur doubling project (15.59 Km.)	Railways	Kerala	Public	252.95
120.	Ernakulam-Kumbalam doubling project (7.71 Km.)	Railways	Kerala	Public	189.24
121.	Tirunavaya-Guruvayur new line (35 Km.)	Railways	Kerala	Public	477

314 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

122.	HVDC Bipole Link between Western Region (Raigarh, Chhattisgarh) and Southern Region (Pugalur, Tamil Nadu)	Power	Chhattisgarh	Public	14733.37
123.	Khammam - Ashwaraopet Section of NH-365BB	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	4429.45
124.	Suryapet - Khammam Section of NH-365BB	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	2201.25
125.	Kodad - Khammam Section of NH-365A	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	1088.3
126.	Jagtial - Karimnagar - Warangal Section of NH-563 (Package-I, II, III and IV)	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	2408
127.	Mancherla - Chandrapur Section of NH-363 (Package -I and II)	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	1991.348
128.	Hyderabad - Manneguda Section of NH-163	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	1090
129.	Sangareddy-Nanded-Akola Section of NH-161 (Package-I, II and III)	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	2500
130.	India Based Neutrino Observatory (INO) Project	Environment and Forests	Tamil Nadu	Public	1583

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

315

1	2	3	4	5	6
131.	Kovvuru Bhadrachalam Road New Rail Line 151 Km.	Railways	Telangana	Public	1000
132.	Mumbai Urban Transport Project (Mutp) Phase-II	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	8087
133.	Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Project Limited	Coal	Uttar Pradesh	Public	17237.8
134.	Manoharabad-Kothapalli New BG Rail Line: 151 Km. Print Project	Railways	Telangana	Public	308
135.	HPCL Project -Extension of VVSPL pipeline from Vijayawada to Dharmapuri	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2677
136.	Konaseema Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited	Chemicals and Fertilizers	Andhra Pradesh	Public	9600
137.	Four Laning of Krishnagar-Baharampore Section of NH-34: 78 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	West Bengal	Public	1155
138.	Creation of 400/220 kV Substations and associated Transmission Network under ISTS Strengthening Scheme in National Capital Territory of Delhi	Power	Delhi	Public	2175
139.	Comprehensive Scheme for Strengthening of TANDD System in Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim	Power	Arunachal Pradesh	Public	4754

316 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

140.	Two Lane with Paved Shoulders of NH-54 in Mizoram: 351 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Mizoram	Public	6168
141.	North Karapura STPP (3X660 MW)	Power	Jharkhand	Public	14366
142.	Barkhera Budni third Railway Line	Railways	Madhya Pradesh	Public	1050
143.	Deoband-Roorkee New Line Project: 27 Km.	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	105
144.	Six Laning of Chandikhole-Jagatpur-Bhubaneswar Section on NH-5: 67 Km.	Road Transport and Highways	Odisha	Public	1047
145.	Ghaghara Bridge to Varanasi	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	785
146.	Rengali Irrigation Project	Water Resources	Odisha	Public	5565
147.	New Broad Gauge railway line between Chandigarh (Chandi Mandir, Haryana) and Baddi	Railways	Haryana	Public	1540
148.	Meja STPP (2X660 MW) - JV	Power	Uttar Pradesh	Public	9750
149.	Solapur STPP (2X660 MW)	Power	Maharashtra	Public	9395
150.	Four laning of Nagina-Kashipur section of National Highway-74 in Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh	Road Transport and Highways	Uttarakhand	Public	2535.54

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

317

1	2	3	4	5	6
151.	Kullu Manali Section	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	213
152.	Takoli to Kullu	Road Transport and Highways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	328.83
153.	200 MW Solar Park Project in Kasargod District	New and Renewable Energy	Kerala	Public	1200
154.	MDPL Capacity Expansion and Palanpur Vadodara Pipeline Extension	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Gujarat	Public	1879
155.	Wardha-Nanded New Line	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	2765
156.	Angamali-Sabarimala New Line	Railways	Kerala	Public	1566
157.	Rayadurg-Tumkur <i>via</i> Kalyandurg New Line	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2000
158.	Tarakeshwar-Bishnupur New Line (82.47 km.)	Railways	West Bengal	Public	1094
159.	Tindivanam-Nagari (184.99 km.) New Line	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	1080
160.	Dahod-Indore <i>via</i> Sardarpur, Jabuwa and Dhar (204.76 km.) NL	Railways	Gujarat	Public	1942
161.	Villupuram-Dindigul Doubling with Electrification (273 km.)	Railways	Tamil Nadu	Public	1281

318 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

162.	Ratlam-Mhow-Khandwa-Akola Gauge Conversion	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	2265
163.	Kadapa-Bangalore New Line	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2061
164.	Gadag-Wadi New Line (252 km.)	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1922
165.	Belapur-Seawood-Uran Electrified Double Line, Mumbai	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	1781.987
166.	Tumkur-Chitradurga-Davangere New Rail Line Project (200 Km.)	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1801
167.	Char Dham Road Connectivity Improvement (889 Km.)	Road Transport and Highways	Uttarakhand	Public	11679
168.	Two Lane Road From Singtam-Kewzing: NH-510 (44 Km.)	Road Transport and Highways	Sikkim	Public	352
169.	Nangal Dam-Talwara New Broad Gauge Line (84 Km) and Taking Over Siding Mukerian-Talwara (29 Km.)	Railways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	1000
170.	Tetlia-Byrnihat New Line	Railways	Assam	Public	496
171.	Two laning with paved shoulder of Karauli - Dholpur section in the State of Rajasthan	Road Transport and Highways	Rajasthan	Public	261
172.	Jammu-Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project	Railways	J & K	Public	19565

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 319

1	2	3	4	5	6
173.	Ph-II extension of MRTS from Velachery to St Thomas Mount	Railways	Tamil Nadu	Public	600
174.	Madurai-Tuticorin New Line	Railways	Tamil Nadu	Public	1500
175.	Eastern Dedicated Freight Corridor	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	35000
176.	Western Dedicated Freight Corridor	Railways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	51101
177.	Ahmednagar Beed Parli Vaijnath New B.G. Line Railway Project	Railways	Maharashtra	Public	2826
178.	Khurda Bolangir New BG Rail Link (289 Km.)	Railways	Odisha	Public	3550
179.	Hospet- Tinaighat-Vasco Rail Doubling Project	Railways	Karnataka	Public	2127
180.	Kirandul-Jagdalpur Doubling (150 Km.)	Railways	Chhattisgarh	Public	1143
181.	Tapovan-Vishnugad HEP (4x130 MW)	Power	Uttarakhand	Public	3846
182.	Lata-Tapovan Hydero Electric Power Project (3x57 MW)	Power	Uttarakhand	Public	1527
183.	LARA Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I (2x800 MW)	Power	Chhattisgarh	Public	11846
184.	Tanda TPP Stage-II (2x660 MW)	Power	Uttar Pradesh	Public	9199

320 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

185.	Darlipalli STPP Stage-I (2X800 MW)	Power	Odisha	Public	12532
186.	Munirabad-Mahabubnagar New Railway Line	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1800
187.	Eastern Region Strengthening Scheme-V	Power	West Bengal	Public	1364.52
188.	Pakal Dul (Drangdhuran) Hydroelectric Project, 1000 MW	Power	J & K	Public	8112.12
189.	Different Coal Projects, Existing Mines located in WB	Coal	West Bengal	Public	1000
190.	Dhupguri to Salsabari Section of NH-31D, Package-II	Road Transport and Highways	West Bengal	Public	1721.07
191.	Ghospukur to Dhupguri Section of NH-31D, Package-I	Road Transport and Highways	West Bengal	Public	1754.91
192.	Sambalpur-Titlagarh Doubling	Railways	Odisha	Public	1078
193.	Rehabilitation and up gradation to two lane with paved shoulders from 33.5 to 254 of NH-214A (new no-216) in Krishna, Guntur and prakasham districts of Andhra Pradesh	Road Transport and Highways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	1000
194.	4-Laning of Varanasi Gorakhpur (Mao-Gorakhpur Section) of NH-29	Road Transport and Highways	Uttar Pradesh	Public	1090.47

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 321

1	2	3	4	5	6
195.	Southern Region Strengthening Scheme - XIII and XIV	Power	Karnataka	Public	1066.62
196.	Kundankulam APP Transmission System	Power	Kerala	Public	2159.07
197.	Jatinga Junction to Harangajao section	Road Transport and Highways	Assam	Public	333.83
198.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-565 from km.1/0 to 86/057 (Nakrekal to Nagarjunsagar Dam Section) to two-lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV on EPC	Road Transport and Highways	Telangana	Public	270
199.	Jiribam-Imphal New Line	Railways	Manipur	Public	6571
200.	Dallirajahara-Jagdalpur New Line	Railways	Chhattisgarh	Public	2196
201.	Nadikudi-Srikalahasti New Line	Railways	Andhra Pradesh	Public	2312
202.	Irugur Devangonhi Product Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Tamil Nadu	Public	678
203.	BPCL LPG Pipeline from Kochi to Erode and Salem via Coimbatore	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Kerala	Public	1063
204.	Coal Projects (Future) of ECL in Jharkhand	Coal	Jharkhand	Public	1000

322 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

205.	Coal mining projects of SECL in State of Madhya Pradesh	Coal	Madhya Pradesh	Public	1468.62
206.	Coal mining projects of SECL in State of Chhattisgarh	Coal	Chhattisgarh	Public	14390.64
207.	Coal mining projects of CCL in Jharkhand	Coal	Jharkhand	Public	4794.84
208.	Coal projects of SCCL in Telangana State	Coal	Telangana	Public	3124.88
209.	Coal mining projects of Mahanadi Coalfields Limited in Odisha	Coal	Odisha	Public	9897.87
210.	Coal projects of WCL in Madhya Pradesh State	Coal	Madhya Pradesh	Public	123.44
211.	Raniganj Master Plan	Coal	West Bengal	Public	2661.73
212.	Four laning of Patna-Gaya-Dobhi Section from Km. 0.000 to Km.127.358 of NH-83 in the State of Bihar under NHPD Phase-III	Road Transport and Highways	Bihar	Public	1231
213.	New Railway Line between Ginigera and Raichur	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1290
214.	NMDC Iron Ore Beneficiation Plant at Bacheli	Steel	Chhattisgarh	Public	1595
215.	NMDC Iron and Steel Plant, Nagarnar	Steel	Chhattisgarh	Public	15520
216.	GAIL Project- KKB MPL	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Kerala	Public	3025

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

323

1	2	3	4	5	6
217.	To augment the iron ore production capacity of Gua Iron Ore Mine of SAIL from 2.4 MT to 10 MT including installation of Beneficiation and Pellet Plant facilities at Gua, Jharkhand.	Steel	Jharkhand	Public	3000
218.	Hubli-Ankola new line project	Railways	Karnataka	Public	1600
219.	Byrnihat-Shillong new line project	Railways	Meghalaya	Public	4083
220.	Sivok-Rangpo new line project	Railways	West Bengal	Public	3380
221.	Kitcha-Khatima new line project	Railways	Uttarakhand	Public	208
222.	Dedicated freight link from Wadala to Kurla-Rail Connectivity Project for Mumbai Port	Shipping	Maharashtra	Public	177
223.	Kerandari Coal Block	Power	Jharkhand	Public	1553
224.	HPCL Project - Uran-Chakan/Shikrapur LPG Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Maharashtra	Public	309.81
225.	GAIL Project - Jagdishpur - Haldia Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Bihar	Public	7596
226.	IOCL Project-Cauvery Basin Refinery (CBR)-Trichy Pipeline	Petroleum and Natural Gas	Tamil Nadu	Public	108

324 Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

227.	Haridaspur-Paradeep new railway line	Railways	Odisha	Public	1000
228.	Talcher-Bimlagarh new railway line	Railways	Odisha	Public	810.78
229.	Angul-Sukhinda new line project	Railways	Odisha	Public	638.5
230.	Subansiri Lower HE Project	Power	Assam	Public	11000
231.	Bhanupalli-Bilaspur-Beri new railway line project	Railways	Himachal Pradesh	Public	2966.99
232.	Shivpur-Kathautia New BG Rail Line	Coal	Jharkhand	Public	2345

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

325

Transfer of MPLAD funds for Kerala flood disaster

3769. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount and names of MPs of both the Houses of Parliament who have contributed to the recent flood disaster fund in Kerala from their MPLADS fund; and

(b) the total amount transferred to the State Government of Kerala from the fund collected so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) A List indicating amount and names of Hon'ble MPs of both Houses who have contributed to the recent flood disaster fund in Kerala from their MPLADS funds is at Statement-I (*See below*) (in respect of Hon'ble MPs of Lok Sabha) and Statement-II (*See below*) (in respect of Hon'ble MPs of Rajya Sabha).

(b) Total amount of funds transferred to Kerala Government as on 19.07.2019 as per information received from District Authorities is ₹ 27.67 crores.

Statement-I

Details of contribution pledged by Lok Sabha MPs for Kerala Flood Rehabilitation works as on 19.07.2019

Sl. No.	Name of Hon'ble MP	State	Nodal District	Amount (₹ in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Natubhai G. Patel	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100
2.	Farooq Abdullah	Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar	10
3.	Kirron Kher	Chandigarh	Chandigarh	25
4.	Kalraj Mishra	Uttar Pradesh	Deoria	25
5.	Ramesh Chander Kaushik	Haryana	Sonipat	15
6.	Ram Vilas Paswan	Bihar	Hajipur	10

1	2	3	4	5
7.	Gopal Shetty	Maharashtra	Mumbai Suburban	5
8.	Rajesh Ranjan	Bihar	Madhepura	10
9.	Ranjeet Ranjan	Bihar	Supaul	10
10.	Ramesh Bais	Chhattisgarh	Raipur	10
11.	Ramesh Bidhuri	Delhi	South Delhi	100
12.	C. L. Ruala	Mizoram	Aizawl	5
13.	Dr. Swami Sakshi Maharaj	Uttar Pradesh	Unnao	5
14.	Shrimati Harsimrat Kaur Badal	Punjab	Bhatinda	10
15.	Rajendra Agrawal	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	100
16.	Shri Richard Hay	Nominated, Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	100
17.	Shri Suresh C. Angadi	Karnataka	Belgaum	5
18.	Rajnath Singh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	100
19.	M. Badruddin Ajmal	Assam	Dhubri	25
20.	Shri Jual Oram	Odisha	Sundergarh	20
21.	Veena Devi	Bihar	Munger	21
22.	C. N. Jayadevan	Kerala	Thrissur	100
23.	Anil Shirole	Maharashtra	Pune	100
24.	Dr. Kambhampati Haribabu	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	20
25.	Shripad Yesso Naik	Goa	North Goa	10
26.	Dr. Kirit P. Solanki	Gujarat	Ahmedabad West	5
27.	Lalu Bhai Patel	Daman and Diu	Daman	100
28.	Hema Malini	Uttar Pradesh	Mathura	50
29.	Hansraj Gangaram Ahir	Maharashtra	Chandrapur	10

1	2	3	4	5
30.	Prabhatsinh Chauhan	Gujarat	Panchmahal	6
31.	Dr. Gokaraju Ganga Raju	Andhra Pradesh	West Godavari	25
32.	Krishna Raj	Uttar Pradesh	Shahjahanpur	5
33.	Dr. Kirit Somaiya	Maharashtra	Mumbai Suburban	10
34.	Pon. Radhakrishnan	Tamil Nadu	Kanyakumari	15
35.	Kunwar Pushpendra Singh Chandel	Uttar Pradesh	Mahoba	51
36.	Ravindra Kumar Pandey	Jharkhand	Bokaro	5
37.	Nagendra Pratap Singh Patel	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	5
38.	Raksha Nikhil Khadse	Maharashtra	Jalgaon	10
39.	Pareesh Rawal	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	10
40.	Arjun Lal Meena	Rajasthan	Udaipur	5
41.	Sankar Prasad Datta	Tripura	West Tripura	100
42.	Kapil Moreshwar Patil	Maharashtra	Thane	1
43.	Shantakumar	Himachal Pradesh	Kangra	10
44.	Krishanpal Gurjar	Haryana	Faridabad	20
45.	Vijaysinh Mohite Patil	Maharashtra	Solapur	1.5
46.	Anupriya Patel	Uttar Pradesh	Mirzapur	20
47.	Sharad Tripathi	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Kabir Nagar	35
48.	P. K. Sreemathi Teacher	Kerala	Kannur	5
49.	Bijoychakravarty	Assam	Guwahati	25
50.	Rajendra Dhedya Gavit	Maharashtra	Palghar	2
51.	Gyan Singh	Sahdol	Madhya Pradesh	5
52.	B.V. Naik	Raichur	Karnataka	10
TOTAL				1487.5

Statement-II

*Details of contribution pledged by Rajya Sabha MPs for Kerala Flood
Rehabilitation works as on 19.07.2019*

Sl. No.	Name of the MP	State	Nodal District	Amount (₹ in lakh)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Swapan Dasgupta	Nominated	KMC	25
2.	Mansukh Mandaviya	Gujarat	Bhavnagar	50
3.	A. K. Antony	Kerala	Alapuzha	100
4.	M. C. Mary Kom	Nominated	Churachandpur	20
5.	K. T. S. Tulsi	Nominated	SDMC	100
6.	Amar Singh	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	100
7.	Naresh Gujral	Punjab	Jalandhar	20
8.	Praful Patel	Maharashtra	Gondia	10
9.	Dr. Sonal Mansingh	Nominated	Not opted	50
10.	Dr. C.P. Thakur	Bihar	Patna	50
11.	Prem Chand Gupta	Jharkhand	Ranchi	100
12.	Dr. D.P. Vats	Haryana	Hisar	10
13.	Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha	Bihar	Saharasa	1
14.	T. K. Rangarajan	Tamil Nadu	Chennai Corp.	100
15.	M.P. Veerendra Kumar	Kerala	Waynad	100
16.	Sukhram Singh Yadav	Uttar Pradesh	Kanpur Nagar	5
17.	Partap Singh Bajwa	Punjab	Gurdaspur	11
18.	Suresh Prabhu	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna	100
19.	Parshottam Rupala	Gujarat	Amreli	100
20.	Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda	Karnataka	Bangalore Urban	25

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Vinay Dinu Tendulkar	Goa	South Goa	100
22.	Om Prakash Mathur	Rajasthan	Jaipur	50
23.	Sanjay Singh	Delhi	SDMC	100
24.	Bhubaneswar Kalita	Assam	Kamrup	10
25.	Harivansh	Bihar	Patna	50
26.	Ahmad Ashfaque Karim	Bihar	Katihar	100
27.	Hardeep Singh Puri	Uttar Pradesh	Sonbhadra	100
28.	K. J. Alphons	Rajasthan	Jaipur	100
29.	P. Chidambaram	Maharashtra	Mumbai City	50
30.	Shubhash Chandra	Haryana	Hisar	10
31.	M. J. Akbar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	100
32.	Manmohan Singh	Assam	Kamrup Metro	100
33.	Satish Chandra Misra	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	100
34.	Gopal Narayan Singh	Bihar	Rohtas	50
35.	K. C. Ramamurthy	Karnataka	Bangalore Urban	25
36.	Naranbhai Jemlabhai Rathwa	Gujarat	Chota Udaipur	10
37.	Prasanna Acharya	Odisha	Baragarh	10
38.	Motilal Vora	Chhattisgarh	Durg	10
39.	D. Raja	Tamil Nadu	Vellore	25
40.	Ripun Bora	Assam	Sonitpur	10
41.	Rajkumar Dhoot	Maharashtra	Aurangabad	100
42.	Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav	Uttar Pradesh	Etawah	25
43.	Elamaram Kareem	Kerala	Kozhikode	100

1	2	3	4	5
44.	Sampatiya Uikey	Madhya Pradesh	Mandla	25
45.	Ahmed Patel	Gujarat	Broach	10
46.	Binoy Viswam	Kerala	Thiruvananthapuram	100
47.	T. Subbarami Reddy	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam	50
48.	Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa	Punjab	Sangrur	5
49.	Ramdas Athawale	Maharashtra	Mumbai Suburban	25
50.	Anand Sharma	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	100
51.	Vijay Goyal	Rajasthan	Jaipur	10
52.	V. Muraleedharan	Maharashtra	Mumbai Suburban	100
53.	Jagat Prakash Nadda	Himachal Pradesh	Bilaspur	5
54.	Ashok Bajpai	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	25
55.	P. Bhattacharya	West Bengal	KMC	20
56.	Ajay Pratap Singh	Madhya Pradesh	Chindwara	25
57.	K.K. Ragesh	Kerala	Kannur	100
58.	Y.S. Chowdary	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna	20
59.	Kapil Sibbal	Uttar Pradesh	Raibareli	25
60.	Bhupendra Yadav	Rajasthan	Ajmer	10
61.	Dharmendra Pradhan	Madhya Pradesh	Sehore	100
62.	K. G. Kenye	Nagaland	Kohima	10
63.	Abhishek Manu Singhvi	West Bengal	Howrah	100
64.	Vijay Pal Singh Tomar	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut	15
65.	Surendra Singh Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Bulandshahr	10
66.	D. Kupendra Reddy	Karnataka	Bangalore Urban	5
67.	G. V. L. Narasimha	Uttar Pradesh	Varanasi	100

1	2	3	4	5
68.	Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav	Uttar Pradesh	Jhanshi	10
69.	Narayan Lal Panchariya	Rajasthan	Jodhpur	25
70.	Oscar Fernandis	Karnataka	Uddupi	100
71.	Dr. Banda Prakash	Telangana	Warangal	15
72.	G. C. Chandrashekhar	Karnataka	Bangalore Urban	25
73.	Jaya Bachchan	Uttar Pradesh	Sant Ravidas Nagar	2.5
74.	K. Ravindra Kumar	Andhra Pradesh	Krishna	10
75.	K. Somaprasad	Kerala	Kollam	100
76.	Kumar Ketkar	Maharashtra	Thane	25
77.	Ambika Soni	Punjab	Roopnagar	10
78.	Raghunath Mohapatra	Odisha	Not opted	50
79.	Ram Nath Thakur	Bihar	Samastipur	1
80.	Kanwar Deep Singh	West Bengal	Kolkata	50
81.	Shamsher Singh Manhas	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	25
82.	Amees Yajnik	Gujarat	Ahmedabad	10
83.	Rewati Raman Singh	Uttar Pradesh	Allahabad	10
TOTAL				3875.5

Updation of statistical system

3770. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether statistical system for district level data is weak and the data are not reliable enough to form a good basis for policy;

(b) if so, whether Government is implementing India Statistical Strengthening Project (ISSP) for improving statistical system;

- (c) if so, the details thereof including the funds allocated to participating States and the progress made under the project during the last three years;
- (d) the details of posts lying vacant in offices working under the Ministry and the steps taken to fill them up; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government for development of statistical system in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAOINDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) The national statistical system in India is decentralised both at the Central and State levels and the district level statistical system is within the ambit of the State Government. This Ministry provides technical advice to the State Governments for improving the State statistical systems. The State Governments assess the strengths and weaknesses of the statistical systems from time to time and take steps to improve them. India Statistical Strengthening Project presently known as Support for Statistical Strengthening (SSS) Scheme, is being implemented in States who have signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to improve their statistical systems in respect of matters covered under the scheme. MoUs have been signed with 20 participating States/Union Territories. An amount of ₹ 307.87 crore has been released to them so far, out of which 82.07% has been reported to be utilised till 15th July, 2019. The funds are mainly utilised for compilation of local level statistics, creation of integrated State databases, conducting type studies and surveys to address data gaps, compilation of core indicators such as Consumer Price Index and State level Index of Industrial Production, conducting workshops and training programmes for statistical personnel, and strengthening of physical and IT infrastructure.

(d) The statistical posts in the Ministry are manned by officers of Indian Statistical Service (ISS) and Subordinate Statistical Service (SSS). At present, 690 out of 3827 posts are vacant. Action is taken from time to time to fill up the vacancies as per due process.

(e) The National Statistical Commission provides overall guidance to the Indian Statistical System. To improve the statistical system several steps are taken including revision of base year of national accounts and short-term economic indicators, conducting surveys to address data gaps, bringing into use administrative statistics, leveraging information technology tools, supporting capacity development, collaborating

with National/International statistical agencies, increasing awareness about use of statistics, strengthening statistical co-ordination etc.

Withdrawal of NSSO report on job survey

3771. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the NSSO's job survey report was withdrawn before it was later published in May, 2019, and if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the reasons for delay in releasing the latest NSSO report on job survey;
- (c) whether there is any difference in the draft report that was withdrawn by Government and the one that was published later and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether Government proposes to undertake a new method of collecting data on the status of employment or unemployment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Government launched a new regular employment-unemployment survey, namely, Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) during 2017-18 with certain changes in survey methodology, data collection mechanism and sampling design *vis-a-vis* the earlier quinquennial (once in every five years) employment and unemployment surveys of NSSO. The PLFS was launched with an objective of measuring quarterly changes of various labour market statistical indicators in urban areas as well as generating annual estimates of these indicators for rural and urban areas.

Based on the survey results, the first Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of PLFS was released on 31st May, 2019.

(b) and (c) The responsibility to oversee the finalization and dissemination of labour force statistics, emanating from various surveys of the Government including PLFS, is with the Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics (SCLFS). The SCLFS in its various meetings discussed the issues related to the comparability, sampling designs, sample size for the purpose of the Annual Report (July, 2017 - June, 2018) of PLFS, etc. The SCLFS also constituted a Sub-Committee to examine issues related to the methodology of the PLFS. The SCLFS recommended that a note on changes in the sampling design adopted in PLFS *vis-a-vis* the earlier surveys on employment and

unemployment be prepared and attached in the Annual Report (July, 2017-June, 2018) of the PLFS.

(d) Standing Committee on Labour Force Statistics (SCLFC) has been constituted with eminent experts/academicians and representatives from major user Ministries/ Departments of the Government to periodically review the system and methodology relating to the surveys on Labour Force Statistics including that of PLFS on continuing basis and recommend, *inter alia*, the improvements in survey methodology whenever required.

Admission in Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem

3772. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem has allotted 50 per cent of its seats for B.Tech. in Handloom Technology and Textile course exclusively to the candidates from Tamil Nadu and the remaining 50 per cent seats to the candidates from the entire country;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether this policy of admission is deviation from the very purpose of its establishment?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles had introduced four year degree course "B.Tech. in Handloom and Textile Technology" at Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Salem from the academic session 2015-16 with an approved intake of 60 students per year. This programme is affiliated to Anna University. The allocation of seats has been done as per norms of the affiliating University.

CFCs for development of textiles

3773. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any scheme for setting up of Common

Facility Centres (CFCs) at block/municipal level for providing basic facilities for the development of textiles both handloom and powerloom industries in the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the measures taken by Government to boost the textile sector in the country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) schemes, wherein there is provision for setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs) to provide basic facilities like loom shed, warping, dyeing, yarn depot and store room etc. For development of Powerloom sector, Ministry of Textiles is implementing PowerTex India scheme.

(c) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for promotion and development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country:—

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

A. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):

- (i) **Block Level Cluster:** Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of common facility centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance

upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level.

- (ii) **Handloom Marketing Assistance** is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
- (iii) **Weavers' MUDRA Scheme:** Under the Weavers' Mudra Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of three years is also provided. MUDRA portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.
- (iv) **Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS):** Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December, 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released directly in the bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.
- (v) **Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children:** Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers secondary and senior secondary level education with specialized subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programmes through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

- (vi) **"India Handloom" Brand :** During the celebration of 7th August, 2015 as National Handloom Day, 'India Handloom' Brand was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of ₹ 689.72 crore as reported on 31.03.2019.

Initiatives with various leading brands has been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

- (vii) **E-Commerce :** In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy framework was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for online marketing of handloom products. A total sales of ₹34.72 crore has been reported through the online portal as on 31.03.2019.

- (viii) **Urban Haats :** are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate middle agencies. 38 such Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.

B. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme

The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering atleast 15,000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as GoI share from ₹ 40.00 to ₹70.00 crore is in a period of five years. Eight mega handloom clusters taken up as announced in the Budgets *i.e.* Varanasi, Sivasagar (2008-09), Virudhunagar, Murshidabad (2009-10), Prakasam and Guntur districts and Godda and neighboring districts (2012-13), Bhagalpur and Trichy (2014-15).

Under the scheme, components like conducting Diagnostic Study, engaging Designer, Product Development, Corpus for raw material, Construction of

Worksheds (for BPL/SC/ST/Women weavers), Skill upgradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology upgradation, Design Studio, including the Computer Aided Design System, Marketing Complex, Value Addition (setting up of garment unit). Common Infrastructure. Publicity etc., are funded by the GOI to the extent of 80%.

- C. **Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme:** Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).
- D. **Yarn Supply Scheme:** Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @ 2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk and woollen yarn with quantity caps.

Welfare scheme for artisans

3774. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be please to state:

- (a) the details of schemes being run for the development and welfare of artisans;
- (b) whether Government has any mechanism to find out that the benefits of such schemes reach the artisans; and
- (c) the number of artisans benefited under these schemes during the last three years, scheme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Government implements various schemes for promotion and development of handicrafts sector under "National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP)" and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS).

The NHDP has following components:—

1. Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana (Base Line Survey and Mobilization of Artisans)

2. Design and Technology Upgradation
3. Human Resource Development
4. Direct Benefit to Artisans
5. Infrastructure and Technology Support
6. Research and Development
7. Marketing Support and Services

The CHCDS has following components:—

1. Mega Cluster
2. Special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft (IDPH).

Under the scheme of Direct Benefit to Artisans, following components are implemented for the welfare of handicrafts artisans:—

- (i) In the "Handicrafts Artisans Comprehensive Welfare Scheme" the handicrafts artisans are issued the Aadhaar based identity cards under PAHCHAN initiatives, so that he/she may get the benefit of all the schemes of Government of India.
- (ii) In the 'Scheme support to artisans in indigent circumstances' financial assistance to an amount of ₹3500/- per month is provided to the awarded master craftsperson having income less than ₹ 50,000 per annum and age more than 60 years.
- (3) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana/Pradhan Mandtri Surkasha Bima Yojana for the age group of 18 to 50 years and Modified Aam Admi Bima Yojana for the age group of 51 to 59 years are applicable to handicrafts artisans enrolled under the scheme for life insurance protection through Life Insurance Corporation. The artisan has to pay his/her share @ ₹80/- per annum for enrollment under the scheme. The insurance is for a period of one year w.e.f. 1st June to 31st May every year.

The financial benefit under the scheme is as under:-

Cover	Benefits under modified Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana for the age group of 51 to 59	Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yoyana for the age group of 18 to 50 years	Benefits under Pradhan Mantri Surkasha Bima Yojana for the age group of 18-50 years
Natural Death	₹ 60,000	₹ 2,00,000	Nil
Accidental Death	₹ 1,50,000	Nil	₹2,00,000
Total disability	₹ 1,50,000	Nil	₹2,00,000
Partial Disability	₹ 75,000	Nil	₹1,00,000

- (iv) For the credit support to the artisan, there is a provision for interest subvention of the loan taken from scheduled banks under MUDRA loan @ 6% maximum to ₹1.00 lakhs over a period of three years.

Also margin money for the artisans availing Mudra Loan has been included to ensure the availability of concessional credit to artisans. 20% of MUDRA loan amount is given as margin money in their loan amount not exceeding ₹ 10,000/-.

- (v) Under the scheme of Design and Technology upgradation, model tool kits are being provided to the artisans to improve their productivity. The assistance to an amount of ₹ 10,000/- per tool kit per craft is provided to the artisan. In the case of furnace etc., the financial ceiling is ₹20,000/- per unit.
- (vi) The Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) is providing the education to the handicrafts artisans and their children in collaboration with National Institute of Open Schooling (NOIS) and the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) through opening schooling to provide them with opportunities of pre degree education in a flexible manner along with relevant knowledge, skill and values pertaining to the fields like design, marketing, e-commerce, business development etc. so that they can set up their own

business/enterprise to meet their aspirations. The Government is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee for SC/ST/BPL and women artisans.

- (vii) Under the scheme of Market Support and Services, this office provides domestic as well as international marketing platform to the artisans. Under domestic marketing events craft bazaars, Gandhi Shilp Bazars and Exhibitions are organised throughout the country and artisans having PAHCHAN card can participate in these events.

Under International Marketing events, Craft Exposure programme, Cultural exchange programme, buyer seller meets in India and abroad and marketing workshops are organised. Shilp Guru, National Awardee and National Merit certificate holders participate in these events.

- (b) The Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) is having six Regional Offices located at different parts of the country *viz.* New Delhi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Guwahati to monitor the implementation of all the schemes through 60 Handicrafts Service Centres under their jurisdiction so that the benefit of the scheme must reach to the artisans. The payment made to the artisans towards wage compensation/stipend, financial support in indigent circumstances are all being done through DBT portal and the money is transferred directly to the artisans account linked with Aadhaar and PAHCHAN card.

In addition to above, camps/seminars and workshops are also being organised in the field formations for sensitization of the schemes of DC(HC) from time to time. Besides this, all the schemes of Handicrafts are available on the website of this office *viz.* www.handicraft.nic.in in which schemes could be accessed by the artisans community. For the help of Handicrafts artisans, Handicrafts Helpline No. 18002084800 (Toll Free) in Seven languages *viz.* Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bangla, Assamese, Kannada and English is functioning round the clock.

- (c) 24.12 lakhs handicrafts artisans across the country have been mobilized as on date under PAHCHAN initiatives.

Artisans benefited under the various schemes of Office of Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) during the last three years are given as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	Number of Artisans benefited		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Base Line Survey and Mobilization of Artisans under Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana,	1,30,649	77,850	54,467
2.	Design and Technology Upgradation	6,260	3,080	9,724
3.	Human Resource Development	9,091	7,620	6,720
4.	Direct Benefit to Artisans Support to Master crafts persons in indigent circumstances	277	257	273
5.	Mega Cluster	17,978	17,986	19,328
6.	Research and Development	3,290	2,360	1,200
7.	Marketing Support and Services	14,609	15,987	11,513

India's share in global textile exports

3775. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the share of India in global textiles exports and in what way it compares with the countries exporting larger volumes;

(b) the contribution to exports from textile sector *vis-a-vis* India's total exports and the prospects for the future; and

(c) whether the share of textiles in India's exports has fallen in the recent past and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The share of India in global textile exports is 6% in 2017. Share of top three textile exporting countries in global textile exports is as under:-

Sl. No.	Country	Share of Textile Export in Global Textile Exports
1.	China	33.6%
2.	USA	6.3%
3.	India	6%

(b) Textile sector exports contribution in India's total exports is 12.2% in 2018-19. As exports of textile sector have increased in last five years, it is expected to grow in future as well.

(c) Share of textile sector export in India's export is reported at 12.9% in 2014-15 and 12.2% in 2018-19.

Development of textiles sector

3776. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of issues that the India's textile industry has to grapple with;

(b) whether demonetisation and GST has affected adversely the unorganised and small players in the textile industry and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has proposed to modernise any old technology that is being used in this sector and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Indian Textile Industry is facing uncompetitiveness in the global market particularly in exports of textile and apparel due to higher input costs including higher average tariffs, etc. as compared to competing nations. To address the issue of competitiveness of the Indian textile and apparel sector in the global market and to boost textiles and apparel exports and employment, Government has taken several measures which *inter alia* include Special Package which is a strong sectoral policy support as it has not only brought about better fiscal incentives in the form of the Rebate of State Levies (RoSL) Scheme and Central levies to enhance exports of apparel and made-ups, but also brought about major labour reforms to boost employment.

(b) Representations were received from the Industry/Traders Associations alleging adverse impact of GST on textile industry particularly man-made textiles with demand for reduction/revision of GST rate(s)/provisions relating to various textile items. Government considered their grievances/demands and reduced GST rate(s) on certain textile and handicraft products including enhancement of custom duty on import of number of textile items to protect domestic industry.

(c) Government has taken various initiatives for technology upgradation, infrastructure creation and skill development to make the Indian textiles industry globally

competitive which *inter alia* include the following:-

- (i) Under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) - one time capital subsidy @ 15% subject to a ceiling of ₹ 30 crore is provided for installing eligible benchmarked machinery in garmenting and technical textiles as well as subsidy @ 10% subject to ceiling of ₹ 20 crore for installing new machinery in weaving, knitting, processing, Jute Silk and handlooms. For the above, budget provision of ₹ 17,822 crore has been approved for seven years from 2015-16 to 2021-22 which will attract an investment of ₹ 1 lakh crore and generate employment of ₹ 35.62 lakh.
- (ii) Scheme for production and Employment linked support for garmenting units (SPELSGU) under ATUFS- apart from 15% capital subsidy under ATUFS, additional incentive of 10% subject to a ceiling of ₹ 50 crore is provided under SPELSGU to the garments and made-ups units on the achievement of projected production and employment generation.
- (iii) Further, Government has launched a separate scheme for development of Knitting and Knitwear Sector in January, 2019 with an outlay of ₹47.72 crore for a period upto 31.3.2020 with a view to boost production in knitting and knitwear clusters at Ludhiana, Kolkata, and Tirupur which provide employment to nearly 24 lakh persons.
- (iv) A comprehensive scheme- "PowerTex India"— launched on 1st April, 2017 with an outlay of ₹ 487 crore for three years - for loom upgradation, infrastructure creation and access to concessional credit - a push to the fabric segment.
- (v) Design and Technology Up gradation Scheme and Comprehensive Handicrafts Development Scheme (CHCDS) under which Model toolkits, safety equipment, looms, furnace etc. are being distributed to the master crafts persons to help in the modernisation of new technology in handicrafts sector. 25029 modern tool kits have already been distributed to master crafts persons during last five years;
- (vi) A new scheme 'Silk Samagra' was launched for a period of three years upto 2019-20, with an outlay of ₹2161.68 crore for comprehensive development of the silk sector- Custom duty on import of Silk fabric increased from

10% to 20 % during February, 2018. India entered into international collaboration with Bulgaria, Japan, China and Uzbekistan to develop high yielding varieties of silk breeds.

- (vii) To improve productivity and quality of raw jute, a pilot-project of Jute ICARE has been successfully implemented through carefully designed interventions providing additional income to the extent of ₹ 10,000 per hectare for farmers.
- (viii) As a part of Government's focus on skill development and employment generation in the textile sector, Government is implementing the 'Samarth - Scheme for Capacity Building', to train 10 lakh youth for a period of three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20, at an estimated cost of ₹1300 crore. The scheme aimed at providing demand driven, placement oriented National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant skilling programmes to incentivize and supplement the efforts of the industry in creating jobs in the organised and related sectors and to provide skilling and skill-upgradation in the traditional sector.
- (ix) Apart from the above, Government has been taking various initiatives for promotion of textile manufacturing by building the best-in-class manufacturing infrastructure, upgradation of technology, fostering innovation and enhancing skills in the textile sector. These include Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS), North Eastern Region Textile Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM) for Jute Industry and Jute Diversified Products Manufacturing Units, innovation and expansion under Technology Mission on Technical Textiles- for Promoting Usage of Agro textiles, Focus Incubation Centre, etc. Furthermore, Government has been encouraging and supporting the traditional handloom and handicraft sectors including silk, wool and jute sectors for enhancing production and employment generation in these segments.

Status of Samarth Yojana

3777. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of youth targeted to be trained during 2017-18 to 2019-20 under the Samarth Yojana which was launched for employment generation and capacity

building in textile sector along with the number of youths trained till 30.05.2019, State-wise and year-wise; and

(b) whether the youth trained under the Yojana have been employed by May, 2019 and if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Government has approved a new skill development scheme titled Samarth-Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector covering the entire value chain of the textile sector, excluding Spinning and Weaving in the organised sector, for a period of three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an outlay of ₹1300 crore. The Scheme targets to train 10.00 lakh persons (9 lakhs in organised sector and 1 lakh in traditional sector) over a period of 3 years. The Ministry has allocated skilling target of 77,420 persons to State Government agencies (Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Karnataka, Odisha, Manipur) and 43020 persons to sectoral organisations of Ministry of Textiles (Central Silk Board, Development Commissioner of Handicrafts, Development Commissioner of Handloom and National Jute Board) for commencing the training programme under the scheme.

Status of National Textile Policy

3778. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has a comprehensive textile policy and if so, the details and the vision document thereof;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and by when Government would propose a National Textile Policy;

(c) whether Government is aware that inspite of dismantling of Multi-Fibre Agreement in 2005, the textile exports have not increased and instead it has come down to 12 per cent, half the exports in 1996; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b)

The National Textile Policy, 2000 is a comprehensive policy document with a vision to:-

- (i) Produce cloth of good quality at acceptable prices to meet the growing needs of the people.
- (ii) Increasingly contribute the provision a sustainable employment and the economic growth of the nation; and
- (iii) Compete with confidence for an increasing share of the global market.

The trust areas of the NTP 2000 are, maximizing employment opportunities, technological upgradation, enhancement of productivity, quality improvement, strengthening of raw material base, product diversification, and increase in exports.

(c) India's Textile and Apparel exports have increased by 5.7% CAGR after dismantling of Multi Fibre Agreement in 2005 from US\$ 17.5 billion in 2005-06 to US\$ 36.6 billion in 2018-19.

(d) Does not arise.

Procurements under Public Procurement Policy

3779. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the detail of suppliers, total worth of supplies and procurement agencies for the handloom and handicraft items reserved under the Public Procurement Policy, during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20;
- (b) the details of procurement from entrepreneurs under Section 4 of the Policy; and
- (c) the details of handloom and handicraft items procured by Indian Railway and the Ministry of Defence organisations and its value during that period?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The purchase preference for Local Content and Local Supplier, as envisaged in the Public Procurement Policy notification, is accorded through clause (i) of Rule 153 of General

Financial Rules (GFR 2017) of Government of India for handloom items. Year-wise and State-wise details of procurement are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). A list of handloom items procured by Indian Railways and Ministry of Home affairs (Paramilitary Force) is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Also, Ministry of Defence has not procured any handloom items during the above period.

Statement-I

State-wise, year-wise list of suppliers, procurement agencies

Sl. No.	State	Name of agency	Value of handloom items supplied (₹ in lakh)		
			2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	Assam Apex Weavers and Artisan Coop Fed. Ltd. (ARTFED), Guwahati	700.42	961.87	339.78
		Bodoland Regional Apex Weavers and Artisan Cooperative Federation Ltd., Kokrajhar	144.45	464.09	585.18
2.	Bihar	Bihar State Sheep and Wool Workers Coop. Union Ltd., Patna	57.96	9.34	0
3.	Gujarat	Gujarat Rajya Handloom, Handicrafts and Audyogic Sahkari Federation Ltd. (GUSICA), Ahmedabad	692.26	902.18	264.96
4.	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh State Handicraft and Handloom Corp. Ltd., (HPHHC), Shimla	146.15	315.49	325.96
		Himachal Pradesh State Handloom and Handicrafts Cooperative Federation Ltd., Kullu	0.00	0.00	54.46
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	J and K State Handloom Development Corp. Ltd., Jammu (J&KHDC), Jammu	496.67	815.63	551.59
6.	Maharashtra	All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd. (Handloom House), Mumbai	964.93	842.53	195.09

1	2	3	4	5	6
		Maharashtra State Handloom Coop. Federation (Mahatex), Mumbai	105.00	1442.14	215.73
7.	Nagaland	Nagaland Handlooms and Handicrafts Development Corporation (NHHDC), Dimapur	122.42	107.91	126.99
8.	Tamil Nadu	All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd. (Handloom House), Salem	444.69	531.74	109.5
		Tamil Nadu Handloom Dev. Corpn. (TNHDC), Chennai	1683.56	1935.78	1039.98
9.	Uttar Pradesh	All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd. (Handloom House), Noida	143.63	444.64	21.4
		HANDTEX Industrial Coop. Federation Ltd., Aligarh	65.64	211.74	38.04
		U.P. Apex Export Coop. Marketing Association Ltd., (U.P. Export), Kanpur	461.40	966.70	292.04
		U.P. Apex Handloom Marketing and Development Cooperative Federation Ltd, Kanpur	8.41	70.84	0
		U.P. Bunkar Apex Cooperative Society Ltd., Moradabad	102.52	233.71	126.45
		U.P. Indl. Coop. Association Ltd. (UPICA), Kanpur	637.42	577.95	321.07
		U.P. State Handloom Corpn.(UPH), Kanpur	427.34	478.53	319.25
		U.P. Textiles Production and Marketing Apex Coop. Federation Ltd., (UPTP & M), Kanpur	390.17	431.28	54.48

1	2	3	4	5	6
		UP Handloom Textile Apex Marketing Cooperative Federation, Kanpur (U.P. Fed.), Kanpur	670.10	567.64	128.76
10.	West Bengal	All India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd. (Handloom House), Kolkata	0.00	34.94	0
		West Bengal State Handicrafts Cooperative Society Ltd., Kolkata	122.91	306.44	59.13
		West Bengal State Handloom Weavers Coop. Society (Tantuja), Kolkata	1084.01	1912.21	789.51
		TOTAL	9672.06	14565.32	5959.35

Statement-II

Details showing Handloom items supplied to different indenting departments and its value during the year 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto 15.7.2019)

Indentor	Item	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
		Value (₹ In lakhs)	Value (₹ In lakhs)	Value (₹ In lakhs)
Ministry of Home Affairs (Para-military Force)	Bed Durry	323.03	0	0
Railway	Bed Sheet	7022.38	10818	4280.48
Railway	Blanket	524.15	793.53	855.04
Railway	Blanketing Cloth	16.24	0	0
Railway	Pillow cover	828.79	1438.04	508.81
Railway	Sponge cloth	74.86	24.26	11.28
Railway	Towel	882.63	1491.52	303.74
	TOTAL	9672.08	14565.35	5959.35

Decline in exports of handicraft

3780. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in production, market share and export of handicrafts from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof for all categories of products during 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19, month-wise;

(c) the details of Government's plan to protect the artisans from potential losses; and

(d) whether Government proposes exemptions for handicrafts from GST and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) No Sir, as per export statistics maintained by this office in respect of handicrafts and handmade carpets, both production and exports have shown increasing trend. The details of category-wise exports of handicrafts and handmade carpets for F.Y's 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) Office of the Development Commissioner (Handicrafts) implements various schemes for promotion and development of handicrafts sector under "National Handicraft Development Programme (NHDP)" and Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS).

(1) The NHDP has following components:—

- (i) Base Line Survey and Mobilization of Artisans under Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana:- This scheme aims to promote Indian handicrafts by developing artisans' clusters into professionally managed and self-reliant community enterprise on the principles of effective member participation and mutual cooperation.
- (ii) Design and Technology Upgradation:- The scheme aims to upgrade artisan's skills through development of innovative designs and prototypes products for overseas market, revival of endangered crafts, supply of modern tools and equipments and preservation of heritage etc.
- (iii) Human Resource Development:- This scheme has been formulated to provide qualified and trained workforce to the handicraft sector.

- (iv) Direct Benefit to Artisans:- This Scheme envisages welfare measures like Health and Life insurance, recognition, extending credit facilities to the artisans etc.
- (v) Infrastructure and Technology Support:- This Scheme aims to development of world class infrastructure in the country to support handicraft production, and enhance the product quality and cost to enable it to compete in the global market.
- (vi) Research and Development:- This scheme aims to conduct surveys and studies of important crafts and make in-depth analysis of specific aspects and problems of Handicrafts in order to generate useful inputs to aid policy planning and fine tune the ongoing initiatives.
- (vii) Marketing Support and Services:- This Scheme aims to promote exports of handicrafts and handmade carpet and create brand image of Indian handicrafts in International Markets. Under this scheme, financial assistance is provided for participation of artisans in domestic and international craft exhibitions/seminars in metropolitan cities/State capitals/places of tourist or commercial interest/other places.

(2) The CHCDS has following components:-

- (i) Mega Cluster:- Mega cluster approach is a drive to scale up the infrastructural and production chain at Handicrafts clusters. The prospects of this sector lie in infrastructural upgradation, modernization of the machinery and product diversification and innovative manufacturing as well as, furthered by brand building of the native products hold the key to creating a niche market for the products manufactured by the clusters.
- (ii) Special projects under Integrated Development and Promotion of Handicraft:- This scheme aims to provide adequate infrastructure for production, value addition and quality assurance for handicrafts and to develop handicrafts as a sustainable and remunerative livelihood option for artisans in the State.

(d) GST has been introduced by the Government of India to rationalize multiple taxes on goods and services and to bring transparency in the taxation system. Accordingly, it is applicable to the textile sectors also, including Handicrafts. Turnover of most of the craftsperson does not exceed ₹20 lakh and hence they do not require registration under GST.

Statement-I*Details showing Export of Handicrafts and Handmade Carpet for the period 2016-17 to 2018-19*

(₹ in crores and US \$ Million)									
Items	2016-17 (April-March)		2017-18 (April-March)		2018-19 (April-March)		CAGR (2016-17 to 2018-19)		
	In crores	US \$ Million	In crores	US \$ Million	In crores	US \$ Million	In crores	US \$ Million	
(A) Handicrafts									
1. Art Metal ware	4705.64	702.51	3955.81	613.73	3762.79	538.24	10.58%	12.47%	
2. Wood wares	3916.01	584.09	4267.37	662.47	5424.91	775.99	17.70%	15.26%	
3. Hand printed Textiles and Scarves	3847.40	573.85	3665.00	568.62	3483.16	498.24	-4.85%	-6.82%	
4. Embroidered and Crocheted goods	3227.00	481.05	3305.16	512.79	3925.97	561.58	10.30%	8.05%	
5. Shawls as art ware	3.85	0.57	5.06	0.83	7.02	1.00	35.03%	32.45%	
6. Zari and Zari goods	69.02	10.30	98.69	15.37	130.02	18.60	37.25%	34.38%	
7. Immitation Jewellery	1619.09	241.59	1540.80	239.05	1930.40	276.13	9.19%	6.91%	
8. Agarbatties and Attars	912.50	136.19	982.82	152.48	966.22	138.21	2.90%	0.74%	

9.	Misc. Handicrafts	6091.89	908.90	5208.64	808.15	6959.76	995.56	6.89%	4.66%
(B) Carpet and other Floor Coverings									
1.	Handmade Woolen	9249.8	1379.5	8361.9	1296.4	9189.1	1324.5	-0.33%	-2.02%
2.	Silk	63.8	9.5	17.4	2.7	24.2	3.5	38.45%	39.51%
3.	Synthetic	688.3	102.7	826.7	128.2	994.7	143.4	20.21%	18.18%
GRAND TOTAL (A+B)		34394.3	5130.8	32235.3	5000.8	36798.2	5274.9	3.44%	1.39%

1. The data of exports from 2016-17 to 2018-19 are as per data of DGCI and S, Kolkata.

Illegal production of handlooms items by powerlooms

3781. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR SWAIN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to stop the illegal production of handlooms reserved items by powerlooms and their sales in the domestic market in the name of handloom saree/lungi/dhoti/shirting/dress material etc.; and

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

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Government has been implementing the Handlooms (Reservation of Articles for Production) Act, 1985 for production of reserved items only on Handlooms and to protect the interest of handlooms weavers in the country. 11 textiles articles with some technical specifications are exclusively reserved for production on handlooms. Central Assistance is provided under the Scheme to ten eligible State Governments for effective implementation of the Act. Inspections are carried out in the field by respective State Handloom Departments and field officers of the Central Government for enforcing the provisions of the Act.

The Government has introduced 'Handloom Mark' to identify products woven on handlooms. Awareness creation activities are carried out from time to time to popularize these measures. 65 important and famous traditional handloom products have been registered under the Geographical Indications (GI) of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999. Registered users of GI products have rights under the Act to approach the respective police authorities to safeguard their interests against such illegal manufacturing/marketing of GI registered handloom products. State Handlooms and Textiles Departments have been advised to make special efforts to provide protection to such GI registered handloom products.

Funds for textile units in Telangana

3782. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the textiles units developed in Siricilla, Warangal districts in Telangana;

(b) the funds granted/spent thereon; and

(c) the incentives given to clusters in that State during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Government is supporting the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPVs) formed by the Textile entrepreneurs and individual textile units for development of common infrastructure, common facilities, Group Worksheds and Installation of Technologically upgraded machineries in the form of subsidies under various schemes viz. Scheme for Integrated Textile Park, Integrated Processing Development Scheme, Group Workshed Scheme, Common Facility Centre and Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS), Schemes for the development of the Powerloom Sector (Power-Tex), Schemes for Technical Textiles, SAMARTH- The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS), Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Silk Samagra, Rebate of State and Centre Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL) etc. These schemes are aimed at promotion/upgradation of textile industries/units all over the country including Siricilla, Warangal districts Telangana.

Under the above schemes, the Government provides financial assistance for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of textile products and loan at concessional rates across the country, including Sircilla, Warangal districts in Telangana. The details of scheme-wise funds released in Telangana State for the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The financial assistance provided for Block Level Clusters under National Handloom Development Programme in the State of Telangana in the last three years, year-wise is given below:—

Sl. No.	Year	No. of Block Level Clusters sanctioned	Financial assistance released (₹ in crore)
1.	2016-17	6	1.48
2.	2017-18	-	-
3.	2018-19	-	0.11
TOTAL		6	1.59

The financial assistance provided under Handicrafts sector in the State of Telangana during the last three years is given below:—

2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
Fund Sanctioned (in ₹ lakhs)	Artisans covered	Fund Sanctioned (in ₹ lakhs)	Artisans covered	Fund Sanctioned (in ₹ lakhs)	Artisans covered
0	0	14.55	1280	7.90	300

Statement*Scheme-wise funds released in Telangana state for the last three years*

Sl. No.	Group Insurance Scheme		In-situ		Margin Money Subsidy-TUFS		Buyer Seller Meet		Exposure Visit		Seminar/ Workshop		Yarn Bank		Common Facility Center (CFC)	
	No. of workers enrolled	₹ in crore	No. of looms upgraded	₹ in crore	No. of looms upgraded	₹ in crore	No. of meets conducted	₹ in crore	No. of weavers benefitted	₹ in crore	No. of programmes conducted	₹ in crore	No. of projects approved	₹ in crore	No. of projects approved	₹ in crore
2016-17	8,436	0.24	492	1.390	492	1.390	1	0.10	50	0.012	2	0.009	1	0.50	-	0.03
2017-18	10,145	0.19		-	-	-			80	0.024	10	0.015	1	-	-	1.52
2018-19	9,718	0.16	2,891	3.352	2,891	3.352	1	0.10	20	0.012	1	0.003	1	-	-	-

Increase in allocation of funds for tribal welfare

3783. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to increase the allocation of Central funds for tribal welfare during the next two years; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) and (b) The extant Guidelines of NITI Aayog prescribes for earmarking of dedicated funds for tribal welfare by Central Ministries/Departments out of total scheme outlay (Centrally Sponsored Schemes and Central Sector Schemes) of that Ministry/Department at different rates is given in the Statement (*See* below). In the year 2014-15, total obligated Ministries/Departments were 28 which has increased to 40 in the year 2018-19. Central fund for tribal welfare increases with the increase in obligated Central Ministries and their scheme outlay. There has been consecutive increase in allocation of Central funds during 2014-15 to 2018-19 as tabulated below:—

	(₹ in crore)				
Allocation of Central funds for tribal welfare	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Central Ministries/Departments	16,111	15,628	19,873	25,999	31,803
Funds under Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA)	3,850	4,550	4,799	5,293	6,000
TOTAL	19,961	20,178	24,672	31,292	37,803

In the Union Budget 2019-20, total funds earmarked by Central Ministries including MoTA for tribal development across the country is ₹ 51283.53 crore.

Statement

Percentage prescribed by NITI Aayog for earmarking of funds for tribal welfare

Sl. No.	Ministry/department	Prescribed Percentage
1	2	3
1.	Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare	8.6
2.	Department of Agricultural Research and Education	4.3

1	2	3
3.	Ministry of Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH)	4.3
4.	Ministry of Coal	8.6
5.	Department of Commerce	4.3
6.	Department of Telecommunications	4.3
7.	Department of Consumer Affairs	4.3
8.	Department of Food and Public Distribution	4.3
9.	Ministry of Culture	4.3
10.	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region	8.6
11.	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology	6.7
12.	Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change	8.6
13.	Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries	8.6
14.	Ministry of Food Processing Industries	4.3
15.	Department of Health and Family Welfare	8.6
16.	Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs	4.3
17.	Department of School Education and Literacy	10.7
18.	Department of Higher Education	8.6
19.	Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation	8.6
20.	Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation	10
21.	Ministry of Labour and Employment	8.6
22.	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	8.6
23.	Ministry of Mines	4.3

1	2	3
24.	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy	8.6
25.	Ministry of Panchayati Raj	8.6
26.	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas	4.3
27.	Ministry of Power	8.6
28.	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways	4.3
29.	Department of Rural Development	17.5
30.	Department of Land Resources	10
31.	Department of Science and Technology	4.3
32.	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship	8.6
33.	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities	8.6
34.	Ministry of Textiles	8.6
35.	Ministry of Tourism	4.3
36.	Ministry of Tribal Affairs	100
37.	Ministry of Women and Child Development	8.6
38.	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports	8.6
39.	Ministry of Fertilisers	4.3
40.	Ministry of Pharmaceuticals	4.3

Upliftment of tribals in Odisha

3784. SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of funds spent by the Central Government for upliftment of tribals in Odisha during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) the amount of funds proposed to be spent therefor in that State during the next five years, year-wise; and

(c) the measures proposed to be taken for their upliftment in that State during the next five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) The scheme-wise details of funds allocated/ expenditure under the schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last five years including Odisha is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for the overall development of tribal people living across the country including Odisha, which includes supports for education, health, sanitation, water supply, skill development, livelihood etc. Major part of infrastructure development and provision of basic amenities in tribal areas/regions in the country is carried out through various schemes/programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging critical gaps. Most of the schemes/activities are demand driven. Submission of proposals by the State Governments/UT administrations seeking grants under the ongoing schemes/programmes is a regular phenomenon. Proposals received from the State Governments are placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Ministry for appraisal and approval. Hence the amount of funds to be spent in the States during next five years will depend upon the proposals submitted by State Governments and overall budget allocation of the Ministry in respective year. Measures to be taken for their upliftment will be based upon the proposals of the State Government and Consultations/ decision in PAC thereupon.

Statement*Scheme-wise details of Budget Estimate/Revised Estimate/Expenditure during the last five years i.e. 2014-15 to 2018-19*

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	2014-15			2015-16			2016-17			2017-18			2018-19		
		BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE	EXP	BE	RE	EXP.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS)	1200.00	1040.03	1039.61	1250.00	1132.27	1132.17	1250.00	1200.00	1195.03	1350.00	1350.00	1350.01	1350.00	1350.00	1349.81
2.	Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution including EMRS	1317.00	1134.68	1133.15	1367.00	1392.78	1392.46	1400.00	1260.00	1265.86	1500.01	1500.00	1510.70	1800.01	1820.00	1819.82
	Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Support to NSTFDC/STFDCs	70.00	70.00	70.00	70.00	63.33	63.33	70.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	55.00	55.00	65.00	65.00	65.00
4.	Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana	100.00	100.00	100.00	200.00	200.00	200.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
5.	Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes	36.50	45.00	44.62	77.00	75.65	75.05	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	119.94	130.00	120.00	114.00
6.	Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas (NGOs)	3.00	2.90	2.70	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Strengthening of Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts	40.00	35.00	35.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)	207.00	180.00	180.00	217.35	217.35	213.54	200.00	340.00	340.21	270.00	240.00	239.49	260.00	250.00	250.00
9.	Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/ Produce -TRIFED	35.00	35.00	30.82	50.00	40.00	34.85	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	44.95	44.95	54.15	72.50	72.50

364 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

10.	Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	15.00	11.09	11.09	28.50	11.00	11.50	21.00	17.00	15.11	80.00	80.00	79.00	100.00	100.00	99.99
11.	Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP	317.00	100.00	100.00	307.00	143.00	117.69	158.00	3.00	2.00	100.00	25.00	8.59	130.00	97.47	96.85
12.	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students	50.00	0.00	0.00	50.00	48.81	46.84	50.00	80.00	79.98	120.00	100.00	99.72	100.00	100.00	99.98
13.	Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad	1.00	1.00	0.99	1.00	0.72	0.39	1.00	0.39	0.39	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
14.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	265.00	318.00	294.08	350.00	310.00	311.50

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

365

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
15.	Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1347.07	1436.00	1463.91	1586.00	1643.03	1647.56
16.	Boys & Girls Hostels	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	0	0
17.	Ashram Schools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	0	0
18.	Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas (States)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
19.	Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Tribes: Tribal Education	1058.00	1065.85	1059.88	1154.84	1210.64	1173.67	1454.22	1659.84	1659.31	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Tribal Festivals, Research Information & Mass Education	18.34	24.09	20.79	10.20	10.20	7.87	17.39	6.39	4.69	12.04	6.35	4.01	25.00	25.00	23.35
GRAND TOTAL		4467.84	3844.64	3828.65	4782.89	4545.75	4469.36	4791.61	4796.62	4792.58	5297.13	5290.30	5284.4	5952.17	5955.00	5952.36

366 Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Van Dhan Vikas Kendras

†3785. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to establish a large number of Van Dhan Vikas Kendras for upliftment of tribals in the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government has taken any step in this regard, so far; and
- (c) if so, the number of such Kendras proposed to be established along with the locations and time-line thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram is an initiative targeting livelihood generation for tribal population by harnessing the wealth of forest *i.e.* Van Dhan. The programme aims to tap into the traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribal people by adding technology and Information Technology for upgradation of output at each stage and to convert the tribal wisdom into a remunerative economic activity. Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram seeks to promote and leverage the collective strength of tribal people to achieve a viable scale.

(b) On April 14th, 2018 Hon'ble Prime Minister of India has announced the launching of Van Dhan Yojana in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh under which one Van Dhan Vikas Kendra was set up, as a pilot project, at a cost of ₹25 lakhs of which 25% is to be met by the State Government. This Van Dhan Vikas Kendra is to cater to ten Self Help Groups of thirty tribal gathers each.

(c) Implementation of Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram is through Van Dhan Kendras. Selection of a place for setting up of a Van Dhan Kendra is dependent upon the area's potential and availability of land to be provided by the State Government. The number of Van Dhan Kendras developed depends on the above factors.

Museum for cultural heritage of tribals

†3786. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any plan for setting up museums and research institutes at national level in order to save and preserve the cultural heritage of the tribal people;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether Government is making efforts for collecting their historical information based on oral history; and

(c) whether life and struggle of tribal freedom fighters such as Rani Gaidinliu, Birsa Munda, etc. have been displayed in the National Museum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India has given approval for setting up a 'National Museum of Tribal Freedom Fighters' at village 'Garudeshwar' of Narmada District in Gujarat.

It has also been conceptualized to set up National Tribal Research Institute at Central level for providing hand holding support to TRIs to strengthen them as body of knowledge and research and as think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, etc.

(b) As informed by the Government of Gujarat, State Government has referred archival records, visited library, university, Indian Council of Historical Research and several museums existing in the country in connection with 'National Museum of Tribal Freedom Fighters'. Further, historical information has been collected from concerned TRIs of different States.

(c) Yes, Sir. Life and struggle of the prominent national tribal freedom fighters including Birsa Munda and Rani Gaidinliu is envisaged to be displayed through 16 major galleries which includes one dedicated gallery for Birsa Munda and one gallery for Rani Gaidinliu.

Funds for various schemes

3787. SHRI Y.S. CHOWDARY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for various schemes during the last three years, State-wise;

(b) the details of funds released under various schemes during that period, State-wise including Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the details of spent/un-spent funds under various schemes during that period, State-wise; and

(d) whether the funds released under various schemes are sufficient to achieve the desired objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (d) The interventions under the schemes/programmes of the Ministry are demand driven and funds are provided to State Governments/UT Administrations based upon proposals received from the State Governments/UT Administrations and after appraisal and approval by a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Ministry. Funds are allocated by the Ministry scheme-wise, and not State-wise. The scheme-wise details of funds allocated under the various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). The details of funds released and utilised under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Scheme-wise details of Budget Estimate and Revised under the scheme/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years

(₹ in crore)							
Sl. No.	Name of Scheme/ Programmes	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		BE	RE	BE	RE	BE	RE
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS)	1250.00	1200.00	1350.00	1350.00	1350.00	1350.00
2.	Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution	1400.00	1260.00	1500.01	1500.00	1800.01	1820.00
	Eklavya Model Residential School	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Support to NSTFDC	70.00	60.00	60.00	55.00	65.00	65.00
4.	Van Bandhu Kalyan Yojana	1.00	1.00	0.01	Nil	0.01	Nil
5.	Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for the Scheduled Tribes	120.00	120.00	120.00	120.00	130.00	120.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
6.	Strengthening of Educational among ST Girls	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG)	200.00	340.00	270.00	240.00	260.00	250.00
8.	Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products-TRIFED	49.00	49.00	49.00	44.95	54.15	72.50
9.	Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	21.00	17.00	80.00	80.00	100.00	100.00
10.	Minimum Support Price for Minor Forest Produce (MSP for MFP)	158.00	3.00	100.00	25.00	130.00	97.47
11.	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students	50.00	80.00	120.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
12.	Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad	1.00	0.39	1.00	1.00	2.00	2.00
13.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students	Nil	Nil	265.00	318.00	350.00	310.00
14.	Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students	Nil	Nil	1347.07	1436.00	1586.00	1643.03
15.	Boys & Girls Hostels	Nil	Nil	10.00	7.00	Nil	Nil
16.	Ashram Schools	Nil	Nil	10.00	7.00	Nil	Nil
17.	Vocational Training Centers (NGOs)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Vocational Training Centers (States)	Nil	Nil	3.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
19.	Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Tribes: Tribal Education	1454.22	1659.84	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Tribal Festivals, Research Information & Mass Education	17.39	6.39	12.04	6.35	25.00	25.00
TOTAL		4791.61	4796.62	5297.13	5290.30	5952.17	5955.00

Statement-II

(A) State-wise details of funds released under the various schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years

I Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5000.42	5000.42	3624.77	3624.77	5617.3900	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2211.8300	NR
3.	Assam	3407.80	1930.57	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	743.74	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	11717.82	11717.82	14327.57	13125.49	10342.6500	10342.65
6.	Goa	455.68	455.68	559.09	NR	352.3100	NR
7.	Gujarat	9488.00	9488.00	10270.41	8934.63	11765.3800	NR
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1959.39	1959.39	2291.20	2291.20	3627.9975	3517.26
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3671.61	3671.61	3626.50	3626.500	3749.8000	173.60
10.	Jharkhand	9820.75	8656.91	11372.49	3676.43	8564.5200	545.90

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Karnataka	5100.00	5100.00	5955.37	3750.55	5347.7600	NR
12.	Kerala	808.09	288.10	808.43	367.06	335.0000	NR
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19236.61	15715.58	22828.70	9120.00	16968.9700	NR
14.	Maharashtra	9547.00	9547.00	13760.38	13760.38	13802.5700	2760.35
15.	Manipur	2260.00	2260.00	3790.38	3790.38	5442.4800	NR
16.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2739.2000	NR
17.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1220.0000	NR
18.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3225.0000	NR
19.	Odisha	11806.27	11806.27	11975.00	2100.00	17553.2200	NR
20.	Rajasthan	11072.90	11072.90	10051.83	10051.83	10327.9300	2093.58
21.	Sikkim	1497.62	399.95	5986.00	242.89	0.0000	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	600.00	486.58	894.10	645.09	315.0000	NR
23.	Telangana	3845.35	3845.35	4493.55	1436.39	2850.3225	NR
24.	Tripura	1345.76	1245.70	1649.77	1602.69	1294.3800	NR
25.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	679.00	247.73	1012.8800	NR
26.	Uttar Pradesh	121.92	NR	458.35	NR	0.0000	Nil
27.	West Bengal	5995.50	5995.50	5397.11	5397.11	5833.4100	NR
TOTAL		119502.230	110643.33	134800.00	87791.12	134500.00	19433.34

NR- Not Received.

II. Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2869.43	2869.43	4591.11	757.26	6390.77	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6580.53	6580.53	8378.82	3324.68	12170.52	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Assam	844.12	618.82	Nil	Nil	3916.32	19.56
4.	Bihar	1467.58	1433.88	991.89	NR	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	10488.52	10488.52	10964.49	10964.49	11352.92	NR
6.	Goa	450.00	126.19	103.00	NR	345.66	NR
7.	Gujarat	9739.02	9739.02	11384.08	6504.78	11648.20	NR
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1595.87	1595.87	2074.70	2074.70	3378.16	3242.16
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3539.66	156.77	3049.06	NR	2051.79	NR
10.	Jharkhand	9489.38	6254.74	12386.93	4217.01	7354.30	2359.68
11.	Karnataka	4664.00	4664.00	5881.74	5065.81	5220.61	1741.610
12.	Kerala	695.58	412.86	803.17	NR	472.28	NR
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14971.43	14971.43	22399.48	4587.92	24635.30	NR
14.	Maharashtra	11536.53	11536.53	13862.24	12862.24	17015.91	1766.34
15.	Manipur	1694.40	1694.40	2308.80	2308.80	5367.65	NR
16.	Meghalaya	1576.21	536.36	3603.40	875.00	5129.79	NR
17.	Mizoram	1927.49	1927.49	2504.41	2504.41	3507.71	2876.55
18.	Nagaland	6368.00	6368.00	4434.11	4434.11	9194.49	4368.51
19.	Odisha	11954.96	11954.96	15995.30	2900.00	21449.15	NR
20.	Rajasthan	10341.39	10341.39	10240.58	2048.12	13769.23	NR
21.	Sikkim	1147.00	1147.00	405.30	354.48	355.34	354.48
22.	Tamil Nadu	798.24	798.24	378.00	219.48	773.57	NR
23.	Telangana	3608.05	3608.05	5015.32	NR	3248.89	NR
24.	Tripura	1280.99	1280.99	2040.99	706.59	2006.73	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1138.62	890.12	189.00	189.00	252.43	252
26.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	1577.56	263.21	1255.27	NR
27.	West Bengal	5814.37	5814.37	5376.51	5376.51	9235.73	NR
TOTAL		126581.37	117801.96	150939.99	72538.60	181498.72	16994.89

NR - Not Received.

III. Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5105.00	5105.00	2076.00	2076.00	1837.00	NR
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.00	57.00	200.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Bihar	342.87	NR	295.91	158.47	Nil	Nil
4.	Chhattisgarh	1230.00	1230.00	1089.50	1089.50	1051.50	NR
5.	Gujarat	779.12	779.12	390.67	390.67	604.00	NR
6.	Jharkhand	3120.00	3120.00	2043.75	2047.75	3295.79	NR
7.	Karnataka	136.00	136.00	467.00	467.00	460.00	NR
8.	Kerala	100.00	NR	62.00	NR	Nil	Nil
9.	Madhya Pradesh	10460.40	9950.40	8232.46	8232.46	7998.09	NR
10.	Maharashtra	2077.00	2077.00	1226.25	1226.25	1230.26	NR
11.	Manipur	329.00	329.00	195.00	195.00	1157.55	NR
12.	Odisha	1379.00	1379.00	1297.00	1012.31	3626.00	NR
13.	Rajasthan	1331.00	1331.00	1038.00	1038.00	1008.00	NR
14.	Tamil Nadu	3055.00	2355.00	1770.75	1458.55	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
15.	Telangana	1139.00	1139.00	778.00	778.00	533.00	NR
16.	Tripura	2250.00	2110.28	2305.00	1716.63	789.53	NR
17.	West Bengal	574.00	574.00	330.76	330.76	843.42	NR
18.	Uttarakhand	292.48	292.48	130.00	47.00	565.86	NR
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	17.96	NR	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		33799.87	31964.28	23946.01	22264.35	25000.00	0.00

NR - Not Received.

IV. Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5.00	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	5282.94	5282.94	1210.81	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Assam	321.33	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Chhattisgarh	2534.15	2534.15	1805.30	1805.30	4755.63	NR
7.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20.00	NR
8.	Daman and Diu	Nil	Nil	8.04	8.04	Nil	Nil
9.	Goa	52.64	52.64	3.75	3.75	80.83	16.88
10.	Gujarat	80.81	80.81	3650.84	3650.84	4482.31	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Himachal Pradesh	51.21	51.21	Nil	Nil	38.91	NR
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	1704.53	1704.53	2345.92	NR
14.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	1364.59	1364.59	1256.31	1003.18
15.	Kerala	796.40	796.40	Nil	Nil	308.73	NR
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	5539.17	5539.17	5884.33	NR
17.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
18.	Manipur	867.38	867.38	619.09	619.09	773	NR
19.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	156.69	122.94	Nil	Nil
20.	Mizoram	336.36	336.36	132.25	132.25	319.79	NR
21.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Odisha	3376.36	3376.36	5134.98	5134.98	6665.88	1448.55
23.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	3284.79	3284.79	1716.12	1716.12
24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	25.72	25.72	7.97	NR
25.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Telangana	Nil	Nil	358.02	358.02	693.84	NR
27.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	232.89	NR	Nil	Nil
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	0.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	104.44	104.44	Nil	Nil
30.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	584.62	NR
TOTAL		8416.64	8095.31	29408.03	29141.39	31150.00	4184.73

NR - Not Received.

V. Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	10.09	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9777.62	9777.62	8269.11	8269.11	13945.02	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1136.32	1136.32	5803.65	5803.65	1883.82	NR
4.	Assam	266.65	266.65	2516.48	2516.48	3248.03	NR
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	71.25	NR	Nil	Nil
6.	Chhattisgarh	2674.82	2674.82	3811.26	3811.26	4609.57	NR
7.	Daman and Diu	53.63	53.63	26.19	26.19	3.41	NR
8.	Goa	645.00	645.00	364.80	364.80	536.26	NR
9.	Gujarat	22040.27	22040.27	14609.74	14609.74	32429.12	NR
10.	Himachal Pradesh	931.36	931.36	3123.36	3123.36	278.15	NR
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2587.84	2587.84	2322.56	1578.20	637.93	NR
12.	Jharkhand	8148.39	8148.39	2716.50	2716.50	5281.32	NR
13.	Karnataka	8540.00	8540.00	8873.31	8873.31	7341.33	NR
14.	Kerala	3122.00	3122.00	2745.46	2745.46	2674.37	NR
15.	Madhya Pradesh	13054.00	13054.00	10320.50	10320.50	13405.24	NR
16.	Maharashtra	22092.28	22092.28	10884.91	10884.91	15238.15	NR
17.	Manipur	3385.20	3385.20	6382.55	6370.06	2026.76	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Meghalaya	3189.00	3189.00	770.50	770.50	2457.52	NR
19.	Mizoram	4267.52	4267.52	2434.73	2434.73	3528.21	NR
20.	Nagaland	1344.00	1344.00	2515.00	2515.00	4716.66	NR
21.	Odisha	15556.48	15556.48	8784.18	8784.18	14801.92	14801.92
22.	Rajasthan	9800.00	9800.00	19912.49	19912.49	13598.95	3405.92
23.	Sikkim	938.16	938.16	1247.32	1247.32	1134.36	NR
24.	Tamil Nadu	3061.85	3061.85	2440.39	2440.39	3933.65	NR
25.	Telangana	11483.00	11483.00	18031.25	18031.25	9921.68	NR
26.	Tripura	1323.90	1323.90	2756.25	2756.25	3626.55	NR
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1057.50	1057.50	1244.91	1243.47	1210.54	NR
28.	Uttarakhand	5090.57	3591.84	600.25	NR	Nil	Nil
29.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	2807.89	2807.89	2219.39	NR
TOTAL		155567.36	154068.64	146386.79	144957.00	164698.00	18207.84

NR- Not Received.

VI. Scheme 'Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce'

		(₹ in lakh)					
Sl. No.	State/ Institution	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	393.52	298.52	Nil	Nil
3.	Odisha	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Rajasthan	43.43	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Tripura	351.10	276.79	201.48	NR	Nil	Nil
6.	West Bengal	431.47	431.47	Nil	Nil	85.00	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
7.	Mizoram	174.00	174.00	Nil	Nil	696.00	696.00
9.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	219.00	NR
8.	TRIFED	3900.00	3900.00	3900.00	3900.00	6250.00	NR

NR- Not Received.

VII. Scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP'

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Institution	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Odisha	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Gujarat	Nil	Nil	619.00
3.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	2681.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	89.00	Nil
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	300.00	710.00
9.	Manipur	Nil	11.00	90.00
10.	Nagaland	Nil	19.00	88.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	240.00	821.00
12.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	418.00
13.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	657.00
14.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	125.00
TOTAL		Nil	659.00	6209.00

Status of utilization of funds: The said funds are released as revolving fund to be operated at State level for upfront payment for procuring MFP. After the MFP is disposed off, the proceeds there from, shall be credited back to this fund. Hence, no utilization certificate is required to be furnished by State Government under the schemes. Utilization Certificate with respect to infrastructure have not been received from many implementation agencies.

(B) Details of Central Share Capital/ Equity Share Capital Released to the STFDCs (As on 5.12.2018)

I. Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) / State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (STFDCs)

(₹ in lakhs)													
Sl. No.	Name of the State/ Corporation	2013-14		2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Fund Released	Utiliza- tion	Fund Released	Utiliza- tion	Fund Released	Utiliza- tion	Fund Released	Utiliza- tion	Fund Released	Utiliza- tion	Fund Released	Utiliza- tion
1.	Arunachal Pradesh Ind Dev & Fin Corporation, Itanagar	200.00	200.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5.00	5.00	Nil	Nil
3.	Goa State STs Finance and Dev Corpn Ltd, Panaji	Nil	Nil	640.00	640.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	465.00	465.00	Nil	Nil
4.	HP SCs &STs Dev Corpn, Solan	88.00	NR	42.00	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Jammu and Kashmir SCs, STs & BCs Dev Corpn, Jammu	577.00	577.00	470.00	470.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
7.	Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki STs Dev Corpn, Bangaluru	800.00	792.59	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

8.	Kerala State Dev Corpn for SCs & STs Ltd (KSDC), Thrissur	30.00	30.00	20.00	20.00	22.00	22.00	Nil	50.00	NR	Nil	Nil
9.	MP Adivasi Vitta Aivam Vikas Nigam (MPAVVN), Bhopal	530.00	530.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	Odisha SCs STs Dev & Fin Coop Corpn Ltd, Bhubaneshwar	90.00	90.00	8.00	8.00	NR	0.50	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Sikkim SCs Tribes & BCs Dev Corpn Ltd, Gangtok	250.00	250.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
14.	Tripura STs Coop Dev Corpn Ltd (TSTDC), Agartala	185.00	185.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	300.00	NR
15.	West Bengal SCs & STs Dev & Fin Corpn (WBSCTDC), Kolkata	300.00	300.00	1720.00	1720.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	500.00	NR
16.	NSTFDC (delhi)	3000.00	3000.00	4100.00	4100.00	6310.50	6310.50	6000.00	4980.00	4980.00	5700.00	5700.00

NR - Not Released.

II. Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRI)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	940.42	470.00	749.58	NR
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	99	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	647.99	NR	253.01	NR
4.	Assam	Nil	Nil	183.65	152.15	198.75	NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	168.73	23.46	504.49	NR
6.	Gujarat	Nil	Nil	2438.00	2438.00	Nil	Nil
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	106.8	NR
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	340.00	240.00	Nil	Nil	97	NR
9.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1211.83	1211.83
10.	Karnataka	117.00	117.00	130.00	115.00	106	0.00
11.	Kerala	67.99	36.35	745.65	NR	401.25	NR
12.	Madhya Pradesh	54.35	54.35	732.51	168.14	738.3445	NR
13.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	485.01	NR
14.	Manipur	109.00	109.00	58.00	58.00	530.11	NR
15.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	564.36	202.00
16.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	825	50.00
17.	Odisha	322.39	334.89	662.90	647.90	819.07	500.00
18.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	169.25	169.25	214	NR
19.	Sikkim	111.00	111.00	136.00	136.00	194.5	194.5
20.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	133.20	NR	177.25	42.42

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Telangana	121.90	121.90	339.50	339.50	454	NR
22.	Tripura	73.25	73.25	198.75	171.24	316.14	NR
23.	Uttar Pradesh	43.26	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	West Bengal	150.82	150.82	215.45	215.45	380.15	380.15
25.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	574.3515	NR
TOTAL		1510.96	1348.56	7900.00	5104.09	10000.00	2580.90

NR - Not Received.

III. Grants-in-aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs

(₹ in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160.58	176.73	128.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	456.05	605.24	487.11
3.	Assam	137.66	170.77	188.77
4.	Chhattisgarh	65.97	75.36	110.33
5.	Gujarat	111.94	73.15	146.90
6.	Himachal Pradesh	277.34	251.10	280.16
7.	Jharkhand	405.76	966.29	1429.16
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	19.69	19.69
9.	Karnataka	389.10	244.94	467.72
10.	Kerala	113.55	66.56	77.30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	152.78	119.21	306.95
12.	Maharashtra	202.95	377.48	312.32
13.	Manipur	394.06	264.29	206.19
14.	Meghalaya	606.93	697.71	824.78
15.	Mizoram	40.16	55.89	93.73

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
16.	Nagaland	Nil	30.80	18.04
17.	Odisha	457.37	1168.97	2222.85
18.	Rajasthan	67.83	14.50	126.02
19.	Sikkim	52.05	90.81	85.02
20.	Tamil Nadu	38.91	280.50	329.13
21.	Telangana	637.87	76.76	53.64
22.	Tripura	66.02	32.62	57.72
23.	Uttarakhand	112.64	37.42	133.81
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34.49	67.43	Nil
25.	West Bengal	315.33	937.43	805.67
26.	Delhi	9.07	17.15	5.41
TOTAL		5306.41	6918.80	8917.18

Note- The grant-in-aid under the schemes of Grant in Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for welfare of STs are released only after receipt of Utilization Certificate of previous grant and hence, under the schemes no Utilization Certificate is pending. Unspent balance if any, is adjusted while releasing subsequent grant to the particular NGO project.

IV. Scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	270.94	1117.23	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	37.64	Nil
3.	Chhattisgarh	39.63	37.12	64.49
4.	Gujarat	2857.93	1512.48	93.21
5.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	36.13
6.	Madhya Pradesh	420.05	325.21	635.02
7.	Maharashtra	158.38	149.86	254.60
8.	Odisha	1929.41	1102.18	1013.56

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9.	Rajasthan	148.78	25.13	168.17
10.	Telangana	719.76	321.91	Nil
TOTAL		6544.88	4628.76	2265.18

Note - The grant-in-aid under the schemes of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts are released only after receipt of Utilization Certificate of previous grant and hence, under the schemes no Utilization Certificate is pending. Unspent balance if any, is adjusted while releasing subsequent grant to the particular NGO project.

V. Scheme of Vocational Training in Tribal Areas (NGOs)

(₹ in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Assam	93.00	183.09	90.57
2.	Karnataka	Nil	59.60	17.04
3.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	83.09	25.06
4.	Meghalaya	Nil	59.33	26.64
5.	Nagaland	24.48	Nil	27.12
6.	Tamil Nadu	31.2	61.55	31.20
GRAND TOTAL		148.68	446.66	217.63

Note - The grant-in-aid under the schemes of Vocational Training in Tribal Areas (NGOs) are released only after receipt of Utilization Certificate of previous grant and hence, under the schemes no Utilization Certificate is pending. Unspent balance if any, is adjusted while releasing subsequent grant to the particular NGO project.

Upliftment of Scheduled Tribes in North Eastern States

3788. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of ongoing schemes aimed at upliftment of Scheduled Tribe people in the country particularly in the North Eastern States; and

(b) the details of financial allocations made to the States during the last three years and the manner in which the States have utilised the Central allocations during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) The details of the ongoing schemes / programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the welfare/upliftment of Scheduled Tribes across the country including North Eastern States is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The interventions under the schemes / programmes of the Ministry are demand driven and funds are provided to State Governments/UT Administrations based upon proposals received from the State Governments/UT Administrations and after appraisal and approval by a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Ministry. Funds are allocated by the Ministry scheme-wise, and not State-wise. The Scheme-wise details of funds allocated/expenditure under the schemes / programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Brief details of ongoing schemes/programmes being implemented by the ministry of tribal affairs.

- I. **Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS):** The scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) which is 100% grant from Government of India. Grants are released to States, having ST population for development and welfare of tribal people. Funds are released to States based upon proposals received from the State Governments, and considered in the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), to bridge the gaps in sectors like education, health, agriculture, skill development, employment-cum-income generation, etc. 100% grants are provided to States. Major part of infrastructure development in tribal dominated areas and provision of basic amenities to tribal people in the country is carried out through various schemes / programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging gaps under SCA to TSS.
- II. **Grants Under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers one programme named "Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India" wherein funds are released to 27 States, having ST population. Under this programme, 100% funding is made by Government of India. Funding under this programme is aimed to enable the States to meet the cost of

such schemes of development as may be undertaken by the State for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in that State or raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas therein to that of the administration of the rest of the areas of that State. Funds are released towards various sectors such as education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy and skill development/other income generating schemes. This intervention is aimed at augmenting tribal household economy and administrative structure/institutional framework.

III. Scheme of Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):

There are certain groups among Scheduled Tribes who have declining or stagnant population, low level of literacy, pre-agricultural level of technology and are economically backward. These groups are among the most vulnerable sections of our society as they are few in numbers, have not attained any significant level of social and economic development and generally inhabit remote localities having poor infrastructure and administrative support. 75 such groups in 18 States and one UT, *i.e.* UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, have been identified and categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

2. The scheme covers these 75 identified PVTGs. The scheme is very flexible and it enables every State to focus on any developmental activity for PVTGs, *viz.*, housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural growth, cattle development, connectivity, installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, social security or any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive socio-economic development of PVTGs.

IV. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes:

The Scheme was launched in 1953-54 and was last revised w.e.f. 1st April 2008. The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health, drinking water, agro-horticultural productivity, social security net etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations, and to provide favourable environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Any other innovative activity having direct positive impact on the socio-economic development or livelihood generation of STs may also be considered through voluntary efforts. The scheme is Central Sector Scheme. The grants are provided to the non-governmental organizations on application, in a prescribed format, duly recommended by the multi-disciplinary

State Level Committee of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Funds are generally provided to the extent of 90% by the Government. The voluntary organization is expected to bear the remaining 10% balance from its own resources.

V Scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts:

The primary objective of this Central Sector Scheme is promotion of education among tribal girls in the identified low literacy districts of the country. The scheme, revised w.e.f. 1st April 2008, aims to improve the socio-economic status of the poor and illiterate tribal population through the education of women. The Scheme has been revised with effect from 1.4.2008. Now it is being implemented in 54 identified low literacy districts where ST Population is 25% or more and ST female literacy rate is below 35% as per 2001 census. The Scheme aims to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general female population and tribal women and is meant exclusively for ST Girls. The educational complexes are established in rural areas of identified districts and have classes I to V with a provision for upgradation up to class XII, provided there is sufficient accommodation for classrooms, hostel, a kitchen, gardening and for sports facilities. The educational complexes impart not only formal education to tribal girls but also train the students in agriculture, animal husbandry, other vocations and crafts to make them economically strong.

VI. Pre-Matric Scholarships to ST Students:

- Applicable to students who are studying in Classes IX - X.
- Parental income from all sources should be less than ₹2.00 lakhs per annum, which is proposed to be increased to ₹2.5 lakhs.
- Scholarship of ₹150/- per month for day scholars and ₹350/- per month for hostellers is given for a period of 10 months in a year, Scholarships are paid @ ₹150/- per month for Day Scholars and @ ₹350/- per month for Hostellers, for a period of 10 months in a year. This is proposed to be revised from existing ₹150/- to ₹225/- p.m. for Day Scholars, and from ₹350/- to ₹525/- p.m. for Hostellers.
- Scholarship is disbursed through the State Government/UT Administration.
- Funds shared at the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and State Governments/UT Administrations and 90:10 for NE and Specially Category States (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) from 2014-15 onwards.

VII. Post Matric Scholarships to ST Students:

- Applicable to students who are studying in any recognized course from a recognized institution for which qualification is Matriculation/Class X or above.
- Parental income from all sources should be less than ₹2.50 lakhs per annum.
- Compulsory fees charged by educational institutions are reimbursed subject to the limit fixed by the concerned State Fee fixation committee and scholarship amount of ₹230 to ₹1200 per month, depending upon the course of study is paid.
- Scholarship is distributed through the State Government/UT Administration.
- Funds shared at the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and State Governments/UT Administrations and 90:10 for NE and Specially Category States (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) from 2014-15 onwards.

VIII. National Overseas Scholarships for ST Candidates for Studying Abroad:

- The Scheme provides for financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral study abroad.
- A total of 20 awards are given every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed ₹6.00 lakhs per annum.
- Disbursement of scholarships through the Ministry of External Affairs/Indian Missions abroad.

IX. National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students:

- (i) Scholarship For Higher Education (Earlier known as Top Class Education for ST Students):
 - Scholarship is given to ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 246 institutions of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry.

- Total number of scholarships is 1000 per year.
 - Family income from all sources should not exceed ₹6.00 lakhs per annum.
 - Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.
- (ii) Fellowship (Earlier known as Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for ST students):
- 750 fellowships are provided to ST students each year for pursuing higher studies in India for M.Phil and Ph.D.
 - Fellowship for M.Phil is provided @ ₹25000/- per month and for Ph.D @ ₹28000/- per month.
 - Contingency for Fellows in Humanities and Social Science is provided @ ₹ 10000/- per annum for two year and ₹ 20500/- per annum for the rest of the period.
 - Contingency for Fellows in Science, Engineering Technology is provided @ ₹ 12000/-per annum for two years and @ 25000/- per annum for the rest of the period.
 - Escorts/Reader assistance @ ₹2000/- per month is provided in case of physically and visually handicapped candidates.
 - HRA as per rules of University / Institution / Colleges.
 - The maximum duration for which the scholarships are available is given below:
 - a. M.Phil - 2 years
 - b. Ph.D exclusively - 5 years
 - c. M.Phil + Ph.D * - 2 years (M.Phil) and 3 years (Ph.D).

X. **Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products / Produce (Central Sector Scheme):** Under the scheme, Grants-in-aid are released to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) and Tribal Cooperative

Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) which is a multi-State Cooperative under Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The scope of the Scheme:-

- (1) To give comprehensive support for people belonging to various tribes in the entire range of production, product development, preservation of traditional heritage, support to both forest and agricultural produce of tribal people, support to Institutions to carry the above activities, provisions of better infrastructure, development of designs, dissemination of information about price and the agencies which are buying the products, support to Government agencies for sustainable marketing and thereby ensure a reasonable price regime.
- (2) Sharing of information with Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas
- (3) Skill upgradation, development of utilitarian products for increase in value in market.

Objective of the Scheme:-

The objective of the Scheme is to create institutions for the Scheduled Tribes to support marketing and development of activities they depend on for their livelihood. These are sought to be achieved by specific measures like (i) market intervention; (ii) training and skill up-gradation of tribal Artisans, Craftsmen, MFP gatherers etc.; (iii) R&D/IPR activity; and (iv) Supply chain infrastructure development.

- XI. **'Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of value chain for MFP as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers (Centrally Sponsored Scheme):** This Ministry has introduced from the year 2013-14, a centrally sponsored scheme of 'Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP' as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers who are primarily member of Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers whose very livelihood depends on collection and selling of MFP.

- 2 The scheme seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns for their efforts in collection, primary processing, storage, packaging, transportation etc. It also seeks to get them a share of revenue from the sales proceeds with cost deducted. It also aims to address other issues for sustainability of process.

- 3 The scheme envisages fixation and declaration of Minimum Support Price for the selected MFP. Procurement and Marketing operation at pre fixed MSP will be undertaken by the designated State Agencies. Simultaneously, other medium and long term issues like sustainable collection, value addition, infrastructure development, knowledge base expansion of MFP, market intelligence development, strengthening the bargaining power of Gram Sabha / Panchayat will also be addressed.

XII. Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development corporation (NSTFDC)/ State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development corporations (STFDCS):

NSTFDC a fully owned Public Sector Enterprise of Government of India, is provided with 100% equity share capital contribution by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The authorized share capital of the Corporation is ₹ 750.00 crore. The paid up Share capital is ₹ 570.00 crore (as on 15.03.2017). The main objectives of NSTFDC are:-

- To identify economic activities of importance to the Scheduled Tribes so as to generate self-employment and raise their income level.
- To upgrade their skills and processes through both institutional and on the job training.
- To make existing State/ UT Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (SCAs) and other developmental agencies engaged in economic development of the Scheduled Tribes more effective.
- To assist SCAs in project formulation, implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes and in imparting training to their personnel.
- To monitor implementation of NSFDC assisted schemes in order to assess their impact.

The STFDCs are catering to STs in various States and are provided assistance in the form of contribution towards share capital by this Ministry. The ratio of its contribution is in the share of 51:49 between State and Government and Central Government. The main objectives of the scheme are:-

- Identification of eligible ST families and motivating them to undertake economic development schemes.
- Sponsoring those schemes to financial institutions for credit support.

- Providing financial assistance in form of margin money on low rate of interest; and
- Providing necessary linkage/ tie-up with other poverty alleviation programmes.

XIII. The scheme 'support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRI)': This is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding by the Central Government to the TRIs directly or through State Government on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee of the Ministry. The continuation of the scheme has already been approved and revised guidelines issued (2017). Annual proposal is appraised and approved by APEX Committee usually in the 1st Quarter/ FY. Mid-term Review of the projects sanctioned to the State TRIs under the Scheme 'Support to TRIs' is done in the month of September. Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up by various State Governments. TRIs are established and administratively supported by concerned State Governments.

The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research and Documentation activities and Training and Capacity Building programmes, etc. Focus of the scheme is to establish TRIs in each of the Tribal dominated States. It is envisaged that TRIs should work as body of knowledge and research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals and persons / institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness. To recognize the heroic deeds of tribals, Government has resolved to set up Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museums in the States.

XIV. The scheme 'tribal festival, research information and mass education)': The basic objective of the scheme to identify and recognize institutes/organizations as Centre of Excellence (CoE) to undertaking various research studies/publication of books/documentation including audio visual documentaries to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues and Promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage as well as capacity building of tribal persons/institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

Research Institutes and Organizations have been receiving financial support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for carrying out short-term research and extension

work among tribal communities in the country. Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been funding to them on the basis of the proposals received in the first instance and studies approved. The scheme aims at supporting and strengthening active research in Universities and reputed Institutions as well as Institutions with potential, including NGOs, Registered Professional Organizations and Autonomous Bodies working in the fields of tribal development and research. Renowned NGOs, Research Institutes and Organizations, where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out pioneering research in the field of study of tribal cultures and their development and extension work in particular subject areas.

The Institutes/Organizations declared as Centre of Excellence will be provided 100% Grants-in-aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The installment will be released only after submission of draft report of the research study/documentation done by a particular institute/organization on the work approved by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall have the right to review the draft report and any modification asked for by the Ministry will have to be carried out by the concerned Institute/Organization. The duration of research studies/documentation work report will be within a period of 8- 12 months from the date of sanction of grants-in-aid under the Scheme of Centre of Excellence.

The grant-in-aid is released under this scheme for various field like documentation of tribal cultures, which includes dance, music, songs, languages, dialects, tribal arts, traditional medicines and sports, customary laws and religions. Research on Tribal Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Rights, Women rights in the Vth Scheduled Areas and the VIth Scheduled Areas. Research studies on migration, displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation of minor and major project affected Tribal families/tribal areas. Dissemination of various enactments/ regulations on money lending / debt redemption meant for STs. Documentation of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in respect of their population, customary laws and culture. Organization of awareness campaign amongst STs about basic minimum needs like primary health including pre-natal and post-natal health for women and children, drinking water and primary education; etc. Publication of issues related to research and documentation of the Scheduled Tribes. Organization of seminars / workshop on matters related to tribal issues etc. Documentation of tribal artifacts.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
7.	Strengthening of Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)	200.00	340.00	340.21	270.00	240.00	239.49	260.00	250.00	250.00
9.	Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/ Produce -TRIFED	49.00	49.00	49.00	49.00	44.95	44.95	54.15	72.50	72.50
10.	Support to Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs)	21.00	17.00	15.11	80.00	80.00	79.00	100.00	100.00	99.99
11.	Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP	158.00	3.00	2.00	100.00	25.00	8.59	130.00	97.47	96.85
12.	National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST students	50.00	80.00	79.98	120.00	100.00	99.72	100.00	100.00	99.98
13.	Scholarship to the ST Students for Studies Abroad	1.00	0.39	0.39	1.00	1.00	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.00
14.	Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students	0	0	0	265.00	318.00	294.08	350.00	310.00	311.50

396 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

15.	Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students	0	0	0	1347.07	1436.00	1463.91	1586.00	1643.03	1647.56
16.	Boys & Girls Hostels	0	0	0	10.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	0	0
17.	Ashram Schools	0	0	0	10.00	7.00	7.00	0.00	0	0
18.	Vocational Training Centers in Tribal Areas (States)	0	0	0	3.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0
19.	Umbrella Programme for Development of Scheduled Tribes: Tribal Education	1454.22	1659.84	1659.31	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Tribal Festivals, Research Information & Mass Education	17.39	6.39	4.69	12.04	6.35	4.01	25.00	25.00	23.35
GRAND TOTAL		4791.61	4796.62	4792.58	5297.13	5290.30	5284.40	5952.17	5955.00	5952.36

Written Answers to

[25 July, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

397

Establishment of EMRSs

3789. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is establishing Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) across the country for the development of tribal population;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of schools opened so far in Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) the details of quantum of funds being allocated to each school and each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) and (b) Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) aim to provide quality upper primary, secondary and senior secondary level education to Scheduled Tribes (ST) students in remote areas to enable them to access the best opportunities in education and to bring them at par with the general population. Earlier it was a component of activities carried out through Grants under Article 275(1). During 2018-19, a separate scheme was introduced. As per extant approval of the Government, every block with more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons, will have an Eklavya Model Residential School by the year 2022. Across the country, as per census 2011 figures, there are 564 sub-districts, *i.e.* blocks/taluka/tehsil having more than 50% ST population and at least 20,000 tribal persons. Out of these 564 sub-districts, EMRSs are sanctioned in 102 sub-districts at the inception of the scheme. From the remaining 462 sub-districts, 145 new EMRSs and 5 new Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools (EMDBS) are sanctioned, during 2018-19 and 2019-20, across the country.

(c) The total number of EMRSs sanctioned till date to the State of Andhra Pradesh is 19, out of which 14 schools are functional. Details of which is given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) Funds are released to the States for construction of EMRSs as well as for recurring cost based on the actual number of students enrolled in all EMRSs in that State in a particular year. Extant cost norms for new EMRS is ₹ 20.00 crore; in the case of North East, hilly areas, difficult areas and areas affected by Left Wing Extremism,

cost may go up by 20% over the normal cost norm. The recurring cost per student per year is ₹ 1,09,000/- with effect from the year 2019-20.

Statement

EMRSs in Andhra Pradesh

Sl. No.	District	Block/Taluk	Village/Habitat	Year of Sanction	Status
1.	East Godavari	Y. Ramavaram	P Yerragonda	1998-99	Functional
2.	SPSR Nellore	Kodavalur	Kodavaluru	2003-04	Functional
3.	Prakasam	Dornala	Srisailam	2010-11	Functional
4.	Visakhapatnam	Gudem Kotha Veedhi	GK Veedhi	2010-11	Functional
5.	Chittoor	Buchinadidu Khandriga	BN Kandriga	2014-15	Functional
6.	East Godavari	Maredumilli	Maredumilli	2014-15	Functional
7.	SPSR Nellore	Ozili	Oozil Mandal	2014-15	Functional
8.	Srikakulam	Meliaputti	Meliaputti	2014-15	Functional
9.	Srikakulam	Bhamini	Bhamini	2014-15	Functional
10.	Visakhapatnam	MunchingiPuttu	Munchigaput	2014-15	Functional
11.	Visakhapatnam	Dumbriguda	Dumbriguda	2014-15	Functional
12.	Vizianagaram	Makkuva	Anasabhadra	2014-15	Functional
13.	Vizianagaram	Kurupam	Kurupam	2014-15	Functional
14.	Vizianagaram	Pachipenta	Kotikapenta	2014-15	Functional
15.	West Godavari	Buttayagudem	Buttayagudem	2018-19	Functional
16.	East Godavari	Chinture	Kunduru	2018-19	Functional
17.	East Godavari	Rajavommangi	Tallapalem	2019-20	Functional
18.	Visakhapatnam	Chintapalle	Chintapalle	2019-20	Functional
19.	Vizianagaram	G L Puram	G L Puram	2019-20	Functional

Vocational Training Centres in naxal affected areas

3790. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that unemployment amongst the tribal youth in tribal areas is one of the main reasons for their joining naxalism and in case they are given vocational training and jobs they would shun violence;

(b) if so, whether Government has established Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) in tribal areas of the country and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of VTCs presently functioning in naxal affected areas of Maharashtra and the number of youth who got employment after getting training at such centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Issues like poverty, illiteracy, displacement and forced eviction, land and livelihood related factors, social exclusion prevalent in Left Wing Extremism areas has created an environment of vacuum of State presence and opportunity to the LWE groups to carry out violence activities based on their ideology.

(b) A Scheme for running Vocational Training Centres (VTCs) was being implemented by the Government through the Ministry of Tribal Affairs under which funds were provided as 100% grants at the rate of ₹ 30000/- per trainee per annum for vocational training facilities to tribal youth. As part of rationalization of schemes, the intervention of Vocational Training Centres is subsumed under the Schemes of 'Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) and Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution from 2018-19 onwards. Under the scheme of SCA to TSS and Article 275(1) Grants, assistance is provided as 100% grant in the form of an additive to State based on demand (within the share of allocation of the State Government) for tribal development including Skill Development / Vocational Training programmes. The State-wise details of funds released for vocational training/ skill development, under the schemes of SCA to TSS and Article 275(1) Grants is given in the Statement (*See below*). Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship implements the scheme of "Skill Development in 47 Districts Affected by Left Wing Extremism" throughout the country which includes establishment of ITIs and Skill Development Centres in the Naxal affected districts. The details are given in the Statement-II.

(c) As informed by the State Government of Maharashtra, the details of VTCs in Maharashtra is as under:

Sl. No.	Place	Taluka	District
1.	Kotgul	Korchi	Gadchiroli
2.	Kasansur	Bharmagarh	Gadchiroli
3.	Vinval	Jawhar	Palghar
4.	Pathraj	Karjat	Raigad
5.	Palsan	Surgana	Nashik
6.	Bhangrapani	Akkalkuva	Nandurbar
7.	Keli Rumanvadi	Akole	Ahamahnagar
8.	Waghzira	Yawal	Jalgao
9.	Gohe	Aambegao	Pune
10.	Kapra	Babhulgao	Yawatmal
11.	Sarkhani	Kinwat	Nanded
12.	Ranigao	Dharni	Amravati
13.	Kavdas	Hingna	Nagpur
14.	Kadikasa	Devari	Gondia
15.	Devada	Rajura	Chandrapur

Out of these VTCs, 3 VTCs of Nagapur region namely Kadikasa, Kotgul and Kasansur are in Naxal areas and Kadikasa and Kasansur are functional. Following trades are available for training at VTCs:

1. Oil engine repair
2. Electrician
3. Construction
4. Furniture making
5. Tailoring
6. T.V., Radio and Watch repairing

The duration of the courses is 4 months and these trades are self-employment oriented, trainees get the opportunities of self employment.

Statement-I

*(A) Funds released for Vocational Training under Article 275(1)
of the Constitution of India*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Himachal Pradesh	120	70	25	0
2.	Jharkhand	0	0	2425	0
3.	Madhya Pradesh	1056	405.23	0	0
4.	Maharashtra	0	0	21.50	1500.00
5.	Manipur	0	120	0	0
6.	Mizoram	150	10	170.73	186.00
7.	Nagaland	100	10	0	0
8.	Rajasthan	0	13	0	0
GRAND TOTAL		1426	628.23	2642.23	1686.00

(B) Funds released for Vocational Training under scheme of SCA to TSS

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1715.00	2000	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	15
3.	Assam	0	0	300	0
4.	Bihar	630	351.01	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	1640	149.9	200	0
6.	Gujarat	1814	1750.03	0	1829.33
7.	Himachal Pradesh	180.64	60	260.25	0
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	2900	100	0	0
9.	Jharkhand	175	300	0	0

Sl. No.	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
10.	Kerala	35.10	0	0	0
11.	Madhya Pradesh	1177.19	4139.01	0	0
12.	Maharashtra	1000	0	224.14	650
13.	Odisha	3200	5200	3100	2100
14.	Rajasthan	1000	78.35	0	800
15.	Sikkim	20	87.7	21	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	86	0
17.	West Bengal	445.23	0	550	0
GRAND TOTAL		15932.16	14216	4741.39	5394.33

Statement-II

Coverage under the scheme "Skill Development in 47 Districts Affected by Left Wing Extremism is given below

Sl. No.	States	No. of Dist.	Districts covered for 1 ITI and 2 Skill Development Centres (SDCs) per districts		Districts covered for 1 ITI per district	
			Name	Nos.	Name	Nos.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	-	0	Vishakhapatnam	1
2.	Telangana	1	Khammam	1		0
3.	Bihar	9	Jamui, Gaya, Aurangabad, Rohtas, Jehanabad, Arwal	6	Muzzafarpur, Banka and Nawada	3
4.	Chhattisgarh	9	Bijapur, Bastar, Dantewada, Kanker, Narayanpur, Surguja, Rajnandgaon	7	Sukma and Kondagaon	2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
5.	Jharkhand	16	Chatra, West Singhbhum, Palamau, Garhwa, East Singhbhum, Bokaro, Lohardaga, Gumla, Latehar, Hazaribagh	10	Girdih, Khunti, Ranchi, Dumka, Ramgarh and Simdega	6
6.	Madhya Pradesh	1	Balaghat	1		0
7.	Maharashtra	2	Gadchiroli and Gondia	2		0
8.	Odisha	6	Gajapati, Malkangiri, Rayagada, Deogarh, Sambalpur	5	Koraput	1
9.	Uttar Pradesh	1	Sonebhadra	1		0
10.	West Bengal	1	Paschim Midnapur (Lalgarh Area)	1		
TOTAL		47		34		13

EMRSs in Nagpur

3791. DR VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) in Nagpur district of Maharashtra; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Tribe students being educated in these schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) There is one Eklavya Model Residential School at Khairiparsoda, Ramtek Block in Nagpur district. This school has been functional since 2000-01.

(b) The number of ST students enrolled in this school at present is 275.

Socio-economic conditions of tribals

3792. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of steps taken by Government during the last three years to improve the socio-economic condition of tribals in the country;
- (b) the details of various schemes/programmes being implemented by Government for the socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs); and
- (c) the status of implementation of tribal development schemes/programmes in Jharkhand and Gujarat and the details of benefits accrued thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs was set up with the objective to have more focused approach on the integrated socio-economic development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs), the most underprivileged of the Indian society, in coordinated and planned manner. This Ministry is the nodal Ministry for overall policy, planning and coordination of programmes for development of STs. Government has adopted a holistic approach for overall development of tribal people living across the country including Jharkhand and Gujarat, which includes support for education, health, sanitation, water supply, skill development, livelihood etc. Major part of infrastructure development and provision of basic amenities in tribal areas/regions in the country is carried out through various schemes/programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging critical gaps.

The details of schemes/programmes being implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for the Welfare of STs is given in the Statement (*See below*). Most of the schemes/activities are demand driven. Submission of proposals by the State Governments seeking grants under the ongoing schemes/programmes is a regular phenomenon. Proposals received from the State Governments are placed before the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) in the Ministry for appraisal and approval. The details of funds released and utilized under various schemes/programmes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs including Jharkhand and Gujarat during the last three years is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). Details of number of beneficiaries where available under certain schemes of the Ministry during last five financial year is given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

Data pertaining to decennial census, large scale surveys conducted by National Sample Survey Office (NSSO) and various other surveys conducted by different Ministries/Departments of Government of India, reveal that there have been considerable improvements in socio economic conditions of the Scheduled Tribes across the country including Jharkhand and Gujarat. For example, the percentage of STs Below Poverty Line (BPL) in rural areas has improved from 47.4% in 2009-10 to 45.3% in 2011-12, literacy rate for STs has been improved from 47.1% in 2009-10 to 59% in 2011. Infant Mortality Rate has declined from 62.1 (2005-06) to 44.4 (2015-16) and Institutional Delivery improved from 17.7% (2005-06) to 68.0% (2015-16).

Statement-I

*Brief details of ongoing schemes/programmes being implemented by the
Ministry of Tribal Affairs*

- I. **Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS):** The scheme of Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS) which is 100% grant from Government of India. Grants are released to States, having ST population for development and welfare of tribal people. Funds are released to States based upon proposals received from the State Governments, and considered in the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), to bridge the gaps in sectors like education, health, agriculture, skill development, employment-cum-income generation, etc. 100% grants are provided to States. Major part of infrastructure development in tribal dominated areas and provision of basic amenities to tribal people in the country is carried out through various schemes/programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging gaps under SCA to TSS.
- II. **Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India:** The Ministry of Tribal Affairs administers one programme named "Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution of India" wherein funds are released to 27 States, having ST population. Under this programme, 100% funding is made by Government of India. Funding under this programme is aimed to enable the States to meet the cost of such schemes of development as may be undertaken by the State for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in that State or raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas therein to that of the administration of the rest of the areas of that State. Funds are released towards various sectors such as

education, health, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries, dairy and skill development/other income generating schemes. This intervention is aimed at augmenting tribal household economy and administrative structure/institutional framework.

III. Scheme of Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs):

There are certain groups among Scheduled Tribes who have declining or stagnant population, low level of literacy, pre-agricultural level of technology and are economically backward. These groups are among the most vulnerable sections of our society as they are few in numbers, have not attained any significant level of social and economic development and generally inhabit remote localities having poor infrastructure and administrative support. 75 such groups in 18 States and one UT, *i.e.* UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, have been identified and categorized as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).

2. The scheme covers these 75 identified PVTGs. The scheme is very flexible and it enables every State to focus on any developmental activity for PVTGs, *viz.*, housing, land distribution, land development, agricultural growth, cattle development, connectivity, installation of non-conventional sources of energy for lighting purpose, social security or any other innovative activity meant for the comprehensive socio-economic development of PVTGs.

IV. Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Tribes:

The scheme was launched in 1953-54 and was last revised w.e.f. 1st April, 2008. The prime objective of the scheme is to enhance the reach of welfare schemes of Government and fill the gaps in service deficient tribal areas, in the sectors such as education, health, drinking water, agro-horticultural productivity, social security net etc. through the efforts of voluntary organizations, and to provide favourable environment for socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the Scheduled Tribes (STs). Any other innovative activity having direct positive impact on the socio-economic development or livelihood generation of STs may also be considered through voluntary efforts. The scheme is Central Sector Scheme. The grants are provided to the non-Governmental organizations on application, in a prescribed format, duly recommended by the multi-disciplinary State Level Committee of the concerned State Government/UT Administration. Funds are generally provided to the extent of 90% by the Government. The voluntary organization is expected to bear the remaining 10% balance from its own resources.

V Scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts:

The primary objective of this Central Sector Scheme is promotion of education among tribal girls in the identified low literacy districts of the country. The scheme, revised w.e.f. 1st April, 2008, aims to improve the socio-economic status of the poor and illiterate tribal population through the education of women. The scheme has been revised with effect from 1.4.2008. Now it is being implemented in 54 identified low literacy districts where ST Population is 25% or more and ST female literacy rate is below 35% as per 2001 census. The scheme aims to bridge the gap in literacy levels between the general female population and tribal women and is meant exclusively for ST Girls. The educational complexes are established in rural areas of identified districts and have classes I to V with a provision for upgradation up to class XII, provided there is sufficient accommodation for classrooms, hostel, a kitchen, gardening and for sports facilities. The educational complexes impart not only formal education to tribal girls but also train the students in agriculture, animal husbandry, other vocations and crafts to make them economically strong.

VI. Pre-Matric Scholarships to ST Students:

- Applicable to students who are studying in classes IX - X.
- Parental income from all sources should be less than ₹2.00 lakhs per annum, which is proposed to be increased to ₹2.5 lakhs.
- Scholarship of ₹150/- per month for day scholars and ₹350/- per month for hostellers is given for a period of 10 months in a year, Scholarships are paid @ ₹150/- per month for Day Scholars and @ ₹350/- per month for Hostellers, for a period of 10 months in a year. This is proposed to be revised from existing ₹150/- to ₹225/- p.m. for Day Scholars, and from ₹350/- to ₹525/- p.m. for Hostellers.
- Scholarship is disbursed through the State Government/UT Administration.
- Funds shared at the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and State Governments/UT Administrations and 90:10 for NE and Specially Category States (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) from 2014-15 onwards.

VII. Post Matric Scholarships to ST Students:

- Applicable to students who are studying in any recognized course from a recognized institution for which qualification is matriculation/class X or above.

- Parental income from all sources should be less than ₹2.50 lakhs per annum.
- Compulsory fees charged by educational institutions are reimbursed subject to the limit fixed by the concerned State Fee fixation committee and scholarship amount of ₹230 to ₹1200 per month, depending upon the course of study is paid.
- Scholarship is distributed through the State Government/UT Administration.
- Funds shared at the ratio of 75:25 between the Centre and State Governments/UT Administrations and 90:10 for NE and Specially Category States (Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand) from 2014-15 onwards.

VIII. National Overseas Scholarships for ST Candidates for Studying Abroad:

- The scheme provides for financial assistance to selected students to pursue Post Graduation, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral study abroad.
- A total of 20 awards are given every year. Of these, 17 awards are for STs and 3 awards for students belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs).
- Parental/family income from all sources should not exceed ₹6.00 lakhs per annum.
- Disbursement of scholarships through the Ministry of External Affairs/Indian Missions abroad.

IX. National Fellowship and Scholarship for Higher Education of ST Students:

- (i) Scholarship for Higher Education (Earlier known as Top Class Education for ST Students):
- Scholarship is given to ST students for pursuing studies in prescribed courses in any of the 246 institutions of excellence across the country like IITs, AIIMS, IIMs, NIITs, etc. identified by the Ministry.
 - Total number of scholarships is 1000 per year.
 - Family income from all sources should not exceed ₹6.00 lakhs per annum.
 - Scholarship amount includes tuition fees, living expenses and allowances for books and computer.

(ii) **FELLOWSHIP (Earlier known as Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship Scheme for ST students):**

- 750 fellowships are provided to ST students each year for pursuing higher studies in India for M.Phil. and Ph.D.
- Fellowship for M.Phil is provided @ ₹25000/- per month and for Ph.D. @ ₹28000/- per month.
 - Contingency for Fellows in Humanities and Social Science is provided @ ₹ 10000/- per annum for two years and ₹ 20500/- per annum for the rest of the period.
 - Contingency for Fellows in Science, Engineering Technology is provided @ ₹ 12000/-per annum for two years and @ 25000/- per annum for the rest of the period.
 - Escorts/Reader assistance @ ₹2000/- per month is provided in case of physically and visually handicapped candidates.
 - HRA as per rules of University/Institution/Colleges.
- The maximum duration for which the scholarships are available is given below:—
 - (a) M.Phil - 2 years
 - (b) Ph. D. exclusively - 5 years
 - (c) M.Phil + Ph.D. - 2 years (M.Phil.) and 3 years (Ph.D.).

X. Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce (Central Sector Scheme):-

Under the scheme, Grants-in-Aid are released to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) which is a multi-State Cooperative under Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

The scope of the Scheme: -

- (1) To give comprehensive support for people belonging to various tribes in the entire range of production, product development, preservation of traditional

heritage, support to both forest and agricultural produce of tribal people, support to Institutions to carry the above activities, provisions of better infrastructure, development of designs, dissemination of information about price and the agencies which are buying the products, support to Government agencies for sustainable marketing and thereby ensure a reasonable price regime.

- (2) Sharing of information with Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas
- (3) Skill upgradation, development of utilitarian products for increase in value in market.

Objective of the Scheme:-

The objective of the scheme is to create institutions for the Scheduled Tribes to support marketing and development of activities they depend on for their livelihood. These are sought to be achieved by specific measures like (i) market intervention; (ii) training and skill up-gradation of tribal Artisans, Craftsmen, MFP gatherers etc.; (iii) R&D/IPR activity; and (iv) Supply chain infrastructure development.

XI. Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of value chain for MFP as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers (Centrally Sponsored Scheme):-

1. This Ministry has introduced from the year 2013-14, a centrally sponsored scheme of 'Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP' as a measure of social safety for MFP gatherers who are primarily member of Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers whose very livelihood depends on collection and selling of MFP.
2. The scheme seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns for their efforts in collection, primary processing, storage, packaging, transportation etc. It also seeks to get them a share of revenue from the sales proceeds with cost deducted. It also aims to address other issues for sustainability of process.
3. The scheme envisages fixation and declaration of Minimum Support Price for the selected MFP. Procurement and Marketing operation at pre fixed MSP will be undertaken by the designated State Agencies. Simultaneously, other medium and long term issues like sustainable collection, value addition, infrastructure

development, knowledge base expansion of MFP, market intelligence development, strengthening the bargaining power of Gram Sabha/Panchayat will also be addressed.

XII. Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)/State Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (STFDCs):-

NSTFDC a fully owned Public Sector Enterprise of Government of India, is provided with 100% equity share capital contribution by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The authorized share capital of the Corporation is ₹ 750.00 crore. The paid up Share capital is ₹ 570.00 crore (as on 15.03.2017). The main objectives of NSTFDC are:-

- To identify economic activities of importance to the Scheduled Tribes so as to generate self-employment and raise their income level.
- To upgrade their skills and processes through both institutional and on the job training.
- To make existing State/UT Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (SCAs) and other developmental agencies engaged in economic development of the Scheduled Tribes more effective.
- To assist SCAs in project formulation, implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes and in imparting training to their personnel.
- To monitor implementation of NSFDC assisted schemes in order to assess their impact.

The STFDCs are catering to STs in various States and are provided assistance in the form of contribution towards share capital by this Ministry. The ratio of its contribution is in the share of 51:49 between State and Government and Central Government. The main objectives of the scheme are:-

- Identification of eligible ST families and motivating them to undertake economic development schemes;
- Sponsoring those schemes to financial institutions for credit support;
- Providing financial assistance in form of margin money on low rate of interest; and

- Providing necessary linkage/tie-up with other poverty alleviation programmes.

XIII. The Scheme 'Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRI)':

This is a Central Sector Scheme with 100% funding by the Central Government to the TRIs directly or through State Government on need basis with the approval of APEX Committee of the Ministry. The continuation of the scheme has already been approved and revised guidelines issued (2017). Annual proposal is appraised and approved by APEX Committee usually in the 1st Quarter/FY. Mid-term Review of the projects sanctioned to the State TRIs under the scheme 'Support to TRIs' is done in the month of September. Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) have been set up by various State Governments. TRIs are established and administratively supported by concerned State Governments.

The basic objective of the scheme is to strengthen the Tribal Research Institutes (TRIs) in their infrastructural needs, Research and Documentation activities and Training and Capacity Building programmes, etc. Focus of the scheme is to establish TRIs in each of the Tribal dominated States. It is envisaged that TRIs should work as body of knowledge and research more or less as a think tank for tribal development, preservation of tribal cultural heritage, providing inputs to States for evidence based planning and appropriate legislations, capacity building of tribals and persons/institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness. To recognize the heroic deeds of tribals, Government has resolved to set up Tribal Freedom Fighters' Museums in the States.

XIV. The Scheme 'Tribal Festival, Research Information and Mass Education':

The basic objective of the scheme to identify and recognize institutes/organizations as Centre of Excellence (CoE) to undertaking various research studies/publication of books/documentation including audio visual documentaries to fill the gap of research studies on tribal issues and Promotion of rich tribal cultural heritage as well as capacity building of tribal persons/institutions associated with tribal affairs, dissemination of information and creation of awareness.

Research Institutes and Organizations have been receiving financial support from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for carrying out short-term research and extension

work among tribal communities in the country. Ministry of Tribal Affairs have been funding to them on the basis of the proposals received in the first instance and studies approved. The scheme aims at supporting and strengthening active research in Universities and reputed Institutions as well as Institutions with potential, including NGOs, Registered Professional Organizations and Autonomous Bodies working in the fields of tribal development and research. Renowned NGOs, Research Institutes and Organizations, where expertise exist and which have already made a mark by carrying out pioneering research in the field of study of tribal cultures and their development and extension work in particular subject areas.

The Institutes/Organizations declared as Centre of Excellence will be provided 100% Grants-in-Aid by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The installment will be released only after submission of draft report of the research study/documentation done by a particular institute/organization on the work approved by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. Ministry of Tribal Affairs shall have the right to review the draft report and any modification asked for by the Ministry will have to be carried out by the concerned Institute/Organization. The duration of research studies/documentation work report will be within a period of 8- 12 months from the date of sanction of Grants-in-Aid under the Scheme of Centre of Excellence.

The Grant-in-Aid is released under this scheme for various field like documentation of tribal cultures, which includes dance, music, songs, languages, dialects, tribal arts, traditional medicines and sports, customary laws and religions. Research on Tribal Minor Forest Produce (MFP) Rights, Women rights in the Vth Scheduled Areas and the VIth Scheduled Areas. Research studies on migration, displacement, resettlement and rehabilitation of minor and major project affected tribal families/tribal areas. Dissemination of various enactments/regulations on money lending debt redemption meant for STs. Documentation of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in respect of their population, customary laws and culture. Organization of awareness campaign amongst STs about basic minimum needs like primary health including pre-natal and post-natal health for women and children, drinking water and primary education; etc. Publication of issues related to research and documentation of the Scheduled Tribes. Organization of seminars/workshop on matters related to tribal issues etc. Documentation of tribal artifacts.

Statement-II

State-wise details of funds released under the various schemes of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs during the last three years

I Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5000.42	5000.42	3624.77	3624.77	5617.3900	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2211.8300	NR
3.	Assam	3407.80	1930.57	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Bihar	743.74	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	11717.82	11717.82	14327.57	13125.49	10342.6500	10342.65
6.	Goa	455.68	455.68	559.09	NR	352.3100	NR
7.	Gujarat	9488.00	9488.00	10270.41	8934.63	11765.3800	NR
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1959.39	1959.39	2291.20	2291.20	3627.9975	3517.26
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3671.61	3671.61	3626.50	3626.500	3749.8000	173.60
10.	Jharkhand	9820.75	8656.91	11372.49	3676.43	8564.5200	545.90
11.	Karnataka	5100.00	5100.00	5955.37	3750.55	5347.7600	NR
12.	Kerala	808.09	288.10	808.43	367.06	335.0000	NR
13.	Madhya Pradesh	19236.61	15715.58	22828.70	9120.00	16968.9700	NR
14.	Maharashtra	9547.00	9547.00	13760.38	13760.38	13802.5700	2760.35
15.	Manipur	2260.00	2260.00	3790.38	3790.38	5442.4800	NR
16.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2739.2000	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1220.0000	NR
18.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3225.0000	NR
19.	Odisha	11806.27	11806.27	11975.00	2100.00	17553.2200	NR
20.	Rajasthan	11072.90	11072.90	10051.83	10051.83	10327.9300	2093.58
21.	Sikkim	1497.62	399.95	5986.00	242.89	0.0000	Nil
22.	Tamil Nadu	600.00	486.58	894.10	645.09	315.0000	NR
23.	Telangana	3845.35	3845.35	4493.55	1436.39	2850.3225	NR
24.	Tripura	1345.76	1245.70	1649.77	1602.69	1294.3800	NR
25.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	679.00	247.73	1012.8800	NR
26.	Uttar Pradesh	121.92	NR	458.35	NR	0.0000	Nil
27.	West Bengal	5995.50	5995.50	5397.11	5397.11	5833.4100	NR
TOTAL		119502.230	110643.33	134800.00	87791.12	134500.00	19433.34

NR- Not Received.

II. Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2869.43	2869.43	4591.11	757.26	6390.77	NR
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6580.53	6580.53	8378.82	3324.68	12170.52	NR
3.	Assam	844.12	618.82	Nil	Nil	3916.32	19.56
4.	Bihar	1467.58	1433.88	991.89	NR	Nil	Nil
5.	Chhattisgarh	10488.52	10488.52	10964.49	10964.49	11352.92	NR
6.	Goa	450.00	126.19	103.00	NR	345.66	NR
7.	Gujarat	9739.02	9739.02	11384.08	6504.78	11648.20	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1595.87	1595.87	2074.70	2074.70	3378.16	3242.16
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	3539.66	156.77	3049.06	NR	2051.79	NR
10.	Jharkhand	9489.38	6254.74	12386.93	4217.01	7354.30	2359.68
11.	Karnataka	4664.00	4664.00	5881.74	5065.81	5220.61	1741.610
12.	Kerala	695.58	412.86	803.17	NR	472.28	NR
13.	Madhya Pradesh	14971.43	14971.43	22399.48	4587.92	24635.30	NR
14.	Maharashtra	11536.53	11536.53	13862.24	12862.24	17015.91	1766.34
15.	Manipur	1694.40	1694.40	2308.80	2308.80	5367.65	NR
16.	Meghalaya	1576.21	536.36	3603.40	875.00	5129.79	NR
17.	Mizoram	1927.49	1927.49	2504.41	2504.41	3507.71	2876.55
18.	Nagaland	6368.00	6368.00	4434.11	4434.11	9194.49	4368.51
19.	Odisha	11954.96	11954.96	15995.30	2900.00	21449.15	NR
20.	Rajasthan	10341.39	10341.39	10240.58	2048.12	13769.23	NR
21.	Sikkim	1147.00	1147.00	405.30	354.48	355.34	354.48
22.	Tamil Nadu	798.24	798.24	378.00	219.48	773.57	NR
23.	Telangana	3608.05	3608.05	5015.32	NR	3248.89	NR
24.	Tripura	1280.99	1280.99	2040.99	706.59	2006.73	NR
25.	Uttar Pradesh	1138.62	890.12	189.00	189.00	252.43	252
26.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	1577.56	263.21	1255.27	NR
27.	West Bengal	5814.37	5814.37	5376.51	5376.51	9235.73	NR
TOTAL		126581.37	117801.96	150939.99	72538.60	181498.72	16994.89

NR - Not Received.

III. Development of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of States	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5105.00	5105.00	2076.00	2076.00	1837.00	NR
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.00	57.00	200.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
3.	Bihar	342.87	NR	295.91	158.47	Nil	Nil
4.	Chhattisgarh	1230.00	1230.00	1089.50	1089.50	1051.50	NR
5.	Gujarat	779.12	779.12	390.67	390.67	604.00	NR
6.	Jharkhand	3120.00	3120.00	2043.75	2047.75	3295.79	NR
7.	Karnataka	136.00	136.00	467.00	467.00	460.00	NR
8.	Kerala	100.00	NR	62.00	NR	Nil	Nil
9.	Madhya Pradesh	10460.40	9950.40	8232.46	8232.46	7998.09	NR
10.	Maharashtra	2077.00	2077.00	1226.25	1226.25	1230.26	NR
11.	Manipur	329.00	329.00	195.00	195.00	1157.55	NR
12.	Odisha	1379.00	1379.00	1297.00	1012.31	3626.00	NR
13.	Rajasthan	1331.00	1331.00	1038.00	1038.00	1008.00	NR
14.	Tamil Nadu	3055.00	2355.00	1770.75	1458.55	Nil	Nil
15.	Telangana	1139.00	1139.00	778.00	778.00	533.00	NR
16.	Tripura	2250.00	2110.28	2305.00	1716.63	789.53	NR
17.	West Bengal	574.00	574.00	330.76	330.76	843.42	NR
18.	Uttarakhand	292.48	292.48	130.00	47.00	565.86	NR
19.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	17.96	NR	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		33799.87	31964.28	23946.01	22264.35	25000.00	0.00

NR - Not Received

IV. Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	5.00	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	5282.94	5282.94	1210.81	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Assam	321.33	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Chhattisgarh	2534.15	2534.15	1805.30	1805.30	4755.63	NR
7.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	20.00	NR
8.	Daman and Diu	Nil	Nil	8.04	8.04	Nil	Nil
9.	Goa	52.64	52.64	3.75	3.75	80.83	16.88
10.	Gujarat	80.81	80.81	3650.84	3650.84	4482.31	Nil
11.	Himachal Pradesh	51.21	51.21	Nil	Nil	38.91	NR
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
13.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	1704.53	1704.53	2345.92	NR
14.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	1364.59	1364.59	1256.31	1003.18
15.	Kerala	796.40	796.40	Nil	Nil	308.73	NR
16.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	5539.17	5539.17	5884.33	NR
17.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Manipur	867.38	867.38	619.09	619.09	773	NR
19.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	156.69	122.94	Nil	Nil
20.	Mizoram	336.36	336.36	132.25	132.25	319.79	NR
21.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
22.	Odisha	3376.36	3376.36	5134.98	5134.98	6665.88	1448.55
23.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	3284.79	3284.79	1716.12	1716.12
24.	Sikkim	Nil	Nil	25.72	25.72	7.97	NR
25.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
26.	Telangana	Nil	Nil	358.02	358.02	693.84	NR
27.	Tripura	Nil	Nil	232.89	NR	Nil	Nil
28.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	Nil	0.00	Nil	Nil	Nil
29.	Uttarakhand	Nil	Nil	104.44	104.44	Nil	Nil
30.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	584.62	NR
TOTAL		8416.64	8095.31	29408.03	29141.39	31150.00	4184.73

NR - Not Received.

V. Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised	Funds Released	Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	10.09	NR
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9777.62	9777.62	8269.11	8269.11	13945.02	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1136.32	1136.32	5803.65	5803.65	1883.82	NR
4.	Assam	266.65	266.65	2516.48	2516.48	3248.03	NR
5.	Bihar	Nil	Nil	71.25	NR	Nil	Nil
6.	Chhattisgarh	2674.82	2674.82	3811.26	3811.26	4609.57	NR
7.	Daman and Diu	53.63	53.63	26.19	26.19	3.41	NR
8.	Goa	645.00	645.00	364.80	364.80	536.26	NR
9.	Gujarat	22040.27	22040.27	14609.74	14609.74	32429.12	NR
10.	Himachal Pradesh	931.36	931.36	3123.36	3123.36	278.15	NR
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	2587.84	2587.84	2322.56	1578.20	637.93	NR
12.	Jharkhand	8148.39	8148.39	2716.50	2716.50	5281.32	NR
13.	Karnataka	8540.00	8540.00	8873.31	8873.31	7341.33	NR
14.	Kerala	3122.00	3122.00	2745.46	2745.46	2674.37	NR
15.	Madhya Pradesh	13054.00	13054.00	10320.50	10320.50	13405.24	NR
16.	Maharashtra	22092.28	22092.28	10884.91	10884.91	15238.15	NR
17.	Manipur	3385.20	3385.20	6382.55	6370.06	2026.76	NR
18.	Meghalaya	3189.00	3189.00	770.50	770.50	2457.52	NR
19.	Mizoram	4267.52	4267.52	2434.73	2434.73	3528.21	NR
20.	Nagaland	1344.00	1344.00	2515.00	2515.00	4716.66	NR
21.	Odisha	15556.48	15556.48	8784.18	8784.18	14801.92	14801.92
22.	Rajasthan	9800.00	9800.00	19912.49	19912.49	13598.95	3405.92
23.	Sikkim	938.16	938.16	1247.32	1247.32	1134.36	NR
24.	Tamil Nadu	3061.85	3061.85	2440.39	2440.39	3933.65	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
25.	Telangana	11483.00	11483.00	18031.25	18031.25	9921.68	NR
26.	Tripura	1323.90	1323.90	2756.25	2756.25	3626.55	NR
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1057.50	1057.50	1244.91	1243.47	1210.54	NR
28.	Uttarakhand	5090.57	3591.84	600.25	NR	Nil	Nil
29.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	2807.89	2807.89	2219.39	NR
TOTAL		155567.36	154068.64	146386.79	144957.00	164698.00	18207.84

NR- Not Received.

VI. Scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/ Institution	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Odisha	Nil	Nil	Nil
2.	Gujarat	Nil	Nil	619.00
3.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	Nil
5.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil
6.	Madhya Pradesh	Nil	Nil	2681.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	89.00	Nil
8.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	300.00	710.00
9.	Manipur	Nil	11.00	90.00
10.	Nagaland	Nil	19.00	88.00
11.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	240.00	821.00
12.	Kerala	Nil	Nil	418.00

1	2	3	4	5
13.	West Bengal	Nil	Nil	657.00
14.	Karnataka	Nil	Nil	125.00
TOTAL		Nil	659.00	6209.00

Status of utilization of funds: The said funds are released as revolving fund to be operated at State level for upfront payment for procuring MFP. After the MFP is disposed off, the proceeds there from, shall be credited back to this fund. Hence, no utilization certificate is required to be furnished by State Government under the schemes. Utilization certificate with respect to infrastructure have not been received from many implementation agencies.

VII. Support to Tribal Research Institute (TRI)

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized	Fund released	Utilized
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Nil	Nil	940.42	470.00	749.58	NR
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	99	NR
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	647.99	NR	253.01	NR
4.	Assam	Nil	Nil	183.65	152.15	198.75	NR
5.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil	168.73	23.46	504.49	NR
6.	Gujarat	Nil	Nil	2438.00	2438.00	Nil	Nil
7.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	106.8	NR
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	340.00	240.00	Nil	Nil	97	NR
9.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1211.83	1211.83
10.	Karnataka	117.00	117.00	130.00	115.00	106	0.00
11.	Kerala	67.99	36.35	745.65	NR	401.25	NR
12.	Madhya Pradesh	54.35	54.35	732.51	168.14	738.3445	NR

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
13.	Maharashtra	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	485.01	NR
14.	Manipur	109.00	109.00	58.00	58.00	530.11	NR
15.	Mizoram	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	564.36	202.00
16.	Nagaland	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	825	50.00
17.	Odisha	322.39	334.89	662.90	647.90	819.07	500.00
18.	Rajasthan	Nil	Nil	169.25	169.25	214	NR
19.	Sikkim	111.00	111.00	136.00	136.00	194.5	194.5
20.	Tamil Nadu	Nil	Nil	133.20	NR	177.25	42.42
21.	Telangana	121.90	121.90	339.50	339.50	454	NR
22.	Tripura	73.25	73.25	198.75	171.24	316.14	NR
23.	Uttar Pradesh	43.26	NR	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	West Bengal	150.82	150.82	215.45	215.45	380.15	380.15
25.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	574.3515	NR
TOTAL		1510.96	1348.56	7900.00	5104.09	10000.00	2580.90

NR - Not Received

VIII. Grants-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations working for the welfare of STs

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	160.58	176.73	128.76
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	456.05	605.24	487.11
3.	Assam	137.66	170.77	188.77
4.	Chhattisgarh	65.97	75.36	110.33
5.	Gujarat	111.94	73.15	146.90
6.	Himachal Pradesh	277.34	251.10	280.16
7.	Jharkhand	405.76	966.29	1429.16
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	Nil	19.69	19.69

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
9.	Karnataka	389.10	244.94	467.72
10.	Kerala	113.55	66.56	77.30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	152.78	119.21	306.95
12.	Maharashtra	202.95	377.48	312.32
13.	Manipur	394.06	264.29	206.19
14.	Meghalaya	606.93	697.71	824.78
15.	Mizoram	40.16	55.89	93.73
16.	Nagaland	Nil	30.80	18.04
17.	Odisha	457.37	1168.97	2222.85
18.	Rajasthan	67.83	14.50	126.02
19.	Sikkim	52.05	90.81	85.02
20.	Tamil Nadu	38.91	280.50	329.13
21.	Telangana	637.87	76.76	53.64
22.	Tripura	66.02	32.62	57.72
23.	Uttarakhand	112.64	37.42	133.81
24.	Uttar Pradesh	34.49	67.43	Nil
25.	West Bengal	315.33	937.43	805.67
26.	Delhi	9.07	17.15	5.41
TOTAL		5306.41	6918.80	8917.18

Note: The grant-in-aid under the schemes of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organizations working for welfare of STs are released only after receipt of Utilization Certificate of previous grant and hence, under the schemes no Utilization Certificate is pending. Unspent balance if any, is adjusted while releasing subsequent grant to the particular NGO project.

IX. Scheme of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	270.94	1117.23	Nil
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	37.64	Nil

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
3.	Chhattisgarh	39.63	37.12	64.49
4.	Gujarat	2857.93	1512.48	93.21
5.	Jharkhand	Nil	Nil	36.13
6.	Madhya Pradesh	420.05	325.21	635.02
7.	Maharashtra	158.38	149.86	254.60
8.	Odisha	1929.41	1102.18	1013.56
9.	Rajasthan	148.78	25.13	168.17
10.	Telangana	719.76	321.91	Nil
TOTAL		6544.88	4628.76	2265.18

Note: The Grant-in-Aid under the schemes of Strengthening Education among ST Girls in Low Literacy Districts are released only after receipt of utilization certificate of previous grant and hence, under the schemes no utilization certificate is pending. Unspent balance if any, is adjusted while releasing subsequent grant to the particular NGO project.

Statement-II

Details of number of beneficiaries where available under certain schemes of the Ministry during last five years

(A) Details of number of Beneficiaries under the Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for ST students

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	325	353	-
2.	Andhra Pradesh	75812	79602	39466	34529	-
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	2594	3794	-
4.	Assam	0	0	0	2740	-
5.	Bihar	40700	37095	0	0	67115.00
6.	Chhattisgarh	228626	225705	207956	191864	-

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Dadar and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	5226	-
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	356	468	-
9.	Goa	0	0	3721	3640	-
10.	Gujarat	179169	138465	188593	151113	-
11.	Himachal Pradesh	3996	5798	1972	1705	-
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	37813	6131	4979	-
13.	Jharkhand	93533	0	91464	104942	-
14.	Karnataka	0	0	52096	59448	-
15.	Kerala	0	30010	14464	14265	12121
16.	Madhya Pradesh	0	364167	151611	362120	-
17.	Maharashtra	0	0	0	0	-
18.	Manipur	40126	0	22401	9189	-
19.	Meghalaya	0	0	3273	966	-
20.	Mizoram	0	0	9843	9783	14880
21.	Nagaland	0	42048	18780	10715	-
22.	Odisha	203301	221243	222837	211425	204916
23.	Rajasthan	187508	0	0	101696	-
24.	Sikkim	408	0	297	212	247
25.	Tamil Nadu	0	15750	6602	19651	-
26.	Telangana	105672	0	28966	6196	-
27.	Tripura	44598	53516	16723	11662	12353
28.	Uttar Pradesh	9869	10856	8760	0	-
29.	Uttarakhand	0	0	5687	6256	-
30.	West Bengal	0	0	29249	79030	-
TOTAL		1213318	1262068	1134167	1407967	311632

(B) Details of number of beneficiaries under the Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for ST students

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	167	544	544
2.	Andhra Pradesh	82091	49239	65173	71687	59146
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	630	0	22564	18863	0
4.	Assam	102800	116693	29423	26867	79526
5.	Bihar	6463	0	0	9950	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	139447	148660	135586	143320	0
7.	Daman and Diu	320	0	328	196	0
8.	Goa	1332	4270	1924	4442	0
9.	Gujarat	218570	163989	192322	214605	0
10.	Himachal Pradesh	5189	8079	3739	10747	0
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	8925	21000	13854	16905	27900
12.	Jharkhand	81768	0	63029	73385	76782
13.	Karnataka	134988	140891	109943	101059	119512
14.	Kerala	13225	0	15834	16111	16245
15.	Madhya Pradesh	188145	197176	263176	272714	0
16.	Maharashtra	117578	175000	163321	147262	132288
17.	Manipur	57828	66928	59995	59661	0
18.	Meghalaya	79011	74608	54900	35305	0
19.	Mizoram	62410	57330	42072	51983	32032
20.	Nagaland	40133	45140	44404	28949	0
21.	Odisha	130960	165100	176579	185888	196667

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
22.	Rajasthan	246249	275669	126965	135523	0
23.	Sikkim	2705	3053	2605	2962	4299
24.	Tamil Nadu	11092	20060	23574	23815	0
25.	Telangana	171329	171329	112236	153845	0
26.	Tripura	22261	28374	21001	23020	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	7500	0	5322	2779	0
28.	Uttarakhand	25269	27796	15401	8335	0
29.	West Bengal	79230	73357	85901	90395	0
TOTAL		2037448	2033741	1851338	1931117	744941

(C) State-wise MFP Gatherers trained under the schemes "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/ Produce" and "Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce through MSP and development of value chain"

Sl. No.	State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2070	2790	2730		
2.	Telangana	840				
3.	Assam	150	395	600	240	270
4.	Chhattisgarh	2280	1500	3510		300
5.	Gujarat	360	900	1140		
6.	Jharkhand	422	1950	900		
7.	Kerala	330	0			
8.	Maharashtra	1560	1110	960	72	430
9.	Meghalaya	145	0			
10.	Madhya Pradesh	2040	150	1500		
11.	Nagaland	0	1000			
12.	Odisha	4180	3450	2318	60	690

Sl. No.	State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
13.	Rajasthan	750	720	1530		
14.	Sikkim	358	0	120		
15.	Tamil Nadu	180	930	1020		
TOTAL		15665	12105	4988	32758	690

(d) Beneficiaries under the scheme 'Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations'

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	155	598	139
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12306	10410	3773
3.	Assam	2982	123	12
4.	Chhattisgarh	307	553	363
5.	Gujarat	24883	10812	7485
6.	Haryana	0	0	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	2069	61	65
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	150	195	327
9.	Jharkhand	3908	7	5
10.	Kerala	152	88	107
11.	Karnataka	0	0	34
12.	Madhya Pradesh	942	2209	2265
13.	Maharashtra	0	0	11
14.	Meghalaya	983	2726	2329
15.	Mizoram	26935	2347	1464
16.	Nagaland	22	631	10504
17.	Odisha	495	1566	353
18.	Rajasthan	1475	2563	1364
19.	Sikkim	230	86	1

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
20.	Tamil Nadu	0	0	65
21.	Telangana	21000	0	30417
22.	Tripura	3644	3116	429
23.	Uttar Pradesh	0	847	3
24.	Uttarakhand	18	104	170
25.	West Bengal	4370	3327	9078
TOTAL		107,026	42,369	70,764

(e) Number of beneficiaries for EMRS last three year and current year under Article 275(1) as on 22.07.2019.

Sl. No.	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1620	1803	2800	3840
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	120	240	240	240
3.	Chhattisgarh	4181	5302	6780	6780
4.	Gujarat	9053	9359	10172	10119
5.	Himachal Pradesh	210	210	210	210
6.	Jharkhand	1920	2280	2829	3706
7.	Karnataka	2380	2380	2879	3859
8.	Kerala	596	528	600	581
9.	Madhya Pradesh	8026	8684	10270	10859
10.	Maharashtra	3540	4020	4103	3964
11.	Manipur	570	720	1 170	1440
12.	Mizoram	400	400	400	400
13.	Nagaland	438	530	583	621
14.	Odisha	5340	5340	5340	5907
15.	Rajasthan	4010	4690	5350	5650

Sl. No.	States	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
16.	Sikkim	715	844	915	1008
17.	Tamil Nadu	930	900	1553	2130
18.	Telangana	3200	3200	4160	4120
19.	Tripura	1593	1680	1680	1680
20.	Uttar Pradesh	450	450	630	510
21.	Uttarakhand	420	420	420	420
22.	West Bengal	2498	2498	2662	2694
TOTAL		52210	56478	65746	70738

(f) Number of beneficiaries covered under the Scheme of Grant-in-Aid to Voluntary Organisations Working for Welfare of STs.

Sl. No.	Name of State	2014-15 No. of Beneficia- ries	2015-16 No. of Beneficia- ries	2016-17 No. of Beneficia- ries	2017-18 No. of Beneficia- ries	2018-19 No. of Beneficia- ries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12268	61477	51936	46407	19966
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	43386	16552	8871 1	293000	93022
3.	Assam	8420	53064	73409	85060	97368
4.	Chhattisgarh	1540	100	1834	22432	11571
5.	Gujarat	138900	32671	248545	50648	178687
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1215	-	1215	2350	2462
7.	Jharkhand	135536	69003	177506	481132	684382
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	140	-	-	140	100
9.	Karnataka	47950	56803	21544	60821	179259
10.	Kerala	92564	137110	82022	85228	62259
11.	Madhya Pradesh	728	23066	15932	1272	2586
12.	Maharastra	6008	200	4441	23194	2550

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
13.	Manipur	2722	2976	4093	3698	4191
14.	Meghalaya	70783	46385	41904	140869	182650
15.	Mizoram	1463	-	2411	2650	8402
16.	Nagaland	100	-	-	-	143
17.	Odisha	126276	42185	51867	58248	165698
18.	Rajasthan	369	200	267	85	1104
19.	Sikkim	90	258	190	647	617
20.	Tamil Nadu	123434	100	53862	269544	482619
21.	Telangana	44	150	2689	2353	400
22.	Tripura	100	100	200	200	400
23.	Uttarakhand	821	2614	2839	1440	1005
24.	Uttar Pradesh	3459	150	247	489	-
25.	West Bengal	67167	88955	16525	180202	197249
26.	Delhi	63	-	92	160	50
TOTAL		885546	634119	944281	1812269	2378740

(g) Number of Beneficiaries covered in Strengthening Education among Scheduled Tribe Girls in Low Literacy Districts

Sl. No.	Name of the State	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3898	14702	3552	-	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	100	-	-	200	-
3.	Chhattisgarh	192	-	192	192	384
4.	Gujarat	10999	7742	11981	12415	399
5.	Jharkhand	150	100	-	-	150
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2661	512	1325	2232	3075

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Maharashtra	200	-	440	911	907
8.	Odisha	1236	9601	8204	12734	4810
9.	Rajasthan	1392	-	535	140	634
10.	Telangana	3129	3459	3479	3151	-
TOTAL		23957	36116	29708	31975	10359

Making the country free from women and child abuse

‡3793. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the mechanism put in place to ensure the compliance of provisions for protection against physical and mental torture of women for making the country free from women and child abuse; and

(b) the special action plan and programme for ensuring equal opportunities and restoration of social, economic and political justice for women during the coming five years?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibilities towards maintenance of law and order and protection of life and property of citizens rest primarily with State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

However, safety and security of women and children in the country is of utmost priority for the Government of India. The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been administering various special laws relating to protection of women and children such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986', 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', and 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006'. India is signatory to United Nations Convention on Right of Child (UNCRC) since 1992. In

‡Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

adherence to its commitment to ensure child rights, the Government has framed the National Policy for Children 2013 and National Plan of Action 2016. It has also framed Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and Commissions for Protection of Child Right (CPCR) Act, 2005.

The Juvenile Justice Act mandates a security net of service delivery structures to provide Institutional or non-institutional care for children in need of care and protection and children in conflict with law. The POCSO Act acknowledges various kind of child sex abuse and provides stringent punishment for the same. It provides for child friendly procedures at every stage of trial and stipulates mandatory reporting of the crime. Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 was enacted for effective legal deterrence against sexual offences. Further, 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018' has also been enacted making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent by including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years. The Ministry is also implementing a centrally sponsored scheme *i.e.* Child Protection Services to support service delivery structures along with Institutional and non- Institutional care and protection by States/UTs.

Further, the Government of India has set up a non-lapsable corpus of fund under Nirbhaya Framework for enhancing safety and security of women. Under Nirbhaya Fund Framework, Scheme of 'One Stop Centres' provides for a range of services for violence affected women including police facilitation, legal counselling, psycho-social counselling, medical aid and temporary shelter in an integrated manner under one roof; Scheme of 'Universalisation of Women Helpline' provides 24 hours emergency and non-emergency referral and information service to women affected with violence; and Scheme of 'Manila Police Volunteers' creates public-police interface to facilitate outreach on issues related to violence against women.

Other schematic intervention for women and children for reducing gender related disparities are also undertaken by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY), has been launched for promoting a better enabling environment by providing cash incentives for improved health and nutrition to pregnant and lactating mothers. The Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) is a comprehensive programme to address the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of empowerment of girls and women over a life-cycle continuum with coordinated efforts of Ministries of Health and Family Welfare and Human Resource Development

with Ministry of Women and Child Development. Mahila Shakti Kendra scheme empowers rural women through community participation through involvement of Student Volunteers.

Further, the Government recognizes that the incidence of crime against women and children cannot be controlled unless mindset of people, in general, undergoes a positive change. Therefore, The Government of India conducts awareness generation programs and publicity campaigns on various laws relating to women and their rights through workshops, cultural events, seminars, trainings, advertisements in print and electronic media etc.

Rehabilitation of rape victims

3794. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has stopped the monetary help and compensation to the rape victims for their rehabilitation and if so, the reasons therefor and which agency has been assigned this responsibility and the role of Government in this regard;
- (b) the reasons why victims have to face all sorts of problems including legal aid, counselling and rehabilitation;
- (c) the number of rape victims in the country during last three years, State-wise; and
- (d) the criteria adopted for providing compensation and whether Government has earmarked any such fund and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) As per provisions of Section 357A of CrPC, States/ UTs must notify the Victim Compensation Scheme. However to support and supplement the existing Victim Compensation Schemes notified by State Governments/ UT Administrations, under the Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) scheme 2015, financial assistance of ₹200.00 crores was released by the Ministry of Home Affairs as one time grant out of Nirbhaya Fund to States and UTs during 2016-17. In terms of "Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/ Survivors of Sexual Assault/ Other Crimes - 2018", amount of compensation, as decided by the State Legal Services Authorities or District Legal Services Authorities, shall be paid to the women victims or her dependents who have suffered loss or injury of an offence and who require rehabilitation.

Applications for compensation are filed with State Legal Services Authority or District Legal Service Authority in the respective States/ UTs. State/ UT-wise number of victims under rape during 2014-16 is given in Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise Number of Victims under Rape during 2014-16

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015	2016
1.	Andhra Pradesh	962	1029	995
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83	71	92
3.	Assam	2047	1733	1779
4.	Bihar	1169	1041	1008
5.	Chhattisgarh	1436	1561	1627
6.	Goa	99	88	61
7.	Gujarat	846	503	986
8.	Haryana	1183	1070	1189
9.	Himachal Pradesh	284	250	258
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	332	296	256
11.	Jharkhand	1065	1059	1110
12.	Karnataka	1332	589	1671
13.	Kerala	1357	1268	1661
14.	Madhya Pradesh	5085	4400	4908
15.	Maharashtra	3463	4189	4216
16.	Manipur	75	46	55
17.	Meghalaya	118	94	194
18.	Mizoram	122	74	23
19.	Nagaland	32	35	26
20.	Odisha	1980	2251	1984
21.	Punjab	983	886	840

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015	2016
22.	Rajasthan	3770	3649	3657
23.	Sikkim	54	5	98
24.	Tamil Nadu	459	421	320
25.	Telangana	979	1105	1278
26.	Tripura	245	213	207
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3468	3029	4817
28.	Uttarakhand	270	283	336
29.	West Bengal	1466	1199	1110
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	32	36	30
31.	Chandigarh	59	72	69
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	5	8	14
33.	Daman and Diu	2	5	12
34.	Delhi UT	2102	2210	2170
35.	Lakshadweep	1	0	5
36.	Puducherry	10	3	6
TOTAL		36975	34771	39068

National policy for empowerment of women

3795. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM:

SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether draft national policy for women empowerment has been prepared;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the priority areas identified in the said policy;
- (c) by when the policy would come into effect; and

(d) whether women's participation in all spheres of life has been emphasized in the said policy?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Women and Child Development has prepared the draft National Policy for Women after considering suggestions/ comments received from stakeholders. The draft National Policy for Women envisions a society in which, women attain their full potential and are able to participate as equal partners in all spheres of life. The draft policy addresses the diverse needs of women through identified priority areas including (i) Health including food security and nutrition, (ii) Education, (iii) Economy (including agriculture, industry, labour, employment, NRI women, soft power, service sector, science and technology), (iv) Governance and decision making, (v) Violence Against Women, (vi) Enabling environment (including housing, shelter and infrastructure, drinking water and sanitation, media and culture, sports and social-security), (vii) Environment and climate change. The draft National Policy for Women is under consideration of the Government.

Fast track courts for sexual offences against children

3796. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any decision to set up special fast track courts for trial of cases of sexual offences against children;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to take any other steps for fast disposal of such cases; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) The Government of India enacted "The Criminal (Law) Amendment Act, 2018" through which amendments were effected in the Indian Penal Code, the Criminal Procedure Code, the Indian Evidence Act and The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 for bringing in stringent provisions for expeditious trial and disposal of cases exclusively pertaining to sexual offences involving girls and women. A Scheme on the lines of other Centrally Sponsored

Schemes for setting up Fast Track Special Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of rape cases has been formulated by Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice. The Empowered Committee (EC) of Officers under Nirbhaya Fund has appraised the project for setting up of 1,023 Fast Track Special Courts with total financial implication of ₹ 767.25 crores under the Nirbhaya Fund to dispose of cases pending trial for rape and POCSO Act across country. The proposal has also been appraised by EFC.

Further under Section 35 of the POCSO Act, 2012 it has been mandated that evidence of the child shall be recorded within a period of thirty days of the Special Court taking cognizance of the offence and reasons for delay, if any, shall be recorded by the Special Court. Additionally the Special Courts have been mandated to complete the trial, as far as possible, within a period of one year from the date of taking cognizance of the offence.

National Creche Scheme

3797. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the current status of implementation of the National Creche Scheme:
- (b) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised by Government under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether Government has made any changes in the funding structure of the scheme recently and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (d) the number of creches registered under the scheme which were down during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise; and
- (e) whether Government has stopped registering new creches under the scheme and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) National Creche Scheme is being implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through States/UTs with effect from 01.01.2017 to provide day care facilities to children (age group of 6 months to 6 years) of working mothers. As on 30.06.2019, 7930 creches are functional across the country. The Scheme provides an integrated package of the following services:

- (i) Daycare Facilities including Sleeping Facilities.
 - (ii) Early Stimulation for children below 3 years and Pre-school Education for 3 to 6 years old children.
 - (iii) Supplementary Nutrition (to be locally sourced).
 - (iv) Growth Monitoring.
 - (v) Health Check-up and Immunization.
- (b) The details of funds allocated, released and utilised by Government under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise and State/UT-wise are given in the Statement-I and II (*See* below).
- (c) The funding structure amongst Centre, States/UTs and Non Governmental Organisations/Voluntary Organisations for all recurring components of the scheme is in the ratio of 60:30:10 for States, 80:10:10 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States and 90:0:10 for UTs.
- (d) The details of functional creches as on 30.06.2019 State/UT-wise are given in the Statement-III.
- (e) No, Sir. Does not arise.

Statement-I

(₹ in crores)

Year	Fund Allocation	
	Budget Estimate (B.E.)	Revised Estimate (R.E.)
2016-17	150*	150*
2017-18	200	65.00
2018-19	128.39	30.00
2019-20	50.00	—

* BE of ₹ 150.00 crores had been initially allocated for the erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for the F.Y. 2016-17 and the same had been carried over for the National Creche Scheme that was implemented as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme through States/UTs w.e.f 01.01.2017.

Statement-II

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of States/ UTs	2016-17 (w.e.f 1.1.2017)		2017-18		2018-19	
		Amount released	Amount Utilised	Amount released	Amount Utilized	Amount released	Amount Utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	207.30	0.00	221.25	0.00	0.00	0.00
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12.04	0.00	12.85	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Bihar	51.94	0.00	55.43	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Chandigarh	10.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.	Chhattisgarh	255.44	0.00	272.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	9.03	0.00	9.63	0.00	0.00	0.00
7.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	115.43	61.68	62.22	0.00
9.	Goa	7.13	0.00	7.61	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Gujarat	247.64	61.60	264.31	17.46	0.00	0.00
11.	Haryana	103.20	0.00	31.64	107.96	219.53	0.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	142.36	40.52	151.94	34.96	74.96	130.95
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	209.23	199.12	223.31	212.52	411.65	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	165.61	0.00	176.76	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Karnataka	193.70	0.00	206.74	299.30	480.71	0.00
16.	Kerala	170.96	0.00	182.47	0.00	0.00	0.00
17.	Lakshadweep	4.01	0.00	4.28	0.00	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
18.	Madhya Pradesh	316.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Maharashtra	407.02	0.00	43441	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Odisha	142.66	0.00	152.26	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Puducherry	0.00	0.00	77.69	61.61	36.88	0.00
22.	Punjab	48.15	0.00	51.39	0.00	0.00	0.00
23.	Rajasthan	121.26	0.00	12942	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Tamil Nadu	223.79	203.51	264.91	130.13	657.48	0.00
25.	Telangana	207.07	0.00	221.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
26.	Uttar Pradesh	384.28	0.00	410.14	0.00	0.00	0.00
27.	Uttarakhand	156.92	0.00	167.48	0.00	0.00	0.00
28.	West Bengal	259.23	0.00	276.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
29.	Assam	204.48	188.86	218.23	196.54	0.00	0.00
30.	Arunachal Pradesh	56.17	0.00	59.95	0.00	0.00	0.00
31.	Manipur	158.41	0.00	169.07	0.00	0.00	0.00
32.	Meghalaya	31.50	28.38	33.62	31.74	39.00	0.00
33.	Mizoram	77.87	77.87	120.42	19.67	601.72	0.00
34.	Nagaland	36.56	0.00	39.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
35.	Tripura	60.63	37.29	64.71	39.57	336.55	0.00
36.	Sikkim	0.00	0.00	65.74	62.41	55.79	0.00

Statement-III

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Functional Creches as on 30.06.2019
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22
2.	Bihar	0

1	2	3
3.	Chhattisgarh	4
4.	Goa	14
5.	Gujarat	183
6.	Haryana	102
7.	Jharkhand	0
8.	Karnataka	611
9.	Kerala	484
10.	Madhya Pradesh	545
11.	Maharashtra	757
12.	Odisha	0
13.	Punjab	206
14.	Rajasthan	363
15.	Tamil Nadu	611
16.	Telangana	0
17.	Uttar Pradesh	0
18.	West Bengal	770
North Eastern States and Himalayan State		
19.	Jammu and Kashmir	670
20.	Himachal Pradesh	138
21.	Uttarakhand	148
22.	Arunachal Pradesh	175
23.	Assam	640
24.	Manipur	533
25.	Meghalaya	78

1	2	3
26.	Mizoram	262
27.	Nagaland	144
28.	Sikkim	46
29.	Tripura	190
	UTs	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3
31.	Chandigarh	0
32.	Delhi	85
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	30
34.	Daman and Diu	0
35.	Lakshadweep	12
36.	Puducherry	104
	TOTAL	7930

Database for registration of marriages

3798. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to build a centralised database for registration of marriages;

(b) whether this would help in curbing the cases of NRI husbands abandoning Indian wives; and

(c) whether Government is considering to make registration of NRI marriages compulsory?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Government of India through Ministry of External Affairs has introduced a bill titled "The Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indian Bill, 2019" in Rajya Sabha on February 11, 2019.

The Bill envisages (i) Registration of Marriages by Non-Resident Indians; (ii) Amendment of the Passports Act, 1967; and (iii) Amendment to the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.

Compulsory registration of marriage with NRI, within thirty days of marriage in India or abroad, would help create a database of the NRI marriages for better enforcement of rights under various family laws and would help to protect the various rights of the deserted spouse within a marriage.

Name of father on degrees and passports

3799. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has written to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for not making it mandatory to mention the name of father on degrees issued by universities;

(b) whether the Ministry has also written to the Ministry of External Affairs for not making it mandatory to write the name of father on passports; and

(c) if so, the reasons for giving such suggestions to the Ministries?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development had written a letter dated 11.04.2017 to Ministry of Human Resource Development requesting for issuance of degree certificates to students without necessity of inclusion of the name of the father of the student in it. Further, this Ministry had written a letter dated 15.04.2016 to the Ministry of External Affairs requesting that inclusion of the name of the father be made non-essential if the mother and the child so desire. Before that, this Ministry had written another letter dated 24.06.2016 to the Ministry of External Affairs raising the problem which may arise before a divorced woman if she has to furnish a No Objection Certificate from her divorced ex-husband, who could also be the biological father for her child, if she has to obtain a visa of her such child.

These letters had been written in light of the problems faced by women who are separated or divorced from their husbands or who are otherwise single, and who face hardships to get degree certificates, passports, visas etc. issued for their children without inclusion of the names of the fathers of their such children.

Prevention of addiction among children

3800. SHRI R.K. SINHA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken cognizance of a recent study conducted by East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) which reveals that one out of six students of 8 to 11 years of age in the schools of EDMC is getting addicted to a range of substances from alcohol to tobacco to industrial glue and narcotic drug injection;

(b) whether Government has taken any steps to prevent such trend among children;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has informed that the Ministry is not aware of any such study. However, East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) has informed that it has appointed 80 psychological counselors as per the direction of Juvenile Justice Committee, Hon'ble Delhi High Court. They are taking care of counseling, awareness and any other help required to the children; which is provided by the fully functional school health services department of EDMC.

(b) and (c) Section 77 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) provides that whoever gives, or causes to be given, to any child any intoxicating liquor or any narcotic drug or tobacco products or psychotropic substance, except on the order of a duly qualified medical practitioner, shall be punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to a fine which may extend up to one lakh rupees and Section 78 of the JJ Act provides whoever uses a child, for vending, peddling, carrying, supplying or smuggling any intoxicating liquor, narcotic drug or psychotropic substance, shall be liable for rigorous imprisonment for a term which may extend to seven years and shall also be liable to a fine up to one lakh rupees. The Act provides for the protection of children in need of care and protection including victims of the substance of abuse by catering to their basic needs through proper care, protection, development, treatment and social re-integration. It defines standards of care and protection to secure the best interest

of the child. The primary responsibility of execution of the JJ Act, 2015 lies with the State Governments.

The Government has implemented National Action Plan for Drug Demand Reduction (NAPDDR). The Plan aims at reduction of adverse consequences of drug abuse through a multi-pronged strategy involving education, de-addiction and rehabilitation of affected individuals and their families including for children. The activities under the NAPDDR, *inter-alia*, include awareness generation programmes in Schools/Colleges/Universities, workshops/seminars/interactions with parents, community based peer led intervention programmes for vulnerable adolescents and youth in the community, provisioning of treatment facilities and capacity building of service providers.

(d) Does not arise.

Mahila Police Volunteers

3801. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) employed in each State and Union Territories;

(b) the details of allocations made under the Nirbhaya Fund for this project;

(c) the details of training programmes of MPVs to help women in distress and to help them learn their rights and entitlements;

(d) whether Government proposes to organise awareness camps for women in villages by MPVs or any other stakeholder and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the other steps proposed for helping women understand their rights?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) Scheme in the States/ UTs. It is envisaged that MPVs will act as a link between police and community and help women in distress. The proposals of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Mizoram have been approved for implementation of the MPV Scheme. Training programmes for MPVs have been conducted in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Haryana. The State-wise details of MPVs appointed

are given in the Statement-I. State-wise details of funds allocated are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) State Governments and UT Administrations can organise camps for women in villages by MPVs and any other stakeholders. The MPV Scheme is a centrally sponsored scheme to be implemented with administrative support of State Governments and UT administrations.

(e) The Government of India is implementing Mahila Shakti Kendra Scheme which was approved in November, 2017 as a centrally sponsored scheme, for implementation during the financial year 2017-18 to 2019-20, to empower rural women through community participation. The scheme envisages community engagement through college student volunteers in 115 aspirational districts as part of block level initiatives; capacity building of women collectives in not more than 50% of the blocks in the aspirational districts; District Level Centre for Women (DLCW) in 640 districts to facilitate women centric schemes and to provide foothold for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme; State Resource Centre for Women to support the respective Government in implementation of women centric schemes/ programmes including BBBP. Student volunteers will play an instrumental role in awareness generation regarding various important Government schemes/ programmes as well as social issues. They will cater to awareness about Government schemes/ programmes, training and capacity building for rural women and help in bridging information and knowledge gap regarding schemes and facilities available for rural women.

Further, Ministry of Women and Child Development has been undertaking capacity building programmes for Elected Women representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions with an objective of empowering them to serve as catalysts for social change with awareness on women rights within the country.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) appointed

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of MPVs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3000
2.	Chhattisgarh	4568
3.	Gujarat	791
4.	Haryana	967

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of MPVs
5.	Jharkhand	0
6.	Karnataka	0
7.	Madhya Pradesh	0
8.	Mizoram	205
TOTAL		9531

Statement-II*State/UT-wise details of funds allocated under Mahila Police Volunteers Scheme*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Funds allocated (₹ in lakh)		
		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	75.82	0	445.57
2.	Chhattisgarh	0	715.55	0
3.	Gujarat	0	76.20	0
4.	Haryana	129.19	0	0
5.	Jharkhand	0	0	2.64
6.	Karnataka	0	56.13	0
7.	Madhya Pradesh	0	30.18	0
8.	Mizoram	0	35.85	0
TOTAL		205.01	913.91	448.21

Implementation of objectives of early childhood development

3802. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every year 1.5 million children die before reaching the age of 6 years due to lack of care and protection;

(b) whether there has been constant reduction in allocations of ICDS scheme during the recent years; and

(c) in what way Government proposes to enhance the facilities provided under the Early Childhood Development scheme and ensure effective implementation of its objectives?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Data regarding death of children below the age of 6 years due to lack of care and protection is not maintained by this Ministry.

(b) There has been gradual increase in the allocation of funds for Anganwadi Services Scheme during the recent years. The details of budget allocation for the above scheme during the last three years and current year are as follows:

		(₹ in crores)
Sl. No.	Financial Year	Revised Estimates
1.	2016-17	14,560.60
2.	2017-18	15,245.19
3.	2018-19	17,879.17
4.	2019-20	19,834.37
		(Budget Estimates)

(c) The Government of India has notified the National Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Policy on 12th October, 2013. The main objective of the ECCE Policy is to embed the concept and practice for holistic and integrated development with requisite quality for the young children in the age group of 0-6 years. Pre-school Education kits are being provided to all AWCs and Mini AWCs @ ₹ 5,000/- per annum across the country for effective implementation of ECCE in all Anganwadi Centres. Ministry has also developed age appropriate Activity Books for 3-6 years (3-4 years, 4-5 years and 5-6 years children) for use by the States/UTs after local customisation. Child Assessment Card under National ECCE Curriculum Framework has also been prepared to grade each child's performance. Alongwith the development of Annual Contextualized Curriculum, Assessment Cards, Activity Books for children, States/UTs have also been asked to conduct ECCE training for different functionaries for implementing the ECCE curriculum in the AWCs.

Prevention of stunting among children

3803. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to keep up with the target of reducing the stunting among children aged between 0 and 6 years from 38.4 per cent to 25 per cent by 2022 under the POSHAN Abhiyaan;

(b) if so, in what manner Government proposes to prevent the misuse of funds and meet the targets on time when the current data shows that the stunting is 35.9 per cent in 2019?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) POSHAN Abhiyaan set up by the Government on 18.12.2017 aims to reduce the level of stunting in children (0-6 years), under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years) and Low Birth Weight @ 2% per annum and reduce anaemia among young children (6-59 months), women and adolescent girls @ 3% per annum across the country. The work undertaken under this Mission are ensuring convergence with various other programmes; IT enabled Common Application Software for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Community Mobilization and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan - to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Capacity Building of frontline functionaries, etc. As part of implementation, strengthening of the service delivery and intervention through Convergence and use of Technology is a major aspect and NFHS-4 is the baseline for POSHAN Abhiyaan. The outcome of above measures can only be assessed after NFHS-5 survey report is available.

Constitution of GoM on sexual harassment at workplace

3804. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine the legal and institutional frameworks for dealing with the matters falling under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act;

(b) whether the Ministry has linked "SHe-Box" to Central/State Ministries and districts for speedy disposal of cases;

- (c) whether disclosure of compliance under the Act in the Annual Report of private companies has now been made mandatory;
- (d) the details of complaint received under SHe-Box;
- (e) whether the Ministry proposes to set up a Committee of legal experts to look into all the issues relating to #MeToo campaign; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of India *vide* order dated 24.10.2018 constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM) to examine the legal and institutional frameworks to deal with sexual harassment at workplace. Subsequent to the formation of the new Government following the general election to the Lok Sabha, the Government of India has re-constituted the GoM. In the year 2017, MWCD launched an online complaint management system titled 'Sexual Harassment electronic Box or SHe-Box (www.shebox.nic.in)' for registering complaints related to sexual harassment of women at workplace. SHe-Box is an effort of Government of India to provide a single window access to every woman, irrespective of her work status, whether working in organised or unorganised, private and public sector, including Central/ State Ministries and districts, to facilitate the registration of complaint related to sexual harassment at workplace and for their speedy disposal. Those women who have already filed their complaints with the concerned committees constituted under The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 [SH Act], are also eligible to file their complaints over SHe-Box.

(c) Inclusion in annual reports of the number of cases filed, if any, under the SH Act, and their disposal by the organisations by whom such reports are required to be prepared, is mandatory under Section 22 of the SH Act. Further, in response to the request of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Ministry of Corporate Affairs of the Government of India has amended the Companies (Accounts) Rules, 2014 *vide* their notification dated 31st July, 2018 so as to make the inclusion In the report of the Board of Directors of a statement that the company has complied with provisions relating to constitution of Internal Committee under the SH Act, mandatory under Rule 8(5)(x) of these rules.

(d) The total number of complaints received through SHe-Box is 612 which includes 196 from Central Government, 103 from State Government and 313 from Private organizations.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Home Affairs of the Government of India has constituted a GoM to examine the legal and institutional frameworks to deal with sexual harassment at workplace. The Government of India endeavours to provide protection against sexual harassment of women at workplace and for the prevention and redressal of complaints by women of sexual harassment and related matters at workplace effectively.

Implementation of POSHAN Abhiyaan

3805. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed any time-frame to implement POSHAN Abhiyaan in all the districts of Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is getting technical support from UN agencies implementing the Abhiyaan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (c) POSHAN Abhiyaan has been set up by Government of India on 18.12.2017 for a three year time frame commencing from 2017-18 with an aim to reduce the level of stunting in children (0-6 years), under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years) and Low Birth Weight @ 2% per annum and reduce anaemia among young children (6-59 months), women and adolescent girls @ 3% per annum across the country. The Abhiyaan ensures convergence with various programmes, organising Community Based Events; incentivising States/UTs for achieving goals; Community Mobilisation and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan - to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Incremental Learning Approach (ILA); strengthening Field Functionaries, etc. Under the Abhiyaan, all districts of the 36 States/UTs, including Tamil Nadu, have been covered for implementation in a phased manner.

(c) to (e) Yes, Sir. The Government of India and UNICEF have jointly signed the Country Programme 2018-2022 in January, 2018. Under the agreement, UNICEF provides

technical support to MWCD for POSHAN Abhiyaan under Country Programme 2018-2022 and also supporting in the following matter:

- (i) Supported in designing of all guidelines;
- (ii) Preparing posters and hoarding etc.;
- (iii) Preparations of audio visuals;
- (iv) Supported in preparation and designing of Jan Andolan Guidelines; and
- (v) Supported in preparation of Dashboard/google link for Jan Andolan.

Welfare of children of prisoners

3806. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken any steps with regard to the welfare of children of prisoners;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of children of prisoners who were benefited by such steps or the scheme sponsored therefor, State-wise; and
- (c) if not, whether the Ministry has proposed to take up this issue with the State Governments in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) Prison is a State subject under Entry 4 of List II of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The administration and management of prison is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The Ministry of Home Affairs has also issued a comprehensive advisory dated 15th May, 2006 on 'Facilities to the children of women prisoners— Guidelines issued by the Supreme Court - regarding', which provides *inter alia*, for steps to be taken by the States/UTs for providing education and recreation for children of female prisoners and also providing for creches and nursery attached to the prison for women to look after children of women prisoners - children below three years of age shall be allowed in the creches while those between three and six years of age shall be looked after in the nursery. Apart from above, the Central Government has enacted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) and as per Section 2 (14) (i), (v), (ix) and (x) of JJ Act, a child who

is found without any home or settled place of abode and without any ostensible means of subsistence; or who has a parent or guardian and such parent or guardian is found to be unfit or incapacitated, by the Committee or the Board, to care for and protect the safety and well-being of the child; or who is found vulnerable and is likely to be inducted into drug abuse or trafficking; or who is being or is likely to be abused for unconscionable gains, respectively, is included as a "child in need of care and protection". The primary responsibility of execution of the JJ Act lies with the State Governments. No such data regarding number of children of prisoners is maintained centrally in the Ministry of Women and Child Development. However, Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a scheme namely "Child Protection Services" (erstwhile Integrated Child Protection Scheme) for providing financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations with the objective to create a safe and secure environment for overall development of children in need of care and protection, including children whose parents are incarcerated/orphan/destitute/neglected/abandoned/surrendered etc. These include placement in Children Homes if there is no family to look after the said child, or sponsorship support if the child is living with family (financial support for education) to ensure that their education can continue in an undisturbed manner. Once placed in a children's home the said child would receive multiple kinds of care and support including food, education, medical attention, vocational training, counseling etc. so that despite their disturbed family circumstances they can continue to develop to their full potential.

Distribution of nutritious items by speed post

3807. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to distribute the nutritious items provided by Anganwadi centres by speed post;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Aadhaar would be made compulsory for receiving such items;
- (d) whether Government has conducted any initial trials for distributing such items through speed post; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (e) Anganwadi Services under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme provides a package of six services which *inter alia* include Supplementary Nutrition provided to the eligible beneficiaries through the medium of Anganwadi Centres. State Governments/UT Administrations are responsible to monitor and review the status of arrangement for Supplementary Nutrition at Anganwadi Centres without disruptions and method of delivery of supplementary food at Anganwadi Centres, engagement of Self-Help Groups, ensure supply and quality of Supplementary Nutrition through them. There is no proposal to distribute the nutritious items provided by Anganwadi centres by speed post.

Unregistered child care institutions

3808. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether many Child Care Institutions (CCIs) are not registered under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and if so, the details thereof along with the action taken against them;

(b) whether Government plans to implement compulsory registration of children in these homes to strengthen the Track Child 2.0 portal to track missing and vulnerable children and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has requested for mandatory uploading of data on the Track Child 2.0 portal by CCIs and State Governments to ensure better accountability and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Section 41 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) requires that all institutions, which are meant, either wholly or partially, for housing children in need of care and protection or children in conflict with law, shall be registered under this Act, within a period of six months from the date of commencement of this Act, regardless of whether they are receiving grants from the Central Government or the State Government. Section 42 of JJ Act states that any person or persons in-charge of an institution failing to comply with the provisions of sub-section (1) of section 41 shall be punished with imprisonment which may extend to one year or a fine of not less than one lakh rupees or both, provided that every thirty

days delay in applying for registration shall be considered as a separate offence. As directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* its order dated 5th May, 2017 in the matter of Writ (Crl.) No. 102 of 2007 Exploitation of Children in Orphanages in State of Tamil Nadu *Vs.* UOI & Ors., the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) issued advisories to States/UTs to register all Government and Non-Governmental Organization run CCIs under Sub-section (1) of Section (41) of JJ Act by 31st December, 2017. The Ministry had directed all the States/UTs to initiate steps to close down those Institutions which have declined to register *vide* letter dated 20th February, 2018. As on 08.01.2019, there are 7909 institutions registered under the JJ Act as reported by the States/UTs.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) has launched the Track Child web portal in 2012 for tracking missing children. The portal provides a database of "missing" and "found/recovered" children covered under the CPS and the JJ Act, 2015 through a networking and interactive platform of the various stakeholders including Police, Child Welfare Committees (CWCs), Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), Child Care Institutions (CCIs). The portal facilitates matching of the missing children being reported at the Police Stations with those found children residing in the Child Care Institutions (CCIs). The Ministry has been pursuing with the State/UT Governments including police for regularly uploading data of children on Track Child portal.

Controlling child-porn related crimes

3809. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that short video apps, including Kwai, Clip, TikTok, ShareIt and others have videos of children and form breeding ground for grooming underage girls for child pornography and if so, the measures taken to tackle the problem;

(b) the steps taken to regulate user generated content apps where inappropriate videos of children are found; and

(c) the State having highest instances of child-porn related crimes and the measures taken to control such crimes?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) As per information provided by Ministry of Home Affairs,

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility to maintain law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including children, rest primarily with the respective State Governments and UT Administration. The State/UT Governments are competent to deal with such offences including cyber-crime, offences under the extant provisions of law.

As per information provided by National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), complaints have been received pertaining to cyber crime violations with regard to child pornographic content.

The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has adequate provisions to deal with prevailing cyber crimes. Section 67B of the Act specifically provides stringent punishment for publishing, browsing or transmitting child pornography in electronic form. Section 79 of the IT Act and The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 require that the intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources to act accordingly. Further, sections 354A and 354D of Indian Penal Code provide punishment for cyber bullying and cyber stalking against women.

Government has taken a number of steps to be implemented by Internet Service Providers (ISPs) to protect children from sexual abuse online. These, *inter alia* include:

- i. Government blocks the websites containing extreme Child sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) based on INTERPOL'S "Worst-of-list" shared periodically by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) which is the National Nodal Agency for Interpol. The list is shared with Department of Telecommunications (DoT), who then directs major ISPs to block such websites.
- ii. Government ordered major ISPs in India to adopt and disable/remove the online CSAM dynamically based on Internet Watch Foundation (IWF), UK list.
- iii. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (Meity) is implementing a major programme on Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA). A dedicated website for information security awareness has also been set up.

As per information provided by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), during the year 2016, the maximum number of cases registered under Section 14 and Section 15 of the POCSO Act, 2012 was in the State of Jharkhand.

Under Section 14 of the POCSO Act, 2012 whoever uses a child or children for pornographic purposes shall be punished with imprisonment of either description which may extend to five years and shall be liable to fine. Further under Section 15 any person who stores, for commercial purposes any pornographic material in any form involving a child shall be punished with imprisonment of either description which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

Further, the Government has proposed amendment to POCSO Act, 2012 to introduce definition of child Pornography and punishment for storing, transmitting or using child pornography for commercial purposes *inter alia*, so as to curb the trend of child pornography through online medium. The Protection of children from sexual offence (amendment) Bill is presently under consideration of the Parliament.

Survey of Matru Vandana Yojana

3810. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's flagship scheme Beti Bachao Beti Padhao rolled out to address skewed gender ratio at district levels as well as create an environment of empowerment of young girls through education has made remarkable strides in the States like Haryana and Punjab;

(b) whether Government is in the process of hiring an agency for a similar survey of another flagship programme Matru Vandana Yojana, a scheme to enhance maternity benefits to women, providing partial compensation for wage loss during pregnancy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao (BBBP) Scheme has been rolled out to address skewed gender ratio (Child Sex Ratio) in all 640 districts (as per census 2011) of the Country since 8th March, 2018. Out of these, 405 districts are covered through Multi - sectoral intervention, Media & Advocacy, while remaining 235 districts are covered under advocacy and media campaign only. The funds are released to the 405 districts, selected under multi-sectoral intervention, by Ministry of Women and Child Development to implement the multi-sectoral and district level activities *viz.* inter-sectoral consultation, meetings of district task force, block level committees, innovation

and outreach, information education and communication materials, awareness kit to anganwadi centers, monitoring, evaluation and documentation of the scheme, health and education related activities etc.

The overall target and objective of the Scheme is to improve declining Child Sex Ratio in the country and create an enabling environment for the education of girl child and this requires long-term attitudinal change. As per the data of Health Management Information System (HMIS), Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) of Haryana has shown improving trend from 876 (2014-15) to 914 (2018-19), while in Punjab it has also shown improving trend from 892 (2014-15) to 900 (2018-19). As for Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) at secondary level for the period between 2016-17 and 2017-18, both Haryana and Punjab are showing improving trend in GER of girls as per U-DISE (2017-18 provisional records). In case of Haryana, GER increased from 86.73% (2016-17) to 94.24 % in year 2017-18 & for Punjab from 87.30% (2016-17) to 91.16 % in year 2017-18.

(b) and (c) At present, the Ministry has not hired any agency for survey of Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY).

Increase in AWCs

3811. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) have been increasing in numbers in different States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) the number of teachers and helpers in AWCs; and
- (d) the amount of salaries for such teachers and helpers?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The number of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) sanctioned in the country is 14 lakhs. However, there is an increase in the number of operational AWCs from 13,54,792 to 13,72,872 during the last three years. The State-wise detail of sanctioned and operational AWCs during last three years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) The number of Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers under the Anganwadi Services of Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme in the country as on 31st March, 2019 is as under:

Position	Sanctioned	In-position
Anganwadi Worker	13,99,697	13,02,617
Anganwadi Helper	12,82,847	11,84,954

(d) Anganwadi Workers and Helpers under the Anganwadi Services of Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme are the honorary workers from local community who come forward to render their services, on part time basis, in the area of child care and development. Being honorary workers, they are paid monthly honoraria as decided by Government from time to time. The Government of India has recently enhanced the honorarium of Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) at main-Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) from ₹ 3,000/- to ₹ 4,500/- per month; AWWs at mini-AWCs from ₹ 2,250/- to ₹ 3,500/- per month; Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) from ₹ 1,500/- to ₹ 2,250/- per month; and introduced performance linked incentive of ₹ 250/- per month to AWHs, effective from 1st October, 2018. Further, AWWs are paid ₹ 500/- per month under POSHAN Abhiyaan for using ICDS-CAS. Besides this, many States/UTs are also giving additional honorarium to Anganwadi Workers and Anganwadi Helpers out of their own resources as per details given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Statewise detail of Anganwadi Centres sanctioned and operational under Anganwadi Services Scheme

Sl. No.	State/UT	Year 2016-17		Year 2017-18		Year 2018-19	
		No. of Anganwadi Centres		No. of Anganwadi Centres		No. of Anganwadi Centres	
		Sanctioned	Operational	Sanctioned	Operational	Sanctioned	Operational
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55607	55605	55607	55606	55607	55607
2.	Telangana	35700	35634	35700	35634	35700	35634

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	6225	6225	6225	6225	6225	6225
4.	Assam	62153	62153	62153	62153	62153	62153
5.	Bihar	115009	91677	115009	91677	115009	99583
6.	Chhattisgarh	52474	49947	52474	50448	52474	51215
7.	Goa	1262	1255	1262	1258	1262	1262
8.	Gujarat	53029	53029	53029	53029	53029	53029
9.	Haryana	25962	25962	25962	25962	25962	25962
10.	Himachal Pradesh	18925	18925	18925	18925	18925	18925
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	31938	29599	31938	29599	31938	29599
12.	Jharkhand	38432	38432	38432	38432	38432	38432
13.	Karnataka	65911	64558	65911	65911	65911	65911
14.	Kerala	33318	33115	33318	33244	33318	33244
15.	Madhya Pradesh	97135	94398	97135	97132	97135	97135
16.	Maharashtra	110486	109779	110486	109779	110486	110219
17.	Manipur	11510	9883	11510	11510	11510	11510
18.	Meghalaya	5896	5894	5896	5896	5896	5896
19.	Mizoram	2244	2244	2244	2244	2244	2244
20.	Nagaland	3980	3455	3980	3980	3980	3980
21.	Odisha	74154	72195	74154	72587	74154	72587
22.	Punjab	27314	26711	27314	26988	27314	27279
23.	Rajasthan	62010	61974	62010	61974	62010	61974
24.	Sikkim	1308	1290	1308	1308	1308	1308
25.	Tamil Nadu	54439	54439	54439	54439	54439	54439
26.	Tripura	10145	9911	10145	10145	10145	9911
27.	Uttar Pradesh	190145	187997	190145	187997	190145	187997
28.	Uttarakhand	20067	20067	20067	20067	20067	20067

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29.	West Bengal	119481	114951	119481	115384	119481	116107
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	720	720	720	720	720	720
31.	Chandigarh**	500	500	500	500	450	450
32.	Delhi*	11150	10897	11150	10897	10897	10897
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	302	302	302	302	302	302
34.	Daman and Diu	107	107	107	107	107	107
35.	Lakshadweep	107	107	107	107	107	107
36.	Puducherry	855	855	855	855	855	855
	ALL INDIA	1400000	1354792	1400000	1363021	1399697	1372872
						[1400000 earlier sanctioned by GOI]	

Based on State/UT level consolidated report.

*253 AWCs surrendered by NCT of Delhi accepted in MWCD *vide* order no11-33/2015-CD-1 Dated 16 Nov. 2018.

** 50 AWCs surrendered by Chandigarh Administration accepted in MWCD *vide* order no.11-33/2015-CD dated 21 Dec, 2018.

Statement-II

Details indicating additional honorarium given by the States/UTs to AWWs/AWHs from their own resources (As on 30.06.2019)

(Amount in Rupees)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Additional honorarium given by States/UTs	
		Anganwadi Workers (AWW)	Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	3000	2500
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1200	700

1	2	3	4
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil*	Nil*
4.	Assam	2000	1000
5.	Bihar	750	375
6.	Chandigarh	2000	1000
7.	Chhattisgarh	2000	1000
8.	Dadra Nagar Haveli	1000	600
9.	Daman and Diu	1000	600
10.	Delhi	6678	3339
11.	Goa	3062-11937*	3000-6000*
12.	Gujarat	3300	1700
13.	Haryana	7286-8429*	4215
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1750	900
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	600	340
16.	Jharkhand	1400	700
17.	Karnataka	5000	2500
18.	Kerala	2000	2000
19.	Lakshadweep	3000	2000
20.	Madhya Pradesh	7000	3500
21.	Maharashtra	2000	1000
22.	Manipur	100	50
23.	Meghalaya	Nil#	Nil*
24.	Odisha	1000	500
25.	Puducherry	600	300
26.	Punjab	2600	1300
27.	Rajasthan	1724-1736*	1065

1	2	3	4
28.	Sikkim	2225	1500
29.	Uttarakhand	3000	1500
30.	West Bengal	1300	1300
31.	Uttar Pradesh	1000	500
32.	Nagaland	Nil*	Nil*
33.	Mizoram	294-306*	150
34.	Tamil Nadu	6750 (that includes pay-2500, GP-500, & DA-3750)	4275 (that includes pay-1500, GP-400, & DA-2375)
35.	Telangana	10500	6000
36.	Tripura	2865	1924

*Depending on the qualification and/or number of years of service.

The State Governments of Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya and Nagaland do not pay any additional honorarium to AWWs/AWHs in their State.

Abuse and trolling of women on social media

3812. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of women being abused, trolled and harassed on social media and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the action Government has taken or proposes to take to prevent such cases from recurring in future?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) "Police" and "Public Order" are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. States/UTs are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of crimes through their law enforcement machinery. The law enforcement agencies take legal action as per provisions of law against persons involved in misuse of social media for abuse, trolling and harassment of women. Details of action taken by the Government are given in Statement.

*Statement**Details of action taken by Government*

1. Ministry of Home Affairs has approved a scheme namely 'Cyber Crime Prevention against Women and Children (CCPWC)' under which an online Cyber Crime reporting portal, (www.cybercrime.gov.in) has been launched to enable public to report complaints pertaining to rape/gang rape imageries or sexually explicit content, Child Pornography/Child Sexual Abuse Material. This portal facilitates the public to lodge complaints anonymously or through Report and track option. Steps have also been taken to spread awareness, issue of alerts/advisories, training of law enforcement agencies, improving cyber forensic facilities etc. These steps help to prevent such cases and speed up investigation. Cyber Crime awareness campaign has been launched through twitter handle (@CyberDost) and radio across the country. Awareness generation programmes and publicity campaigns are done on various laws relating to women and their rights through workshops, cultural programmes, seminars, training programmes, advertisements in print and electronic media etc.
2. Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 (21 of 2000) has provisions regarding cheating by personation (section 66D), violation of privacy (section 66E), publishing or transmitting obscene material in electronic form (section 67), publishing or transmitting material containing sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form (section 67A), publishing or transmitting material depicting children in sexually explicit act, etc. in electronic form (section 67B) etc. Rule 3 (2) (b) of Information Technology (Intermediaries guidelines) Rules, 2011 provides for an obligation for Intermediaries (Social media platforms) to inform users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is grossly harmful, harassing, blasphemous defamatory, obscene, pornographic, pedophilic, libelous, invasive of another's privacy, etc.
3. Ministry of Women and Child Development has created a dedicated e-mail (complaint-mwcd@gov.in) to address and resolve the issues of hateful conduct and stalking on Social Media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook with effect from July, 2016.

Curbing violence against women

3813. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has come out with any concrete policy or is adopting any plan to curb all forms of violence against women and to prevent trafficking;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the vision of Government in this regard; and

(c) whether any draft policy has been prepared by Government to prevent heinous acts against women?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens rests with the respective State Governments. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. However, The Government of India (GoI) accords utmost priority to safety and security of women in the country. The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) of the Government of India have undertaken a number of measures for enhancing safety of women in the country.

The Government of India has set up a non-lapsable corpus Nirbhaya Fund for enhancing safety and security of women. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is also implementing Schemes including the Scheme of 'One Stop Centre' for violence affected women, the Scheme of 'Universalisation of Women Helpline' and the Scheme of 'Mahila Police Volunteers' under Nirbhaya Fund Framework. Further, the Government of India is implementing a scheme, 'Ujjawala' for prevention of trafficking, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has been administering various special laws relating to women such as 'The Protection of Women from Domestic

Violence Act, 2005', 'The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961', 'The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986', 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013', and 'The Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, 2006'. The Ministry is also administering 'The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015', 'The Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005' and 'The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012'.

The Criminal Law (Amendment), Act 2013 was enacted for effective legal deterrence against sexual: offences. Further, 'The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018' has also been enacted making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent by including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years. The Act also inter-alia mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each.

In order to coordinate various initiatives for safety of women, a separate Women Safety Division has been set up in Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Further, in order to ensure that the amendments in law effectively translate at ground level, and to enhance women safety in the country, the Government has undertaken a number of measures for implementation. The details are given in the Statement.

Statement

Initiatives taken by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for safety of women

In order to ensure that the amendments in law effectively translate at ground level, and to enhance women safety in the country, the Government has initiated a series of measures as below:

- i. An online analytic tool for police has been launched on 19th February, 2019 called "Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences" to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018.
- ii. "National Database on Sexual Offenders" (NDSO) has been launched by MHA on 20th September, 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies.

- iii. Emergency Response Support System (ERSS), which provides a single emergency number (112) based computer aided dispatch of field resources to the location of distress has been operationalized in 20 States/UTs in 2018-19.
- iv. A cyber-crime portal has been launched on 20th September, 2018 for citizens to report obscene content. Further, Cyber Crime Forensic Labs have been set up in several States, and training of over 3,664 personnel, including 410 Public Prosecutors and Judicial Officers in identifying, detecting and resolving cyber-crimes against women and children has been imparted.
- v. Using technology to aid smart policing and safety management, Safe City Projects have been sanctioned in phase-I in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) under Nirbhaya Fund.
- vi. In order to improve investigation, steps have been taken to strengthen DNA analysis units in Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories. This includes setting up of a State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit in Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh. Setting-up and upgrading of DNA Analysis units in State Forensic Science Laboratories in 13 States/UTs has also been sanctioned under Nirbhaya Fund.
- vii. Guidelines have been notified for collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases and the standard composition in a sexual assault evidence collection kit. To facilitate adequate capacity in manpower, training and skill building programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers have commenced. 3,221 Officers have already been trained by Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) and Lok Narayan Jayaprakash Narayan National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science in collection, handling and transportation of forensic evidence. BPR&D has distributed 3,120 Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits to States/ UTs as orientation kit as part of training.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled at two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

**REGARDING TAKING UP SHORT DURATION DISCUSSION AND CALLING
ATTENTION MOTION AS PER RAJYA SABHA RULES**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I have a point of order. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Under which Rule?

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: It's under Rule 29. And, Sir, I would also be referring to page 814 of the Rajya Sabha at Work. Let me read Rule 29. It says, "A list of business for the day shall be prepared by the Secretary-General, and a copy thereof shall be made available for the use of every Member". And, then, there are further clauses 2,3, and 4. I would like to request you most humbly to also refer to pages 814-815 of the Rajya Sabha at Work. Till 1963, there was a rule of same day notice for a discussion. And, there were one or two alternatives. But in 1963, the learned Members of the Draft Rules Committee suggested to the then Chairman to incorporate something called, Short Duration Discussion, which was later on listed under Rule 176.

Sir, this has been a precedent without any break, through the seventies, eighties, nineties — whether there was the NDA Government or the UPA Government or any other Government — that at least one Short Duration Discussion is taken up every week. Sometimes, if you look at the rules at work, what has happened is that it has not happened every week, three have happened in a month, in other words, it did not happen in one week. So, this has been the convention.

But, the situation now is this. Today is the 27th day of the Session. Normally, the Short Duration Discussion, as we all know, is taken up either on Wednesday or Thursday,- and, on Monday, Tuesday/Wednesday, Thursday are used for Legislative Business. Now, what has happened is that only two Short Duration Discussions have been taken up in this Session. Only two! And, this week, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, all these days, was legislation, legislation, and legislation.
...(Interruptions)...

So, Sir, my limited point is, we respect the Lok Sabha election

verdict; we respect the Government; but, you must respect our role as an Opposition, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... Just one minute. Day before yesterday, discussion on the working of the MSME Ministry, not the Short Duration Discussion, was listed in the List of Business. But, now, it has vanished and this has come. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, we seek your protection. ...(*Interruptions*)... We seek your protection. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): Sir, I strongly support Mr. Derek. There has been, and there has to be, one Short Duration Discussion and two Calling Attention motions every week. By now, we should have been debating today on a Short Duration Discussion, the fifth time in this Session. But, so far, we have discussed only two Short Duration Discussions. So, we are short of three Short Duration Discussions in this Session till today, I am not talking about the extended period of Session. If I take that also into count, then, this number would go to six. So, the Short Duration Discussions are not being taken up. We have identified the Ministries to be discussed. And, as Mr. Derek O'Brien has said, 'A' Ministry was listed for discussion, but that has been withdrawn and replaced by the Legislative Business. Yes, we, the Members of Parliament, know our responsibilities. We have been legislating. We have been passing the Bills. But, at the same time, the Ministries are to be discussed, and also whatever is provided in the Rules and Rule Book, there has to be Short Duration Discussions, which has also to take place. And, today, I think, we are totally unanimous that, yes, we have so far passed too many Bills, I think, 14-15-16. Of course, we will pass any Bill, as and when any Bill comes across, which we all come to the conclusion that that Bill has to be passed. Yes, as and when any Bill comes up, we all come to a conclusion that that Bill has to be passed. But, at the same time, these two things have also to be taken into consideration.

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. I have allowed him.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, this is the first Session after the General Election. There was enough Financial Business

also. Three Sessions, first Session which is held immediately after the elections, the Budget Session and the Monsoon Session have been merged together. Number two, inspite of all that, we have taken up two Short Duration Discussions and three Calling Attentions after doing all the Financial Business. I will assure the House, through you, Sir, that next week, whatever backlog is there, we are ready to compensate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: What is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Let me make the record straight. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have already taken two. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seats. ...*(Interruptions)*...

कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... प्लीज़, प्लीज़, आप बैठिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... माननीय मंत्री जी। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE, AND THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, conventions are relevant when the House runs smoothly for all the period. We have 22 lapsed Bills brought again in the House. Why?

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: You are responsible.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: No. ...*(Interruptions)*... The other House had passed them. ...*(Interruptions)*... But, here, in Rajya Sabha, they could not be passed. ...*(Interruptions)*... There is context to every decision, and the context is, so many lapsed Bills have appeared again, because the other House had passed them, but this House could not. ...*(Interruptions)*... Therefore, you have to take cognizance of that. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, आप अपनी बात पूरी कीजिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Therefore, as Pralhad Joshiji has said, already two Short Duration Discussions and three Calling Attentions have taken place. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can go on quoting. ...*(Interruptions)*... In the UPA regime, in many

Sessions, for many weeks, there was no Calling Attention. ...*(Interruptions)*... I had myself given many times, but there was no Calling Attention. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is a matter of record. Therefore, don't insist or make argument, which is not tenable. We are called the legislators and we are here to legislate. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let Mr. Anand Sharma speak.

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

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Only one second. I am just requesting you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. Then, I will call you.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I have already been called.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak, Anand Sharma*ji*.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, I am strictly referring to the Rules Book. The rules very clearly provide as to how the Bills are to be taken up for consideration, their amendments and reference to a select committee. That is Rule 125. It is for the Bills that originate in the other House, that is, the Lok Sabha, and come here before the Council, that is, the Rajya Sabha. Now, the procedure is known to us. Notices are given and amendments are moved. This is also an amendment, to refer the Bill to a select committee. The hon. Minister and the Government have taken a position that this is the Legislature. It would be a sad day for many of us if we have to be told... Most of us have read the Constitution, understand the difference, which our constitutional framework gives, between the Executive, the Legislature and the Judiciary, and the role of the Legislature. At the same time, if the purpose was only to legislate — and this House being the Council of States where we are elected by the provincial State Legislatures, have a very clear responsibility and duty. We understand that this House is not obliged to blindly endorse any Bill that originates in that House that has not been referred to any Standing Committee. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please don't interrupt me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Don't interrupt me. I have not completed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: I have not completed. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not completed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Anandji, please.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, allow me to complete. I never ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please complete.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: So, we are very clear that if the other House has in its wisdom not referred the Bills to a Standing Committee, then this House has to do its duty. Law-making is serious and the House is not only meant for Government Business, as the LoP has said and also Shri Derek O'Brien has said, but the House also has other issues to take up which concern the people. But about law-making, it cannot be done in a hurry because every law impacts the mass of the society and this House must remain alive to its duty. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Under which Rule? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Rule 12. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: But we are discussing the point of orders. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Point of order can be raised any time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Go through the rule. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Rule 12 says, "The Council shall sit on such days as the Chairman, having regard to the state of business of the Council, may from time to time direct..'" And ... *(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: State of Business!

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Don't disturb, please. You are a Minister. And Rajya Sabha Secretariat has issued a calendar under the orders of the Chairman that the House will be concluded on 26th of July. So, tomorrow it is going to be concluded. If at all, it will be extended, then there will be an announcement from the Chair in the House, the Council. Thereafter, it will be reported in the Bulletin as per the explanation

given in the Book 'Rajya Sabha at Work'. Now, the Hon. Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said that some Bills will be taken up next week. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Please.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Therefore, either the hon. Minister should withdraw that portion of his remark or that should be expunged from the record. ...(*Interruptions*)...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I have a point of order under Rule 238(3). Sir, consistently, even today, there has been a remark about the productivity of the other House. Sir, productivity does not mean quantum of Bills being published. It means 'quality analysis', 'threadbare analysis'. That is what this House, our hon. Chairman, had said quoting Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Don't reduce this House's dignity.

श्री उपसभापति: भूपेन्द्र जी, आप बताएं।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): सर, पहला विषय तो यह है कि यह सच है कि हम उच्च सदन हैं और राज्यों का प्रतिनिधित्व करते हैं। यह भी सच है, माननीय गुलाम नबी आज़ाद जी ने कहा था कि ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Under what Rule? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, Rule 35 of Business Advisory. सर, माननीय देरेक जी ने रूल 29 उठाया, माननीय आनन्द शर्मा जी ने रूल 125 उठाया, पर रूल 125 तो तब आएगा, जब बिल consideration के लिए आएगा। जब बिल consideration के लिए आएगा, तभी रूल 125 आ सकता है। देरेक जी ने रूल 29 उठाया, लेकिन मैं उनसे यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि Business Advisory Committee के रूल 35 में allotment of time है। यह कहना कि सदन में scrutiny होनी चाहिए, चर्चा होनी चाहिए, जब हम Business Advisory Committee में बैठते हैं, तो किसी बिल को 2 घंटे allot करते हैं, किसी को 4 घंटे allot करते हैं, किसी को 6 घंटे allot करते हैं। ऐसा इसलिए करते हैं कि जिस प्रकार बिल का महत्व होता है, उसी हिसाब से सदन में उस पर चर्चा हो। चूंकि Business Advisory Committee ने किसी भी बिल पर चर्चा के लिए समय अलॉट कर दिया है, तो वह समय जो हमें अलॉट हुआ है, हमें उस पर चर्चा करके आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। जब तक रूल 35 पर चर्चा नहीं होगी, चर्चा प्रारंभ ही नहीं होगी, तब तक आप रूल 125 को बीच में कैसे ला सकते हैं? जब चर्चा का प्रारंभ होगा, उसके बाद ही विषय आगे बढ़ सकता है। अभी जो टाइम BAC ने अलॉट किया है, उस पर चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, you wanted to speak.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, he has clarified. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. He has already raised it. Let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, he has not clarified the point raised by my colleague here. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, the Rule has been wrongly mentioned. Rule 35 relates to the Bill. What my leader has mentioned is about Short Duration Discussion, not the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं उस पर बात कर रहा हूँ। I am just replying to that; please. ...*(Interruptions)*... माननीय देरेक ओब्राइन ने जो भी कहा, वह convention रहा है। I agree. माननीय चेयरमैन को मैं अपनी भावना से अवगत कराऊँगा, पर पहले भी अनेक अपवाद हैं, जब बिल discuss हुए हैं, इसलिए उसके तहत मैं बिल ले रहा हूँ। बिल मूव होगा, जो इसमें है। Now, the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019. Dr. Jitendra Singh to move a motion for consideration of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, what about the amendments? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am following the procedure. ...*(Interruptions)*...

GOVERNMENT BILL

The Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): Sir, I move: "That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration." ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, the amendment has to be taken up first. We have to discuss... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We would be discussing that along with the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*... Motion moved. There are five amendments by Shri Derek O'Brien, Shri Binoy Viswam, Shri Elamaram Kareem, Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda and Shri K. K.

Ragesh for reference of the RTI Bill to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha. Members may move their amendments at this stage, without any speech. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Why, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*... Where is that written? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The speech could be made after it is moved. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. I am moving the motion for... ...*(Interruptions)*... The Bill and the amendment would be discussed together. You may just move. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, disposal of this resolution... ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Derek, please move the amendment. ...*(Interruptions)*... Motion for consideration of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha and the amendments, both. ...*(Interruptions)*... I shall first put the motion moved by Shri Derek O'Brien for reference of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, where are you going? You are going fast-forward! ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, since you are not allowing me to speak, I have to do one of the two things; I can try the sign language, which I am not very good at, but it would at least give me a chance to communicate with people! On a serious note, Sir, this is a motion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It would be discussed. You would get an opportunity later. ...*(Interruptions)*... आपको अवसर मिलेगा। आप उस पर बात करेंगे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, give me one minute's time. This is a motion. It is not a lollipop, Sir! This is a motion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This motion and the Bill, both, are to be discussed together. ...*(Interruptions)*... Both are to be discussed together. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, he must explain what the motion is. How can you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, let me explain what the motion is. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It would be discussed as per convention and as per rules. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, this has to be disposed of first and only then the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, this has to be disposed of first and only then. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय नेता विपक्ष, आप बहुत अनुभवी सांसद हैं। ...(*व्यवधान*)... पहले से व्यवस्था थी कि दोनों पर डिस्कशंस साथ होते हैं, वोटिंग भी साथ होती है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, give me one minute to explain why I am moving the amendment, just as the Minister gets a chance to move an amendment. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: दरेक ओब्राईन साहब, पहले आप अपना अमेंडमेंट मूव करें। ...(*व्यवधान*)... मूव करें। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: जब तक मंत्री बिल नहीं रखेंगे, तब तक मोशन कैसे ...(*व्यवधान*)... पहले बिल तो रखने दीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... बिल का इंट्रोडक्शन तो होने दीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The Bill has already been moved. ...(*Interruptions*)...

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: इंट्रोडक्शन नहीं होगा। ...(*व्यवधान*)... मेरी बात सुनिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... यहाँ पर बिल consideration ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, be a referee; * ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not a fair comment. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, the Bill has been moved for consideration. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, it has been moved. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, it is not to be introduced because it is passed in the Lok Sabha. My humble submission and request is that even if we have to take up some of the points made by you or the motion, let us, at least, start the discussion and receive the inputs. ...(*Interruptions*)... Since this is the House of Elders and supposed to be the treasure of wisdom, let us, at least, be benefited by some pearls of wisdom before we proceed further. ...(*Interruptions*)...

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Without disposing of the motion, you cannot have the discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Without having discussed the Bill, how have you arrived at certain conclusions? ...(*Interruptions*)... Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, without the discussion having taken place, how can conclusions be arrived at? ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आज़ाद साहब, प्लीज़ ...(*व्यवधान*)... मिनिस्टर को मोशन मूव करने के बाद ...(*व्यवधान*)... उनको ही बोलने का अवसर मिलता है। उन्होंने नहीं बोला और मोशन मूव हो गया, इसी तरह से मैं अमेंडमेंट्स मूव करवा रहा हूँ। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: We are yet to discuss the nitty-gritties of the Bill.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM (Maharashtra): Sir, the hon. Minister is moving that the Bill be taken into consideration in this House. The Amendment is, 'No'; the Bill must be referred to a Select Committee. How can both go together? If the Bill is referred to a Select Committee, there can't be any discussion in the House. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय चिदम्बरम जी बड़े वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं and he knows about conventions much more than anybody else. This has been the convention as well as the rule of the House that मोशन और अमेंडमेंट्स साथ ही ...(*व्यवधान*)... Yes, I will give you the ruling if you need. I can just now give the ruling. So, please देखें जी, आप मूव करें।

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I have a point of order. ...(*Interruptions*)... Let me clarify. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, I humbly beseech you to look at Rule 131. Please look at Rule 131. What are you talking about? ...(*Interruptions*)... I am glad this is happening because today we can see in the Rajya Sabha who knows what and what they are talking about and who is trying to bulldoze the legislation like this. Rule 130 says, "After the amended Bill has been laid on the Table, any Minister in the case of a Government Bill, or in any other case, any Member after giving two day's notice, or with the consent of the Chairman without notice, may move that the amendments be taken into consideration." That read in conjunction with Rule 131, gives me the right to move and allow me to speak why I am bringing this. That is all. Sir, why I am moving...

श्री उपसभापति: मैंने मिनिस्टर को मौका नहीं दिया था। पहले वे बोल लेते हैं, then you proceed.

श्री डेरेक ओब्राइन: ठीक है, सर।

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, the suggestions are well taken and the amendments can be taken up, if required. But let us, at least, ...(Interruptions)... We have not discussed it. ...(Interruptions)... We are drawing certain conclusions. ...(Interruptions)... We are making amendments without understanding the gist of the Bill. ...(Interruptions)... I have yet to explain the body of the Bill. ...(Interruptions)... Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this Bill has been passed by the Lok Sabha. This is the House of Elders and treasure of wisdom. So, we will be able to gain some more inputs from here. As far as the Right to Information Bill is concerned, we are yet to understand the nitty-gritties of the Bill before we enter into this kind of engagement. ...(Interruptions)... Now, what is the requirement of ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: Sir, he is talking about the objectives of the Bill. ...(Interruptions)... But we have not disposed of our motion. ...(Interruptions)... We are saying that this Bill has to be referred to a Select Committee and there is a motion pending before the House. ...(Interruptions)... That motion has to be disposed of ...(Interruptions)... Once that motion is carried off, the Bill will be referred to a Select Committee. ...(Interruptions)... If it is defeated, only then can you go ahead. ...(Interruptions)... But the motion has not been defeated. ...(Interruptions)... The motion has not been taken into consideration. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: The Bill has already been moved for consideration. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी, प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)... कृपया शांति बनाए रखें। माननीय आनन्द जी, प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)... हाउस की जो परम्परा रही है, उसके तहत ये बिल और जो अमेंडमेंट्स हैं, वे मूव होते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... इसके बाद अगर मंत्री को बोलने का मौका नहीं दिया तो आपको भी... इसलिए माननीय मंत्री जी एक मिनट बोलेंगे। ...(व्यवधान)... आप एक मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Let him complete.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, most of the misgivings and most of the objections raised by some of the Opposition Members are based on certain presumptuous conclusions which are not of the Bill as such. ...(Interruptions)... There is no attempt, no desire, no motivation, no design to curtail the independence and autonomy of the Right to Information Act. ...(Interruptions)... This is an enabling legislation...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. ...(Interruptions)...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: This is an enabling legislation which needs to be understood before we arrive at any conclusions. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Sir, before starting consideration of the Bill, this motion has to be disposed of. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Derek O'Brienji, please move your motion and speak. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please move.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, let me assert that this is the Council of States. This House of Elders is an expression which is used outside. ...(*Interruptions*)... We are the Council of States. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, when we are referring to it, we refer to ourselves as a Council of States. Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)... For the last 27 minutes, we are seeing that every rule of Parliament is being re-written and thrown away into the dustbin. ...(*Interruptions*)... But, today while stating the reason for this and a whole lot of amendments for other Bills, I have a simple request. Select Committees are for what purpose? ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please move it. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Why I am moving the motion is because the Parliament has to scrutinise the Bills. ...(*Interruptions*)... We need to study. ...(*Interruptions*)... This is not a T-20 cricket match. ...(*Interruptions*)... Public has to hear. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, I am moving my Motion.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Motion for reference of Bill to Select Committee

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Sanjay Singh
2. Shri Tiruchi Siva
3. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha

4. Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita
5. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
6. Shri Binoy Viswam
7. Shri Majeed Memon
8. Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar
9. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
10. Shri Prasanna Acharya

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Binoy Viswam, move your Motion. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I just want one minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, based on Rule 130,1 request you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, that you should be of our help. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please help us, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*... Out of numbers, they are saying that this book is invalid. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Sir, my point is that making a Bill, a legislation, is not like making a *dosa*. ...*(Interruptions)*... *Dosa* can be made within seconds but the Act is not like that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, treat the Act as an Act not as a *dosa*. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please give us time to discuss, study and scrutinise. Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Binoy Viswam, please move. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Motion for reference of Bill to Select Committee

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Ahamed Hassan
2. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav

3. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
4. Shri T.K.S. Elangovan
5. Shri Jairam Ramesh
6. Shri Satish Chandra Misra
7. Shri Dharmapuri Srinivas
8. Shri Majeed Memon
9. Shri Prasanna Acharya
10. Dr. K. Keshava Rao
11. Shri Sanjay Singh
12. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Elamaram Kareem, please move your motion.

...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, before the Bill is taken up for discussion, this Motion has to be discussed and disposed of. ...(Interruptions)... Yesterday, the Leader of the Opposition categorically told here the sanctity of the Upper House. ...(Interruptions)... The Upper House has to do its duty. Sir, please allow us to discharge our duty. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please move it. ...(Interruptions)...

Motion for Reference of Bill to Select Committee

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha,

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, please move your Motion. ...(*Interruptions*)...

Motion for Reference of Bill to Select Committee

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Sir, there is a phrase 'If it ain't broke, don't fix it'. There is nothing broke with the RTI Act, and, the Government proposes to bring about changes when there is nothing wrong with the RTI Act. We are suspicious that this is an attempt to weaken the Bill. That is why, the Bill needs to be scrutinised by the Select Committee and, therefore, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar
2. Shri Husain Dalwai
3. Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda
4. Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah
5. Shri Syed Nasir Hussain
6. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha
7. Shri K. C. Ramamurthy
8. Shri D. Kupendra Reddy
9. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi
10. Dr. Amee Yajnik

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri K.K. Ragesh, please move. ...(*Interruptions*)

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, 14 Bills have already been passed by the Parliament without a proper legislative scrutiny and you are simply negating the

underlying principle of the Right to Information Act itself. Hence, I am demanding to refer it to a Select Committee.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: So, you move it please.

Motion for Reference of Bill to Select Committee

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

The questions were proposed.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Motion for consideration of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha, and the Amendments moved thereto are now open for discussion. ...(*Interruptions*)... Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: No, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)... We want division. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: We will not allow this. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please dispose it of under the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: You have to dispose it of under the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Both will be discussed together. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD: We want to take up the Motions moved by these Members of Parliament. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, बैल में जाएं। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: We want division. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, ...*(व्यवधान)*... सर, मेरा यह कहना है ...*(व्यवधान)*...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, मैं पन्द्रह मिनट के लिए सदन स्थगित कर रहा हूँ।
...*(व्यवधान)*...

The House then adjourned at thirty-one minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled at forty-six minutes past two of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN) *in the Chair*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): The House stands adjourned for ten minutes.

The House then adjourned at forty-six minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled at fifty-six minutes past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*:

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, जो सवाल आपने उठाया था, मैंने उस पर गौर किया है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... पहले भी इस तरह से बिल के बारे में सेलेक्ट कमिटी के मोशन आये थे। ...*(व्यवधान)*... दोनों पर डिस्कशन साथ हुए हैं, लेकिन वोटिंग पहले सेलेक्ट कमिटी की होती है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... So, we are following that process. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now, let me call Shri Jairam Ramesh. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Jairam Ramesh, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabudhe, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे (महाराष्ट्र): माननीय उपसभापति जी, इस सभागृह के सामने एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बिल आया है और बिल पर चर्चा के प्रारंभ में ही जिस पद्धति से ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: यहां पर एक politics of paranoia नज़र आ रहा है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इस बिल के आगे क्या है, इस बिल का स्वरूप क्या है, इस बिल का उद्देश्य क्या है, इस सारी चीज़ों के बारे में कोई जानकारी न लेते हुए, कोई सूचना लोगों तक जाए, इसकी रचना न बनाते हुए ...*(व्यवधान)*... यह सूचना के अधिकार का बिल है और यहां पर मान्यवर सदस्य सूचना के ही बीच में अड़ंगेबाजी करते हुए, इस सूचना के वितरण में बाधा डाल रहे हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... इसकी जितनी भर्त्सना करें, मैं मानता हूँ कि वह कम है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

3.00 P.M.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Vinay ji, please speak. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: *

श्री उपसभापति: कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)... कोई Point of Order नहीं, since the House is not in order.

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: हमने यह देखा है कि जिस पद्धति से सदन के अंदर एक वायुमंडल बनाते हुए, एक अच्छे प्रस्ताव के बारे में ...(व्यवधान)... आपने सही फ़रमाया है कि अगर यह प्रस्ताव सेलेक्ट कमेटी को जाना है, तो उसकी वोटिंग पहले होगी। ...(व्यवधान)... इसमें किसी को कोई रोक नहीं रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... चर्चा होगी और अगर सदन चाहेगा तो बहुमत के आधार पर निर्णय होगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. ...(Interruptions)... Please go back to your seats. ...(Interruptions)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: मगर दुर्भाग्यवश अड़ंगेबाजी करते हुए, सूचना के अधिकार की चर्चा करते समय, लोगों को सूचना से ही एक दृष्टि से दूर रखने की कोशिश हो रही है।(व्यवधान)... इसकी जितनी आलोचना करें, कम है। मान्यवर, मैं आपको कहना चाहता हूँ कि सूचना के अधिकार के बारे में ...(व्यवधान)... एक दृष्टि से सूचना, आज के ज़माने में, जैसे कि हमने देखा है कि सूचना का एक commodification हुआ है। सूचना एक वस्तु बन गई है। ...(व्यवधान)... केवल इतना ही नहीं हुआ है, सूचना को एक शस्त्र के रूप में भी उपयोग में लाया जा रहा है।...(व्यवधान)... सूचना का weaponisation भी हुआ है। ...(व्यवधान)... मेरा यह कहना है कि ऐसी स्थिति के अंदर, इस सदन के अंदर यह प्रस्ताव आया है, उसके बारे में अनुकूल और प्रतिकूल सारी चर्चा, जितना समय हम चाहें कर सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मगर केवल मात्र एक प्रतिष्ठा का बिंदु बनाते हुए, एक point of prestige बनाते हुए, एक झूठे अभिमान का बिंदु बनाते हुए, इसको सेलेक्ट कमेटी के पास भेजने का कोई तात्पर्य है, ऐसा मुझे नहीं लगता है। ...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, विपक्ष को इसके प्रति इतना विरोध क्यों है, मैं यह समझ नहीं पा रहा हूँ। ...(व्यवधान)... यहां पर तो ऐसे-ऐसे राजनैतिक दल हैं...(व्यवधान)... एक दल है, जिसका अध्यक्ष कहां जाता है, कहां रहता है, बाहर जाकर क्या करता है? इसके बारे में हमें कुछ पता तक नहीं चलता है, यह स्थिति है। ...(व्यवधान)... दूसरे दल ऐसे हैं कि वे जहाँ से प्रेरणा लेते हैं ...(व्यवधान)... ऐसे कई देश हैं। उन देशों में सूचना के अधिकार का प्रचलन प्रारम्भ नहीं हुआ है। ...(व्यवधान)... वहां पर पहले

* Not recorded.

...(व्यवधान)... सूचना को रोकने की प्रक्रिया वहां होती है और वे लोग यहां पर आकर सूचना के बारे में हमें ...(व्यवधान)... उपसभापति जी, मैं कभी-कभार सोचता हूँ कि ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, आप वेल में न आएँ। ...(व्यवधान)... आप अपने स्थानों पर वापस चले जाएँ। आप बहस को चलने दें। ...(व्यवधान)... कोई भी सदस्य सेलेक्ट कमेटी चाहता है, तो पहले बहस होने दे, फिर उस पर वोटिंग करा ले। ...(व्यवधान)... हाउस को अधिकार है कि वह उस पर डिबेट करे। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: आज आपने जो बनी बनाई व्यवस्था थी ...(व्यवधान)... फ्रीडम ऑफ इन्फॉर्मेशन की जगह राइट टू इन्फॉर्मेशन एक्ट, यह केवल आपने किया है, ऐसा मानने का कोई कारण नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... इसके बारे में जो डिमांड हुई है, ...(व्यवधान)... मैं मानता हूँ कि इसका कोई कारण नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह पूरे सदन की प्रॉपर्टी है। इस पर पूरे सदन का अधिकार है। ...(व्यवधान)... और सदन अपने विवेक के आधार पर जो भी बहुमत में रहेगा, उसके आधार पर इसके बारे में निर्णय कर सकता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभापति महोदय, सूचना के अधिकार के प्रति बड़े व्याकुल होते हुए कुछ लोग यहां पर बोल रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उनको याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि इमरजेंसी और उसके पहले भी, जब श्रीमती गांधी ने एक बार ...(व्यवधान)... विपक्ष ने कहा कि इसमें क्या डाला है? ...(व्यवधान)... मगर उसके बारे में किसी ने जानकारी नहीं दी, किसी ने सदन को बताया नहीं, किसी को भी बताया नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... ऐसी स्थिति में, हम सब को याद होगा कि हमारे जनसंघ के ज़माने के बहुत बड़े सांसद यज्ञ दत्त शर्मा जी थे। ...(व्यवधान)... यज्ञ दत्त शर्मा जी के नेतृत्व में निर्णय किया गया ...(व्यवधान)... बाद में, जब मोरारजी देसाई की सरकार आई कि यह कालकूपि के, उसके अंदर क्या रखा है, उसका पूरे देश को पता लगना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... आज आपको सूचना के अधिकार के बारे में जैसे जैसा पूतना मौसी को प्रेम आया था, वैसा आपको प्रेम आया है। उस ज़माने में आपने कालकूपि के अंदर क्या रखा था, वह तो किसी को बताया तक नहीं। ...(व्यवधान)... यह तो हमारे यज्ञ दत्त शर्मा जी के नेतृत्व में एक समिति स्थापित करनी पड़ी और जहाँ-जहाँ भी यह कालकूपि रखी गई थी, उसके अंदर क्या है, वह निकाला। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभापति महोदय, यह जो इनका प्रेम है, पूतना मौसी के प्रेम जैसा है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं मानता हूँ कि इसमें कोई निष्ठा नहीं है, कोई प्रतिबद्धता नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... हम जानते हैं कि देश के इतिहास में कई प्रसंग आए, जिनमें देश को विश्वास में लेकर जानकारी देना जरूरी था। ...(व्यवधान)... मगर इस देश को स्वर्गीय श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी की मृत्यु कैसे हुई? इसके बारे में कभी बताया नहीं गया। स्वर्गीय लाल बहादुर शास्त्री की ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: कोई स्लोगन या इस तरह की कोई चीज़ रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)... जो माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे हैं, उनकी बात ही रिकॉर्ड पर जाएगी। ...(व्यवधान)... जो सदस्यगण, वेल में खड़े हैं, मैं उनसे अनुरोध करता हूँ कि वे अपनी सीट पर वापस जाएं

और बहस में भाग लें तथा वोट देकर सेलेक्ट कमेटी के लिए तय कर लें। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हाउस में डिस्कस करके, डिबेट करके और वोट करके सेलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजना ही ट्रेडिशनल प्रोसेस रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसी आधार पर यह बहस हो रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं यह कह रहा था कि देश के इतिहास में स्वाधीनता के बाद भी, स्वाधीनता के पहले का तो छोड़ दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मगर स्वाधीनता के बाद भी कई ऐसे प्रसंग हुए हैं, जिनमें जानकारी से जनता को वंचित रखा गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... डा. श्यामा प्रसाद मुखर्जी की मृत्यु के पीछे वाकई में कारण क्या थे? क्या उनकी प्राकृतिक, नैसर्गिक मृत्यु हुई थी या उसके पीछे कोई षड्यंत्र था, इसके बारे में देश को कभी बताया नहीं गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... स्वर्गीय लाल बहादुर शास्त्री जी की मृत्यु के बारे में भी कुछ संदेह का वातावरण उस समय भी था और आज भी है, यह मैं मानता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये तो हमारे देश के बड़े-बड़े नेता हुए। मगर भ्रष्टाचार किस पार्टी के साथ, एक समीकरण जैसा जुड़ गया है, उस पार्टी ने 70 के दशक में, 80 के दशक में, कई ऐसे प्रकरण और मैं मानता हूँ कि दबोच दिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नगरवाला एक प्रकरण हुआ था, श्रीमती इंदिरा गांधी उस समय देश की प्रधान मंत्री थीं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... लोगों ने जानकारी रखने का आग्रह रखा कि हमें बताइए कि नगरवाला महोदय कहाँ गए? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज तक देश को पता नहीं है कि जिस स्टेट बैंक में वह धन डाला गया, उसके जो मैनेजर नगरवाला थे, उनका क्या हुआ? ...**(व्यवधान)**... सूचना के अधिकार के प्रति आप इतने संवेदनशील होकर, एक स्वांग रचते हुए ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस दृष्टि से लोगों को गुमराह करने की कोशिश न करें। मैं मानता हूँ कि यह आवश्यक है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यहां कहा जा रहा है कि स्कूटिनी होनी चाहिए, स्कूटिनी के लिए कौन मना कर रहा है, स्कूटि जरूर होनी चाहिए। हर पहलू के ऊपर, हर कानून के छोटे-छोटे बिन्दु के बारे में स्किर्टनी जरूर होनी चाहिए और चर्चा होनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मगर आप जानते हैं, सदन में कई बार इस बिल को सेलेक्ट कमेटी को देने का निर्णय किया था। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि मुझे दो बार ऐसी सेलेक्ट कमेटी का नेतृत्व करने का मौका मिला था, मैं उस सेलेक्ट कमेटी का अध्यक्ष था। मगर सेलेक्ट कमेटीज में जो होता है, किस तरह से माननीय सदस्य उसमें उपस्थित रहते हैं और जो चर्चा करते हैं, उसमें गुणात्मक दृष्टि से कोई बहुत अन्तर होता है, ऐसा मैं नहीं मानता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसलिए केवल काल-अपव्यय करना, केवल टाइम ईटींग करना, केवल टाइम कंज्यूम करना, मैं मानता हूँ कि इससे कुछ होने वाला नहीं है। यह छोटा संशोधन है। इसके कारण मूल कानून में कोई आमूल-चूल परिवर्तन नहीं हो रहा है। जो इस बिल के पीछे की भावना है, सूचना के अधिकार का जो मूल कानून है, उस कानून के साथ यह सुसंगत है। यहां पर कतई कोई विसंगति का बिन्दु नहीं है। मैं मानता हूँ कि विवेक आधार पर यदि निर्णय होता है, तो यह बिल निश्चित रूप से इस सदन के माध्यम से पारित होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन्फॉर्मेशन एक्ट आया, उससे पहले उसकी चर्चा भी हुई, लेकिन आज राइट टू इन्फॉर्मेशन के इम्प्लीमेंटेशन के बारे में जो दिक्कतें

आ रही हैं, उनमें सबसे पहली दिक्कत, सबसे पहली समस्या, सबसे पहली चुनौती क्या है ? वह चुनौती यह है कि हमारा इन्फॉर्मेशन मैनेजमेंट सही नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सूचना तो मिलनी चाहिए, मगर सूचना को रिट्रीव कैसे करें, सूचना को बाहर कैसे निकालें, सूचना का संचय कैसे होगा, उसका रख-रखाव कैसे होगा, इन सारे बिन्दुओं पर ध्यान देना जरूरी था, वह नहीं दिया गया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसलिए आज भी ऐसा होता है कि अधिकार को नकारने की किसी की भूमिका नहीं है, मगर अधिकार को अवलंबित करते समय सूचना का जो संकलन होना चाहिए, सूचना का जो स्टोरेज होना चाहिए, सूचना का जो संचय होना चाहिए, उसी के बारे में दिक्कतें हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मानता हूँ कि ऐसी कई चुनौतियाँ हैं, जिनमें से कुछ चुनौतियों का सामना करने के लिए यह जो बिल आ रहा है, उसके पारित होने से व्यवस्था अधिक चाक-चौबन्द होगी और जनता की जो अपेक्षा है, वह इस बिल के माध्यम से पूरा करने के लिए हम अधिक संगत होंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

मान्यवर, इस बिल के अंदर क्या है, वह मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल के अंदर केवल विसंगति को दूर करना है। हमारे सूचना आयुक्तों को नियुक्त किया जाता है, ये सूचना आयुक्त कौन होते हैं? ऐसा कहीं लिखा नहीं है कि जर्नलिस्ट्स होने चाहिए, ऐसा भी कहीं नहीं लिखा है कि ये फॉर्मर IAS अधिकारी होने चाहिए, ऐसा कुछ नहीं है कि ये न्यायविद् होने चाहिए। समाज में जितने सारे प्रबुद्ध लोग हैं, उनमें से कुछ लोगों का उन सरकारों द्वारा चयन किया जाता है और नियुक्त किया जाता है। यह उस दृष्टि से एक नया प्रयोग है। इसलिए उसमें शुरुआती दौर में कुछ दिक्कतें आना स्वाभाविक है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...मगर उन दिक्कतों का सामना करते समय, उनकी समीक्षा करने के बाद क्या कुछ सुधार नहीं करने चाहिए, क्या बिजनेस as usual रखना चाहिए और दिक्कतें आ रही हैं, फिर भी क्या हमें परिवर्तन के बारे में नहीं सोचना चाहिए? ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मानता हूँ कि कई बार ऐसा होता है, लोगों को भी लगता है कि एकदम पांच साल, सांसद के बारे में भी लोगों को लगता होगा कि पांच साल के लिए चुन देते हैं, फिर वे सोचते हैं कि पांच साल कुछ ज्यादा ही समय हो गया है, दो-तीन साल पर्याप्त हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ऐसी स्थिति में, एक नए संदर्भ में, जब आप सूचना आयुक्त की नियुक्ति करते हैं, तो उसकी कालावधि को पांच साल के बजाय तीन साल करना, मैं मानता हूँ कि विवेकपूर्ण है और उस विवेक के आधार पर सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया है। हमें ध्यान में रखना चाहिए कि सूचना अधिकार के अन्तर्गत काम करने वाला जो सूचना आयुक्त है, वह कोई न्यायमूर्ति नहीं है। He is not a judge; he is not a part of judiciary. वह अपने विवेक के आधार पर केवल न्याय मिलने की सुविधा निर्माण करने वाला एक सेवक है। He is a facilitator. इस दृष्टि से, मैं मानता हूँ कि उनकी तुलना सुप्रीम कोर्ट या हाई कोर्ट के न्यायमूर्ति से करना, अपने आप में एक बहुत बड़ी भूल है और उस भूल को सरकार इस कानून में संशोधन के माध्यम से दूर करना चाहती है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

महोदय, लोग कहते हैं कि इनके वेतन के अधिकार आप कैसे तय करेंगे, यदि सरकार नहीं करेगी, तो कौन करेगा? आखिरकार सरकार ही तो सारी व्यवस्था का नेतृत्व करती रहती है और सरकार के द्वारा विवेक के आधार पर जो वेतन तय होगा, उसी को दिया जाएगा। मैं मानता

[डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे]

हूँ कि इसको अनावश्यक ...(व्यवधान)... महिमामंडित करते हुए ...(व्यवधान)... और सूचना आयुक्तों को न्यायमूर्ति के साथ समकक्ष मानते हुए ...(व्यवधान)... एक जो भूल हुई थी ...(व्यवधान)... मूल कानून में ...(व्यवधान)... उस भूल को ठीक करने का, उसमें सुधार लाने का एक प्रयास है। ...(व्यवधान)... एक प्रामाणिक प्रयास है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं मानता हूँ कि हमें इस प्रयास को सकारात्मक दृष्टि से देखना चाहिए ...(व्यवधान)... इसमें कोई ...(व्यवधान)... paymaster की approach नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... हम पैसा देते हैं, वाली भूमिका नहीं है पैसा तो जनता का है और सरकार तो केवल फेसिलिटेटर होती है और प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व ...(व्यवधान)... में हमारी भूमिका केवल मात्र इतनी ही रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

मान्यवर, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में ...(व्यवधान)... आपने भी तो परिवर्तन किए थे। ...(व्यवधान)... विपक्ष के जो माननीय सदस्य आज यहाँ पर जोर-जोर से चिल्ला रहे हैं और इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उनके ध्यान में यह बात ला देना चाहता हूँ कि 2011 में सूचना आयोग ने ...(व्यवधान)... श्रीमती प्रतिभा पाटिल, जो उस समय की हमारी राष्ट्रपति थी, ...(व्यवधान)... उन्हें एक नोटिस दिया था कि अपनी संपत्ति का ब्योरा हमें दे दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)... जो उस समय की सरकार थी ...(व्यवधान)... उसको संबद्ध नहीं था ...(व्यवधान)... वह सरकार विचलित हो गई और सरकार के मुखिया के रूप में उस समय के प्रधान मंत्री डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी ने 2011 में ...(व्यवधान)... मैं आपको अक्टूबर, 2011 की घटना बता रहा हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... कि सूचना आयोग का सालाना सम्मेलन होता है। ...(व्यवधान)... उसमें प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा and I am quoting Dr. Manmohan Singh, "सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम" को अब समीक्षा की जरूरत है। ...(व्यवधान)... 2011 में डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी कह रहे थे कि अभी इसकी समीक्षा की जरूरत है। ...(व्यवधान)... मगर वह हुआ नहीं और बाद में ...(व्यवधान)... आगे चलकर डा. मनमोहन सिंह जी कहते हैं कि "सूचना का अधिकार" अधिनियमों की समीक्षा की जरूरत है ...(व्यवधान)... आर.टी.आई. कानून के जरिए सरकारी योजनाओं पर प्रतिकूल प्रभाव नहीं पड़ना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... This is Dr. Manmohan Singh. यह हम नहीं कह रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... उन्हीं को कुछ डर लग रहा था। ...(व्यवधान)... उन्हीं को कुछ संभावनाएं उजागर होती हुई दिखाई दे रही थीं ...(व्यवधान)... तो ऐसे वातावरण में ...(व्यवधान)... जो 2011 से समीक्षा करने का काम कुछ मात्रा में प्रलंबित था ...(व्यवधान)... यह एक progressive unfoldment होती है ...(व्यवधान)... केवल मात्र इस सुधार से सारा आदर्श स्थिति में जाएगा ...(व्यवधान)... यह किसी का दावा नहीं है, मगर यह बुनियादी सुधार है। यह implementation level आवश्यक सुधार है और इसलिए उसको लागू करने की बात सरकार कह रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं मानता हूँ कि इसके बारे में विवेक के आधार पर निर्णय होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... शोर-गुल में, शोर-शराबे में और नारेबाजी में इसका निर्णय करना ...(व्यवधान)... सूचना के अधिकार का जो मूल तत्व है ...(व्यवधान)... मैं मानता हूँ कि यह उसके विरोध में है। ...(व्यवधान)...

मान्यवर, बहुत विस्तार से कुछ बात कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, मगर हम सब यह भी जानते हैं कि सूचना के अधिकार के दुरुपयोग के भी कई सारे उदाहरण समाज में देखे हैं ...(व्यवधान)...

देश में देखे हैं। सूचना का जो weaponization हुआ है ...**(व्यवधान)**... कोई blackmailing के लिए भी इसका उपयोग कर रहा है ...**(व्यवधान)**... कहीं-कहीं धमकियाँ भी दी जा रही हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... खुले आम लोग बोलते हैं कि मैं RTI लगा दूंगा ...**(व्यवधान)**... RTI लगा दूंगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह क्या तरीका है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... RTI Act की जो पवित्रता है ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसको बरकरार रखने के लिए अगर कुछ सुधारों की आवश्यकता है, तो विपक्ष के लोगों को इस पर इतनी आपत्ति क्यों होनी चाहिए ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह हमारी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है।

मान्यवर, मैं आपसे यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस विषय में किसी को भी holier than thou की approach लेने की जरूरत नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके प्रति ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर हम अपनी राज्य सरकारों की performance को देखें ...**(व्यवधान)**... तो लगभग सभी राज्य सरकारों ने या सभी राज्य स्तरीय सूचना आयोगों में ...**(व्यवधान)**... कहीं पर स्थान रिक्त हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... कहीं पर जो बैकलॉग है ...**(व्यवधान)**... वह बहुत बढ़ा हुआ है और कई जगह ...**(व्यवधान)**... अपव्यय हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये समस्याएं होनी स्वाभाविक हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... दुर्भाग्यवश इसके बारे में ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो पहले से ...**(व्यवधान)**... पूर्व विचार होना चाहिए था, वह नहीं हो पाया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जिसके चलते इस सरकार को इन सुधारों को लेकर इस सदन के समक्ष आना पड़ा ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं मानता हूँ कि जो नारे लगा रहे हैं ...**(व्यवधान)**... जो शोर-गुल मचा रहे हैं, जो अपनी ऊंची आवाज से हमारे विवेक की आवाज़ को दबाने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं, मैं उनसे कहूंगा कि आप कृपया आत्मपरीक्षण कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सूचना का अधिकार ...**(व्यवधान)**... सुनने का अधिकार भी होता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे जी, आपकी पार्टी ने जो टाइम दिया था उससे अधिक टाइम हो गया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज समाप्त कीजिए।

डा. विनय पी. सहस्रबुद्धे: हमारे सुनने के अधिकार के अंदर ये आ रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमारा सुनने का और बोलने का जो अधिकार है ...**(व्यवधान)**... उसको ये लोग छीन रहे हैं आपको मुझे सुरक्षा देनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसलिए मेरा मानना है कि अपने विवेक का आह्वान करो ...**(व्यवधान)**... अपने विवेक के आधार पर निर्णय करो ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपके शोर-गुल से दबने वाली न यह सरकार है, न हमारी Party है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय श्री जयराम रमेश जी। ...श्री देरेक ओब्राइन जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, you bring the House in order. ...*(Interruptions)*... You bring the House in order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Ask your Members to go back. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री देरेक ओब्राइन: बीजेपी विवेक की बात कर रही है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनका कोई विवेक है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनका कोई विवेक है?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Derek O'Brienji, please ask your Members to go back and you speak. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री देरेक ओब्राईन: आप हाउस को ऑर्डर में लाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... ये विवेक की बात कर रहे हैं ...(व्यवधान)... इनका क्या... conscience है, क्या विवेक है इनका ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ask your Members to go back from the Well. ...(Interruptions)... You please ask your Members to go back. ...(Interruptions)... श्री जावेद अली खान। ...(व्यवधान)...

Then, I will move to the other speaker. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: That you can do. You can ask me to go out also.

श्री उपसभापति: श्री जावेद अली खान। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, हाउस ऑर्डर में नहीं है, इसलिए बोलने का कोई मतलब नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... यह चेयर का कर्तव्य है कि पहले हाउस ऑर्डर में आए और उसके बाद वक्ता अपनी बात रखे। ...(व्यवधान)... हमें आपका संरक्षण चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... सर, हाउस को ऑर्डर में लाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... यह चेयर की जिम्मेदारी है कि हाउस ऑर्डर में हो। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان : سر، ہاؤس آرڈر می نہی ہے، اس لئے بولنے کا کوئی مطلب نہی ہے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ چئر کا فرض ہے کہ پہلے ہاؤس آرڈر می آئے اور اس کے بعد وکتہ اپنی بات رکھے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ ہمیں آپ کا سنرکشن چاہیے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ سر، ہاؤس کو آرڈر می لائیے۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔ یہ چئر کی ذمہ داری ہے کہ ہاؤس آرڈر می ہو۔۔۔(مداخلت)۔۔۔

Now, Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan. ...(Interruptions)... You speak. ...(Interruptions)... This is your time. ...(Interruptions)... Please speak as this is your time. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: श्री ए. नवनीतकृष्णन। ...(व्यवधान)... Now, Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan. ...(Interruptions)... Please speak as this is your time. ...(Interruptions)... कृपया माननीय सदस्य के पास जाकर इस तरह से न करें। ...(व्यवधान)... उनको बोलने दें। ...(व्यवधान)... नवनीतकृष्णन जी, आप बोलिए। ...(व्यवधान)... Please speak. ...(Interruptions)...

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the... *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्य की बात के अलावा कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जाएगी। *...(व्यवधान)...* पूरा देश देख रहा है। *...(व्यवधान)...* अगर राज्य सभा के माननीय वरिष्ठ सदस्य इस तरह से वेल में खड़े होकर शोर करेंगे, तो उससे पूरे देश के सामने क्या impression जाएगा? *...(व्यवधान)...* जो स्थापित convention है, उसके अनुसार हाउस न चलने देना, *...(व्यवधान)...* अगर आप इसे सेलेक्ट कमिटी को भेजना चाहते हैं, तो वोट से तय कर लीजिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* वोट से तय करिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। *...(व्यवधान)...* श्री ए. नवनीतकृष्णन, आप बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: The Right to Information is a very valuable right. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, please... *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया माननीय सदस्य को बोलने दीजिए। *...(व्यवधान)...* आप बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: The Government has brought an Amendment *...(Interruptions)...* We need not be afraid of these Amendments. *...(Interruptions)...* This is my humble opinion *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Right to Information Commission is only a statutory commission. *...(Interruptions)...* Nobody is having any guarantee with regard to the terms and conditions of the Commissioners. *...(Interruptions)...* Definitely, the Central Government will take care of it. *...(Interruptions)...* It cannot be taken as a constitutional guarantee. *...(Interruptions)...* It is only a statutory right. *...(Interruptions)...* So, being a mere statutory right, one cannot claim any absolute right. *...(Interruptions)...* So, it is not being an absolute right, the Government is rightly bringing the Bill. *...(Interruptions)...* So, we need not fear about it. *...(Interruptions)...* We support this Bill. *...(Interruptions)...* Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Prasanna Acharya. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Prasanna Acharya. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, I want to speak but how can I speak? *...(Interruptions)...* I want to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to raise my objections. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to make my point. *...(Interruptions)...* I want clarifications from the Government. *...(Interruptions)...* But, how can I do it under such a din? *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री उपसभापति: प्रसन्न आचार्य जी, कृपया आप बोलें, आपकी बात ही रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है, कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। *...(व्यवधान)...* कृपया आप बोलिए। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Odisha): Sir, it is simply not possible. Sir, I want to speak. I want to put it on record that I am interested to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* But, it is not possible to speak in this situation. *...(Interruptions)...* It is virtually not possible. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to make my points. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to seek clarification and explanation from the Government but I cannot speak here. *...(Interruptions)...* How can I speak? *...(Interruptions)...* Unless the House is in order, how can I speak?

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया माननीय सदस्य को बोलने दें। *...(व्यवधान)...* कृपया वेल में खड़े होकर जो माननीय सदस्य बोल रहे हैं, उनको disturb न करें। *...(व्यवधान)...*

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: I want to speak but I am unable to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* You see how I can speak. *...(Interruptions)...* You believe me; I am not able to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to speak but I am not able to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to make my points but I am not able to do it. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak. *...(Interruptions)...* That will only go on record. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: How can I speak? *...(Interruptions)...* How can I speak? *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh. *...(Interruptions)...* Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh. *...(Interruptions)...* Now, Shri K.K. Ragesh. *...(Interruptions)...* Please. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, I want to speak but how can I speak? *...(Interruptions)...* The House is not in order. *...(Interruptions)...* * *...(Interruptions)...* * *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri K.K. Ragesh, you make your speech. Your speech will go on record. *...(Interruptions)...*

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: I want to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* * But let the House be in order. *...(Interruptions)...* * *...(Interruptions)...* * *...(Interruptions)...* *...(Interruptions)...* * *...(Interruptions)...* I want to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* I need your protection. *...(Interruptions)...* I want to speak. *...(Interruptions)...* Let the House be in order. *...(Interruptions)...* Let the House be in order. *...(Interruptions)...*

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: * ...*(Interruptions)*... * ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: What is this, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, I am witnessing the killing of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am witnessing the killing of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the House...*(Interruptions)*... How can I speak? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You speak, that will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: How can I speak? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, we are butchering democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't want to be a part of this killing of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*... I don't want to be a part of this killing of democracy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri R.S. Bharathi. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri Anil Desai. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANIL DESAI (Maharashtra): Sir, I rise in support of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019. ...*(Interruptions)*... It is very strange that some Members are saying that democracy is being killed. ...*(Interruptions)*... Democracy is being disturbed in the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Today it is a painful act on the part of the Opposition that really they are not doing good and the people of India are watching the whole scenario. ...*(Interruptions)*... We, as legislators in the House, should bear it in mind that we owe to the people and our owing to the people, ...*(Interruptions)*... in that, the Right to Information Bill plays a very important part. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, this Bill aims to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, ...*(Interruptions)*... so as to provide that the term of office and salaries and allowances and other terms and conditions ...*(Interruptions)*... of services of Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners and State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioners ...*(Interruptions)*... shall be as such may be described by the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... According to the provision under Section 13 of the Information Act, 2005, ...*(Interruptions)*... Chief Information Commissioner and

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri Anil Desai]

Information Commissioners shall hold the office ...(Interruptions)... for a term of five years or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier, ...(Interruptions)... and shall not be eligible for reappointment. ...(Interruptions)... It also provides that salaries and allowances and other terms and conditions of the services of Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners shall be the ...(Interruptions)... same that of the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners respectively. ...(Interruptions)... Similarly, Section 16 provides for the term of office and conditions of the services of the State Chief Information Commissioner and State Information Commissioner and provides for ...(Interruptions)... the term of five years or till they attain the age of 65, whichever is earlier ...(Interruptions)... and shall not be eligible for reappointment. ...(Interruptions)... It provides that their salaries and allowances and other terms and conditions of ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: देखिए, इस तरह से कागज़ फाड़ कर फेंकना एक अमर्यादित काम है। ...(व्यवधान)... आप सब राज्य सभा के वरिष्ठ सदस्य हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप अपनी-अपनी सीटों पर वापस जाएं, बैल में आकर इस तरह का कार्य न करें। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI ANIL DESAI: As rightly mentioned by the hon. Minister in the Statement of Objects and Reasons ...(Interruptions)... that the salary and allowances and other terms and conditions of service of Chief Election Commissioner ...(Interruptions)... and Election Commissioners are equal to a Judge of Supreme Court, and, therefore, ...(Interruptions)... the Chief Information Commissioner and State Chief Information Commissioner ...(Interruptions)... become equivalent to a Judge of Supreme Court in terms of ...(Interruptions)... salary and allowances and other terms and conditions of their service. ...(Interruptions)... However, the functions carried out by ...(Interruptions)... the Election Commission of India and State Information Commissioner are totally different. ...(Interruptions)... As Election Commission is constituted under Sub-clause 1 of Article 324 of the Constitution ...(Interruptions)... and is responsible for superintendence ...(Interruptions)..., direction and control of the ...(Interruptions)... and conduct of the elections to the Parliament and State Legislatures, ...(Interruptions)... and election to the offices of President and Vice-President in the Constitution. ...(Interruptions)... Whereas, the Central Information Commission and State Information Commissioners ...(Interruptions)... are statutory bodies established under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005. ...(Interruptions)... Therefore, their status and service conditions ...(Interruptions)... need to be considered and rationalized accordingly.

...(Interruptions)... By these amendments, the Right to Information Act ...(Interruptions)... will not be diluted as feared by some people and those who are in the Well, they should understand that this is not a dilution of the Right to the Information Act. ...(Interruptions)... On the contrary, by accepting these Amendments, strengthening of the Act will take place, and it will be serving the cause of the people of India. ...(Interruptions)... With this, I conclude my speech with strong support from my party and myself. Thank you.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, for allowing me to speak on this Bill. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, the proposed amendments in the Bill are pertaining to the tenure of the Chief Information Commissioner and Commissioners, and State Information Commissioner. Sir, it is only relating to the salaries and perquisites of CIC. Apart from the tenure, it also relates to his salary, allowances, and other terms and conditions. ...(Interruptions)... Earlier, the statute itself had indicated the tenure, as well as the salary, which was equivalent to the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners, as the case may be ...(Interruptions)... Now, the power is vested with the State Government. It is only these two amendments that are being introduced by the Government now, in this Bill. ...(Interruptions)... In this regard, I would like to quote Nelson Mandela who once said: "Information is a basic human right and the fundamental foundation for formation of democratic institutions." In fact, Sir, I recall that a few years back, there was an RTI Movement which resulted in this Act. Elaborate discussions had taken place, and thereafter, the enactment has been made. ...(Interruptions)... Therefore, perusal of the Act needs to be done keeping the background in mind because it is not just another legislation.

Over 60 lakh Indians have used RTI to access information and form their opinion. RTI no doubt, till now, has helped in making the governance transparent, and has increased accountability in administration.

Sir, how can we express if there is no information? There is no freedom of expression if there is no freedom to information. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I have three suggestions to make.

Firstly, the amendment gives no idea on how much salary will be given to the Chief Information Commissioner and Commissioners both at the Centre and States ...(Interruptions)... Clarification may be given in regard to the salaries of the Chief Information Commissioner and Commissioners. ...(Interruptions)...

[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

The second suggestion which I would like to make is, there are other important issues which the Information Commissions are facing, which could have been addressed by this Amendment, such as, how to ensure that the Commissions are fully staffed, and how to ensure that they have all the resources to do their job effectively.

The third and final suggestion which I would like to make is that the Amendment could have had defined the salary of the Commissioners to be such, as may be set by the Parliament instead of the Government. This would have ensured that salary of the Commissioners is out of the control of the Central Government as well as the powers of the Parliament are intact.

In conclusion, I would like to say that there is no doubt that the Government, in its wisdom, has removed equating CIC and SIC at par with CEC. The Office of the Election Commissioner is a constitutional body, whereas, the office of the Information Commissioner is not a constitutional body. The Government would like to make a distinction between the constitutional body and the statutory body. There is nothing in this Amendment Bill. Therefore, we support the Bill.

One more important point is about giving autonomy under Section 12(4) of the Act and appointment under Section 12(3). I am sure, the Government would never compromise and tinker these Sections as autonomy and process of appointment of CIC, IC and SIC is very important for free flow of information.

And finally, Sir, I would like to make a mention in this regard that except in regard to tenure as well as salaries, there is no Amendment, and the Government is not doing anything insofar as powers of the Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioners are concerned. The Government is not doing anything in so far as powers of the Chief Information Commissioner or Information - Commissioners are concerned. ...*(Interruptions)*... The powers of the Election Commissioners or the Information Commissioners are intact, and there is no amendment on that. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only in regard to the salary and other things, the amendment is very much justified. Hence, we support the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

I am reiterating that we support the Bill. Thank you, Sir.

श्री उपसभापति: जो माननीय सदस्यगण वेल में खड़े हैं, मेरा पुनः उनसे निवेदन है कि वे अपनी सीट पर जाएं, चर्चा में हिस्सा लें और वोट के द्वारा इसको सेलेक्ट कमेटी को भेज दें।

...(व्यवधान)... जो हाउस का tradition और परंपरा रही है, उसको follow करें। ...(व्यवधान)... इस तरह से सलोगन, नारे लगाना और कागज फाड़ना... स्कूल के बच्चे बैठे हैं, वे अपर हाउस के बारे में क्या संदेश लेकर जाएंगे? ...(व्यवधान)... इसलिए मेरा आपसे पुनः निवेदन है कि आप अपनी सीट पर जाएं और इस चर्चा को चलने दें।...(व्यवधान)... आप अपने वोट से तय करें और इसको सेलेक्ट कमेटी को भेजें।...(व्यवधान)... डा. अभिषेक मनु सिंघवी।...(व्यवधान)... डा. अभिषेक मनु सिंघवी।...(व्यवधान)...

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Sir, when the House is not in order, how will I speak? ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल (उत्तर प्रदेश): मान्यवर, सबसे पहले तो मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ, जो हमारी सरकार के द्वारा माननीय मंत्री, डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह जी लाए हैं।...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, इस विधेयक में ऐसा कुछ नहीं है, जिसका वितंडावाद वैल में आ करके ये लोग करने के लिए खड़े हुए हैं।...(व्यवधान)... मैं साफ तौर पर यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन लोगों को उस समय को याद करना चाहिए, जब इस देश में एक राजनीतिक पार्टी ने पूरे तौर पर इमरजेंसी स्थापित कर दी थी।...(व्यवधान)... कहीं भी लोगों को बोलने का अधिकार नहीं रह गया था।...(व्यवधान)... जब यह कहा गया कि हम कुछ बात कहना चाहते हैं, तो लोगों को ले जाकर जेलों में बंद करने का काम किया गया।...(व्यवधान)... हम जैसे लोग, उस समय नौजवान थे, 19-19 महीने तक जेल में ले जाकर बंद कर दिया गया था और आज ये सभी के सभी लोग इस बात को कहते हैं कि सूचना के अधिकार के तहत, जो यह बात आई है, जो परिवर्तन लाया जा रहा है, इसको सेलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजा जाना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)... मैं बहुत साफ शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब इस देश में संविधान को बनाया गया, तो संविधान बनाने के साथ ही साथ विधायिका थी, कार्यपालिका थी और न्यायपालिका थी, उस समय कहीं भी यह आरटीआई नहीं था।...(व्यवधान)... आरटीआई को 2005 में बनाया गया और यह कहा गया कि जिन लोगों को आवश्यकता होती है, समय-समय पर वे सूचना के अधिकार के तहत अपनी बातों को रख कर सूचना मांग सकते हैं।...(व्यवधान)... तब यह कहा गया कि मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त होंगे, सूचना आयुक्त होंगे।...(व्यवधान)... उनका कार्यकाल 5 साल का रहेगा। 5 साल के अंतर्गत उनका जो अधिकार होगा, उस समय जो कहा गया, यह कहा गया कि राज्यों के मुख्य सचिव के अनुसार।...(व्यवधान)... जो मुख्य आयुक्त का है और उसके अतिरिक्त जो चुनाव अधिकारी हैं, ...(व्यवधान)... उनके वेतन, उनका अधिकार इसके अनुसार रहेगा।...(व्यवधान)... ऐसे ही केन्द्र में जो बनाया गया, वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज को दृष्टि में रख कर बनाया गया।...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, यह statutory body है, इस बात का उन लोगों को ध्यान रखना चाहिए, जो लोग प्रत्येक दिन इस सदन में डा. अम्बेडकर को याद किया करते हैं, ...(व्यवधान)... जो लोग डा. राजेन्द्र प्रसाद जी को याद किया करते हैं, ...(व्यवधान)... मैं उन लोगों से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि उन लोगों के द्वारा, उन महान व्यक्तियों

[श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल]

के द्वारा जो संविधान की रचना की गई थी, उस संविधान की रचना में कहीं भी आरटीआई था? ...(व्यवधान)... यह नहीं था। ...(व्यवधान)... आज की आवश्यकता के अनुसार आरटीआई बनी है।...(व्यवधान)... हमारी सरकार कहीं भी आरटीआई के साथ कोई छेड़छाड़ नहीं करने जा रही है, बल्कि यह कह रही है कि इसको हम उसके समान नहीं रखते हैं, जो सुप्रीम कोर्ट की बॉडी है, जो हाई कोर्ट की बॉडी है, जो मुख्य चुनाव आयुक्त की बॉडी है, जो राज्यों के चुनाव आयोग की बॉडी है, मुख्य सचिवों की बॉडी है।...(व्यवधान)... इस प्रकार से इस statutory body को भी यह लाना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, आपको संज्ञान होगा कि कुछ दिन पहले इसी देश में कुछ लोगों ने अपनी उपाधियाँ वापस करने का काम किया था।...(व्यवधान)...ये वही लोग हैं, जो उन उपाधि वापस करने वाले लोगों के साथ खड़े रहा करते थे।...(व्यवधान)...वे कौन लोग थे? वे naxalites के समर्थक थे। वे कौन लोग थे? आतंकवादियों के समर्थक थे।...(व्यवधान)... वे कौन लोग थे? इस देश में कानून के विरोधी थे। ...(व्यवधान)...आज उन्हीं में से कुछ लोग एक दूसरा दृश्य उपस्थित करना चाहते हैं कि mob lynching के संदर्भ में इस देश के प्रधान मंत्री को आगे बढ़कर रोकना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... हमारी सरकार ने mob lynching पर कानून बनाया है। ...(व्यवधान)... हम Law and Order के द्वारा बार-बार उसे नियंत्रित करने का काम करते हैं, लेकिन इन सभी लोगों ने इस बात को कभी नहीं माना।...(व्यवधान)...इनका काम क्या है? ...(व्यवधान)...ये किसी न किसी तरह से नियंत्रित सदन को अनियंत्रित करने का काम करते हैं।...(व्यवधान)...आज इस नियंत्रित सदन को अनियंत्रित करने का काम जो ये लोग कर रहे हैं, निश्चित रूप से हम इस बात को कह सकते हैं कि इन सभी लोगों को इसके लिए सदन से माफी मांगनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... इस उच्च सदन से माफी मांगनी चाहिए। इस तरह का वातावरण ये लोग यहाँ पर खड़ा कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मान्यवर, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ चीफ इलेक्शन कमिशनर की स्थिति में कुछ कमी नहीं की गई है।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय एलओपी ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल: मान्यवर, सरकार ने सिर्फ इतना किया है कि समय-समय पर इसकी समीक्षा होनी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...कोई गलत काम नहीं किया है। ...(व्यवधान)... समय-समय पर इसकी समीक्षा होनी चाहिए कि चुनाव आयुक्तों के द्वारा क्या हो रहा है। ...(व्यवधान)... चुनाव आयुक्त आज हाई कोर्ट के जज के बराबर है, सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज के बराबर है।...(व्यवधान)...राज्यों के चुनाव आयुक्तों के द्वारा लिए गए निर्णय पूरे तौर पर हाई कोर्ट में चैलेंज होते रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...केंद्र के चुनाव आयुक्त के द्वारा लिए गए निर्णय सुप्रीम कोर्ट में चैलेंज होते रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिनके ऑर्डर ही चैलेंज होते रहे हैं, उनको सुप्रीम कोर्ट के जज के बराबर और हाई कोर्ट के जज के बराबर कैसे मान्यता दी जाएगी? ...(व्यवधान)... किसी भी स्थिति में इनको इस पर मान्यता नहीं दी जानी चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... अभी तो हमने कुछ नहीं किया है, हमारी सरकार ने कुछ नहीं किया है। हमारी सरकार ने सिर्फ इतना ही

कहा है कि हम समय-समय पर इसकी समीक्षा करेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पहले ही ये लोग वितंडावाद कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि इन सभी लोगों का एक ही काम है कि कैसे इस सरकार के कार्यों का विरोध करें? ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस देश में लोगों को जो अनेक प्रकार सुविधाएं दी जा रही हैं, उनका कैसे विरोध करें? ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम तो यह भी कहते हैं कि आरटीआई के द्वारा हमारी सरकार जो कुछ कर रही है, उसे माँगो। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आरटीआई के द्वारा हम एक-एक चीज़ देने वाले हैं कि हमने कैसे गैस की एजेंसी दी, हमने कैसे सिलेंडर दिया, हमने कैसे प्रधान मंत्री आवास दिया, हमने कैसे शौचालय दिया, हमने कैसे मुद्रा योजना का लाभ दिया, हमने कैसे स्टैंड-अप योजना दी, हमने कैसे स्टार्ट-अप योजना दी, हमने कैसे आयुष्मान भारत योजना दी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... पाँच लाख रुपए देकर लोगों के जीवन को बचाने का काम अगर किसी ने किया है, तो इस भारतीय जनता पार्टी की, श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी की सरकार ने किया है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके संदर्भ में बात करिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसके संदर्भ में बात करिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप जब भी बात करेंगे, तब निश्चित रूप से यह तय होगा कि यह सरकार जनहित की सरकार है, यह सरकार गरीबों की सरकार है, यह सरकार दबे-कुचले लोगों की सरकार है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम कोई सांप्रदायिकता नहीं करते हैं, हम कोई भी दंगावाद नहीं करते हैं, हम कोई जातिवाद नहीं करते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह सामने खड़े हुए लोग, जो हमारी नीतियाँ आती हैं, सही नीतियाँ आती हैं, "सबका साथ, सबका विकास, सबका विश्वास", तब इन्हें लगता है कि अब तो हमारी ज़मीन खिसक रही है, अब तो काँग्रेस मुक्त भारत हो रहा है, अब तो विपक्ष मुक्त भारत हो रहा है, तब इनको लगता है कि नई सरकार का विरोध करना चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनका एक ही काम है, विरोध, विरोध, विरोध, लेकिन आपके विरोध के बावजूद, जैसा रवीन्द्र नाथ टैगोर ने यह कहा था कि 'एकला चलो', वैसे हम एकला चलते हुए इस देश के लोगों को अपने कार्यों के द्वारा भारतीय जनता पार्टी की सरकार के साथ जोड़ते चलेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... देश की जनता जुड़ेगी, देश का सम्मान जुड़ेगा, इस बात को बड़े साफ शब्दों में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, मैं अपनी बात सत्य कह रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इन लोगों को बहस करनी चाहिए थी। ...**(व्यवधान)**... अगर हमारी कोई बात गलत होती, तो उन गलत बातों के लिए कहते कि आपने यह गलत कर दिया। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये हमारी किसी बात को गलत साबित नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब विनय सहस्रबुद्धे जी बोल रहे थे, तब उन्होंने इस बात को कहा था कि पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री मनमोहन सिंह जी ने भी कभी इस बात को कहा था कि समीक्षा करनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... कांग्रेस बार-बार इस बात को करती है कि जब हम विकास का काम दिखाते हैं, तो यह कहती है कि हमने इसको किया था। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जब एक बार मनमोहन सिंह जी ने कहा कि समीक्षा करो और आज हम उसी समीक्षा को कर रहे हैं, तो किस बात का दर्द हो रहा है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम तो सही बात कर रहे हैं और सही बात को करते हुए निश्चित रूप से इस देश में सही ढंग से आरटीआई कानून को हम लागू करना चाहते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमारी ऐसी कोई मंशा नहीं है कि हम आरटीआई पर कोई प्रतिबंध लगाएँ, रोकें, उनके अधिकारों को कम करें, लेकिन अगर यह बात आती है, उनको समकक्षता नहीं दी जा सकती है, तो इस पर दर्द उन लोगों को हो रहा है, जो कभी

[श्री शिव प्रताप शुक्ल]

आरटीआई के साथ जुड़े हुए थे, जो कभी सूचना आयुक्त थे, जो कभी मुख्य सूचना आयुक्त रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... वे लोग इन लोगों को समझाकर, बहलाकर, फुसलाकर विरोध करने के लिए जुटा रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आज सदन में यह लग रहा है कि जैसे घर में छोटे बच्चे को थपकी देकर सुलाया जाता है और माताएँ कहा करती हैं- ओ-ओ-ओ, वैसे ही ये ओ-ओ-ओ-ओ करते हुए लोग ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं इन लोगों को बड़े साफ शब्दों में कहना चाहता हूँ कि ओ-ओ-ओ-ओ करने की जगह आप इसका समर्थन कीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्रीमन्, मैं एक बात बहुत साफ कहना चाहता हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह उच्च सदन है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उच्च सदन की परम्परा के अनुसार, जो बार-बार पीठ से दिए हुए निर्णय आते हैं, निर्देश आते हैं, क्या ऐसे सभी के सभी लोग उन निर्देशों को नहीं जानते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... किताब उठाएँगे, रूल्स उठाएँगे और रूल्स के आधार पर यह कहने लगेंगे कि ये-ये रूल्स हैं। फिर जब रूल्स के संदर्भ में हमारे भूपेन्द्र यादव जी उसका खंडन करते हैं, तो सारे के सारे बैठकर चुप हो जाते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, यह बात निश्चित रूप से लेनी चाहिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मान्यवर, कहा गया है- निन्दक नियरे राखिए आँगन कुटी छवाय। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हमने इन निन्दकों को निकट रखा है, आँगन में कुटी छवाकर रखेंगे, इनको और सुविधा देंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... ये हमारी निन्दा करें और हम इस देश की बहबूदी के लिए, भलाई के लिए कार्य करते रहेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... नरेन्द्र मोदी जी आज भारत में सर्वप्रिय प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में जाने जाते हैं, विश्व में सर्वप्रिय नेता के रूप में जाने जाते हैं, लेकिन इनको विरोध को छोड़ना नहीं है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इनकी स्थिति यह है कि इन लोगों के नेता कहीं नजर नहीं आते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... न जनता चाहती है, न पार्टी चाहती है, न देश चाहता है, न अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जानकारी है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस नाते ये लोग विरोध कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... मैं पूरे तौर पर इन लोगों से यह कहूँगा कि जितना भी चिल्लाना हो, चिल्लाइये, हम अनैतिक कुछ नहीं करेंगे, सब नैतिक करेंगे ...**(व्यवधान)**... इस नैतिकता के आधार पर इस कानून का भी संशोधन करेंगे। ...**(व्यवधान)**... संशोधन करके देश की जनता को उसका अधिकार दिलाएँगे और उस अधिकार के द्वारा देश की जनता अपनी बहबूदी को प्राप्त करें इस बात को कहेंगे। मान्यवर, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for the Biju Janata Dal, for us, this is an extremely important Amendment Bill. ...**(Interruptions)**... The Right to Information Act, when it came in 2005, was a landmark Act. ...**(Interruptions)**... And, this landmark Act has actually redefined the way information is provided for in this country. ...**(Interruptions)**...

Sir, Right to Information is an important ingredient for the entire process of governance. ...**(Interruptions)**... So, when this Amendment has come now, in 2019, there are specific areas on which I would like to focus. ...**(Interruptions)**... But, before that,

as a party, we also have certain reservations. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, I will be placing before you those reservations. ...*(Interruptions)*... And, we will, of course, be seeking an assurance from the hon. Minister in terms of how it can be looked into and taken care of. ...*(Interruptions)*... If you look at the two specific provisos, which have been brought in, in 2005, the Chief Information Commissioner and the Information Commissioners at the Central and the State level would hold the office for a term of five years. ...*(Interruptions)*... But in the new Amendment that is being brought in, it has been changed that the Central Government will notify the term of office for the CIC and the ICs. ...*(Interruptions)*... In terms of the quantum of salary, the RTI in 2005, said that salaries of the CIC and the ICs at the Central level will be equivalent to the salaries paid to the Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioners respectively. ...*(Interruptions)*... The Bill, in 2019, seeks to remove these provisos and states that the salaries, allowances and other terms and conditions of service at the Central, the State CIC and ICs will be determined by the Central Government. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, there are these changes which have been brought about. These changes are being spoken about. These are changes primarily dealing with the terms and the quantum of salary. ...*(Interruptions)*... Having said that, it is also important to note that while these changes are being made, it is to be ensured that these changes in no way should have any detrimental influence or impact in terms of the assessment and the working of the RTI Act, 2005. ...*(Interruptions)*... We hope that the Government will provide us the right assurance and the right justification, that these concerns are going to be addressed and addressed strongly. ...*(Interruptions)*... We hope the hon. Minister, since he is in the House, will assure us, the Biju Janata Dal, that the concerns that we have are going to be taken into consideration. ...*(Interruptions)*... We hope that the Right to Information Act of 2005, the way it has been brought forward, will be continued unabated. This term and quantum of salary will not. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Wait for a minute. ...*(Interruptions)*... जो माननीय सदस्यगण Well में खड़े हैं... माननीय सस्मित पात्रा जी की maiden speech है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... हाउस की यह परम्परा रही है कि maiden speech सभी सदस्य बैठकर गौर से सुनते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SASMIT PATRA: I could not hear you, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This is your maiden speech. You take your own time and speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Sir, I am not taking this as a maiden speech. After me, there is one more speaker. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only your speech is going on record. Please speak. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI SASMIT PATRA: Sir, after me, there is one more speaker. I hope he will have time. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay. When we look at the Right to Information Act, we find that over the last 14 years, it has created history. ...(*Interruptions*)... Today, the Right to Information should not be seen from the prism of either politics or political parties. ...(*Interruptions*)... We believe that the Right to Information is critical to the overall governance and development of the country. ...(*Interruptions*)... The RTI has been one of the hallmark legislations going forward. One of the areas that has actually contributed to transparency and accountability in this nation has been the Right to Information. ...(*Interruptions*)... If you were to look at it, the Right to Information came in when the UPA was in power. When this amendment is going to be made, the NDA is in power. ...(*Interruptions*)... Therefore, we do not feel there should be any form of political one-upmanship on this. ...(*Interruptions*)... But the critical elements, the merits of the case should be discussed. ...(*Interruptions*)... The Amendment Bill that has been brought today seeks to have three specific areas — one is the quantum of salary, second is the terms of condition and third is the tenure. ...(*Interruptions*)... These three areas earlier were a part of the State and the State had powers to decide on it and take decisions. But, right now, if you were to look at it, the way it is being changed, we have a fear that it should bring any dilution effect on the original Act. ...(*Interruptions*)... Having said that, certain concerns that have been raised both within the House and outside also need to be addressed sympathetically and very importantly by the Government. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, the Biju Janata Dal and our hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, always believes in transparency, accountability and free and transparent Government. ...(*Interruptions*)... If you were to look at it, you will find that the way the Citizen Charter and the way the information flow has been increased in Odisha, it has actually had a tremendous impact in terms of governance. ...(*Interruptions*)... So, the kind of governance, the kind of impact that the RTI and information flow has provided to the nation has been substantial. The Amendment Bill in no way should have a detrimental effect. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is an assurance that we want from the Government. Having said this, the information flow and the

access to information of the common citizens of this country is extremely crucial for the growth and development of this nation. ...*(Interruptions)*... A common man on the street may not have access to this hon. House, but he has a right to know what is right and what is wrong for him. ...*(Interruptions)*... He has the right to know that how far he will be able to access information for his own benefit. ...*(Interruptions)*... Therefore, the RTI comes across as that piece of legislation which strengthens him, provides him the right kind of platform to question and ask the Government in terms of what are the issues, what is being done, what is not being done and builds transparency. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, RTI, 2005 being a landmark legislation has been the bulwark for people across the length and breadth of the country to build it up. ...*(Interruptions)*... But at the same point of time, Sir, the Amendment, because it provides two or three specific amendments, also needs to be looked at carefully. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Biju Janata Dal believes in ensuring that governance and the right kind of governance is provided through transparency. ...*(Interruptions)*... The hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, has always focussed on it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Even in the House today, Sir, we stand to primarily seek an assurance and clarification from the Government in terms of what are the issues that are there and whether the Government will ensure that these issues will not have a detrimental impact on the overall standing and the flow of the 2005 RTI Act. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the Act should not be having any kind of dilution. ...*(Interruptions)*... At the same point of time, information flows, and the way the CICs and the ICs have been functioning, their functioning, their impact and, especially, at the State level, the State Information Commissioners, they should not feel, in any way, pressurised because of this Amendment. ...*(Interruptions)*... In a federal structure, we have the States and the Centre. ...*(Interruptions)*... Till now, the State and the Centre used to have different powers with reference to the RTI Act. ...*(Interruptions)*... But with this Amendment, since the Centre wants to take a certain definitive role in terms of deciding the quantum of salary and the term, therefore, as a Regional Party, Biju Janata Dal, we will surely have certain bonafide concerns which we have and which we are expressing, through you, to the House. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, one of the critical elements which the founding fathers of our nation had already built has been that this democracy is strengthened when the common man has the right to information, when a person can actually demand the information and get it in his own time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, the RTI (Amendment) Bill has certain provisos but those provisos also should not, in any way, be detrimental to the 2005 Act. ...*(Interruptions)*...

[Shri Sasmit Patra]

In conclusion, Sir, I would like to tell you one thing very clearly. As Biju Janata Dal, we have a clear stand. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have always stood for nation-building process. Whenever there has been a move to strengthen democracy, to strengthen the nation, to strengthen the overall governance fabric of this nation, the Biju Janata Dal and our leader, Shri Naveen Patnaik, have stood strongly with the Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

So, we hope that the hon. Minister in this House will provide the Biju Janta Dal an assurance that there will not be any problems or any dilution or any detrimental effect of this Amendment Bill on the RTI Act, 2005 and the common man, especially, the federal structure will be respected. ...*(Interruptions)*... The federal structure, in no way, should have an impact of this kind of a decision. ...*(Interruptions)*... We hope the Government will provide us the clarification and ensure that the structure, the federal system and the polity is taken care of. Thank you very much. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं हाउस पन्द्रह मिनट के लिए स्थगित कर रहा हूँ।

The House then adjourned at fifty-four minutes past three of the clock.

The House reassembled at nine minutes past four of the clock,

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA) *in the Chair*]

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA): Hon. Members, please be seated. I have an announcement to make. The House stands adjourned for another fifteen minutes.

The House then adjourned at ten minutes past four of the clock.

The House reassembled at twenty-five minutes past four of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, यह बहस हम सब मिलकर 5.00 बजे तक conclude कर लें, क्योंकि उसके बाद वोटिंग होगी। मैं चाहूंगा कि अब डा. अभिषेक मनु सिंघवी जी बोलें।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, before that, I have a point of order. I am quoting Rule 110. Just examine the records of the submissions made by some of our friends from the BJP. Rule 110 very clearly specifies that the arguments shall be confined to either in support or in opposition. But, here, we have seen denigrating

remarks about political parties, about political leaders. I think you should examine it and expunge it.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will examine. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, on this I support my hon. colleague because in the din many Members or most of the Members may not have resisted it. But what some hon. Members from the Treasury Benches spoke, I am not deliberately taking names, were disparaging and they made unwanted and unacceptable references to political parties, national leaders of yesteryears including former Prime Ministers. That must be removed from the record. ...*(Interruptions)*... The rules are very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*... The rule is very clear. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय आनन्द जी, यह हाउस के रूल्स के अनुसार examine होगा।

DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI (West Bengal): Sir, I rise to oppose this Amendment. There used to be a spoof show on an English Television, 'Not the Nine O'clock News' to make a fun of the Nine O'clock news. This RTI has become the NRTI — Not Right to Information Act — with this Amendment. It is actually trying to control, by a control-freak Government, this enactment through seemingly very simple changes. And let me tell you in a nutshell why it is more sinister, more dangerous and more over-clever, because it seems such a short Amendment on only two issues. Sir, the Amendment is very pointed and short. One, it seeks to say that the term of office of the Central Commissioners and State Commissioners shall be changed from that specified in the Act, for example, 65 years to 'as may be prescribed'. So, the change is 'as may be prescribed by the Central Government' for both Central and State Commissioners. The other second change is that the salaries, allowances and terms of conditions which earlier were equal to the Election Commissioners shall also be 'as prescribed'. So, the entire Amendment is basically two things. Why is it pernicious? Firstly, I can understand an amendment moved to strengthen the institutions under the RTI; I can understand an amendment moved by a *bona fide* Government to elevate the institutions. Remember when we brought Lokpal and I had the privilege of Chairing the Parliamentary Standing Committee then, although it was not required, we added and proposed a constitutional amendment to Lokpal on the ground that it will be largely statutory but the status will be constitutional. Here, you have a very interesting reverse Amendment to devalue and degrade on a very, very strange ground, the strangest ground I have ever seen in a

[Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi]

Statement of Objects. Para 3 of the Statement of Objects says, the reason why we are moving this Amendment is, "The salaries and allowances and other terms and conditions of service of the Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioner are equal to a Judge of the Supreme Court, and therefore,..." unless we pass this Amendment, "...the Chief Information Commissioner becomes equivalent to a Judge of the Supreme Court." So, the object of this Amendment is that the Chief Information Commissioner should not claim equivalence with the Supreme Court Judge and, therefore, the Amendment is brought. Now, I want to ask this august House: Has the CAG, has the Election Commission, has the Supreme Court collectively or the Supreme Court Chief Justice complained that you have got somebody else equal to them? Have they felt insulted that a statute which existed all this while which gave terms of service equivalent to Election Commissioners is so insulting because Election Commissioners' terms of service are in turn equated to Supreme Court Judges? What a strange Statement of Object that we want to change it because Commissioners will, in this manner, be treated as equal to Supreme Court Judges! Ultimately, they are treated on the basis of the power they exercise. We all understand the powers of the Supreme Court; we all understand the powers of the CAG, the EC. Why tinker with this? I will come to the reason which is much more sinister and surreptitious. Sir, there are two things in the Act. It says 65; 65 is certainty of tenure. Before I become a Commissioner, I know that I will last till 65. Before you accept that post, you know that is 65. That 65 is embedded in statute, in a legislative document. Now, you want to say, by Executive order, 'as may be prescribed'. So, tomorrow, for two years, this Government will prescribe 63; two years later, it will change its mind and prescribe 65 without any legislative mandate required. It is getting a *carte blanche* from the legislature, that allows us to prescribe what we like, and when we like. Sir, what is the reason behind the original provisions? These are for independence and autonomy of the institution. There are three things. One is, age of demitting office. Second is terms and conditions of service. Third is salaries and allowances. Now, although, you cannot reduce these terms during the term of a person, if you leave it to the whim and caprice of a Government, which every two years, changes the age, changes the terms of service, then you are keeping a Damocles sword hanging, as an instrument of power, as a tool of control, over an institution which was supposed to be independent. This cuts at the very root of independence. In the United States, they made the term of the U.S. Supreme Court Judges for life. Federal Judges

are appointed for life, even if they are very old; even if they are critically ill, unless they decide to resign, they can't be removed. Why? The idea was to give them independence and autonomy. It is very interesting. We have Constituent Assembly's debates, which perhaps this Government never saw before they got this amendment. The Assembly debate says that a vital condition precedent for independence of the institution, for autonomy is the fixity of tenure and that is fixity as specified in a legislative instrument not as prescribed by executive orders which the Government of the day, according to its mood, can change every two years. I want to read the very portion; in 1949, on May, 24, Dr. Ambedkar said this. This was, of course, about the Supreme Court Judges where the same principle applies. And, he raised, interestingly the very same point, "have the age in the statute or the Constitution versus 'as may be prescribed'", which is what the Government is doing now. And, he said, I quote, "There are some who say that the Constitution should not fix any age limit whatsoever." Exactly what the Government is doing today! It says that the statute should not fix any age limit whatsoever, that the age limit should be left to be fixed by Parliament, by law. This was between Constitution and Parliament. We are one level lower. This Government is, at the statute level, making it Executive. He objected even to that at one level higher. He said, "It seems to me, it is not a proposition which can be accepted because if the matter of age was left to Parliament to determine from time to time, no person can be found to accept a place on the Bench because an incumbent, before he accepts the place in the Bench would like to know for how many years, in natural course of things, he could hold that office, and, therefore, a provision added to age, I am quite satisfied, cannot be determined by Parliament from time to time but must be fixed in the Constitution itself." Now, these poor people are statutory creatures. You now want to fix their age by Executive order! Today, the Amendment is: take away from the statute, give me the right by Executive order. I am saving the time of this august House by not reading Dr. Ambedkar's other portions which are all relevant, and Mr. Shibban Lai Saxena, who supported his sentiment, and then Mr. K.T. Shah. In fact, Mr. K.T. Shah made the proposal that such statutes and such provisions should appoint for life without any tenure at all. But we don't have that in the Constitution for Information Commissioners. You have put in the statute. Now, you want to amend and take it away by saying, 'as may be prescribed by the Central Government'. That is why, it is pernicious. Sir, I would like to point out another example of '*chit bhi meri, pat bhi meri*'. It is quite astonishing. A few weeks ago, the Law Officer, I believe the Additinal Solicitor General of this

[Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi]

Government, on a judgment by the Supreme Court on 15th of February, 2019, that is, about four-five months ago, had stated something. This case was about under the RTI Act, called Anjali Bhardwaj *versus* Government of India. In that, the Supreme Court noted the contention of the Law Officer of the Government of India. So, he tried to save that matter by saying to SC that don't worry, we have Section 13, which fixes the tenure in the statute. That was the argument before the Supreme Court. I quote, "Learned counsel for the petitioner made a grievance that there was no specific condition of service stipulated in the advertisement while inviting applications for the post of Information Commissioners. The Solicitor General, however, submitted that in so far as salary and allowances as well as the terms and conditions of appointment are concerned, those are statutorily provided in Section 13." So, the ASG was defending saying, "Don't worry. The advertisement doesn't have to say it. The statute says it." Then, the Supreme Court quoted the whole of the provision of Section 13, today precisely what the hon. Minister is trying to amend. This is the provision which you today want to amend. Four months ago, you were defending it and using it to defend before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court held, "In view of the aforesaid provision, it is clear that any candidate, who has powers to become Chief Information Commissioner, knows as to what would be the salary and allowances and what would be the other terms and conditions of service. At the same time, it is always advisable to make express stipulation of terms and conditions in the public notice." Then, they said further, "This is vital for transparency. All States should also follow it." Sir, this is playing ducks and drakes. You win the case by propounding Section 13. Four months later, you come to this House to say, 'Do away with the main part of Section 13', on a remarkable specious, spurious reason that as long as Section 13 exists, the Election Commissioners will claim equality and parity with Supreme Court Judges. Sir, the Supreme Court is not complaining, the CAG is not complaining, nobody is complaining; only the Government of India is scared of giving some independence to the RTI.

Sir, if the Government does this, it is actually going to make it nothing but a *sarkari* department. They are going to downgrade it. They are going to ultimately try and control it because we all know how they control. They want to make sure that the Commissioners try to be in their good books, so that the prescription of age and service is in their control. This is extremely pernicious because, perhaps — I don't know the real reason — there were some bold Commissioners. There were some people who gave orders which were bold. There was a case, for example, about age issues. In the age issues, there was a judgment by a Commissioner called Sridhar Acharyulu. He said, "Disclose,- it is related to the age of the highest executive of this country, the hon. Prime Minister." Shortly, thereafter, the HRD segment of Mr. Acharyulu's jurisdiction

was taken away from him. This is the disclosure which came about the age. There are other disclosures about degrees. Now, is that the reason the Government wants to control such institutions? We don't know, but I have a fair guess that that is how you want to control it.

There is also, Sir, the other reason. You want to cripple the institution, and I will end within two minutes on this. You have already crippled it. You want to cripple it more. To show this crippling, I will just mention some figures. You don't appoint Information Commissioners and the Chief Commissioners for months to various Central Commissions and the State Commissions. You don't appoint for months. Sir, 30,600-odd cases are pending in the Central Commission alone. A 2018 Report by a famous NGO said that several Information Commissioners at the State level were non-functional because of non-appointment and delayed appointment. They have given the numbers about Kerala, Maharashtra, Nagaland, etc. This is my last point and it is very interesting. The State Commission is constituted by the State Government, no doubt.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY) *in the Chair*]

There is a complete mismatch. There is possibly a federalism issue here also. The State Commission is appointed by the State Government. But, in the State Government appointing it, there was a fixed tenure which is fixed in the Central Act. So, a State Government will appoint the Commission, the tenure will be fixed, given in the Act, till the age of 65 years. Now, the appointment will be by the State Government, but the amendment today says that the age-limit will be as prescribed by the Central Government. Sir, I am the State, I am appointing, and the age-limit of the person I am appointing will be as prescribed by the Central Government, and that prescription by the Central Government can change every two years. You find a Kerala Commission, which is a little over active. So, let us change it from four years to two years; let us change it from 65 years to 63 years. This is pernicious also because it is a complete mismatch. The creation of the Commission is by the State, but, the terms and conditions, the salaries and allowances and the age is decided by the Central Government. Sir, may I end by saying that at the minimum, you need to refer it to a Select Committee? These are serious issues. These are national interest issues. Ultimately, we have called this Act a disinfectant of sunlight. Sir, the biggest ghaplas, if I may say so, are also happening at the State-level. So, do not treat those State Commissions as if to be forgotten. You should keep it strong and you should strengthen it and elevate it to a Constitutional status. But, here you are devalveing it to the level of a sarkari department. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): The next speaker is Mr. Derek O'Brien. He is not present. Now, the next speaker is Mr. Javed Ali Khan.

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बिल का पुरजोर विरोध करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। यह बिल, जो माननीय मंत्री जी लेकर आए हैं या सरकार लाई है, इस बिल के बारे में यह बार-बार कहा जा रहा है कि बहुत मामूली-से संशोधनों का प्रस्ताव इसके अंदर किया गया है। ये देखने में छोटे हैं, लेकिन मैं इस संदर्भ में कहना चाहूंगा कि कविवर बिहारीलाल का एक दोहा है,

"सतसैया के दोहरे, ज्यों नाविक के तीर।

देखन में छोटे लगैं, घाव करे गंभीर।"

ये गंभीर घाव हमारे साथ नहीं, ये गंभीर घाव विपक्ष के लिए नहीं, दरअसल ये गंभीर घाव लोकतंत्र के ऊपर हैं, जिसकी पहली शर्त यह होती है कि वह पारदर्शी होगा। हम कैसा लोकतंत्र चाहते हैं? सूचनाएं सात तालों में बंद रहें या सूचनाएं आम जनता तक न पहुंचें, हमें ऐसा लोकतंत्र चाहिए या पारदर्शी लोकतंत्र चाहिए? 1984 में राजस्थान का एक मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट के अंदर था, "कुलावल वर्सेस जयपुर नगर निगम", उसके अंदर सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने क्या कहा था? तब आरटीआई एक्ट नहीं बना था, तब शायद इसका कोई जिक्र भी नहीं था, उस समय सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा था कि, without Right to Information democracy का कोई मतलब नहीं है, लोकतंत्र का कोई मतलब नहीं है। उसके बाद चर्चा चली, व्यापक विचार-विमर्श हुआ, बुद्धिजीवियों की, एनजीओज की, सोशल एक्टिविस्टों की एक कमेटी बनी, जिसने उस वक्त की सरकार को कुछ सुझाव दिए और तब सरकार ने इस दिशा में कुछ कदम उठाने शुरू किए। लेकिन आज, जब सरकार संशोधन लेकर आ रही है, तो मेरे साथी श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी ने अभी कुछ दिन पहले ही सरकार से यह सवाल पूछा था कि क्या सरकार का, जो आरटीआई 2005 बिल है, इसके अंदर संशोधन करने का विचार है? तब माननीय मंत्री जी ने, उस वक्त भी ये ही मंत्री जी थे, इन्होंने जवाब दिया कि हाँ, इसमें संशोधन करने का विचार है। दूसरा सवाल, हमारे साथी, माननीय रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी ने पूछा था कि क्या इसके लिए किसी प्रकार का परामर्श समाज के अंदर, देश के अंदर, बुद्धिजीवियों के साथ या आरटीआई के एक्टिविस्टों के साथ किया गया है? तो सरकार का जवाब होता है कि प्रस्तावित संशोधनों में ऐसा कोई सामाजिक व वित्तीय व्यय शामिल नहीं है, जिससे सरकार बाहर के किसी अन्य से इसमें परामर्श करे। यह बिल बड़े परामर्श के बाद बना था, बहुत बहस चली थी, गाँव-गाँव तो नहीं, लेकिन शहरों, कस्बों और यूनिवर्सिटीज के अन्दर RTI होनी चाहिए या नहीं होनी चाहिए, लेकिन जब आप उसकी आत्मा निकालने लगे हैं, उस RTI को बिल्कुल ध्वस्त करने चले हैं, तो आप किसी तरीके का परामर्श नहीं करना चाहते हैं। सूचना से इस सरकार का, जो मौजूदा सरकार है, इसका क्या सम्बन्ध है? उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मुझे लगता है कि यह सरकार सैद्धांतिक रूप से सूचनाओं का आदान-प्रदान करने से बहुत कतराती है। मैंने इस सरकार के एक दूसरे मंत्रालय से एक सवाल पूछा कि क्या विधि मंत्री यह बताने का कष्ट करेंगे कि सरकार ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देशों पर कितने कानून बनाए हैं, तो विधि मंत्री का जवाब आया कि सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है, वह पटल पर रख दी जाएगी, लेकिन दो साल हो गए हैं, अभी तक उनकी सूचनाओं को पटल मयस्सर नहीं हुआ है। फिर मैंने अगले सेशन में दूसरा सवाल पूछा कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देश पर सरकार ने कितने कानूनों को खत्म किया है,

यह बताइए, तो फिर विधि मंत्री जी का जवाब आया कि सूचना एकत्रित की जा रही है, उसे पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा, लेकिन उसके भी पौने दो साल हो गए, अभी तक उन सूचनाओं को सदन का पटल मयस्सर नहीं हुआ है। विधि मंत्रालय कानून बनाता है, लेकिन इनके मंत्रालय को यह पता नहीं कि आपने सुप्रीम कोर्ट के निर्देश पर कितने ऐसे कानून बनाए हैं या खत्म किए हैं। मैंने सवाल सिर्फ तीन साल का पूछा था, जब से इनकी सरकार बनी थी, मैंने तब यह सवाल पूछा था। फिर मैंने पूछा, बहुत जोर मार रहे हैं, आज लोक सभा के अन्दर भी हंगामा कर रहे हैं कि तलाक देंगे, तलाक देंगे, आज वहाँ लोक सभा में तीसरी बार तलाक बिल हो रहा है। मैंने पूछा कि क्या आपने वैवाहिक सम्बन्ध विच्छेदों के सम्बन्ध में कोई सर्वे किया है, आप क्यों कहते हैं कि मुसलमानों में तलाक की समस्या बढ़ रही है, तो विधि मंत्री का जवाब मेरे पास लिखित में है, मैं पटल पर भी रख सकता हूँ, उन्होंने कहा कि सरकार विभिन्न धार्मिक समुदायों में तलाक की संख्या का कोई ऑकड़ा अपने पास नहीं रखती है। वे हवा में लाठी भाँज रहे हैं। क्या कर रहे हैं?

सर, मैं भाषण सुन रहा था, विनय जी बड़े विद्वान हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि इस RTI से छेड़छाड़ करने की कोशिश भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री माननीय मनमोहन सिंह जी ने भी की थी। बिल्कुल सही कहा, 2011 की घटना है। मनमोहन सिंह जी ने कहा, "We will have a re-look at the RTI Act." यह बात उन्होंने बिल्कुल सत्य कही। मेरा तो कहना यह है कि वर्गीय सत्ता लोगों के सशक्तीकरण से खोफ खाती है। इसलिए कहा, लेकिन दूसरी बात जो विनय जी ने नहीं बताई, मैं आपको वह बताता हूँ। जब माननीय मनमोहन सिंह जी ने यह कहा कि we will have a re-look at the RTI Act, उसके बाद जो सबसे जबरदस्त reaction आया, वह उनसे आया, जो आज भारतीय जनता पार्टी के मार्गदर्शक मंडल के सदस्य हैं, शायद वे तत्कालीन नेता विपक्ष रहे होंगे, इधर या उधर, कहीं न कहीं, लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी जी, वे गृह मंत्री भी रहे हैं, हमारे देश के उप प्रधान मंत्री भी रहे हैं। उन्होंने कहा, "My party is opposed to any reviewing of the RTI Act because I believe that it is an effective device for making Government transparent." यह उन्होंने ने 16 अक्टूबर को जबलपुर में कहा, फिर वे 29 अक्टूबर को तिरुवनंतपुरम जाते हैं, वे मनमोहन सिंह जी का पीछा नहीं छोड़ते। वे कहते हैं, "I see no reason for the talk of a critical relook at the RTI." फिर कहते हैं, "BJP is totally opposed to any move to dilute the Act through which some of the major corruption cases have come to light." हमारी मत मानिए, लोगों की मत मानिए, RTI activists की मत मानिए, लेकिन जो आपके मार्गदर्शक हैं और हमारे पूर्व उप प्रधान मंत्री हैं, कम से कम उनकी तो इज्जत रख लीजिए, उनकी तो मान लीजिए, लेकिन आप वह भी करने को तैयार नहीं हैं। आखिर क्यों नहीं हैं, यह बात मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ। मैं आपको एक बात और बता दूँ, आप तब शायद राज्य सभा में ही रहे होंगे, 2005 में जब यह बिल आया था। उस समय बीजेपी बड़ी कन्फ्यूजन की स्थिति में थी। बीजेपी को पता ही नहीं था कि यह क्या है। मेरे बाद भूपेन्द्र जी खड़े हो कर इस पर react करेंगे, लेकिन मैं उनको चुनौती देता हूँ। जब 2005 में इस बिल पर बहस चल रही थी, तो राज्य सभा में और लोक सभा में ऐसा नहीं हुआ कि आपकी तरफ से एक भी व्यक्ति ने intervention किया हो। इन्हें पता ही नहीं था कि यह चीज़ क्या है? जब यह आ गया, उसके बाद, अब जब यह इनके गले पड़ रहा है, तो ये इसमें अमेंडमेंट करना चाहते हैं। उन आयुक्तों की शर्तें ऐसी करना चाहते हैं, 'हमारी खाओ और हमारी बजाओ' इनका यह काम है।

[شری جاوید اعلیٰ خان]

مہودے، پچھلے بجٹ میں کیا ہوا؟ 2017-18 میں آرٹیا آئی کا بجٹ 23.61 کروڑ کا تھا اور 2018-19 میں اس آرٹیا آئی پر جو خرچ ہوا، اسکا بجٹ غٹا کر 8.66 کروڑ کر دیا گیا۔ یہ انکی نیشتا ہے۔ جب یہ بنےگا، تو پہلے بھس میں باق نہی لینگے، ن اमेंڈमेंٹ دینگے، ن संशोधन दینگے، न बहस करेंगे न सुझाव दینگے، लेकिन जब यह बन गया और ये सरकार में आ गए, तो इन्होंने उसका बजट घटना शुरू कर दिया।

†جناب جاوید علی خان (اتر پردیش): مانجھ آپ سبھا ادھیش جی، می اس بل کا پرزور

ورودہ کرنے کے لئے کھڑا ہوا ہوں۔ می بل، جو مانجھ منتری جی لیکر آئے ہی لی سرکار لائی ہے، اس بل کے بارے می تی بار بار کہا جا رہا ہے کہ بہت معمولی سے سنشودھنوں کا پرستار اس کے اندر کئی گئی ہے۔ تی دیکھنے می چھوٹے ہی، لیکن می اس سنڈریہ می کہنا چاہونگا کہ کوئی بھاری لال کا ایک دوہہ ہے ۔

“ست۔ سہی کے دوہے، جیوں ناوک کے تی،

دیکھنے می چھوٹے لگی، گھاؤ کری گمبھی۔”

تی گمبھی گھاؤ ہمارے ساتھ نہی، تی گمبھی گھاؤ ویکش کے لئے نہی، دراصل تی گمبھی گھاؤ لوک تنتر کے اوپر ہی، جس کی پہلی شرط تی ہوتی ہے کہ وہ پاردرشی ہوگا۔ ہم کیسا لوک تنتر چاہتے ہیں؟ سوچنائیں سات تالوں میں بند رہیں یا سوچنائیں عام جنتا تک نہ پہنچیں، ہمیں ایسا لوک تنتر چاہیئے یا پاردرشی لوک تنتر چاہیئے؟ 1984 میں راجستھان کا ایک معاملہ سپریم کورٹ کے اندر تھا، “کلاول ورسیز جے پور نگرنگم” اس کے اندر سپریم کورٹ نے کیا کہا تھا؟ تب آر ٹی آئی ایکٹ نہیں بنا تھا، تب شاید اس کا کوئی ذکر بھی نہیں تھا، اس وقت سپریم کورٹ نے کہا تھا کہ، without Right to Information

democracy کا کوئی مطلب نہیں ہے، لوک تنتر کا کوئی مطلب نہیں ہے۔ اس کے بعد چرچہ چلی، ویپک وچار و مرش ہوا، بُدی جیویوں کی، این جی اوز کی، سوشل اپکٹی و سٹوں کی ایک کمیٹی بنی، جس نے اس وقت کی سرکار کو کچھ سچھاؤ دیئے اور تب سرکار نے اس دشا میں کچھ قدم اٹھانے شروع کیئے۔ لیکن آج جب سرکار سنشودھن لیکر آر بی ہے، تو میرے ساتھی شری روی پرکاش ورما جی نے ابھی کچھ دن پہلے ہی سرکار

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

سے یہ سوال پوچھا تھا کہ کیا سرکار کا ، جو آر ٹی آئی 2005 بل ہے ، اس کے اندر سنشودھن کرنے کا وچار ہے ؟ تب مانیئے منتری جی نے ، اس وقت بھی یہ ہی منتری جی تھے ، انہوں نے جواب دیا کہ ہاں ، اس میں سنشودھن کرنے کا وچار ہے۔ دوسرا سوال ، ہمارے ساتھی ، مانیئے روی پرکاش ورما جی نے پوچھا تھا کہ کیا اس کے لیے کسی طرح کا پرامرش سماج کے اندر ، دیش کے اندر ، بُدی جیویوں کے ساتھ یا آر ٹی آئی کے ایکٹی وِسٹوں کے ساتھ کیا گیا ہے ؟

تو سرکار کا جواب ہوتا ہے کہ پرستاتوت سنشودھنوں میں ایسا کوئی سماجک و وٹئے شامل نہیں ہیں ، جس سے سرکار باہر کے کسی دوسرے سے اس میں پرامرش کرے۔ یہ بل بڑے پرامرش کے بعد بنا تھا ، بہت بحث چلی تھی ، گاؤں-گاؤں تو نہیں ، لیکن شہروں ، قصبوں اور یونیورسٹیز کے اندر آر ٹی آئی۔ ہونی چاہئے یا نہیں ہونا چاہئے ، لیکن جب آپ اس کی آتما نکالنے لگے ہیں ، اس آر ٹی آئی۔ کو بالکل دھوست کرنے چلے ہیں ، تو آپ کسی طریقے کا پرامرش نہیں کرنا چاہتے ہیں۔ سوچنا سے اس سرکار کا ، جو موجودہ سرکار ہے ، اس کا کیا سمبندھ ہے ؟

اپ سبھا ادھیکش جی ، مجھے لگتا ہے کہ یہ سرکار سیڈھانتک روپ سے سوچناؤں کا آدان-پردان کرنے سے بہت کتراتی ہے۔ میں نے اس سرکار کے ایک دوسرے منترالیہ سے ایک سوال پوچھا کہ کیا ودھی منتری یہ بتانے کا کشت کریں گے کہ سرکار نے سپریم کورٹ کے نرڈیشوں پر کتنے قانون بنائے ہیں ، تو ودھی منتری کا جواب آیا کہ سوچنا اگٹھی کی جا رہی ہے ، وہ پٹل پر رکھ دی جائے گی ، لیکن دو سال ہو گئے ہیں ، ابھی تک ان کی سوچناؤں کو پٹل میسر نہیں ہوا ہے۔ پھر میں نے اگلے سیشن میں دوسرا سوال پوچھا کہ سپریم کورٹ کے نرڈیش پر سرکار نے کتنے قانونوں کو ختم کیا ہے ، یہ بتائیے ، تو پھر ودھی منتری جی کا جواب آیا کہ سوچنا اگٹھی کی جا رہی ہے ، اسے پٹل

[شری جاوید اعلیٰ خان]

پر رکھ دیا جائے گا، لیکن اس کو بھی پونے دو سال ہو گئے ہیں، ابھی تک ان سوچناؤں کو سدن کا پٹل میسر نہیں ہوا ہے۔ ودھی منترالیہ قانون بناتا ہے، لیکن ان کے منترالیہ کو یہ پتہ نہیں کہ آپ نے سپریم کورٹ کے نرڈیش پر کتنے ایسے قانون بنائے ہیں یا ختم کئے ہیں۔ میں نے سوال صرف تنن سال کا پوچھا تھا، جب سے ان کی سرکار بنی تھی، میں نے تب یہ سوال پوچھا تھا۔ پھر میں نے پوچھا، بہت زور مار رہے ہیں، آج لوک سبھا کے اندر بھی ہنگامہ کر رہے ہیں کہ طلاق دیں گے، طلاق دیں گے، آج وہاں لوک سبھا میں تیسری بار طلاق ہو رہا ہے۔ میں نے پوچھا کہ کیا آپ نے ویوایک سمبندھ وچھیدوں کے سمبندھ میں کوئی سروے کیا ہے، آپ کیوں کہتے ہیں کہ مسلمانوں میں طلاق کی سمسیہ بڑھ رہی ہے، تو ودھی منتری کا جواب میرے پاس لکھت میں ہے، میں پٹل پر بھی رکھ سکتا ہوں، انہوں نے کہا کہ سرکار مختلف دھارمک سموداؤں میں طلاق کی تعداد کا کوئی آنکڑا اپنے پاس نہیں رکھتی ہے۔ وہ ہوا میں لٹھی بھانج رہے ہیں۔ کیا کر رہے ہیں؟

سر، میں بھائشن سن رہا تھا، ونے جی بڑے ودوان ہیں۔ انہوں نے اس آرٹی۔آئی۔ سے چھیڑ چھاڑ کرنے کی کوشش سابق پردھان منتری مائٹے منموہن سنگھ جی نے بھی کی تھی۔ بالکل صحیح کہا، 2011 کی گھٹنا ہے۔ منموہن سنگھ جی نے کہا "We will have a re-look at the RTI Act." یہ بات انہوں نے بالکل سچ کہی۔ میرا تو کہنا یہ ہے کہ ورگئے ستھ لوگوں کو سشکتی-کرن میں خوف کھاتی ہے۔ اس لئے کہا، لیکن دوسری بات جو ونے جی نے نہیں بتائی، میں آپ کو یہ بتاتا ہوں۔ جب مائٹے منموہن سنگھ جی نے یہ کہا کہ we will have a re-look at the RTI Act, اس کے بعد جو سب سے زبردست reaction آیا، وہ ان سے آیا، جو آج بھارتیہ جنٹا پارٹی کے مارگ-درشک منڈل کے سدسٹے ہیں، شاید وہ تنکالین نیٹا وپکش رہے ہوں گے، ادھر یا ادھر، کہیں نہ کہیں،

لان کرشن ایڈوانی جی، وہ گرہ منتری بھی رہے ہیں، ہمارے دیش کے نائب وزیراعظم بھی رہے ہیں۔ انہوں نے کہا، "My party is opposed to any reviewing of the RTI Act because I believe that it is an effective device for making Government transparent." یہ انہوں نے 16 اکتوبر کو جیلپور میں کہا، پھر وہ 29 اکتوبر کو تروونتپورم جاتے ہیں، وہ منموہن سنگھ جی کا پیچھا نہیں چھوڑتے۔ وہ کہتے ہیں "BJP is see no reason for the talk of a critical relook at the RTI." totally opposed to any move to dilute the Act through which some of the major corruption cases have come to light." مانئے، RTI activists کی مت مانئے، لیکن جو آپ کے مارگ درشک ہیں اور ہمارے سابق نائب وزیر اعظم ہیں، کم سے کم ان کی عزت رکھ لیجئے، ان کی تو مان لیجئے، لیکن آپ وہ بھی کرنے کو تیار نہیں ہیں۔

آخر کیوں نہیں ہے، یہ بات میں آپ کو بتانا چاہتا ہوں۔ میں آپ کو ایک بات اور بتا دوں، آپ تب شاید راجیہ سبھا میں ہی رہے ہوں گے، 2005 میں جب یہ بل آیا تھا۔ اس وقت بی۔جے۔پی۔ بڑی کنفیوژن کی استتھی میں تھی۔ بی۔جے۔پی۔ کو پتہ ہی نہیں تھا کہ یہ کیا ہے۔ میرے بعد بھوپیندر جی کھڑے ہو کر اس پر ریٹکٹ کریں گے، لیکن میں ان کو چنوتی دیتا ہوں۔ جب 2005 میں اس بل پر بحث چل رہی تھی، تو راجیہ سبھا میں اور لوک سبھا میں ایسا نہیں ہوا کہ آپ کی طرف سے ایک بھی ممبر کو انٹروین کیا ہو۔ انہیں پتہ ہی نہیں تھا کہ یہ چیز کیا ہے؟ جب یہ آگیا، اس کے بعد، اب جب یہ ان کے گلے پڑ رہا ہے، تو یہ اس میں امینڈمینٹ کرنا چاہتے ہیں۔ ان ایکٹوں کی شرطیں ایسی کرنا چاہتے ہیں، 'ہماری کھاؤ اور ہماری بجاؤ'۔ ان کا یہ کام ہے۔

[شری جاوید اعلیٰ خان]

مہودے، پچھلے بجٹ میں کیا ہوا؟ 2017-18 میں آر ٹی آئی کا بجٹ 23.61 کروڑ کا تھا اور 2018-19 میں اس آر ٹی آئی پر جو خرچ ہوا، اس کا بجٹ گھٹا کر 8.66 کروڑ کر دیا گیا۔ یہ ان کی نشستہا ہے۔ جب یہ بنے گا، تو پہلے بحث میں بھاگ نہیں لیں گے، نہ امینٹمنٹ دیں گے، نہ سنشودھن دیں گے، نہ بحث کریں گے نہ سجاو دیں گے، لیکن جب یہ بن گیا اور یہ سرکار میں آگئے، تو انہوں نے اس کا بجٹ گھٹانا شروع کر دیا۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

آپ کے پاس صرف ایک منٹ اور بچا ہے۔

شری جاوید اعلیٰ خان: ٹیک ہے، ایک منٹ ہے، تو میں ایک منٹ میں اپنی بات بتا رہا ہوں۔ دو منٹ ہوں تو دو دیجیے، تین منٹ ہوں، تو تین دیجیے۔ ... (وفاقیہ)...

دش کے اندر اک سڳٹن هے، جو Human Rights پر نڄر رختا هے۔ وه سڳٹن سرف کرتا هے کي کهاں-کهاں Human Rights کا وائلشن هو رها هے۔ اس سڳٹن کا نام هے Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative. اسنه بتايا هے کي اب تک RTI activists کے ساا 443 اسی غٹنااں هوء هیں، جنمیں یا تو لوگ مارے गए هیں یا انهنوں نے suicide کیا هے یا انکے ساا assault هوا هے یا harassment هوا هے یا threatening کی غٹنااں هوء هیں۔ آج سوبھ تک اسمیں 84 لوگ مارے गए هیں، 7 لوگوں نے آتمهتیا کر لی، 169 لوگوں کے ساا assault هوا هے اور 183 لوگوں کو threaten کیا گیا هے اور harass کیا جا رها هے۔ کیا آپکو यह پتا هے کي ے کام کون کر رھے هیں؟ منتری जी، आप यह नोट कर लीजिए। ... (وفاقیہ)...

ده نهی دیجیے، میں آپکو بتا رها هوں، سب اخبباروں میں خفا هے۔ ... (وفاقیہ)...

اس سال اور اس مهیने کی 11 جولائی کو سیبیآئی کی Special Court نے گجرات میں اک وکیت کو آجیون کاراواس کی سڳا دی، کیونکی وه اک آرٹیآئی اکتیویست کی هتیا میں سمللیت اا۔ اس وکیت کو दोषी پایا گیا اور آجیون کاراواس کی سڳا دی गई۔ میں اس وکیت کا نام भी लेने को तैयार हूं।

† جناب جاوید علی خان : ٹھیک ہے، ایک منٹ ہے، تو میں ایک منٹ میں اپنی بات بتا رہا

ہوں۔ دو منٹ ہوں تو دو دیجیے، تین منٹ ہوں تو تین دیجیے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔

دیش کے اندر ایک سنگٹھن ہے، جو ہیومن رائٹس پر نظر رکھتا ہے۔ وه سنگٹھن سروے کرتا ہے کہ کہاں کہاں ہیومن رائٹس پر نظر کا وائیولیشن ہو رہا ہے۔ اس سنگٹھن کا نام ہے کامن ویلتھ ہیومن رائٹس اینی شیٹیو۔ اس نے بتایا ہے کہ اب تک آر ٹی آئی ایکٹیوسٹ کے ساتھ 443 ایسی گھٹنائیں ہوئی ہیں، جن میں یا تو لوگ مارے گئے ہیں یا انہوں

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

نے سوسائٹڈ کیا ہے یا ان کے ساتھ assault ہوا ہے یا harassment ہوا ہے یا threatening کی گھنٹائیں ہوئی ہیں۔ آج صبح تک اس میں 84 لوگ مارے گئے ہیں، 7 لوگوں نے آتم ہتھیا کر لی، 169 لوگوں کے ساتھ assault ہوا ہے اور 183 لوگوں کو threaten کیا گیا ہے اور harass کیا جا رہا ہے۔ کیا آپ کو یہ پتہ ہے کہ یہ کام کون کر رہے ہیں؟ منتری جی، آپ یہ نوٹ کر لیجیئے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ دے نہیں دیجیئے، میں آپ کو بتا رہا ہوں، سب اخباروں میں چھپا ہے۔۔۔ (مداخلت)۔۔۔ اس سال اور اس مہینے کی گیارہ جولائی کو سی بی آئی کی اسپیشل کورٹ نے گجرات میں ایک شخص کو عمر قید کی سزا دی، کیوں کہ وہ ایک آرٹی آئی ایگٹی وِسٹ کے قتل میں ملوث تھا۔ اس شخص کو قصور وار پایا گیا اور عمر قید کی سزا دی گئی۔ میں اس شخص کا نام بھی لینے کو تیار ہوں۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. Please conclude.

श्री जावेद अली खान: मैं उस व्यक्ति की पार्टी भी बताने को तैयार हूँ। उसकी पार्टी है, भारतीय जनता पार्टी और इस पार्टी के भूतपूर्व सांसद हैं - माननीय श्री दीनू बोघा सोलंकी, जो एक RTI activist की हत्या में शामिल थे। ... (समय की घंटी) ... इन्हें सीबीआई कोर्ट ने आजीवन कारावास की सज़ा दी है। सूचना के अधिकार के साथ यह रिश्ता है इनका और इन्हीं सब चीज़ों के चलते ये सूचना के अधिकार के कानून को तहस-नहस करना चाहते हैं।

میں سदन سے یہ بینتی کرتا ہوں کہ اس کانون میں جو یہ سنشودن لےکر آئے ہیں کہ ایسے آیتھق بنائے، جو جسکی آئے، اسی کی بآئے، آپ اس کانون کو پاس مت ہونے دیجئے۔ یہ لاکتتر کی تریٹ ہے اور لاکتتر کی باونا کے آلافا ہے، بہت-بہت دنیواد۔

† جناب جاوید علی خان: میں اس شخص کی پارٹی بھی بتانے کو تیار ہوں۔ اس کی پارٹی ہے، بھارتیہ جنتا پارٹی اور اس پارٹی کے سابق سانسد ہیں، مائے شری دینو بوگھا سولنکی، جو ایک RTI activist کی ہتیہ میں شامل تھے۔۔۔ (وقت کی گھنٹی)۔۔۔ انہیں سی بی آئی۔ کورٹ نے عمر قید تا حیات کی سزا دی ہے۔ سوچنا کے ادھیکار کے ساتھ

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[श्री जावेद अली खान]

यह रश्ते है अा का अर अहल सड डलरु के डलते ड सुडना के अधलकर के कानुन कु तहस नहस करना डलते डलल.

डलल सडन से ड वन्ती करना डलल के अस कानुन डलल कु ड नूँ सनशुदहन ले आँ डलल के अलसे आलकत बनलल डलल, कु डलल की कललल डलल, अस की डललल डलल, अड अस कानुन कु डलस डत डलने डललल. ड लुक तननर की नरुठी डलल अर लुक तननर की डललल के कलल डलल, डलत डलत डलललल.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (डललर): उडसडलधुडलस डललदड, डलत-डलत धनडलल. डँ इस डलल के सडसुथन डँ डलल डलल हूँ। अडल डँ इनकी डलतँ सुन रहा थल, तु डुल्ले लग रहा थल कल डँ कडल-कडल सुन रहा हूँ? अडकु डलले डल डतल हुनल कललल कल डल कु **Right to Information Act** है, इसकल डकसड कडल है? इसकल डकसड डलत ही **focused** है कल कु **information public institutions** के डलस रहती है, उनडँ अडकल **access** हुनल कललल। इससे डललल इसकल डकसड कुल नही है। डल सलरुड **information** की **accessibility** कल डललल है। इसी के ललल डल वडलरुथल की गरु अर 2005 डँ डल ललगू कलल डलल थल। लेकलन डलल कलस डलत की कलरुल हु रही है? डलल डल कलरुल हु रही है कल सलहड, डल सरकलर कल डलडलरुडँत हु अललल अर सरकलर के कु डन डँ अललल, वल उससे करवललगी। अलरल अक डलत सब ललग सडलल लँ, हलललकल सब ललग अलनते डल हुँगे। इसडँ कु डल नलडुकुतलडल हुँगी, उनुँ कूलन करेगल, उसडँ कूलन हुँगे - सलरुड केननर सरकलर ही नलडुकुत नही करती है - इसडँ केननर अरल रलजुडँ के **Leader of Opposition** डल रहते हैं। ...**(वडललल)**... डलडत तु डलल डँ अललल। ...**(वडललल)**... डलले से ही वडलरुथल है। ...**(वडललल)**... सरकलरी डलडलरुडँत डँ अगर कलसी की डलसुतलंग करते हैं, तु कडल वलल डलडत देखते हैं? ...**(वडललल)**... इसललल वडलरुथल तु डलले से है। अड हरेक कील कु नेगेतलव रुड डँ डत देखल। इसे अकूी तरल सडललने की कलशलल कीलल। इसकल रलल डलत ललडलटेड है। अलसल अड सडलल रहे हैं कल इनुँ डलत से **orders** डलस करने हुँगे - ऐसल नही है। अड इसे कलससे **compare** कर रहे हैं - **Election Commission** से - लेकलन **Election Commission** कल कलड देखल कल कलतनल डलल है। अड सब ललग अलनते हैं अरल हड डल अलनते हैं कल वल अक **Constitutional Body** है। अड उसकी डुडुतील डल डत अलल। **Election Commission** ने अलल तलक देश डँ 16 कलनल करल है अरल डुरी दुनलडल डँ सलदुड कर डलल है कल हलनुदुसुतलन डँ लुकतंतुर डलत सलकुत है। ऐसल कलड **Election Commission** ने करके डलखलल है। इसललल अड **Election Commission** डल उंगली नही उडल सकते। **Election Commission** कल रलल डलत डललल है। डुरे देश के ललल वे कलड करते हैं। इस डल डलत डललल डलललने की अलरुलत नही है। इनकल रलल सलरुड के सुकलन डललन करना है। कूलन सुकलन रुक लेगल - कूलई सुकलन नही रुक सकतल। कु वडलरुथल है,

उसके अंतर्गत सूचना मिलेगी, लेकिन एक बात जरूर है। क्या आप आर.टी.आई. से समझते हैं कि सरकार में transparency होनी है, accountability होनी है, responsibility fix की जानी है? ऐसा नहीं होता। यह तो पहला स्टेप था। इसके बाद सब लोग चुप हो गए हैं। नैक्स्ट स्टेप होगा कि पब्लिक को जितनी सूचनाएं मिलती हैं, वहीं उन्हें सर्विस का अधिकार भी मिलना चाहिए, उनकी empowerment भी होनी चाहिए। इसीलिए बहुत से स्टेट्स में, हमारे बिहार में भी, राइट टू पब्लिक सर्विस एक्ट है। लगभग 55 सर्विसेज उसमें हैं जिनके जरिए पब्लिक करती में उक्त 8, जिनके जारए पब्लिक एक्सेस करके सूचना प्राप्त करती है। दूसरे स्टेट्स में भी ऐसा होगा। उसके आगे, अगर आप सही में चाहते हैं कि पब्लिक grievances की redressal हो, तो इसे कानूनी अधिकार बनाइए। हमारे बिहार में बनाया गया है। बिहार में राइट टू पब्लिक ग्रीवांस रिड्रेसल एक्ट है। वहां 44 डिपार्टमेंट्स हैं और 478 स्कीम्स हैं। यदि किसी को भी अपनी ग्रीवांस रिड्रेस करानी है, जो वहां अधिकारी होते हैं, आप उनके पास जाइए। Right to Information Act के जरिए मात्र शुरुआत हुई थी। उसके आगे का रास्ता हमें तय करना चाहिए। इस बिल में बहुत ज्यादा दिमाग लगाने की जरूरत नहीं है। जो भी हमारे Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioner होंगे, उनसे जो सूचना मांगी जाएगी, वे सब सूचना उपलब्ध कराएंगे। इन शब्दों के साथ बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. K. KESHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, it is my reluctant voice you are hearing. I share the technical issues raised by Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi. But, nonetheless, I stand to support the Bill for the simple reason that yesterday I had a talk with both the Ministers.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Keshava Raoji, there are two speakers from your Party and your time would be about five minutes.

DR. K. KESHA RAO: Sir, I would take only two minutes, not more than that. So, I spoke to them. I expressed my views, strong views, and why we were opposing this. I am a signatory to the motion for referring it to a select committee, which I have withdrawn today. You gave me the assurance that it would not impact the independence, which I did not believe. I gave my own reasons, but I still believe that it will not impact the independence. Whatever we are trying to do, the public perception is, we have brought down the status of the Commission. But you think that you will take care of it. And they have also assured us that it will not impact the independence about which we are very much concerned. I hope the Government will see to it that it does not impact the independence or the powers or the boldness with which they were working. Thank you, Sir.

5.00 P.M.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you so much.
Now, Shri K.K. Ragesh; not present. Now, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Thank you, Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir. 'कैसी मशाल लेके चले तीरगी में आप, जो रोशनी थी वह भी सलामत नहीं रही।'

This is where I begin my first argument. Sir, through you, I beseech the hon. Minister that whatsoever be the compulsion, please do not agree to the kind of amendments that you are proposing.

You are actually, by this action, killing the very spirit of Right to Information. सर, उस आंदोलन में एक छोटी हिस्सेदारी मेरी भी थी। माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से राजस्थान के उन गांवों को सलाम करना चाहता हूँ, जिनके आंदोलन की वजह से, एक सत्ता का पक्ष आया, जब वह तैयार हुए, नहीं तो इस मुल्क में कभी कल्पना नहीं होती थी कि राइट टू इन्फॉर्मेशन भी लोगों को available होगा। यह हुआ। इसलिए सलाम राजस्थान की उस जनता को, लेकिन आज उनको क्या लग रहा होगा, मैं इस बात से परेशान हूँ। That is why I said, I beseech you, Mr. Minister, Sir.

सर, मैंने पहले भी सदन में एक दिन कहा था, जब बहुत बड़ी majority आती है, the temptation is to usher in to authoritarian state. Please resist that temptation in the interest of the people, in the interest of the activists, in the interest of the citizens of this country, who had got empowered because of this instrument called Right to Information. Sir, I will not repeat the argument what my other colleagues have said. Sir, in RTI, the proposed Amendments, have a direct attack, first, on the very idea of accountability and, secondly, on the federal structure. माननीय मंत्री महोदय जी, मैंने इस बीच में आपके कई बिल्स देखे हैं, आपकी सरकार के द्वारा लाए गए बिल। न जाने क्या है कि आप कहते हो सहकारी संघवाद और आपका भाव है अहंकारी संघवाद! सहकारी संघवाद कह करके आप जिस प्रकार से राज्यों के अधिकार ले रहे हैं, यह कालांतर में, क्योंकि सत्ता का मिजाज हमेशा एक नहीं होता है, कालांतर में कहीं आप पर भी यह भारी न पड़े, क्योंकि federal structure was a beautiful creation so, I believe, please respect that. You know what was expected of us, what all the activists wanted.

सर, असल में कुछ तो दिक्कत है, जो मैंने अक्सर कहा है कि आपकी कार्यशैली में यह चीज है कि कुछ तो है, जिसकी परदादारी है। कभी डिग्री को लेकर बवाल मचा, तब चुप्पी। बड़े-बड़े लोगों की डिग्री खंगालने की कोशिश की गई... बीच में एक आया कि अगर चुनाव आयुक्त

साहब के dissenting note को हमने मांग लिया, तो राष्ट्रीय हित के साथ compromise हो जाएगा। मेरा यह मानना है कि राष्ट्रीय हित की विवेचना सरकार को अपनी सहूलियत से नहीं करनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री महोदय को कुछ सुझाव दे रहा हूँ, जो activists लोग चाहते थे, expected was to make time-bound and transparent appointments to fill vacancies in Information Commission. Secondly, address the issue of attacks. More than hundred RTI activists have been killed. One was referred to by Javed bhai. Implementing the Whistle Blowers' Protection Act. What worries us! What stops you? जो लोग कई सारे महकमों के करप्शन को लेकर सामने आते हैं, उनको आप प्रोटेक्ट नहीं करना चाहते हैं? आप disinformation को अपना hallmark बनाना चाहते हैं। मेरी आपत्ति वहां है। Poor implementation of Section 4 of the RTI Act, ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब, आपकी तवज्जो चाहता हूँ और complete lack of transparency in electoral funding.

सर, अंत में एक बात कहना चाहूंगा कि यह जो आरटीआई को ले करके आपका यह अमेंडमेंट है और उसके लिए जितना मैंने विवाद आज देखा कि दिन में Bill pass कराने की कोशिश हो रही थी, आज मुझे लोकतंत्र का काला अध्याय दिखा। हम सब बोलना चाहते थे, लेकिन आप एक pre-legislative scrutiny के बगैर बिल ला रहे हैं। सर, यह बिल किसी सरकार का नहीं था, यह बिल आम आवाम ने अपने आंदोलन से हासिल किया था।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, आम आवाम के आंदोलन से हासिल बिल को... अंत में मैं कहूंगा कि राष्ट्रीय हित... इन सबके इर्द-गिर्द अपनी असफलता मत छुपाइये, क्योंकि यह कहा गया है:-

"वतन को कुछ नहीं खतरा निज़ाम-ए-ज़र है खतरे में,
हकीकत में जो रहज़न है वही रहबर है खतरे में।"

जय हिन्द!

SHRI R. S. BHARATHI (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. First of all, I would like to remind this House when the first Prime Minister of this country, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 15th August, 1947 assumed the office of Prime Ministership, he said that 'From today, I am the first servant of this country.' So, from the Prime Minister to the Peon; we are all servants of the people. And, therefore, our masters are the people. About this Right to Information Act, I would like to remind you that it is the Fundamental Right given to the people who are our masters. We are governing this country. The people who made us sit there should know as to what is happening. I would ask the Government as to what is the

[Shri R. S. Bharathi]

lacuna that you have found in this Act of 2005. What is the urgency for such an amendment? What has made you bring this amendment? Is there any lacuna in RTI Act of 2005? Just to please certain people, you are diluting the powers of the Authority.

Sir, the powers now which are vested with the State, one -by-one this Government, the NDA Government, is trying to grab and usurp the powers of the State. This is another step. What is the urgency? This august House passed a Resolution giving 33 per cent quota for the women. It is kept in the cold storage. Why did this Government, which has got a huge majority in the Lok Sabha, not move that in the Lok Sabha and get it passed? What is the urgency to bring this amendment?

Sir, therefore, on behalf of DMK, I strongly oppose this Bill, and request, through you, to the Government to send this Bill to Select Committee. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA (Nominated): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I am a bit puzzled. Just now, we have heard very eloquent speeches on the murder of democracy, and at the same time, we are discussing the Bill. The more I look at this Bill, I am reminded of a British Institution which we have imported into India, which is called the Rules of Precedence. And, if you go through the archives, you will find that a lot of attention of the officialdom at that time was taken up whether the civil engineer or the civil surgeon should sit on the right or left of the Governor. I understand that this is a custom which still prevails in the sections of the bureaucracy and a very good friend of mine said that whether the seniority is decided by whether he joined in the afternoon or in the evening is very, very important. I think what we are doing here is basically suggesting that the quality of democracy is somehow going to be impaired if someone reduced from the Type-8 housing to a Type-7 housing, that their judgement is going to be impaired in that way. And, that, in effect, is what this Bill is all about. It is not a very profound Bill. I had hoped that something, a little more profound would come out which would reveal the points of the RTI. But, since, we are discussing the RTI, I would say that the RTI is also a victim of unintended consequences. It was set up with a certain nobility of purpose to make Government transparent; to allow citizens' access to the process of decision making. I am sure that it has done that to a very large extent. But, at the same time, it has also been hijacked to a very large extent by people whom my good, friend, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, has called activists. And, these activists are there who have used the RTI in a wholesale category rather than individual decision

making. That is surrogate politics which has entered into the system and has corrupted it. And, in between, it has also been corrupted by people who, at best, we could call extortionists and blackmailers. And, I think every one of us knows that this is the truth. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is the truth and we have refused to admit it. This is what has happened. Secondly ...*(Interruptions)*... You may disagree. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Silence. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: Secondly, I think we have to also concede that the process of decision-making in the Government has been impaired by the fear of RTI, that the bureaucracy does not want to take decisions because of the fear of what might happen.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Mr. Dasgupta, your time is over.

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: I think these are wonderful cosmetic changes and I am sure, when people move into their Type-VII houses, they will give the equally profound judgement as they gave when they were in the Type-VIII houses. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय सिंह: आरटीआई के लिए लोगों ने जानें दी हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप बैठ जाइए, प्लीज़। ...*(व्यवधान)*... आप बोल चुके, बैठ जाइए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... श्री वीर सिंह। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, there is a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Under which rule?

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Rule 238. As he referred to me as a good friend, I endorse. But activists are watching today. Calling activists as extortionists, I think this undermines the kind of ideals people have set. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please expunge it from the proceeding. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI SWAPAN DASGUPTA: It has been misled. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, Mr. Jha knows the English language and he knows that I made a distinction between activists and there was a word put after that and people... ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: No, let us not misinterpret it. He has not called an activist, an extortionist. He has called an extortionist an extortionist. ...(*Interruptions*)...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Activists will not look at us kindly, if these kinds of ...(*Interruptions*)... derogatory remarks are made. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Don't make arguments. Hon. Leader of the House, you have three more speakers. Should I call all of them one after another?

नेता सदन (श्री थावरचन्द्र गहलोत): सर, हमने अपने सदस्यों के नाम विद्झूँ कर लिए हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Shri Jairam Ramesh.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I rise to speak on this not so profound Bill but a profoundly dangerous Bill. Taking a leaf from the Chairman's book, being profoundly influenced by the Chairman, this Bill is a pill designed to kill and it will kill the RTI. Let me ask the Minister, who unfortunately is not here. Should I wait for the Minister to come back? ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): You can continue. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I will wait for the Minister to come back. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): You continue. He might have gone to. ...(*Interruptions*)... He will come. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Rather he comes back because only he is in a position to answer the questions that I am going to raise.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): He will reply to your questions.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: But if you insist, I will continue. I want to ask three questions. What is the amendment all about? Why was the original section that is being amended, introduced in the Bill in the first place? Why are these amendments being introduced at this point of time? I want to ask these three questions. Since I was

involved in the process of drafting of the RTI Bill in 2004 and 2005, I have some historical knowledge of what happened. I want to then raise three very quick issues—the importance of RTI, not blackmail or extortion, but actual RTI, which has made a difference to the lives of millions of people. I want to then raise a rebuttal to some of the comments made by the hon. Minister which have been widely reported in the Press in response to the Bill that came up in the other House. What is the amendment all about? My learned colleague, Abhishek Singhvi, has already enlightened us that in essence what the amendments do, is amend Section 13 (1) and amend Section 13(5) of the RTI Act. Section 13(1) sets a term of five years, that is being removed and Section 13(5) equates the salary and allowances with the Chief Election Commissioner at the Centre, the State Election Commissioner in the State. So, these are very simple amendments. Some have called them cosmetic, and I agree with my friend, Shri Swapna Dasgupta that these are not very profound. Why were these Clauses introduced in the first place? Sir, this is interesting. This Bill was drafted and then sent to the Standing Committees. Those were the days when Bills used to go to the Standing Committee. Gone are those days. The Standing Committee submitted its report on the 16th of March, 2005. Sir, the Standing Committee was Chaired by Shri E.M. Sudarshana Natchiappan, and from the Lok Sabha, the BJP Members, were Prof. Vijay Kumar Malhotra, Shri Harin Pathak, Shrimati Kiran Maheshwari, and a couple of others. The Rajya Sabha Members on the Standing Committee who took active part in the deliberations of the Standing Committee, were late Shri Bal Apte, a very learned Member of the House, and Shri Ram Nath Kovind, who is today the President of India. And I myself was a witness in 2005 to the extraordinary interest taken by Shri Bal Apte and Shri Ram Nath Kovind in the finalization of the Standing Committee report.

Sir, you will be interested to know that the original Bill that was presented, actually equated the Information Commissioner to Secretary to the Government of India. The original Bill prepared by Dr. Manmohan Singh's Government, salaries and allowances were equated with the Secretary to the Government of India. However, the Standing Committee said in para 24.3, and I would like to read this para. " The Committee is of the view that the Central Information Commission is an important creation under the Act which will execute the laudable scheme of the legislation and will hold an all India responsibility for this. It should, therefore, be ensured that it functions with utmost independence and autonomy. The Committee feels that to achieve this objective, it will be desirable to confer on the Information Commissioner and

[Shri Jairam Ramesh]

Deputy Information Commissioners status of the Chief Election Commissioner, and the Election Commissioners respectively. The Committee recommends accordingly insertion of a suitable provision in the Clause to this effect." It was the Standing Committee in which we had very distinguished Members, one of whom subsequently became the President of India, which recommended that Clause in the RTI Bill, which became an Act, and which is now being sought to be amended, and I am sure, with the numbers that the Ruling Party has been able to muster, and various telephone calls that have gone to various State capitals, they may succeed in actually passing these amendments. But, let us understand that these amendments were introduced after months of deliberations in the Standing Committee, and then, they became a part of the Bill, and Parliament then passed the Right to Information Bill, which then became Right to Information Act.

Sir, why are these amendments being brought about now? It is very interesting. It is very important to understand that the timing of these amendments is not so innocuous; it is not so innocent; and I have here, Sir, after reviewing RTI decisions some of which that have already been alluded to by Dr. Singhvi, there are five cases which have propelled the Government to bring forward these amendments. Sir, between 2003 and 2013, the Chief Minister of Gujarat came to the Planning Commission, and the Planning Commission would ask him uncomfortable questions on the state of health in Gujarat, on the state of education in Gujarat; why social development in Gujarat was not commensurate with economic development in Gujarat. In 2014, the Chief Minister of Gujarat, who became the Prime Minister of India * and abolished the Planning Commission. Today, the Prime Minister of India is * on these five cases. What are these five cases?

Firstly, the CIC ordered disclosure of the Prime Minister's educational qualification; the matter is in the Delhi High Court today, as I speak, or maybe it has already been heard today. This is the first embarrassing case for this Government. The second embarrassing case for this Government is, the Prime Minister claimed that four crore bogus ration cards were weeded out by his Government. The RTI showed that the number of bogus ration cards is about 2.3 crore and a correction had to be made by the Prime Minister to make that number commensurate with the Parliamentary question that was answered by Shri Ram Vilas Paswan.

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

The third is the disclosure on demonetisation. It was the Chief Information Commission's decision which revealed that less than four hours before the Prime Minister announced demonetisation on 8th November, 2016, the Central Board of the Reserve Bank of India gave its approval...

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I am on a point of order.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I am just quoting. ...(*Interruptions*)... I am not yielding. ...(*Interruptions*)...

कुमारी शैलजा (हरियाणा): सुन लीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)... बाद में जवाब दीजिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Let us listen to his point of order.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, my point of order is under Rule 238(1). "Rules to observe while speaking: A Member while speaking shall not refer to any matter of fact on which a judicial decision is pending." When he is saying that the decision is coming today evening, then it is a matter pending in the court where a judicial decision is pending. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): You have made your point. Mr. Ramesh, please continue.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnatak): Sir, the first embarrassing case was the disclosure of the Prime Minister's educational qualification. Since it is pending in the court, I am not expanding on it. The second is the false claims made by the Prime Minister on bogus ration cards. The third, which I was reading before I was interrupted is that four hours before the television announcement on demonetisation, it is an RTI request that revealed that the RBI gave its approval to the scheme, but rejected demonetisation for two of its key justifications, elimination of black money and counterfeit notes. The fourth embarrassing case to this Government is that an RTI enquiry revealed that the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Dr. Raghuram Rajan- -the Minister may kindly listen to me and not look perplexed because these are all facts; it is the RTI enquiry that revealed this—had listed out the names of NPA defaulters to the Prime Minister's Office eight months into his Prime Ministerial tenure.

Sir, the fifth case, which is embarrassing to this Government is that the Chief Information Commission directed the Prime Minister's Office to disclose information

[Shri Jairam Ramesh]

about quantum and value of black money brought back from abroad. The Prime Minister's Office refused to share the details of the quantum of black money brought back from abroad despite the CIC ordering the disclosure.

So, Sir, the real reason is not this false reason of parity with the Chief Election Commission. The real reason for these Amendments is to make the Information Commission toothless, to make sure that these types of embarrassments don't repeat themselves. And the only way to do it is to convert the Chief Information Commission from an independent autonomous body to a toothless Government, Prime Minister's Office-directed body. That is the real business of this Amendment Bill.

Sir, a couple of days ago, the Minister defended these amendments. And, while defending these amendments, he said, 'We have strengthened the RTI Act. We have given the CIC its own building. They have their own building.' The hon. Minister said this. The hon. Minister is a learned doctor. He does not take a few months to build a building. Sir, this building took five years to build. I have all the papers with me. I have all the details — when land was allocated, when construction started, etc. Sir, it goes back to 2012. So, Mr. Minister, you did not do the CIC any favour by giving them a building. The building was under construction. You were fortunate that the hon. Prime Minister happen to be there in Office to go and inaugurate the building. So, to say that you have strengthened the RTI by giving the CIC a separate building is a deliberate falsification of facts.

Sir, the second point that the hon. Minister made is, 'One of the missing links is that there was no provision to frame rules under the RTI Act. It should have been there.' Sir, this is completely an erroneous impression. Section 27 — I don't know whether the hon. Minister has ever read the RTI Act — of the Act empowers the Central Government and the State Governments to make rules. We don't pass any Bill without the power to make rules and it is extraordinary that the hon. Minister said that one of the things missing in the previous Act was the power to make rules.

Sir, I come to the third claim of the hon. Minister. He said, 'It is this Government which introduced a portal for the RTI.' Sir, the portal was inaugurated on 21st August, 2013, by his predecessor, Shri V. Narayanasamy, who is now the Chief Minister of Puducherry.

Sir, the fourth argument made by the hon. Minister, in a very eloquent language, is this. He said, 'We walked an extra mile. There should be Leader of Opposition in the Selection Committee. But, now, the leader of the largest Opposition party is a Member.' He made it sound as if he was doing us a favour. Instead of the Leader of Opposition, he had mentioned, 'Leader of the largest Opposition party.' Sir, you look at the original RTI Act.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Mr. Ramesh, one second.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I will be concluding in 2-3 minutes.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): I am not asking you to conclude. I am only saying that your party has one more speaker to speak. So, you adjust your time accordingly.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, I will take 2-3 minutes.

Sir, you look at the original RTI Act and I invite the hon. Minister's attention to Section 12(2). What does it say? It says that the Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioners shall be appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Committee consisting of the Prime Minister, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and a Union Cabinet Minister to be nominated by the Prime Minister. Sir, the hon. Minister has forgotten to add the explanation in the original Act. The explanation says, 'for purposes of removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that where the Leader of Opposition in the House of People has not been recognized as such, the leader of the single largest group in Opposition of the Government in the House of People shall be deemed to be the Leader of Opposition.' This is in 2005! And, the hon. Minister tells Lok Sabha that there was no provision for the leader of the largest party and we are making this provision. Sir, it is already part of the Act. So, these are all misleading statements being made.

Finally, he has made a statement and the statement reads, 'We have left Section 12(4) untouched and that is heart of the autonomy.' Sir, autonomy comes from appointments. Again to quote the hon. Chairman, 'the manner of making appointments leads to disappointments.' It is the manner in making appointments really causing us concern. It is not so much the fact that there is already a Selection Committee. Of

[Shri Jairam Ramesh]

course, there is a Selection Committee. I would like to agree with Dr. Swapan Dasgupta that there is a Selection Committee. But, unfortunately, the Selection Committee deals only with roster of names that is submitted to it; it is not a Search-cum-Selection Committee. It is only a Selection Committee and there is a fundamental difference between the two.

Finally, I would appeal to my friends who represent very important, influential regional political parties that these amendments are not in the spirit of cooperative federalism. They are destructive federalism. And, I wanted to appeal these influential, important regional parties to stand up and be counted for States' rights. They have been arguing for the autonomy of States. And, this Amendment is going to determine the terms and conditions of Information Commissioners in various States. I can understand their compulsion. But, once in a while, they must stand up for their convictions as well.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, we have already had some very incisive, articulate and thoughtful interventions on this RTI (Amendment) Bill. Yes, the previous speaker asked whether any national party, with a strong regional presence, like the Trinamool, will stand up. Well, even if we are the last one standing, we will stand up and fight this because, I remember, in this House, on August 19, 2013, when we objected to the Land Acquisition Bill, we were in the minority of one-and-a-half political parties, in the sense, we got 19 'Noes', I mean, 19 'against', and there were 218 people who voted against our Motion. Never mind we got 19 — that was in 2013 — but, after that, the Supreme Court in 2016 said that what our view was the right view.

Sir, the points on the RTI have been very well made. And, I will not elaborate on those points. We have had Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi and Shri Jairam Ramesh before me. But, this is a bigger issue. Why have we moved this Motion to send this Bill to a Select Committee? The bigger issue is, in the last 28 days, we have seen this glorious institution of Parliament under serious threat. This is not rhetoric. Let me make my case by suggesting some numbers. Sir, what happened today was unprecedented. Parliament Session is going to end tomorrow. This is what you told. The Cabinet Committee is meeting, I think, at 4 o'clock or 5 o'clock or, maybe, at 6 o'clock. The Parliamentary Affairs Minister is announcing Business for the next week in Parliament. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please speak on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: This is not on the Bill. This is on the situation we are in today. This is a bigger issue. This is not about whether they will get 130 votes and we will get 25 votes. It is not that issue. Even if we get 25 votes, that is our Opposition space and, as a constructive Opposition, we will fight for our space. So, when you do things, like, allow a Member just casually to speak from four rows behind, even though he is sitting in the first row, and we think it very lightly. No, it is mockery of Parliament. When you take away Rule 95, which allows Members to submit their amendments, it is mockery of Parliament. ...(*Interruptions*)... Okay, the Minister wants to say something. So, I will sit down.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): If somebody comes and boos in the Well of the House that is also mockery of Parliament...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I was talking about the mockery of Parliament. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please speak on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please do not make allegations and counter-allegations. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I have a choice of speaking either on the Bill on my ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No; no, as per rules, you have to speak on the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am speaking on my Motion. We just saw the Ministers sitting there and keep calling somebody when I am making my speech. Is it also not mockery of Parliament?

Sir, why do we want this Bill to go to a Select Committee? Why do we want more Bills to go to a Select Committee? You can do the historic fact-check to check the record of Parliament. Let's do that. In the fourteenth Lok Sabha — it does not matter who was in Government — sixty per cent of the Bills were sent for Parliamentary scrutiny. In the

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

fifteenth Lok Sabha, seventy-one per cent of Bills were sent for Parliamentary scrutiny. It is not that the Opposition wanted to block the Bills. But, we wanted to improve the quality of the Bills. You want to see, if it is a bad Bill, how you can make it better. So, it went up from 60 per cent to 71 per cent. What happened in the Sixteenth Lok Sabha? In the last five years, that number went down to 26 per cent. ...(*Interruptions*)... One out of four Bills is being scrutinised. Now, what is the plan? It is a dubious record, but it is a record. Thirteen Bills have been passed. Now, the Government will turn around and say, in previous Sessions also, Bills were passed. Let me give you those facts. Sir, not rhetoric, only facts! I have checked this. First, how long did the first Session last in the last six Lok Sabhas? It is, only 8 to 11 days. Now, you will come and tell me, — because, now, it has been extended — Parliament is working! We are going to work for 37 days! What are you going to work for 37 days?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): This is not Zero Hour mention. Please concentrate on the Bill.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Right, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Don't go beyond the scope of the Bill.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, after he finishes his speech, I may be permitted to give explanation to Shri Jairam Ramesh as well as to my dear friend, Derek O'Brien, because they have referred to me. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No. Your name has not been mentioned.

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Subject to correction, I will place my facts.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Your name has not been mentioned. Please sit down.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: He said, 'regional parties'.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: It is nice, Sir. When you come here, we are colleagues. You are being very fair to me, or not fair to me, I will not say anything, but you are always fair. ...(*Interruptions*)... The issue is, how is federalism going to be hurt with

this Bill? That is a serious objection from the Trinamool. It is happening Bill after Bill. If you go into this Bill, you will know without getting into the details as to who will fix the salary. You are not only hurting federalism, but you are also getting yourself a new ally. You have, you have! We ourselves are seeing that. You don't need to go very far. We sometimes see what has been happening in this House for the last so many days. Don't have to tell us you have the numbers. Yes, have the numbers. But that does not give you the authority to take away my right as a Member of the Opposition, even if you intimidate me, because RTI is the Right to Information. In the last two days, let me tell you, Sir, it is right to intimidate. We know what calls were made; we know what pressure was made. Thankfully, we are Trinamool. We will not give up the right to federalism. We will fight for this. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have passed so many Bills in Parliament, but if you ask a school student, which is the most often used legislation in India since Independence, there is only one answer. Twenty crore people have used it; it is the RTI. It has been running for 14 years. Two crore requests are there. So, this is one of the reasons. As regards the Congress, I can understand, they were selective in choosing what they wanted to hit the BJP with. We are in the middle. But things like the 2G, the Adarsh, also came through the RTI. Didn't they? So, you people also have some faith. The Government has spent ₹ 5,000 crores on advertising. ₹ 61,500 crore bank frauds are there; 6,800 cases were also on RTI. We are talking about the destruction of the autonomy of institutions. We are talking about the Government which wants to intrude into the matters of State. In the last 20 days, they have seen. A sad incident happens in one State, the largest State of India; 10 people died. No advisories. West Bengal is getting advisories, one courier service every day. In fact, I suggested you should make a direct flight now. Keep sending to the States, especially the States who are politically opposed to you. The Other issue in this Bill, and which I ask the Minister to address this while making his reply, is this. The Government could easily block requests if details show the Government in poor light. Can this be done? Can this not be done? This is very important. What about the pendency of cases? What about the Budget cut of 38 per cent? All these are realities. But I have a nice quote here to read. Anyway, let me read the quote. "2015 — We need to become proactively transparent. People should not have to make any effort to get information. More openness in Government will help citizens. In this day and age, there is no need for secrecy. RTI should be used first and foremost to better the process of governance. Today, I feel there is a limitation to RTI. We know the process. But we don't know the

[Shri Derek O'Brien]

end product." These are noble words; and I agree with these words — 2015, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Now, this was working in 2015. This is said by Shri Narendra Modi, the hon. Prime Minister, Narendra Modiji. He said this in 2015. What has happened between 2015 and now that this entire perception of his will be explained to us on the floor of the House. This bears repeating. "We need to become proactively transparent. People should not have to make any effort to get information. More openness in Government will help citizens. In this day and age, there is no need for secrecy." And whatever has been done here is trying to put some pressure again on a Government.

Sir, our request to this Government is — and I am saying this with all humility — whether it is this Bill or whether it is other important Bills, they need scrutiny. Sir, this is not the Ahmedabad Gymkhana, - this is the Rajya Sabha, the Council of States. When we oppose your Bill, not even oppose your Bill, when we ask your Bill to go to a Select Committee, then you will start saying things like 'we are blocking Parliament, we are moving.' No.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Yes, Sir. We want to be a constructive Opposition. We will not ever boycott this place; I can speak for our own Party. We will fight you inch by inch, inch by inch. We will not allow you to take away our Opposition's space; we will not. You want to bulldoze Parliament; try. You want to bulldoze the Constitution; try. ...(*Time-bell-rings*)... But we will fight for Parliament, for the Constitution and the right of our opposition.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Prasanna Acharyaji ...

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, Shri Amar Patnaik from my Party will speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): But hardly any time is left.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, please allow him some time.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): But it cannot be a maiden speech.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: No, Sir, it is not his maiden speech.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Okay. Shri Amar Patnaik.

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, the Amendments which have been brought into the Act, as the earlier speakers said, I probably agree with Swapan Dasguptaji, appear very cosmetic. But the main provision regarding independence about which we are talking is whether the terms of appointment can be changed after appointment of the Chief Information Commissioner or the Information Commissioner, as the case may be, needs clarification. That is one clarification which the hon. Minister would have to give. If the terms of appointment are not changed after his appointment, then the debate on the question of independence is something that we have to revisit.

The second point which has been raised and discussed in the House is, it is a creature of a statute, it is not a creature of the Constitution. There is no doubt about it. Now if it is a creature of the statute and if it is being made equivalent to a Constitutional Authority, which the Amendment tries to rectify, the Government will have to clarify if by doing this, isn't it trying to bring down the position of the Information Commissioners and the Chief Information Commissioners in the States to because it is in 30 States where the RTI Act is being used, particularly, by the people belonging to the below poverty line families because they are the ones who are using this particular RTI for getting information to solve their problems of daily lives. Let me now talk about the CAG Act. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India is a creature of the Constitution. The CAG Act says that its salaries and conditions of service shall be determined by law by Parliament. So, the Constitution talks about the CAG. The salaries and conditions of service are to be determined by law for which there is a CAG (Conditions of Service) 1971 Act. Now, in this particular case, we have a statute establishing the RTI Act, and there is an amendment which says that there would be a rule which would be made by the Government, as a subordinate legislation, which would clarify the salaries, allowances and others terms and conditions of service of the Chief Information Commissioner, Information Commissioners, the State Chief Information Commissioner and the State Information Commissioners. Now, the Government would have to clarify if they are contemplating bringing out a rule, a subordinate piece of legislation, which would specify this for all the States and for the Government of India at one go, or if it would be changed by Executive Orders from time to time. Then, there is another point which I would like to get clarified by the Government.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): The time allotted to you is over.

SHRI AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, I would take just one minute more.

The last point which I would like to make is this. Now, what is important in the RTI Act is getting the information. Are the exemptions that have been provided in the RTI Act being changed, or being manipulated? As you would have seen — I too tend to agree with certain portions, having worked in bureaucracy — there are people in the Government whose only job is to write RTI applications and impede governance. But there is also a group of people, the poor people, who have to write RTI applications to get benefits. So, the exemptions have to be rightly aligned. Now, I think that the amendments are fine, but the amendments to the RTI Act could have been much more broad-based in the sense that they could have looked at making the Act more effective and much more helpful in getting information after it is rejected by the Chief PIO. The appeal provision is very weak in the sense that there is no time-limit for an appeal provision.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I stand here to oppose this Bill. The amendment would make the Information Commission just another Government department. The proposed amendment would kill the very underlying principle of the RTI Act and also destroy the autonomy of the Information Commission. Also, it would sabotage the federal structure enshrined in our Constitution.

Sir, as I have already stated, 14 Bills have been passed by the Government so far without proper legislative scrutiny. The Government is not aware of the pre-legislative consultation policy of 2014. The Government is, unfortunately, negating the principle of a pre-legislative consultation policy. I may remind the Government about fair legislative process. After a draft is prepared, it is to be put up in the public domain for seeking views and it has to be scrutinized by parliamentary committees. Nothing of that sort is happening here, Sir, and procedures are being violated. When we raise questions about sending a Bill to a Select Committee, the Government just cites numbers saying that in Rajya Sabha, these many Bills have been referred to the Select Committee. Yes, certain Bills have been referred to the Select Committee, but that was not because of the benevolence of the Treasury Benches, but because of the strong, mountain-like, Opposition in this House. If you are serious in the law-making process, I am requesting

the Government, take the views of the Opposition also and send this Bill to a Select Committee. Sir, what is the Government doing through this Amendment? Under the pretext of rationalising the status of Information Commission, you are simply making the Information Commission a Government Department and you want to make the Information Commission merely a caged parrot. That is why you are bringing this Amendment. Your Amendment is going to weaken the Information Commission. It affects the ability of the Information Commission to function in an independent manner; it is curtailing the autonomy of the Information Commission and the supporters of federal principle. Hon. Member, Shri Jairam Ramesh, has already explained the status of Information Commission in this august House and it was discussed in the Standing Committee constituted in 2004. I, too, once again quote the Report of the Standing Committee. I quote, "Information Commission is an important creation under the Act which will execute the laudable scheme of the legislation. It should, therefore, be ensured that it functions with utmost independence and autonomy." I am reminding you, once again, that it was the Standing Committee that had recommended to elevate the status of the Information Commission as that of the Election Commission and our Parliament accepted that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: One more minute, please. Whatever argument you are making is faulty. How can the Central Government decide the salary and allowances of the State Commission? Sir, the RTI Act mandates the States to constitute State-level Commissions and you are trying to control the State-level Commissions also. Sir, it is a blatant violation of the federal principles and, of course, it is an assault on federalism. You are making concerted effort to destabilise the Information Commission. Vacancies are not being filled resulting in delay in disposal of various cases. You tried to dilute the Act through changes in Rules in 2017 and again you brought another Amendment Bill in 2018. Immediately after assuming power, you are continuously trying to destabilise the Information Commission and the supporters of RTI Act. I am again requesting the Government, if you are serious in law-making process, take the views of the Opposition also and send this Bill to a Select Committee. Thank you.

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, आपका धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे इस विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया। मान्यवर, यह RTI कानून किसी सरकार की पहल पर नहीं, बल्कि इस देश में लाखों की संख्या में काम करने वाले, गाँवों में मजदूरों के लिए, किसानों

[श्री संजय सिंह]

के लिए, आम आदमी के लिए संघर्ष करने वाले लोगों के आन्दोलन की बदौलत, उनके संघर्ष की बदौलत इस देश के अन्दर लाया गया। यह इसलिए लाया गया कि घोटालों और भ्रष्टाचार पर रोक लगाई जा सके। यह इसलिए लाया गया कि रिश्वतखोरी के ऊपर रोक लगाई जा सके। मुझे याद है कि अरविन्द केजरीवाल जी के नेतृत्व में 'धूस का घूँसा' अभियान पूरे देश में चला था। मैंने अपने छोटे से शहर, सुल्तानपुर में 10 साल पहले जब एक घर में 10 साल से फोन नहीं लग रहा था, उस मामले में RTI का आवेदन दिया, तो RTI आवेदन लगाने की वजह से 24 घंटे के अन्दर उसके घर में फोन लग गया। मान्यवर, यह इस कानून की ताकत है। यह 'सूचना का अधिकार' कानून, आम आदमी के हाथ का एक मजबूत हथियार था। इसी कानून की बदौलत कॉमनवेल्थ गेम्स का घोटाला सामने आया, कोयला घोटाला सामने आया, 2जी घोटाला सामने आया, राशन घोटाला सामने आया, पानी घोटाला सामने आया, सड़क घोटाला सामने आया, नौकरी घोटाला सामने आया। आज मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप उन घोटालेबाजों के साथ मिल कर, घोटालों को खोलने वाले इस कानून का गला घोटना चाहते हैं? आप इस सदन को यह बताइए। आप इस कानून का गला क्यों घोटना चाहते हैं? आप इस कानून का गला घोट रहे हैं और इसके लिए इतिहास आपको माफ नहीं करेगा। जो काम आज आप करने जा रहे हैं, उसके बाद इस देश की जनता आपके चेहरे पर कालिख लगाने का काम करेगी।

मान्यवर, आज आप अस्पताल में माँ का इलाज कराने जाइए, तो रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। तहसील में आय प्रमाण पत्र, जाति प्रमाण पत्र, निवास प्रमाण पत्र बनवाने जाइए, तो रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। बेटे के admission के लिए जाइए, तो रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। नौकरी के लिए जाइए, तो रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। बच्चा पैदा हो जाए, उसके जन्म प्रमाण पत्र के लिए जाइए, तो रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। बाप की मौत हो जाए, मरने का प्रमाण पत्र बनवाने जाइए, तो भी रिश्वत देनी पड़ती है। आप इस देश को बताइए कि उन रिश्वतखोरों के साथ आपका क्या समझौता हुआ है, जिसकी वजह से आप इस कानून को कमजोर करना चाहते हैं? आप ऐसे-ऐसे संशोधन लेकर आ रहे हैं, जिसका आपको अधिकार नहीं है। आज आपको पूरा देश आपको देख रहा है।

मान्यवर, आरटीआई कार्यकर्ताओं को धन उगाही करने वाला कहा जा रहा है, जिन्होंने आरटीआई के लिए लड़ते हुए अपनी जानें दीं और गोलियां खा कर अपने आप को खत्म किया। इस सदन में आप उनके परिवारों को गाली देने का काम कर रहे हैं। वे लोग आपको माफ नहीं करेंगे। वक्त आएगा, तो वे लोग आपके चेहरे पर कालिख लगाने का काम करेंगे। आपको पूरा देश देख रहा है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस आरटीआई संशोधन के माध्यम से आज आप, इस देश के आम आदमी के हाथ में जो रिश्वतखोरी से, भ्रष्टाचार से, अन्याय से, अत्याचार से लड़ने का अधिकार था, उस अधिकार को छीनने का काम कर रहे हैं। आज जब वोटिंग का समय आएगा, उस समय तो हम इसके विरोध में अपना वोट देंगे ही। मुझे मालूम है, हो सकता कि संख्या के खेल में आप जीत जाएं, लेकिन जनता के बीच में आपकी जो सोच है, जो छवि

6.00 P.M.

है, जो काला चेहरा है, वह इस कानून के माध्यम से उजागर हो रहा है। आपको पूरा देश देख रहा है। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करूंगा, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, in a few minutes, this House is going to see a tragic incident. In the game of numbers, truth is going to be killed here and the flag of untruth will proclaim the victory over truth in this House. We always say that this is the house of democracy, where the people's will is supreme. No, Sir, people's will is going to be derailed here. The Government has claimed a slogan, 'maximum governance and minimum Government'. In this Bill, we have seen maximum and maximum and maximum Government and minimum, minimum and minimum governance because the Government is afraid of everything. It has killed everything. All the institutions of democracy which the Constitution proclaimed as sovereign are already getting killed. The Government which has caged everything in the country like CBI, ED, RBI, Election Commission, that very same Government is going to cage and kill the RTI Act also. Sir, this is *mathrubhumi*, one of the oldest Dailies in the State of Kerala, which was born in the light of freedom movements. Today, this Daily came out with an editorial saying, "Don't kill and strangle the RTI Act."

That is what the Government is doing here today. This Amendment is arbitrary in nature. This is against the principles of federalism. It violates everything which is so dear to democracy. Sir, this RTI (Amendment) Bill is, from top to bottom, hypocritical. It wants the Information Commissioners and the whole system to be Government's slaves. It is the Government which will decide everything - the tenure, the salary, etc. All the things will be at the whims and fancies of the Government. That means, a Government, which is in utmost fear of everything that is democratic, is going to do its undemocratic...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Just one minute. Hon. Members, now, it is 6 o'clock. Does the Minister want to say something?

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, since we are deliberating upon a very important legislation, I propose that we may extend the time of the House till it is disposed of.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): What is the sense of the House?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: We support it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): All right. Mr. Viswam, please continue.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: So, a Government, which only does lip service for democracy, is repeating the same thing in this Bill too. So, this Bill, in this form, is, in fact, an insult to our hon. House. In the Lok Sabha, they did it. In Rajya Sabha, we are saying that we will vote against it. We may fail, but we believe that this failure is for the victory of truth and democracy. It is for the victory of the people of this country. It is for the victory of everything that is good and great for this country. For that, we say that we will vote and we will see that one day, the country will say that this is the black day for this great nation. Now, I conclude and I oppose the Bill.

श्री रामदास अठावले (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, सदन में RTI से संबंधित बिल पर चर्चा हो रही है और मेरी पार्टी का नाम है - आर.पी.आई.। ...(व्यवधान)... मुझे बार-बार सुनने में आ रहा है कि आर.पी.आई पर चर्चा हो रही है - अच्छी बात है। ...(व्यवधान)... RTI कानून 2005 में पहली बार देश में बना। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि -

'बिल का नाम है Right to Information,
आप शान्ति से सुनो मेरा भाषण। ...(व्यवधान)...
NDA की सरकार चाहती है, मजबूत भारत नेशन,
क्योंकि हमें खत्म करना है गरीबों का शोषण।'

जो करप्शन होता रहा, गरीबों का शोषण होता रहा, मानव के अधिकारों पर कब्जा करने का काम होता रहा, दलित पर अत्याचार होता रहा, ...(व्यवधान)... उस सबको खत्म करने के लिए, सूचना के अधिकार कानून में सरकार Amendments लेकर आई है। सूचना के अधिकार का कानून आपने बनाया था, लेकिन उसे amend करने की जिम्मेदारी हम पर आई है। ...(व्यवधान)... इस कानून को और ज्यादा मजबूत बनाने के लिए, Chief Information Commissioner का कार्यकाल जो 5 साल का होता है, वह अधिकार भारत सरकार को मिलना चाहिए। उनके कार्यकाल या अधिकारों में परिवर्तन के लिए जो Amendment सदन में लाए गए हैं, इससे वर्तमान कानून और मजबूत हो जाएगा। कानून तो हम पहले से ही मजबूत बनाते हैं, लेकिन उन्हें implement करने की जिम्मेदारी हम सब पर है। Corruption खत्म करने की जिम्मेदारी हम सब पर है। अभी संजय सिंह जी बोल रहे थे कि इधर घोटाला हुआ, 2जी घोटाला हुआ, दूसरे घोटाले हुए, लेकिन घोटाला करने वाले आपके सामने बैठे थे। ...(व्यवधान)... घोटाला हुआ, ठीक बात है, घोटाला कोई भी रहा हो, घोटाला नहीं होना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)... हमारा घोटाला हो या तुम्हारा घोटाला हो। ...(व्यवधान)... आपके समय घोटाला हुआ, इसीलिए हम इधर आए हैं। आपका घोटाला हो

गया, इसलिए हम लोग इधर आए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप लोगों का घोटाला नहीं होता था? दूजी घोटाला है, कोयला घोटाला है, सब हैं, ऐसे घोटाले सामने आ गए और इसीलिए नरेन्द्र मोदी जी को मौका मिला और मैंने भी सोचा कि तुम्हारे साथ रहने से क्या फायदा है? ...**(व्यवधान)**... यह जो कानून है, इस संबंध में मेरा कांग्रेस पार्टी से निवेदन है, चूंकि कांग्रेस पार्टी लोकतंत्र को मानती है, कांग्रेस पार्टी बाबा साहेब के संविधान को मानती है, बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर को मानते हैं, इसलिए आपकी जिम्मेदारी यह है कि जब भी कोई बिल आता है, उस पर हंगामा करने से क्या फायदा है? हम लोग यहां पर हंगामा करने तो नहीं आए हैं, बाहर जाइए, वहां पर हंगामा कीजिए। लेकिन यहां पर हंगामा करने के बजाय... आपकी जो सूचनाएं हैं, अमेंडमेंट के संबंध में आपके जो भी सुझाव हैं, उन सुझावों को स्वीकारने के लिए हमारी सरकार तैयार है। हमें 2019 में फिर से मौका मिला है और हमें बार-बार मौका मिल सकता है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... आप उधर ही रहेंगे, तो हम इधर ही रहेंगे। अभी ज्यादा से ज्यादा बिल पास होना चाहिए। हमारी सरकार सेशन का कार्यकाल बढ़ाने के बारे में विचार कर रही है। आप लोग बोल रहे हैं कि साल में 100 दिन काम होना चाहिए, 100 दिन नहीं, बल्कि हम सवा सौ दिन बैठेंगे। हमारी सरकार लोकतंत्र को मानती है और भागने का हमारा कोई विचार नहीं है। आप लोग इतना हंगामा मत कीजिए। हमारा काम तो चल ही रहा है, हम तो काम चलाते रहेंगे। बहुत दिनों के बाद आज आपने हंगामा किया और आपका कहना है कि इस बिल को सेलेक्ट कमेटी के पास भेजा जाए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

श्री रामदास अठावले: सर, हमारी कमेटी इलेक्ट कमेटी है, तो फिर हम सेलेक्ट कमेटी के पास क्यों भेजेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... आनन्द जी, आप तो सीनियर मेम्बर हैं। आप हमारे अच्छे मित्र भी हैं। आप उधर रहें या इधर रहें, हमारी दोस्ती हमेशा रहेगी। दोस्ती में कोई दिक्कत नहीं है, लेकिन पहले की दोस्ती अलग थी, अभी की दोस्ती अलग है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मेरी जो आरपीआई है, यह आरटीआई का सपोर्ट करती है और यह जो अमेंडमेंट बिल आया है, इसका पूरा समर्थन करने के लिए मैं यहां खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude.

श्री रामदास अठावले: सर, मैं केवल इतना ही बताना चाहता हूँ:-

"मोदी सरकार ला रही है आरटीआई बिल,
उसका सपोर्ट करो मेरे कांग्रेस भाई,
क्योंकि मोदी जी पर खुश हैं गांव-गांव की माएं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar, please start.

श्री रामदास अठावले: इसलिए हम सब लोग आगे बढ़ेंगे और आप सब लोग सपोर्ट करके यह बिल पास कीजिए। अभी 15 दिन हम लोगों को यहां बैठना है और बिल्स को पास करना है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please start.

श्री रामदास अठावले: हम इसी तरह से मिल कर अच्छी तरह से काम करते रहेंगे, इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं मेरी रिपब्लिकन पार्टी ऑफ इंडिया की ओर से इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। आरपीआई की ओर से आरटीआई का समर्थन करता हूँ, जय भीम!

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Thank you, Sir, for giving me the opportunity to participate in the discussion on Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019. Sir, the Bill aims to belittle the movement of Right to Information itself. The Bill vests power with the Government to fix the term of services of Information Commissioner and other Information Commissioners who enjoyed the status of Chief Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners. The State Chief Information Commissioner and other Information Commissioners enjoyed the status of Election Commissioner and Chief Secretary of the respective State. Through this Amendment Bill, the Government wants to take into its fold, the power to fix the term and service conditions of Information Commissioners. In fact, the law that allows an ordinary citizen who has no official powers or authority to elicit information from the persons in power in our country, is an absolutely extraordinary development and practice of our democracy. Sir, the Right to Information Act has created a mechanism and platform for practice of continuous vigilance of our Government. Obviously, our ordinary people and our citizens have made a remarkable contribution to our democracy. Sir, the Right to Information Bill was enacted in the Parliament during the UPA regime. The Bill was brought after deliberations and the report of the Standing Committee headed by Dr. E. M. Sudarsana Natchiappan. There are two key words, 'independence' and 'autonomy'. This Bill has taken away the independence of the Information Commissioner by fixing the salaries and allowances of the Chief Information Commissioner and the Information Commissioner. Earlier, it was equated to Chief Election Commissioner and the Election Commissioner. That was done to give the Information Commissioner a high status which could criticise the Government. The present Bill is a regressive Bill, and, in a sense, it wants to make the Information Commission a place where the Government can appoint whom they like, they can end the term when they like, they can fix the salary as they like and they can fix the allowances as they like. So, I want to make a mention

of a much more important Constitutional provision, that is, Article 19A, which speaks about the Fundamental Rights. The Supreme Court proclaimed that the RTI is a Constitutional right emanating from Article 19A which guarantees the freedom of speech and expression. The effort of the Government is to dilute the Right to Information Act. With the power to interfere in the rights of the States to decide about the State Information Commission, it is taking away the independence and authority of the Information Commission. It is against the cooperative federalism. If the Government intends to proceed with the Act, it is for the Government to clarify the apprehensions of the public regarding the probable misuse of these amendments in the future.

Similarly, the Government has to ensure the implementation of Right to Information Act without any effect on previous practice. The so called amendments must be prospective and not retrospective. The Information Commission was set up to function freely and it ensured the freedom of functioning. Moreover, the RTI is an important tool in the hands of ordinary citizens to hold accountable those who are in power. *(Time-bell-rings)* This Bill needs pre-legislative consultation. This was not done in this case. High secrecy was maintained in bringing the amendment Bill. I urge the Government to clarify all these issues and to give an assurance to the House with regard to the proposed amendments and appropriate steps. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Now, Shri V. Lakshmikantha Rao. You have two minutes' time.

SHRI V. LAKSHMIKANTHA RAO (Telangana): Sir, firstly, our Party, the *Telangana Rashtra Samiti* Party supports it, and, while supporting, I would only say that the aim of the Bill should be to see that the information goes to the person who is in need of it. That system was not there, and, now, a system has been created. Now, nobody can escape after doing a mistake or a fraud or anything. Suppose, there is some information, which I should get as a matter of right, but, if I am not getting that information, this is the place where I can go and ask by paying a mere amount of ten rupees, and, it is the responsibility of the officer, who is sitting there, to collect the information and supply that information to me. If there is any fraud, I can definitely ask the Government or anybody. So, if it is not damaging the aim with which we have brought and implemented this Act, I don't think that the changes with regard to those who are working there, their pay or their appointment by the Minister, etc., will impact much.

[Shri V. Lakshmikantha Rao]

We definitely support it as long as the State Government is respected and the people who are beneficiaries continue to get the information through the RTI. The Central Government will definitely come up to State Governments' expectation and people's expectation. If there is any damage to the Act, one can understand that. But appointing somebody or posting somebody is not really going to change the Act. We feel that there is no change in the aim with which the Act started. The spirit still remains. So, the *Telangana Rashtra Samithi* supports it.

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR (Maharashtra): Sir, actually, we must first understand why this Government chose this time to bring this particular dilution of the Bill. Obviously, the Government is clearly afraid of information. They are not afraid of the Opposition, because the Opposition does not have as many numbers. They realized that the real opposition will come to them from the correct information about the Government's activities and Government's scams. They realized that the real enemy is not going to be just the Opposition, but information in the hands of the Opposition and in the streets. That power they themselves had seen. They were only two seats in 1984 and they used the streets and the Opposition within the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha to force the Government to accept or reject many things. This particular Government is fully aware that the Opposition can be strong with information and street protests. The RTI Bill itself came not because the Lok Sabha demanded it or the Rajya Sabha demanded it. The RTI Bill primarily came, as Shri Sanjay Singh said, from the activists' movement, trade union movement and farmers' movement all over the country. Those activists actually forced the Government to bring the RTI Bill when the UPA was not in full majority. The RTI Bill came under the pressure of the people because they wanted information. They thought that the Government was hiding many things, and unless information was procured, it would not be possible to fight the Government. So, people like Aruna Roy, Nikhil Dey and many other activists actually participated in a mass movement on the streets. Even Anna Hazare, whom the BJP supported tooth and nail, also fought for the Bill and finally the Bill came. So, the RTI Act is a product of mass movement for democratizing the information and for democratizing the system. Therefore, it is necessary that the RTI Act must not be diluted.

Now why is the Government particularly worried about information coming now at this point in time? After coming to power and about coming to power itself, there

have been so many doubts. So many BJP and NDA Members and other Members were surprised and shocked to find that they were elected. They don't know how they were elected. The voice was raised against various *hera feri*, various scams that might have accompanied the election itself. Questions were raised about EVMs and that is how the Election Commission came under the cloud. If the right information is available or is made available to all the parties, all the people and the Opposition as to how they won, how the BJP and NDA persons won in the election, and a lot of information can be made available and the Government can be actually challenged on the basis of election itself.

I remember one particular episode in which Mr. Kapil Sibal exposed that there were something like ₹ 3.5 lakh crore counterfeit notes in circulation during the election. He exposed that with a film. A couple of channels dared to show that film only for a minute or two and then they immediately stopped. The media was being controlled and that particular film, that particular evidence which Mr. Kapil Sibal produced, went only on social media. If all that information were to come and were to be made available with the Opposition, this Government will be really in danger. Not just that information but the very election of this Government could be in danger. I will just give you one small example. Mr. Jairam Ramesh talked about Prime Minister's education. It is in court, so I will not mention that. I will mention something which obviously will not be appreciated by the Opposition, the Ruling Party or anybody else for that matter. That is because it is rather outside the fold. In Mumbai's famous Azad Maidan, * came and protested against the insecurity that she was facing. The matter that she was feeling insecure did not appear in all the papers, but some Gujarati Press and some small English Press published that. Later on, a question was put to the Information Commissioner as to why * herself was feeling so insecure and unsafe.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): I am told that you have one more speaker. So, you have to conclude.

SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Yes, Sir. That question was rejected stating that it could not be accepted because it was a question of national security. She had said that she was denied even the passport. So, there were all those questions of gross injustice against *. That was not an issue raised by the Opposition or by the Congress or by any NGO. It was raised by * Sir, I will take just one minute. All such authoritarian

* Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri Kumar Ketkar]

Governments are always afraid of information. I will just give you one reference. There is a book and a film 'All the President's Men' and a 'Film The Post' by Spielberg. If Members choose to watch it, they will realize what information can do to destabilize authoritarian Governments. When the President of the United States tried to bulldoze his rule, the information available with the Press on Pentagon papers and Watergate scandal forced him to resign under the clout of impeachment. I think all the establishmentarians and authoritarian people know that information is a very strong weapon. It does not necessarily require a large number of Opposition Members in Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha. What it requires is the Right to Information to use that information against any authoritarian or dictatorial rule. That is what the RTI does. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah; you have three minutes.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Sir, RTI is used to ask millions of questions in this country, particularly from ration cards to villages to RBI autonomy. Sir, questions were asked about ration shops in villages, RBI autonomy, the Finance Ministry and demonetisation, NPAs, Rafael deals, electoral bonds, unemployment status, appointment of Central Vigilance Commissioners, Election Commissioners and Information Commissioners themselves, etc. This was used for all those activities. Sir, the information related to decision-making at the highest level was accessed because of the independence and high status of the Information Commission. Now, the Government is changing the very basis of that. On account of that, the powers of the highest authority to penalize errant officials and corrupt bureaucrats would be curtailed by the amendment of this Act. This is no less important than the Election Commission of India. You have referred to the Election Commission of India. I just want to further saying that the Election Commission of India was doing its job and the Information Commission is doing its work which is no less than the Election Commission of India. Now, it is working all right. The Commission, which is vested with status, independence and authority, after this amendment, will now be working like a Department of the Government of India. That is not acceptable. The decision of the Government to usurp the powers in respect of the terms and conditions of service and salaries of an independent body must be

understood as an obvious attempt to weaken the independence and authority granted by law. Sir, Section 13 deals with terms and conditions of the Central Information Commissioners. Then, there is Section 16, which is also controlled by the Government of India through rules. It is in respect of terms and conditions of the appointment of the Commissioners in the State, which is an assault on the federalism of the country.

Sir, both UPA and NDA earlier had notified this legislation for public consultation with stakeholders. Sir, it was there for thirty days in the public domain. All the RTI activists, who were involved in this, have given suggestions. They have worked with this. They got the information about this to strengthen this law during that time. I do not know why this Government is not putting this into the public domain. I want to ask the hon. Minister: Why was this not put into the public domain for discussion? The RTI community across the country is worried.

Sir, the Supreme Court, time and again, said that the Right to Vote and Right to Information are Fundamental Rights. Hence, the CIC and CEC stand on equal footing and rightly placed on par by the RTI Act of 2005.

Sir, the absence of the public consultation, no public consultation on the Bill, has impacted the fundamental right of RTI activists and the citizens of this country. It is mandatory. The draft proposal was placed, as I said earlier, for thirty days. Now, no stakeholders were consulted before proposing these Amendments. Sir, the Information Commission is a statutory body. As on May 31st, 2019, there are 30,697 cases pending before the CIC. In 2015-16, RTI applications rejected by the public authorities increased to 60,127. In 2017-18, about 63,296 RTI applications were rejected. Sir, please tell me, what all of them will do if this is not accepted and if the Amendment is done.

So, I would request the Government, please send it to the Select Committee to strengthen this Act, not to defame this Act or de-strengthen this Act. The Government may please accept it graciously. It will help the federalism of the country and the RTI Act.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Now, the hon. Minister.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I just want one explanation with the permission of the Chair because our friend and senior Member, Mr. Jairam Ramesh and Mr. Derek O'Brien referred to me. ...*(Interruptions)*... My explanation is very simple. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Have they named you? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: They have directly referred to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, what is this? ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please sit down. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Mr. Derek O'Brien referred to me specifically. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): That can be discussed with the Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: I have changed my place. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please discuss that with the Chairman. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. भूपेन्द्र जी, आप बोलिए।

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Sir, I have two things. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. NAVANEETHAKRISHNAN: Sir, I must be given an opportunity. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... You have not been named. ...*(Interruptions)*... Try to understand, you have not been named. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दो बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। पहली बात यह है कि जावेद साहब बोले, वे अच्छा बोले और उन्होंने मेरा नाम लिया। जावेद साहब ने मैटर ऑफ फैक्ट्स

पर जो बोला और जयराम रमेश जी ने जो बोला है, जयराम रमेश जी ने बाल आंटे और महामहिम राष्ट्रपति जी, जो उस समय सदस्य थे, उनका नाम लिया है, तो उससे संज्ञान में यह आता है कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी के नेता इस बिल को बनाने में न केवल प्रत्यनशील थे, बल्कि पूरी तरह उनकी जानकारी में भी था। यह matter of fact है, इसे correct किया जाना चाहिए। किसी भी राजनीतिक दल को इस प्रकार से single outline नहीं करना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): ठीक है। रिकॉर्ड्स verify किये जाएंगे।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: दूसरा, जो रूल 238(A) है। फ़ैक्ट्स को चैक करना चाहिए। किसी भी राजनीतिक दल के बारे में एकदम ऐसी स्टेटमेंट ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री जावेद अली खान: मैंने चैक करके ही बोला था। ...(व्यवधान)...

†جناب جاوید علی خان: می نے چیک کر کے ہی بولا تھا۔۔۔(مداخلت)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): It will be verified. Records will be verified.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सेक्रेटेरिएट में ...(व्यवधान)... जावेद जी, आज आप नारे लगाते, किसी का भाषण नहीं होता, तो इसका अर्थ यह नहीं था कि आप लोगों को पता नहीं था। आप फ़ैक्ट्स को तोड़-मरोड़ कर नहीं कह सकते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): भूपेन्द्र जी, आप बोलिए।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: दूसरा, मेरा आपसे निवेदन यह है, मैं इसे विवाद का विषय नहीं बनाना चाहता हूँ, लेकिन केतकर जी ने जो अपने भाषण में कहा है, रूल 238 में जो defamatory part है, मैं आपसे कहूंगा कि आप रिकॉर्ड को चैक करिए और उस fact को डिलीट करिए, expunge करिए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Sure. It will be verified and if anything is found unparliamentary, that will be expunged. Now, Mr. Minister.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Thank you Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. At the outset, I have to thank all the hon. Members for having offered their valuable inputs. This is House of Elders known to be a treasure of wisdom. Therefore, when we come here even after the Bill has been passed in the Lok Sabha; we come here looking for some new enlightenment and I am sure that at the end of this debate, all of us, at least me, would go back wiser than before.

†Transliteration in Urdu Script.

[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

I have to thank Dr. Vinay P. Sahasrabuddhe; Shri A. Navaneethakrishnan; Shri Prasanna Acharya; Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh; Shri K. K. Ragesh; Shri Jha; Shri R. S. Bharathi; Shri Anil Desai; Shri Vijayasai Reddy; Dr. Abhishek Manu Singhvi; Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla; Shri Sasmit Patra; Shri Jairam Ramesh; Shri Javed Ali *Saheb*; Dr. K. Keshava Rao; Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha; Shri Derek O'Brien; Shri Amar Patnaik and, of course, Shri Swapan Dasgupta; Shri Sanjay Singh; Shri Vinoy Viswam; Shri Ramdas Athawale; Shri Ravindra Kumar; Shri V. Lakshmikantha Rao; Shri Kumar Ketkar and Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah.

Without going into details because it has been discussed quite elaborately, at the outset, let me express my acknowledgement of the support received from some of the Members with, of course, some of the reservations which were genuinely their concern. Dr. K. Keshava Rao, from TRS, wanted an assurance that there would be no impact on the independence of the RTI. So, I wish to convey to him and, through you, to the entire House that there is no interference as far as the independence or the autonomy of the Act is concerned, which was also actually endorsed by Shri Jairam Ramesh when he quoted Sections 3 and 12. But, of course, he put it in a different way that the appointments are also linked by, and that is his way of interpretation.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*)

But, *per se*, there is no such interference and, therefore, that can be rest assured. I acknowledge that support from him. I am also obliged to acknowledge the support from BJD, Shri Sasmit Patra, who put across two-three points for clarification about the quantum of salary, the terms and conditions and the tenure, and, then, of course, that the appointment of the State level Information Commissioners would not be made by the Centre. Again, I wish to assure him that nothing of that sort is being envisaged in the Bill. The appointment of the Information Commissioners in the State was earlier as per the RTI Act of 2005 being made by the respective State Governments and the same provision is sought to be continued.

Some of the other observations; some of them cryptic and some of them sarcastic but I enjoyed all of them because I said that I have come here to gain some pearls of wisdom. One query in his characteristic style came from Dr. Manu Singhvi. He said that has the Chief Justice of India complained that the Chief Information Commissioner was

equated with him and therefore, you felt constraint to bring in this? I humbly submit that he did not complain. The Chief Justice of India has not complained. So, having conceded your point, let me add over here that when the RTI Act at that time was brought in by the then Government; at that time also, the Chief Justice of India was not asked, "Whether you would mind being equated"? So, I think, we need not get into this legal one-upmanship because I can't match your legal acumen. Having said that about the fixity of the tenures, I think there is some kind of a misinterpretation. It was never mentioned that we would keep changing the tenure after every two years. And let me also add over here because I hate to read this to an illustrious legal brain as Manu Singhvi. I am quite ignorant about law but Section 2 of the RTI Act, 2005 itself says, "The word 'prescribed' means prescribed by rules made under this Act by the appropriate Government or the competent authority." Further, as per Section 29 of RTI, 2005, every rule made by the Central Government under the Act shall be laid before each of the Houses of Parliament and if both the Houses agree with modification in the rule, the rule should not be made. Section 2G and Section 29 are not proposed to be amended by this Bill. That is my understanding of law. You can correct me because you know better on this subject. Therefore, my understanding is that even though the Government will have the power to make the rules, but these are subject to the overriding authority of the Parliament. I think we should not have any concern that whichever the authority framing the rules would then have unbridled powers, not subject to be checked by the Parliament and at the same time, there will not be any tenure, or nothing like child's play of every two years changes being brought in. Similarly, another point that was raised was about the State ICs being appointed or the terms and conditions. Appointment, of course, is through the State Government, the terms and conditions and the tenure being determined by the Centre. I think Manu Singhvi also raised this point and some other friends also. Actually, this is something which was originally envisaged in the RTI Act of 2005. This is not being brought in now. I am not grudging that. I have to actually thank honourable legal luminaries because I am a student of Science but I was constrained to read Law overnight yesterday to be able to stand in front of you. The 2005 RTI Act was enacted through Entry 97, List I, that is, the Central List of the Seventh Schedule, which gives residuary powers and hon. Members like Chidambaramji, Abhishekji, they all understand this very well. Article 248 (2) of the Constitution of India says that the Parliament has exclusive power to make any law with respect to any matter not enumerated in the List

[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

II and III. The Entry 97 of Union List also lays down that Parliament has exclusive power to make laws with respect to any matter not enumerated in List II or III. Thus, Article 248 and Entry 97 of the Union List of the Constitution of India assign the residuary powers of legislation exclusively to the Union. If no entry in any of the three lists covers a piece of legislation, it must be regarded as a matter not enumerated in any of the three lists, and belonging exclusively to Parliament under Entry 97, List I by virtue of Article 248. In their wisdom and rightly so perhaps, when the RTI Act of 2005 was enacted, this residuary power came into play and the same exists. So it is not that something now has happened to determine the tenure.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: This is not the issue that we are raising.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: But I am trying to clarify. I will come to that also.

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: Under the Act today, the State Government constitutes the State Information Commission. Appointment, as you have just now said, is made by the State Government. The question is: Why are you taking the power to prescribe the tenure and the terms and conditions of that appointment? Why cannot the State Government prescribe the tenure and the terms and conditions? If the constitution is by the State Government, appointment is by the State Government, why are you taking the power to prescribe the tenure and the terms and conditions? Can't you trust the States to prescribe the tenure and the terms and conditions?

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: I think I would again reiterate what I said. As far as appointment is concerned, that part is clear. As far as this part is concerned, this is as it was happening earlier as well. This is not something that we are doing now. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let me clarify. ...*(Interruptions)*... Now the terms and conditions ...*(Interruptions)*...

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

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: ...misleading the Lok Sabha and now the Rajya Sabha. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nobody can mislead you. I will come to you also. I will just explain to you. Give me a minute. I agree with you to the extent that Section 27 is being amended to frame these rules. I got your point. That is your point of objection. ...*(Interruptions)*... What I am saying is that this power is with the Centre, and of

course, Section 27, when amended, will give this power to the Centre to determine the terms and conditions and tenure. That is what I am saying, and residuary power is the separate issue. ...*(Interruptions)*... I got your point. I will come to that, when I answer why is this Bill, because that is the second part of my reply, which is being raised by a number of hon. Members! I am just trying to clarify some of the contentious issues which came forward. Then, Javed Ali sahib asked, why is there no consultation with intellectuals, the public representatives, and the RTI activists? Now, Section 4(1)(c) of the RTI Act, Chapter-2. Now, my interpretation may be wrong. But, that is an interpretation which is already there. It reads as follows:

4(1) "Every public authority shall publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing the decisions which affect public, provide reasons for its administrative, *quasi judicial* decisions to affect persons, or, the understanding was that the public was not affecting the autonomy or independence of the RTI *per se*." It is only dealing with the tenure, terms and conditions of the functionaries. So, that is our understanding. I am glad that hon. Chidambaramji has, at least. ...*(Interruptions)*... You may not agree. But, that is our understanding, and that is why, we did not put it in the public forum. ...*(Interruptions)*... No, I have the right to put across why we did not do so. The question was: Why was it not put in the public forum? My response is that at that time, you were dealing with the RTI's gamut, its spectrum. At this moment, we are dealing with certain functionaries, certain points, कुछ अधिकारियों के कितने वेतन रहे, कितने नहीं रहे। It is between the Government and the Officers, not the public. That is our response.

डा. के. केशव राव: यह जावेद अली खान साहब के लिए है।

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: हां, यह जावेद अली खान साहब के लिए है। यह प्वाइंट जावेद अली खान साहब ने भी raise किया था। अब इन्होंने कहा कि 2005 में RTI आया, इन्होंने पता नहीं पढ़ा या नहीं पढ़ा। इनके कहने पर मैंने थोड़ा-बहुत फिर पढ़ लिया, लेकिन थोड़ा ज्यादा पढ़ा गया। वह कैसे, इसको पढ़ने से ध्यान में यह आया कि फ्रीडम ऑफ इन्फॉर्मेशन एक्ट तो 2002 में envisage किया गया था, जब वाजपेयी जी की सरकार थी and then, it gradually evolved. I am not exposing myself to be accused that this Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: I was the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh at that point of time. I recommended it to the then Government. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Exactly. I agree with you. That is what I am very humbly saying. I am not saying we did it or they did it. I said, 'this was a continuous process going on.' Everybody was on board, and as was being said that Members from all the parties were there in the Committee. It was evolving. This process, this thought, this concept was evolving. Meanwhile, the Government changed around May, 2004. In December 2004, the Bill was introduced by the then UPA-1, and in 2005, it became an Act. So, I think, let us not get into कि मुझसे पढ़ा गया या नहीं पढ़ा गया। But, I am glad that you inspired me to read this. प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा साहब शायरी बहुत अच्छी करते हैं। अब, क्या हुआ कि जब से मैं दिल्ली आया और सदन में आया, यदि ज्यादा शायरी करो, तो लगता है कि यह अपना काम कम करता है। If you speak, then you are not taken seriously, लेकिन मनोज जी ने ऐसी चिन्ताएं व्यक्त कीं, जिनका तो हमने कभी जिक्र ही नहीं किया। फ़ैज़ अहमद फ़ैज़ का एक बड़ा मशहूर शेर है-

"सारे फसाने में जिसका जिक्र न था,
वह बात उन पर बड़ी नागवार गुज़री।"

न मालूम किस लिए आपने इतना कुछ कह डाला कि जैसे बहुत जुल्मो-सितम हुआ। लता जी का महल फिल्म का एक पुराना गाना है-

"कोई नहीं जलाता और दीप जल रहे हैं,
कोई नहीं चलाता और तीर चल रहे हैं।"

किसी ने चलाया ही नहीं, तो फिर तीर आपको कहां से दिख गया? इसलिए आप आश्वस्त रहिए, ऐसा कुछ नहीं है। It is being done with a very clean intention and we are open to your suggestions. ...*(Interruptions)*... Jairam Rameshji is a very kind friend of mine. Only two days back, I could catch hold of two of his books. When he was speaking, for a moment, I felt very small about myself. I thought I was totally an illiterate person listening to the way he was pointing out to my ignorance, one after another. मुझे लगा कि मुझे इतनी अनपढ़ता का अहसास तो आज तक नहीं हुआ था। And then he said कि यह पोर्टल तो हमने चलाया। वे तो हमारे दोस्त ही थे, नाइंसाफी थी। हुआ क्या है कि what I had said is कि मोबाइल ऐप पर, every Government, and every individual, whether he is small or not, or whether Minister or not, takes credit in highlighting what it has done. मोबाइल ऐप हमने लाया और my exact words were और अब यह सुविधा उपलब्ध है कि दिन-रात, किसी भी समय आप उठकर RTI दर्ज करा सकते हैं, बल्कि in lighter way में मैंने कहा था कि रात के 12.00 बजे के बाद भी, यदि ज्ञानोदय हो, तो उठकर RTI लगा दीजिए। मेरे कहने का अर्थ

यह नहीं था। I am not denying what was done by the earlier Governments. कुछ-कुछ बातें और जयराम जी ने कहीं, I would not like to respond to, because that was not very much in good taste that this was done with a feeling of vengeance or revenge. Then he cited a number of RTI replies, which I would not like to go into. But, somebody else in my place would sometimes feel tempted to say कि कहीं ये उस मानसिकता से तो नहीं प्रेरित, जिस मानसिकता के आधार पर उस समय की सरकारें चली थीं। वर्ष 1975 में जस्टिस सिन्हा ने एक जजमेंट दिया, तो इमर्जेंसी लगानी पड़ी थी। We leave it at that. Just to prove to you that I am not as unintelligent as you think, I said this. I can respond to you. ...(व्यवधान)... उतना ही, ज्यादा नहीं करेंगे।

सर, about the Select Committee, अब ऐसा है कि whether to send it to the Standing Committee or to a Select Committee, of course, is a prerogative of hon. Members. But, this should not be the numerical issue as Derekji was saying कि कोई जाता ही नहीं है, क्यों नहीं जाता? What I understand from my relatively small experience in Parliament is, it should be determined on the merit of the Bill whether to send it to the Standing Committee or the Select Committee and not that इतने नहीं भेजे, तो अब क्यों न भेजें।

Because if you have to go by the numbers, then from 2004 to 2009, out of 180 Bills, 124 Bills were passed without sending them to any Committee. From 2009 to 2014, out of 179 Bills, 125 in Lok Sabha were passed without sending to the Committees. ...(Interruptions)... That point is well taken. What I am saying is ...(Interruptions)... नहीं मांगा, तो यही बड़प्पन है। ...(व्यवधान)... मांगने के लिए नहीं मांगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, please address the Chair.

उपसभापति जी, कहने का तात्पर्य यह है कि let us leave it to the merit of the case. अब आ गया, why this Bill and why not. सबसे पहले तो यह कहा गया कि कोई बहुत बड़ा गुनाह हो रहा है। यह बिल लाया जा रहा है, something to hype. I might sound a little boisterous, and before I invite any adverse smiles, right from the beginning, this Government has made a declaration of intent of 'minimum Government, maximum governance' and has tried to live upto it at various levels of governance. We were the ones who brought in the self-attestation and the abolition of interviews. I am not saying that the other Government would not have brought it. But, since we were there, we brought it. I think this is on record. What is minimum Government and maximum governance? The essence is उसमें पारदर्शिता रहे, उसमें सरलीकरण हो, उसमें नागरिक की भागीदारी हो citizen centricity हो। These are inherent points. Now, as far as the RTI is

[Dr. Jitendra Singh]

concerned, as I said, आप मोबाइल एप भी लाए। Section 4 of the RTI Act envisages that you try to put maximum information in the public domain so that आरटीआई की जरूरत भी न रहे और pendency भी कम हो। अब इसमें भी, in the last five years, there has been a very active movement. And most of the information is now available on even before an order of empanelment or transfer reaches an officer, it is already there on the website and he accesses it there. अब ICs की नियुक्ति का Jairamji was quite concerned why the vacancies remain unfilled or why they are not filled in time. If you go by records, as of today, we have — because Central IC has ten plus one — four vacancies. There have been occasions when the IC was functioning with just five members, before 2014. Please don't get provoked Jairamji because I ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: The post of CIC was vacant for eight months and the court had to tell you to appoint the CIC. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. JITENDER SINGH: I am going to tell you why. You just please listen to me. I will not provoke you because I can't face your might. ...*(Interruptions)*... So, in a good humour, I will respond to you. See, what has happened is, it is a multi-factorial outcome. I was just telling the numbers. If you said six, I am just telling you that there were five also in your time. Hon. Chidambaram will appreciate because he has dealt with these Committees also. On certain occasions, a couple of ICs are appointed together and their tenures end together. They exit at the same time. So, the process, it has to go through advertisement, takes time. Sometimes the meeting is not held in time. Now, I will say something, which hon. Jairamji would excuse me. I will make one observation. This is about court that you mentioned. At least on three occasions, the meeting of the Selection Committee had to be cancelled. Do you know why? Because, the Leader of the largest party, Mallikarjun Khargeji, would prefer to send us a letter instead of coming himself. I am not grudging. I am just saying that the meeting had to be deferred. So, there may be a number of factors. Let's not hold it against the Government of the day for the simple reasons that vacancy took some time. Of course, I give you the credit of having laid the foundation stone of the new building. I don't deny that. But incidentally परमात्मा को यह मंजूर था कि उसका लोकार्पण मोदी जी के हाथों से हो, तो अब परमात्मा को तो challenge कर नहीं सकते। Now, the point is: Why this Amendment? As I said in the beginning, I don't know how well it will be accepted by some of the Members, this is, as you said, a statutory body. The others are constitutional bodies.

A point was made that sometimes the heads of the statutory bodies can also be conferred a constitutional status for reasons, which are in good faith, have their basis. What our understanding was that, for example, a Central Information Commissioner is equal to a Chief Election Commissioner, and whereby equivalent to the judge of the Supreme Court, and so also, the Information Commissioner, because the State Information Commissioner is equivalent also to the Supreme Court Judge and the State IC, is equal to the Chief Secretary. Now, a verdict passed by the Central Information Commission is liable to be challenged in the High Court. So, from a layman's point of view, a Supreme Court Judge's verdict is being challenged in the High Court. ...(*Interruptions*)... That is another school of thought. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Judges have not taken any exception, only you are taking exception. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: There are many instances.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: So, what I am trying to say is, in order to cut the long story short, ...(*Interruptions*)... No, no. I am not challenging what is being said. I said, this is one interpretation and that is another interpretation. I took your interpretation also. Some of the statutory bodies can have this. So, in a nutshell, what I am trying to say is that please be rest assured, this legislation or this Amendment is being brought in without any motivation and in good faith. There are a number of other tribunals which have been sought to be harmonised in the last few months. There have also been occasions when the court has directed to bring in uniformity, streamlining or institutionalising. I am sure, at the end of the day, this will lead to more streamlining and institutionalising of the Information Commission, and that, in process, would also strengthen the provision of the RTI Act. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall first put the Amendment moved by Shri Derek O'Brien for reference of the Right to Information (Amendment) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha, to a Select Committee of Rajya Sabha to vote.

The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Sanjay Singh

7.00 P.M.

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

2. Shri Tiruchi Siva
3. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha
4. Shri Bhubaneswar Kalita
5. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
6. Shri Binoy Viswam
7. Shri Majeed Memon
8. Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar
9. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
10. Shri Prasanna Acharya

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha."

The House divided.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I want Division. And give me a chance to say three sentences, that we, as a constructive Opposition, are committed to maintaining the integrity of Parliament, that we, as a constructive Opposition, are committed to standing up to federalism and that we, as a constructive Opposition, will not let the majority of numbers overcome the truth of our conscience. That is it, Sir. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Division. Let the lobbies be cleared.

सभी माननीय सदस्य-गण कृपया अपनी सीटों पर जाएं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... माननीय मंत्री जी, कृपया अपनी सीट पर जाएं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... माननीय सदस्य-गण, कृपया अपनी सीटों पर जाएं। ...(**व्यवधान**)... कृपया सदन में शांति बनाए रखें। ...(**व्यवधान**)... Secretary-General will now explain the voting procedure.

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Hon. Members, as you are aware, due to some changes in the composition of this House, the consequential changes in the seating plan and allotment of Division Nos. to new Members could not be done so far. The voting today, therefore, on this Motion of Amendment will be done through voting slips. These voting slips will be distributed to Members by the officers of the Secretariat. Hon.

Members may cast their vote by ticking 'Ayes' 'Noes', Abstentions' as per their choice and hand-over the slips back to the officials after signing. Thank you.

श्री उपसभापति: वोटिंग प्रोसेस कंप्लीट होने तक ...(व्यवधान)... सारे लोग अपनी जगह जाएं, मैं माननीय एलओपी को सुनने को तैयार हूँ ...(व्यवधान)... सारे लोग अपनी-अपनी जगह जाएं, बैठें। ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय एलओपी। ...(व्यवधान)... सारे लोग अपनी-अपनी सीट पर जाएं। ...(व्यवधान)...

नेता विरोधी दल (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, हमें आप पर और आपकी पारदर्शिता पर पूरा विश्वास है, लेकिन मुझ अफसोस के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि जब President's Address पर, उनके अभिभाषण पर भाषण हो रहे थे, माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी मौजूद थे और मैंने उस वक्त भी यह बताया था कि किस तरह से ये 303 सीट्स आती हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... यह उसका एक नमूना था। ...(व्यवधान)... यह उसका एक नमूना था। ...(व्यवधान)... यह उसका नमूना था। ...(व्यवधान)... ये ऐसे ही आती हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... इसी तरह से आती हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... पार्लियामेंट के अंदर मिनिस्टर आकर intimidate करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... मिनिस्टर्स आकर political parties के लीडरों को intimidate करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... यह चार्ज है हमारा आप पर कि intimidate करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आपके रूलिंग पार्टी के लोग signature कराते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... जिन माननीय एमपीज़ की समझ में नहीं आया, उनसे signature करा कर ...(व्यवधान)... मैंने कल भी बताया था कि आप इस पार्लियामेंट को सरकार का एक विभाग बनाना चाहते हैं और सरकार का हिस्सा बनाना चाहते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... इस पार्लियामेंट को सरकार की तरह मत चलाइए। ...(व्यवधान)... आप इसको डिपार्टमेंट की तरह चला रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप डेमोक्रेसी को खत्म कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... हमें आप पर कोई विश्वास नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)... हम walk out करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

آقاند حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : مانئے ڈپٹی چیئرمین سر، ہم آپ پر اور آپ کی پاردرشپ پر پورا وشواس ہے، ل مکن مجھے افسوس کے ساتھ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ جب خطبہ صدارت پر، ان کے ابھ ٹھہاشن پر بھاشن بورے تھے، مان ئے پردھان منتر ی ج ی موجود تھے اور م ی نے اس وقت بھی بتایا تھا کہ کس طرح سے 303 سٹس آتی ہی۔
---(مداخلت)--- ہی اس کا ایک نمونہ تھا --- (مداخلت)--- اس کا ایک نمونہ تھا --- (مداخلت)---
ہی اس کا ایک نمونہ تھا --- (مداخلت)--- ہی اسی ہی آتی ہی --- (مداخلت)--- اسی طرح سے
آتے ہی۔ --- (مداخلت)--- پارلیمنٹ کے اندر منسٹر آکر intimidate کرتے ہی۔ --- (مداخلت)---
ہی چارج ہے ہمارا آپ پر کہ intimidate کرتے ہی۔ --- (مداخلت)--- آپ کے رولنگ پارٹی

[श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद]

के लोग signature कراتे है... (मداخلت)... جن مانجے اے بھئی کی سمجھ میں نہی آئی، اسے signature کرا کر... (مداخلت)... میں نے کل بھی بتائی تھا کہ آپ اس پارلیمنٹ کو سرکار کا ایک وبھاگ بنانا چاہتے ہیں اور سرکار کا حصہ بنانا چاہتے ہیں... (مداخلت)... اس پارلیمنٹ کو سرکار کی طرح مت چلائے۔... (مداخلت)... آپ اس کو ڈپارٹمنٹ کی طرح چلا رہے ہیں۔... (مداخلت)... آپ ڈھکڑھکی کو ختم کر رہے ہیں۔... (مداخلت)... ہم آپ پر کوئی وشواس نہی ہے۔... (مداخلت)... ہم walk out کرتے ہیں۔... (مداخلت)۔

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

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया शांत रहें। ... (व्यवधान)... अपनी सीट्स पर बैठें। वोट की काउंटिंग हो रही है, process चलने दें। कृपया शांति बनाए रखें। ... (व्यवधान)... कृपया शांति बनाए रखें। The result of the Division on disposal of Amendment for reference of the Bill to Select Committee is.

Ayes: 74

Noes: 117

AYES- 74

Anand Sharma, Shri

Antony, Shri A.K.

Azad, Shri Ghulam Nabi

Bachchan, Shrimati Jaya

Baidya, Shrimati Jharna Das

Bajwa, Shri Partap Singh

Banerjee, Shri Ritabrata

Bharathi, Shri R. S.

Bharti, Shrimati Misha

Bhattacharya, Shri P.

Bhunja, Shri Manas Ranjan

Biswal, Shri Ranjib
Biswas, Shri Abir Ranjan
Bora, Shri Ripun
Chakraborty, Shri Subhasish
Chandrashekhar, Shri G.C.
Chhetri, Shrimati Shanta
Chidambaram, Shri P.
Dalwai, Shri Husain
Dullo, Shri Shamsher Singh
Elangovan, Shri T. K. S.
Gowda, Prof. M. V. Rajeev
Gupta, Shri Manish
Gupta, Shri Narain Dass
Gupta, Shri Prem Chand
Gupta, Shri Sushil Kumar
Hanumanthaiah, Dr. L.
Hariprasad, Shri B. K.
Hussain, Shri Syed Nasir
Jha, Prof. Manoj Kumar
Kalita, Shri Bhubaneswar
Kareem, Shri Elamaram
Karim, Shri Ahmad Ashfaque
Ketkar, Shri Kumar
Khan, Shri Javed Ali
Khan, Shri Mohd. Ali
Mukut Mithi, Shri
Narah, Shrimati Ranee
Nishad, Shri Vishambhar Prasad

O'Brien, Shri Derek
Patel, Shri Ahmed
Punia, Shri P. L.
Ragesh, Shri K. K.
Ramamurthy, Shri K. C.
Ramesh, Shri Jairam
Rangarajan, Shri T.K.
Rao, Dr. K.V.P. Ramachandra
Rathwa, Shri Naranbhai J.
Ravi, Shri Vayalar
Ray, Shri Sukhendu Sekhar
Reddy, Dr. T. Subbarami
Selja, Kumari
Sen, Ms. Dola
Shanmugam, Shri M.
Sibal, Shri Kapil
Singh, Shri Akhilesh Prasad
Singh, Shri Digvijaya
Singh, Shri Sanjay
Singhvi, Dr. Abhishek Manu
Sinh, Dr. Sanjay
Somaprasad, Shri K.
Soni, Shrimati Ambika
Syiem, Shrimati Wansuk
Tamta, Shri Pradeep
Tankha, Shri Vivek K
Thakur, Shrimati Viplove
Vaiko, Shri

Verma, Shrimati Chhaya
Verma, Shri Ravi Prakash
Viswam, Shri Binoy
Vora, Shri Motilal
Wilson, Shri P.
Yadav, Prof. Ram Gopal
Yajnik, Dr. Amee

NOES-117

Acharya, Shri Prasanna
Agrawal, Dr. Anil
Akbar, Shri M. J.
Alphons, Shri K. J.
Athawale, Shri Ramdas
Baishya, Shri Birendra Prasad
Bajpai, Dr. Ashok
Balasubramoniyam, Shri S. R.
Baluni, Shri Anil
Banda Prakash, Dr.
Bhunder, Sardar Balwinder Singh
Chandrasegharan, Shri N.
Chhatrapati, Shri Sambhaji
Chowdary, Shri Y. S.
Daimary, Shri Biswajit
Dasgupta, Shri Swapan
Desai, Shri Anil
Dhindsa, Sardar Sukhdev Singh
Dhoot, Shri Rajkumar
Dudi, Shri Ram Narain

Dungarpur, Shri Harshvardhan Singh

Ganguly, Shrimati Roopa

Gehlot, Shri Thaawarchand

Goel, Shri Vijay

Gohel, Shri Chunibhai Kanjibhai

Gokulakrishnan, Shri N.

Goyal, Shri Piyush

Gujral, Shri Naresh

Hembram, Shrimati Sarojini

Jain, Dr. Anil

Jaishankar, Shri S.

Jatiya, Dr. Satyanarayan

Javadekar, Shri Prakash

Jha, Shri Prabhat

Joginipally Santosh Kumar, Shri

Judev, Shri Ranvijay Singh

Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar, Shri

Kardam, Shrimati Kanta

Kashyap, Shri Ram Kumar

Kore, Dr. Prabhakar

Lokhandwala, Shri Jugalsinh Mathurji

Mahatme, Dr. Vikas

Mahendra Prasad, Dr.

Malik, Shri Shwait

Mandaviya, Shri Mansukh

Manhas, Shri Shamsher Singh

Mathur, Shri Om Prakash

Meena, Dr. Kirodi Lal

Mohammedjan, Shri A.
Mohapatra, Dr. Raghunath
Muraleedharan, Shri V.
Muthukaruppan, Shri S.
Nadda, Shri Jagat Prakash
Nanda, Shri Prashanta
Naqvi, Shri Mukhtar Abbas
Nathwani, Shri Parimal
Navaneethakrishnan, Shri A.
Nekkanti, Shri Bhaskar Rao
Netam, Shri Ram Vichar
Nirmala Sitharaman, Shrimati
Oraon, Shri Samir
Panchariya, Shri Narayan Lal
Pandey, Ms. Saroj
Paswan, Shri Ram Vilas
Patnaik, Shri Amar
Patra, Shri Sasmit
Perween, Shrimati Kahkashan
Poddar, Shri Mahesh
Prabhu, Shri Suresh
Pradhan, Shri Dharmendra
Puri, Shri Hardeep Singh
Rajbhar, Shri Sakaldeep
Ram Shakal, Shri
Ramesh, Shri C. M.
Rane, Shri Narayan
Rao, Shri G.V.L. Narasimha

Rao, Shri Garikapati Mohan
Rao, Dr. K. Keshava
Rao, Shri V. Lakshmikantha
Raut, Shri Sanjay
Reddy, Shri V. Vijayasai
Rupala, Shri Parshottam
Sable, Shri Amar Shankar
Sahasrabuddhe, Dr. Vinay P.
Selvaraj, Shri A. K.
Shukla, Shri Shiv Pratap
Singh, Shri Amar
Singh, Chaudhary Birender
Singh, Shri Ajay Pratap
Singh, Shri Gopal Narayan
Singh, Shri K. Bhabananda
Singh, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad
Sinha, Shri R. K.
Sinha, Shri Rakesh
Soni, Shri Kailash
Srinivas, Shri Dharmapuri
Subhash Chandra, Dr.
Suresh Gopi, Shri
Swamy, Dr. Subramanian
Tasa, Shri Kamakhya Prasad
Tendulkar, Shri Vinay Dinu
Thakur, Dr. C.P.
Thakur, Shri Ram Nath
Tomar, Shri Vijay Pal Singh

Tundiya, Mahant Shambhuprasadji

Uikey, Shrimati Sampatiya

Vaishnaw, Shri Ashwini

Vaithilingam, Shri R.

Vats, Dr. D.P.

Vemireddy, Shri Prabhakar Reddy

Venkatesh, Shri T. G.

Verma, Shri Ramkumar

Vijayakumar, Shri A.

Vijila Sathyananth, Shrimati

Yadav, Shri B. Lingaiah

Yadav, Shri Bhupender

Yadav, Shri Harnath Singh

The motion was negatived.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: Sir, I have a point of order under Rule 134.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete this process.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: No, no! Sir. This is related to this result.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let me complete the process; then, you speak.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: No, no! Sir, kindly see Rule 134 once. Sir, now, I read it out with your kind permission. Sir, Rule 134 states, "When any of the following motions moved in the Council with reference to a Bill originating in the House and transmitted to the Council is negatived by the Council, the Bill shall be deemed to have been rejected by the Council." Now, what are the motions? They are, "(i) that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of the Council." The motion to refer the Bill to the Select Committee has been negatived. So, as per the provisions of Rule 134. ...*(Interruptions)*... Kindly look at the Rules Book. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please read out carefully. ...*(Interruptions)*... The motion for referring the Bill to the Select Committee has been negatived by vote. ...*(Interruptions)*... Thereafter, as per provisions of Rule 134, it shall be deemed to have been rejected. ...*(Interruptions)*...

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्री (श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर): उसका अर्थ यह नहीं है।
...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: It is written here. ...(Interruptions)... The Bill shall be deemed to have been rejected. ...(Interruptions)... Without looking at the rules, why are they arguing? ...(Interruptions)... Look at the rules first. ...(Interruptions)... हम कहेंगे कि आप इसको थोड़ा देखिए। आप पहले मेहरबानी करके थोड़ा पढ़िए कि रूल में क्या लिखा हुआ है।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please take your seat. Regarding your point of order, आपके द्वारा लाया गया अमेंडमेंट negative हो चुका, लेकिन बिल के consideration के लिए जो मोशन है, वह कायम है, वह negatived नहीं है। So, we will proceed. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY: I walk out in protest of wrong interpretation.
...(Interruptions)...

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

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: After the Motion moved by Shri Derek O'Brien being negatived, I shall now take up the Motion moved by Shri Binoy Viswam. The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri Ahamed Hassan
2. Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav
3. Shri T.K. Rangarajan
4. Shri T.K.S. Elangovan
5. Shri Jairam Ramesh
6. Shri Satish Chandra Misra
7. Shri Dharmapuri Srinivas
8. Shri Majeed Memon
9. Shri Prasanna Acharya

10. Dr. K. Keshava Rao
11. Shri Sanjay Singh
12. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up the Motion moved by Shri Elamaram Kareem. The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up the Motion moved by Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda. The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, consisting of the following Members:-

1. Shri G.C. Chandrashekhar
2. Shri Husain Dalwai
3. Prof. M. V. Rajeev Gowda
4. Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah
5. Shri Syed Nasir Hussain
6. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha

7. Shri K. C. Ramamurthy
8. Shri D. Kupendra Reddy
9. Shri K.T.S. Tulsi
10. Dr. Amee Yajnik

with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up the Motion moved by Shri K.K. Ragesh. The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be referred to a Select Committee of the Rajya Sabha, with instructions to report by the last day of the first week of the next Session of the Rajya Sabha".

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up the Motion moved by the hon. Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh. The question is:—

"That the Bill to amend the Right to Information Act, 2005, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In clause 2, there are seven Amendments -Amendments (Nos.1 and 2) by Shri K.K. Ragesh, not present; Amendments (Nos. 5 and 6) by Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, not present; Amendments (Nos.10 and 11) by Shri Elamaram Kareem, not present; Amendment (No.14) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, not present.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 3, there are six Amendments. Amendment (No.3) by Shri K. K. Ragesh, not present; Amendments (No. 7 and 8) by Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, not present; Amendments (No. 12 and 13) by Shri Elamaram Kareem, not present; Amendment (No.15) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, not present.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there are two Amendments. Amendment (No.4) by Shri K. K. Ragesh, not present; Amendment (No. 9) by Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, not present.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR. JITENDRA SINGH: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The lobbies may be cleared. कृपया लॉबी खोल दें।

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Special Mentions. Kumari Selja, not present. Shri Prabhakar Reddy Vemireddy, not present. Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth, just lay it.

***Demand to conduct examinations for Central Government posts
region-wise in regional languages**

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, you have already stressed the importance of mother tongue as the medium of instruction at the school level. Even the draft new education policy has proposed that, at least, up to the secondary school level, mother tongue should be the medium of instruction. Sir, may I recall, even the examinations for Indian Administrative Services (IAS) are being conducted in regional languages. The Government of India has awarded the distinction of classical language to Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia and Sanskrit. Classical language status is given to languages, which have a rich heritage and independent nature.

*Laid on the Table.

Earlier, region-wise examinations were conducted for all the Central Government jobs in which aspirants from particular region, that is, for example, southern region students will only compete with each other. In this background, how it would be possible for the candidates who have attained proficiency for ten years in their regional language to take an examination suddenly in Hindi or English. It was in practice for a long time, but now, income tax offices and most Central Government jobs are occupied by Hindi-speaking officials, which is hindering the conversations and smooth working of various departments in the south. I seek justice from the Government of India for the innocent candidates starving for Government jobs. The Government should ensure that hereafter, all examinations for the Central Government posts should be invariably conducted region-wise in all regional languages. Thank you, Sir.

***Demand to commence more flights from Coimbatore and Madurai airport for connecting various destinations in India and abroad**

SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ (Tamil Nadu): Sir, the Coimbatore Airport was upgraded as an international airport some years back. Coimbatore is the second largest metropolitan city in the State of Tamil Nadu, having large industrial activities, agricultural activities, and places of religious importance. Considering the industrial development, defence corridor, benefit to farmers by export of fruits and vegetables, international air connectivity to Dubai by the Air India Express, Dubai and Doha by the Air India/foreign airlines and through Kuala Lumpur by the Air India or private airlines is needed. Therefore, the Government may grant permission to airlines for connecting Coimbatore International Airport with Dubai, Doha and other Gulf countries. Under the Bilateral Air Services Agreements, executed, eighteen airports were incorporated, however Coimbatore and Madurai were missing in it. Therefore, the Government may consider including Coimbatore and Madurai airports in the bilateral agreements with the South-East Asian nations to facilitate more flights from Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, etc. Moreover, flights to and from Coimbatore and other destinations in the country is bare minimum; and, from some other destinations in the country, there is no flight to Coimbatore and *vice versa*. The people are finding it very difficult to reach destinations in case of any urgency in the absence of flight services from Coimbatore.

Considering the above facts and circumstances, I urge upon the Government to commence more flights to and from Coimbatore urgently.

*Laid on the Table.

***Demand for financial assistance for drought mitigation
measures in Tamil Nadu**

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, Tamil Nadu is multi-hazard prone, battered with cyclones on the one hand and recurring droughts on the other. Close on the heels of extremely severe drought in 2017, several districts in Tamil Nadu are facing hydrological drought, with Chennai and its neighbouring districts reeling under extremely severe water crisis. About 24 districts and 38 blocks in seven districts were declared as affected by hydrological drought. Chennai region, which is a major metropolis humming with industrial activities, plays a major role in the economic growth of the country. The daily required amount of 1200 MLD is expected to rise to 2100 MLD by 2031. Chennai has historically relied on annual monsoon rains to replenish its water reservoirs since the rivers are polluted with sewage. In order to find a permanent solution to the recurring hydrological drought in Greater Chennai Corporation and its neighbourhood, there is a need for initiating permanent mitigation measures such as construction of new reservoirs, recharge of ground water aquifer, provision of alternate source of drinking water such as desalinated water, etc. These efforts require huge funding, which cannot be met by the State Government alone. The Government of India needs to supplement the efforts of the Government of Tamil Nadu to initiate measures for finding a permanent solution to meet the existing as well as the increasing drinking water needs of the people living in the Greater Chennai Corporation and its neighbourhood. I appeal to the Government to sanction an amount of ₹ 4,010 crores to Tamil Nadu to permanently tide over the water crisis.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Prof. M.V. Rajeev Gowda, not present. Shri Sakaldeep Rajbhar.

Demand to make policy to check migration of labourers from rural areas

श्री सकलदीप राजभर (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं यह बड़ी गंभीरता व जिम्मेदारी के साथ कहना चाहता हूँ कि विशेष रूप से बिहार, झारखण्ड व उत्तर प्रदेश के भारी संख्या में मजदूर हैं और वे मजबूरन मजदूरी करने के लिए विगत दशकों से लगातार महानगरों की तरफ अपने बाल-बच्चों व परिवार को छोड़ कर जाते हैं, जिससे इनके परिवार की दशा दयनीय होती जा रही है। मैं इस बात की सराहना करता हूँ कि माननीय मोदी जी ने गांव, गरीब व किसान के हित में, उनका जीवन-स्तर उठाने को गंभीरता से अपने संज्ञान में लिया है, परंतु एक बात जिस

* Laid on the Table.

[श्री सकलदीप राजभर]

पर मैं विशेष ज़ोर देना चाहता हूँ कि गांव का किसान मजदूर अपने कृषि कौशल को छोड़कर शहर में जाकर पैसा कमाने हेतु मजदूरी का काम करता है, जिससे उनके लड़के-लड़कियों की शिक्षा-दीक्षा प्रभावित होती है। 1 वर्ष से 3 वर्ष तक मजदूरों के परिवार अपने मुखिया की राह देखते हैं, जो बहुत ही कष्टदायक है।

माननीय महोदय, महानगरों की तरफ लगातार पलायन के कारण शहरों में बढ़ती जनसंख्या से जलवायु व वायु प्रदूषण व पीने का पानी आदि की समस्या अनियंत्रित होने के साथ-साथ अपराधों में भी वृद्धि होती है। मैं मांग करता हूँ कि विशेष रूप से उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार व झारखण्ड के मजदूरों की पीड़ा को ध्यान में रखकर विशेष नीति बनाकर कल-कारखाने लगाए जाएं एवं पूंजीपतियों की भागीदारी सुनिश्चित की जाए, जिससे ग्रामों से मजदूरों का पलायन रुक सके और वे अपने परिवार की देखभाल व बच्चों की पढ़ाई-लिखाई कर सकें तथा महानगरों को भारी जनसंख्या व जलवायु व वायु प्रदूषण से मुक्ति मिल सके।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Motilal Vora, not present.

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA

The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report to the House the following message received from the Lok Sabha, signed by the Secretary-General of the Lok Sabha:-

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 25th July, 2019."

Sir, I lay a copy of the Bill on the Table.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned till 11.00 a.m. on Friday, the 26th July, 2019.

*The House then adjourned at thirty minutes past
seven of the clock till eleven of the clock
on Friday, the 26th July, 2019.*