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Monday

2 December, 2019

11 Agrahayana, 1941 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

(FLOOR VERSION)

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[P.T.O.]

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NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

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RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 2nd December, 2019/11 Agrahayana, 1941 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of various companies, institutes and Centres

II MoU between Govt. of India and NALCO

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, I lay on the Table—

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

(i) (a) Thirty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), Bhubaneswar, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1065/17/19]

(ii) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited (MECL), Nagpur, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1067/17/19]

(iii) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Bharat Gold Mines Limited (BGML), Karnataka, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(b) Review by Government on the working of the above company.
[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1070/17/19]

- (iv) (a) Sixty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC India Limited (NLCIL), Chennai, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1467/17/19]

- (b) Seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Neyveli Uttar Pradesh Power Ltd., Lucknow, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1069/17/19]

- (c) Thirteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the NLC Tamil Nadu Power Limited (NTPL), Chennai, a subsidiary company of the NLC India Limited, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (d) Review by Government on the working of the above Company and its subsidiaries.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1069/17/19]

- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1066/17/19]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Aluminium Research Development and Design Centre (JNARDDC), Nagpur, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1073/17/19]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Miners' Health (NIMH), Nagpur, for the year 2018-19, 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. 1468/17/19]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Institute of Rock Mechanics (NIRM), Bengaluru, for the year 2018-19, 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. 1071/17/19]
- II. Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of India (Ministry of Mines) and the National Aluminium Company Limited (NALCO), for the year 2019-20.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1064/17/19]

Notifications of the Ministry of Defence

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, under article 309 of the Constitution, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Defence:—

- (1) S.R.O. 01 (E), dated the 25th February, 2019, publishing the Army Officers Pay (Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (2) S.R.O. 02 (E), dated the 25th February, 2019, publishing the Air Force Officers Pay (Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (3) S.R.O. 03 (E), dated the 25th February, 2019, publishing the Navy Officers Pay (Amendment) Regulations, 2019.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 821/17/19]

Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of Walkf Boards of Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Dadra and Nagar Haveli

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Kiren Rijiju, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Waqf Board, Port Blair, for the year 2018-19.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1093/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Dadra and Nagar Haveli Waqf Board, Silvassa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1092/17/19]

I Notification of the Ministry of Shipping

II Accounts (2018-19) of Tariff Authority for Major Ports, Mumbai

III Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of various Port Trusts

IV Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of various Corporations

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Shipping Notification No. IMU/HQ/ADM/Notification/2019/1, dated the 30th September, 2019, publishing certain Ordinances/Statutes of the Indian Maritime University as mentioned therein, under sub-section (2) of Section 47 of the Indian Maritime University Act, 2008.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 859/17/19]

- II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Annual Accounts of the Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMP), Mumbai, Maharashtra, for the year 2018-19, and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (2) of Section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 857/17/19]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (2) of Section 103 and Section 106 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

- (i) (a) Administrative Report of the Deendayal Port Trust (formerly Kandla Port Trust), Kutch, Gujarat, for the year 2018-19.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Deendayal Port Trust (formerly Kandla Port Trust), Kutch, Gujarat, for the year 2018-19, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Port Trust.
- (d) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above Port Trust. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 856/17/19]
- (ii) (a) Administrative Report of the Paradip Port Trust (PPT), Odisha, for the year 2018-19.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Paradip Port Trust (PPT), Odisha, for the year 2018-19, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Port Trust.
- (d) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above Port Trust. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 858/17/19]
- (iii) (a) Administrative Report and Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust-Pension Fund Trust, Mumbai, Maharashtra, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above Trust. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 855/17/19]
- (iv) (a) One Hundred and fortieth Administrative Report of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2018-19.
- (b) Annual Accounts of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2018-19, and the Audit Report thereon.
- (c) Review by Government on the working of the above Port Trust.
- (d) Review by Government of the Annual Accounts of the above Port Trust. [Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 854/17/19]

IV. 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) Second Annual Report and Accounts of the Hooghly Cochin Shipyard Limited (HCSL), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Company.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 851/17/19]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Shipping Corporation of India Limited (SCI), Mumbai, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 853/17/19]
- (iii) (a) Forty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Dredging Corporation of India Limited (DCI), Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.
[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 852/17/19]

Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of SIL, Lucknow; HPF, Tamil Nadu and BBJ, Kolkata

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS;
AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL): Sir, I lay on the Table under sub-section (1) (b) of Section 394 of the Companies Act, 2013, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Scooters India Limited (SIL), Lucknow, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1012/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Hindustan Photo Films Manufacturing Company Limited (HPF), Ootacamund, Tamil Nadu, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1015/17/19]

- (iii) (a) Thirty-third Annual Report and Accounts of the Braithwaite Burn and Jessop Construction Company Limited (BBJ), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

- (b) Statement by Government accepting the above Report.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1014/17/19]

Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of General (Retd.) V.K. Singh, I lay on the Table:—

- I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under sub-section (4) of Section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, along with delay statements:—
- (1) S.O. 6052 (E), dated the 6th December, 2018, publishing the Motor Vehicles (High Security Registration Plates) Order, 2018.
 - (2) S.O. 6108 (E), dated the 11th December, 2018, amending Notification No. S.O. 1365 (E), dated the 13th December, 2004, to substitute certain entries in the principal Notification.
 - (3) G.S.R.1151 (E), dated the 29th November, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Fifteenth Amendment) Rules, 2018.
 - (4) G.S.R. 1162 (E), dated the 4th December, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Sixteenth Amendment) Rules, 2018.

- (5) G.S.R. 1192 (E), dated the 11th December, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Seventeenth Amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (6) G.S.R. 1225 (E), dated the 20th December, 2018, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Eighteenth Amendment) Rules, 2018.
- (7) S.O. 1018 (E), dated the 25th February, 2019, publishing the Motor Vehicles (High Security Registration Plates) Amendment Order, 2019.
- (8) G.S.R. 167 (E), dated the 1st March, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (First Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (9) G.S.R. 174 (E), dated the 1st March, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Second Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (10) G.S.R. 173 (E), dated the 1st March, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Third Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (11) S.O. 1215 (E), dated the 8th March, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 443 (E), dated the 12th June, 1989, to substitute certain entries in the principal Notification.

[Placed in Library. For Sl. No. (1) to (11) See No. L.T. 862/17/19]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under sub-section (3) of Section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, along with delay statements:—

- (1) G.S.R. 246 (E), dated the 29th March, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Third Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (2) G.S.R. 440 (E), dated the 21st June, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (3) G.S.R. 511 (E), dated the 18th July, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Sixth Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (4) G.S.R. 547 (E), dated the 1st August, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Seventh Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (5) G.S.R. 681 (E), dated the 23rd September, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Eighth Amendment) Rules, 2019.

- (6) G.S.R. 807 (E), dated the 24th October, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (7) G.S.R. 808 (E), dated the 24th October, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (8) G.S.R. 806 (E), dated the 24th October, 2019, publishing the Central Motor Vehicles (Eleventh Amendment) Rules, 2019.
- (9) S.O. 3110 (E), dated the 28th August, 2019, appointing the 1st day of September, 2019 as the date on which certain provisions of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 specified therein, shall come into force.
- (10) S.O. 3147 (E), dated the 30th August, 2019, appointing the 1st day of September, 2019 as the date on which Section 1 of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, shall come into force.

[Placed in Library. For Sl. No. (1) to (10) See No. L.T. 862/17/19]

III. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under Section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—

- (1) S.O. 3108 (E), dated the 28th August, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (2) S.O. 3109 (E), dated the 28th August, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 3867 (E), dated 8th December, 2017, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (3) S.O. 3203 (E), dated the 4th September, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (4) S.O. 3725 (E), dated the 17th October, 2019, declaring new National Highway No. 703AA and its description in the Schedule of the Act.
- (5) S.O. 3959 (E), dated the 31st October, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

- (6) S.O. 3961 (E), dated the 31st October, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.
- (7) S.O. 4006 (E), dated the 6th November, 2019, amending Notification No. S.O. 1096 (E), dated 4th August, 2005, to substitute certain entries in the original Notification.

[Placed in Library. For Sl. No. (1) to (7) *See* No. L.T. 861/17/19]

IV. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Notifications of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under Section 37 of the National Highways Authority of India Act, 1988:—

- (1) S.O. 3960 (E), dated the 31st October, 2019, regarding entrustment of new NH No. 911A [The highway starting from its junction with NH-911 near Poogal connecting Alladin ka Bera and terminating at Khajuwala (Berianwala) in the State of Rajasthan] to the National Highways Authority of India.
- (2) S.O. 3965 (E), dated the 31st October, 2019, regarding entrustment of National Highway No. 753C [The Highway starting from its junction with NH-753A (Jalna Bypass) connecting Sindhkhed Raja, Dusrabid, Bibi, Sultanpur, Mehkar, Dongaon, Kenwad, Malegaon Jahangir, Shelu bazar, Karanja, Bramhankhed, Kherda, Pimpalgaon, Vaghoda, Dashasar, Talegaon and terminating at its junction with NH-347A near Pulgaon in the State of Maharashtra] to the National Highways Authority of India. [Placed in Library. For (1) and (2) *See* No. L.T. 981/17/19]

CAG of India's report on Railways Finances

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Anurag Singh Thakur, I lay on the Table, under clause (1) of article 151 of the Constitution, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March 2018 — Union Government (Railways) — Railways Finances (Report No. 10 of 2019).

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 981/17/19]

**Accounts (2017-18) of National Mission for
clean Ganga, New Delhi**

जलशक्ति मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री, तथा सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रतन लाल कटारिया): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्रों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (a) Annual Accounts of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, and the Audit Report thereon.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Mission.
 - (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (a) above.
- [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1109/17/19]

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

Safety of Women

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, Shri K.K. Ragesh and Shri Binoy Viswam have given notice under Rule 267. I am not permitting it. But they can give notice under other provisions. I will consider it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. When I say, 'No', please. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not a practice. Here afterwards, you will lose opportunity to ask supplementaries. If you are ready for that, then I will do it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Why are you unnecessarily. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Shri Sanjay Singh and a couple of others have given notice about 'Safety of girls and women in India.' It is a larger issue. I would like to know whether we should go ahead with Zero Hour or start discussion on it. Discussion means. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, we should have a discussion on this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Leader of the Opposition is here. I am asking him. थोड़ी सी शांति रखिए। I can understand your...

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD): Sir, it is a very important issue.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, the Zero Hour starts, but starts with that. Members can associate and also add one or two things if they want because of the importance of this issue. But, at the same time, please let us not make any comments against any Government and all that because that becomes controversial and the issue will be lost. We have discussed it even earlier also. So, I appeal to one and all. This issue of incidents of sexual assaults on women in different parts of the country is really disturbing; it is disturbing to all. What happened in Hyderabad is a Total disgrace to all principles of humanity and is highly condemnable. It is not concerned with Hyderabad alone. Hyderabad is only the latest. But it is happening in different parts of the country. As a mother, wife and sister, a woman is an epitome of love, care and compassion and they are accorded a very high place in our society and value system, and we should ponder over why such things are happening, what are the remedial measures, etc. It is terrible that we get to hear more and more of brutal incidents of outraging the modesty of a woman and all that. So, I appeal to the Members to be constraint and make constructive suggestions in a brief manner. We will start with the Leader of the Opposition.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपसे बिल्कुल सहमत हूँ कि यह किसी एक region या पार्टी का दोष नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई भी सरकार, वह चाहे किसी भी पार्टी की हो और कोई भी नेता हो, वह कभी नहीं चाहेगा कि उसके राज्य में किसी बच्ची के साथ इस तरह की दुर्घटना घटे। हमने इससे पहले भी बहुत कानून बनाए हैं, लेकिन कभी-कभी ऐसा देखा जाता है कि खाली कानून बनाने से ही समस्या हल नहीं हो सकती। इस बीमारी को जड़ से खत्म करने के लिए पूरे देश, पूरे समाज को खड़ा होना होगा, हर लेवल पर खड़ा होना होगा और इसका हर जगह प्रचार होना चाहिए। इसके लिए न सिर्फ पार्लियामेंट के अंदर, विधान सभाओं के अंदर, बल्कि एजुकेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशन्स के अंदर, प्राइवेट इंस्टीट्यूशन्स के अंदर भी एक वातावरण बनाने की जरूरत है। जो सबसे बड़ी जरूरत है, वह यह है कि जब भी कोई ऐसा दोषी पाया जाए तो पक्षपात से ऊपर उठकर, वह चाहे धर्म का पक्षपात हो या पार्टी का पक्षपात हो, इससे ऊपर उठकर उसके खिलाफ सख्त से सख्त कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए और उसे सख्त से सख्त सजा देनी चाहिए। मेरा यही अनुरोध होगा कि राज्य सरकारों को ऐसे लोगों के साथ सख्ती से निपटना चाहिए।

† قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد) : ماٹھے سپہا پتی مہودے، میں آپ سے بالکل سہمت ہوں کہ یہ کسی ایک ریجن یا پارٹی کا دوش نہیں ہے۔ میں نہیں سمجھتا ہوں کہ کوئی بھی سرکار وہ چاہے کسی بھی پارٹی کی ہو اور کوئی بھی نیتا ہو، وہ کبھی چاہے گا کہ اس کے راجیہ میں کسی بچی کے ساتھ اس طرح کا حادثہ پیش آئے۔ ہم نے اس سے پہلے بھی بہت قانون بنائے ہیں، لیکن کبھی کبھی ایسا دیکھا جاتا ہے کہ خالی قانون بنانے سے ہی سمسیمہ حل نہیں ہو سکتی۔ اس بیماری کو جڑ سے ختم کرنے کے لئے پورے دیش، پورے سماج کو کھڑا ہونا ہوگا، ہر لیول پر کھڑا ہونا ہوگا اور اس کا ہر جگہ پرچار ہونا چاہئے۔ اس کا نہ صرف پارلیمنٹ کے اندر، ودھان سبھاؤں کے اندر بلکہ ایجوکیشنل انسٹی ٹیوشنس کے اندر، پرائیویٹ انسٹی ٹیوشنس کے اندر بھی ایک ماحول بنانے کی ضرورت ہے۔ جو سب سے بڑی ضرورت ہے، وہ یہ ہے کہ جب بھی کوئی ایسا دوشی پایا جائے تو پکشیپات سے اوپر اٹھ کر، وہ چاہے دھرم کا پکشیپات ہو یا پارٹی کا پکشیپات ہو اس سے اوپر اٹھ کر اس کے خلاف سخت سے سخت کارروائی کرنی چاہئے اور اسے سخت سے سخت سزا دینی چاہئے۔ میرا یہی انورودھ ہوگا کہ راجیہ سرکاروں کو ایسے لوگوں کے ساتھ سختی سے ٹیٹنا چاہئے۔

(ختم شد)

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Thank you, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak on this very sensitive issue. As you know, Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution of India speak about gender equality and prohibition of discrimination.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All parties would get an opportunity. Afterwards, if time remains, I would give an opportunity to one more Member from the same party.

DR. SANTANU SEN: But, unfortunately, as per the National Crime Records Bureau, incidents of crimes against women are increasing day-by-day, with some recent spine-chilling events like those that took place in * If we consider it State-wise, we would get to know that in States like *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let us not bring in States here. Otherwise the matter would get diverted and people would say, घमारे स्टेट में कम है, तुम्हारे स्टेट में ज्यादा है, इससे क्या फायदा है?

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, I must mention that in a State like * it is increasing by nearly eight per cent...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

* Not recorded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Santanuji, I will now allow that. You are a Doctor. You must give some proper advice.

DR. SANTANU SEN: So far as the Gender Inequality Index, 2017 is concerned, India ranks 127 out of 160 countries. Perhaps it would touch Syria. So far as Global Gender Gap Index is concerned, India ranks 108 among 149 countries. My suggestion is, as suggested by the hon. Leader of the Opposition, strong steps must be taken by bringing legislation, by setting up fast track courts and awarding exemplary punishment. That punishment should be publicized so that people think twice before committing such a heinous crime.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Kanakamedala Ravindra Kumar; he would be speaking in Telugu.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): * “Hon’ble Chairman Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity. The recent incident in Hyderabad, reminded us of 2012 Nirbhaya incident and it also reminded of the responsibilities of the people and the lawmakers. I want to submit three suggestions. First, there were some incidents in which police personnel caused delay in accepting the complaint, citing jurisdiction issues. The Supreme Court, on many occasions, gave its ruling that the complaints of such nature should be accepted irrespective of jurisdiction. Hence, I request the Central Government to direct the State Governments to implement the Supreme Court ruling. Second, measures are taken only after an incident has occurred but as per the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013 (Nirbhaya Act); preventive measures should be taken before such incidents occur. Preventive steps like increase in police patrol, security arrangements and increasing social awareness should be taken up by the Government. My third suggestion is, when such incidents occur, Special Courts should be constituted for delivering instant justice to avoid delay caused by procedural aspect. Public is demanding Capital Punishment in the name of instant justice, though it is not possible. Public should be assured that Justice will be delivered at the earliest. By adopting the above mentioned suggestions, crimes of such nature can be prevented”.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri R.K. Sinha; not present. Shri P. Wilson.

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Chairman Sir, on Sunday, the collective conscience of our nation was shook on hearing about the rape and murder of a woman veterinarian from Telangana whose charred body was found on the outskirts of Hyderabad on

* English Translation of the original speech made in Telugu.

Thursday morning. One recalls the gruesome rape and murder of Nirbhaya which sparked national outrage. A similar instance of rape had also taken place in Pollachi, Tamil Nadu. The laws relating to the punishment of these offenders are not stringent despite amendment to Section 376 of Indian Penal code. After the trial of offenders and being imposed with punishment available under any other provision of law, the Court should be empowered to order either surgical or chemical castration for serious offences like rape and murder before being released from prison into the community. Although this legislation is very stringent and invasive, but these types of legislations to order surgical or chemical castration for offenders involving in rape, are now adopted in Korea and some States of the USA, like California, etc. Both surgical and chemical castration undoubtedly reduces sexual interest, sexual performance and sexual reoffending. The cost incurred for such surgical or chemical castration should be recovered from the offenders by attaching all his assets and in case he is insolvent, the Court of Inquiry should direct the State to bear the cost. A list of such sexual offenders should be made available in the social platform to make people aware and be cautious about them and this would bring a stigma on the offenders and sexual offences can be controlled in the society. It is time we act to save India's daughters.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Sir, in the last few years, violence against women has escalated. The official data of 2016 shows that 38, 947 women were raped. There are numerous specific laws that give protection to women and rights to women. There is a plethora of judgements from the hon. apex Court, but, somehow, they do not reach the victims; they do not reach the women. On the one hand, women are becoming capable; they get empowered, but what about the systems that are not reaching them? So, I request all the systems, whether it is the judicial and legal system or the executive system which talk about the Police reforms or other systems that come together to see that a social reformation takes place. Society's mindset is not changing. How to change that mindset in order to see that our women are secure and safe is something which is needed, and this should be an emergency and on a war-footing at this point of time in history.

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान (आन्ध्र प्रदेश): चेयरमैन साहब, * के रेप और मर्डर ने हिन्दुस्तान की तारीख के अन्दर एक नया बाब खोला है।

*Not recorded.

[श्री मोहम्मद अली खान]

† جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) : چیئرمین صاحب، ^{حیدرآباد} کے ریپ اور مرڈر نے ہندوستان کی تاریخ کے اندر ایک نیا باب کھولا ہے۔

श्री सभापति: मोहम्मद अली खान साहब, आप victim का नाम नहीं ले सकते हैं, वह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा।

श्री मोहम्मद अली खान: कई साल पहले दिल्ली के अन्दर एक वाकया हुआ था। मरकज़ी सरकार और रियासती सरकारों ने इन हादसात को रोकने के लिए, जरायम को रोकने के लिए पुलिस डिपार्टमेंट के अन्दर काफी improvement की और गाड़ियों के साथ-साथ फोनो का भी arrangement किया, लेकिन अफसोस के साथ यह कहना पड़ता है कि एक महिला को बचाने के लिए पुलिस न तो वक्त पर पहुँच सकी और न उसकी जान की तहफफ़ुज कर सकी। जुल्म का तकाज़ा यह था कि जब उनके घर वालों ने पुलिस से मुतालिबा किया, तो पुलिस उनकी अनदेखी करती है। मेरी आपसे अपील है, रियासतों की हुकूमतों से यह अपील है कि आप इस मामले को seriously लें और इसको हल करने की कोशिश करें। बावजूद इसके कि तेलंगाना के चीफ़ मिनिस्टर ने यह कहा है कि मैं इसकी सुनवाई फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट के जरिए करूँगा, फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट की मुअय्यना मुद्दत मुकर्रर करनी चाहिए। ऐसा न हो जाए कि मुलज़िम को सज़ा देने में वर्षों-वर्ष लग जाएँ। मैं आपके तवस्सुत से मरकज़ी सरकार से अपील करता हूँ कि कई अख़बार के लोग शरपसंद तरीके से ऐसे केसों को किसी एक मज़हब से जोड़ने की हिकमत करते हैं। जो हालिया केस है, उसका किसी एक मज़हब से संबंध नहीं है। इसके अंदर चार लोग मुल्जिम करार दिए गए हैं। टीवी और अख़बारात के ऊपर भी रोक होनी चाहिए और इनके खिलाफ भी सज़ा तय होनी चाहिए, शुक्रिया।

† جناب محمد علی خان (آندھرا پردیش) : کئی سال پہلے دہلی کے اندر ایک واقعہ ہوا تھا۔ مرکزی سرکار اور ریاستی سرکاروں نے ان حادثات کو رکنے کے لئے، جرائم کو روکنے کے لئے پولیس ڈیپارٹمنٹ کے اندر کافی improvement کی اور گاڑیوں کے ساتھ ساتھ فون کا بھی arrangement کیا، لیکن افسوس کے ساتھ یہ کہنا پڑتا ہے کہ ایک عورت کو بچانے کے لئے پولیس نہ تو وقت پر پہنچ سکی اور نہ اس کی جان کا تحفظ کر سکی۔ ظلم کا تقاضہ یہ تھا کہ جب ان کے گھر والوں نے پولیس سے مطالبہ کیا، تو پولیس ان کی اندیکھی کرتی ہے۔ میری آپ سے اپیل ہے، ریاستوں کی حکومتوں سے یہ اپیل ہے کہ آپ اس معاملے کو seriously لیں اور اس کو حل کرنے کی کوشش کریں۔ باوجود اس کے کہ تلنگانہ کے چیف منسٹر نے یہ کہا ہے کہ میں اس کی سنوائی فاسٹ ٹریک کورٹ کے ذریعے کروں گا، فاسٹ ٹریک کورٹ معینہ مدت مقرر کرنی چاہئے۔ ایسا نہ ہو جائے کہ ملزم کو سزا دینے میں سالوں سال لگ جائیں۔ میں آپ کے توسط سے مرکزی سرکار سے اپیل کرتا ہوں، کئی اخبار کے لوگ شریسند طریقے سے ایسے کیسوں کو کسی ایک مذہب سے جوڑنے کی حکمت کرتے ہیں۔ جو حالیہ کیس ملزمین ہے، اس کا کسی ایک مذہب سے تعلق نہیں ہے۔ اس کے اندر چار لوگ ملزم قرار دئے گئے ہیں۔ ٹی وی اور اخبارات کے اوپر بھی روک ہوئی چاہئے اور ان کے خلاف بھی سزا طے ہوئی چاہئے۔ شکریہ۔

(ختم شد)

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत शुक्रिया। अक्सर ऐसा होता है कि जब भी इस तरह की दरिंदगी की घटनाएं सामने आती हैं, तो हम लोग पॉलिटिकल पोजिशन लेते हैं। सर, क़ानून व्यवस्था अपनी जगह है, आप उस पर सवाल उठा सकते हैं, लेकिन यहां सवाल हमारी मानसिकता का है। हम एक बीमार समाज में तब्दील होते जा रहे हैं और यह बीमार उत्तर-दक्षिण, पूर्व-पश्चिम, सब जगह है। इस तरह की घटनाओं में बहुत से बहुत अपराधी को सज़ा हो जाती है, लेकिन इसका *deterrence* नहीं हो रहा है, क्योंकि कहीं न कहीं हमारा ज़हन ही बीमार है। हर ज़हन की पुलिस पेट्रोलिंग संभव नहीं है। मैं सिर्फ़ इतना ही कहूंगा कि सदन कई मसलों पर जन-आंदोलन की बात करता है, लेकिन जन-आंदोलन की आवश्यकता वास्तव में इस तरह के अपराधों के लिए है, अन्यथा अपनी बच्चियों के लिए हम महफूज मुल्क नहीं दे रहे हैं। शुक्रिया, जय हिन्द।

श्री आर के. सिन्हा (बिहार): धन्यवाद, मान्यवर। यह एक ऐसा विषय है, जिसने पूरे देश को आंदोलित कर दिया है। बार-बार इस तरह की घटनाएं हो रही हैं। सात साल पहले ही निर्भया की घटना हुई थी। अभी तेलंगाना की घटना के संबंध में हम सबने सुना। कल राजस्थान में भी कुछ इसी तरह की घटना हुई। क्या हम संवेदनहीन हो गए हैं? क्या हमारी पढ़ाई, हमारी शिक्षा, हमारे संस्कार सब समाप्त हो गए हैं? क्या कारण है कि बार-बार इस तरीके की घटनाएं हो रही हैं? इसके पीछे के कारण को हमें देखना चाहिए। हम लोगों ने बचपन में पढ़ा था -

‘मातृवत् परदारेषु परद्रव्येषु लोष्ठवत्’

अर्थात् कोई भी पराई स्त्री हो, उसको माँ मानकर प्रणाम करो और दूसरे के धन को लोष्ठा के समान, विष्ठा के समान समझो, लेकिन आज हमारे संस्कारों और हमारी शिक्षा पद्धति को क्या हो गया है? आज की न्यायिक प्रक्रिया भी ऐसी हो गई है कि मृत्युदंड पाने के बाद भी दया याचिका और बाकी की सब चीज़ें करते-करते, आज सात वर्ष हो गए, लेकिन अभी तक हम निर्भया कांड के आरोपियों का कुछ भी निर्णय नहीं ले पाए। हमने निर्भया फंड क्रिएट किया, लेकिन राज्य सरकारें उसके प्रति संवेदनशील ही नहीं हैं। वे उसका उपयोग नहीं कर रही हैं।

श्री सभापति: आप यहां राज्य सरकार की बात मत कीजिए, वह चर्चा का विषय नहीं है। आप अपने विषय पर बात कीजिए।

श्री आर के. सिन्हा: सर, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक ऐसा विषय है, जिस पर गंभीरता से विचार करना चाहिए और इस प्रकार के अपराधियों के लिए तत्काल फांसी की सज़ा का प्रावधान होना चाहिए। इसमें कोई भी देरी नहीं करनी चाहिए।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman Sir, yesterday, when I opened the Hindu newspaper in the morning, I was shocked to see that the entire second and third pages were fully covered by four such incidents. This one happened at Hyderabad, then, there was the incident of a four year old girl raped and burnt; then about incidents of a fourteen year old and then a sixteen year old. It is very much disheartening for all of us.

[Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth]

What are we doing in the country? Mahatma Gandhiji said, "Only if a girl, who travels in the night at twelve o'clock, comes back home safe, then, that is the real freedom." Today, we are agitating because we are not safe. The country is not safe for the children; country is not safe for women. There should be very strong punishment. India should now open up and see to it that the four persons, who indulged in this heinous crime, are hanged before 31st of December. Fast track court should be set up immediately and a daily hearing should be held. They have to be hanged before 31st December.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Prolonging this case would be justice delayed, which is always justice is denied. Pornography and drugs, in fact, drug is the major influence. So, stop and completely ban use of drugs, especially in areas nearby schools. The children are able to get drugs easily in the open market. There are petty shops where drugs are available. We have to stop that nonsense. In Nirbhaya case, we had seen that trials were going on for a long period of time. In this case, all of us are shocked. Definitely, there should be an immediate judgment.

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): सर, हैदराबाद की घटना हुई, उसके बाद फिर उसी तरह की घटना राँची में हुई और अभी दो दिन पहले देश की राजधानी दिल्ली में 9 साल की एक बच्ची के साथ बलात्कार की घटना हुई। इन घटनाओं ने निर्भया कांड की याद दिला दी। जब निर्भया कांड हुआ था, तब उस वक्त पूरा देश आन्दोलित हुआ था, पूरा देश सड़कों पर उतरा था। सबने यह माँग की थी कि इस बुराई को हमें खत्म करना है, इस अपराध के खिलाफ लड़ना है।

मान्यवर, सख्त कानून भी बनाये गये, मैं इससे इनकार नहीं कर रहा हूँ, लेकिन उन सख्त कानूनों का अमल कहाँ हो रहा है? उन सख्त कानूनों का अमल नहीं हो पाने की वजह से आज भी निर्भया की माँ न्याय के लिए तरस रही है। आज भी उन लोगों को, जिनको कोर्ट ने फाँसी की सजा दी, उनको फाँसी नहीं हो पायी।

मान्यवर, मुजफ्फरपुर कांड हुआ, देवरिया कांड हुआ। 4 साल, 6 साल, 10 साल की बच्चियों के साथ बलात्कार की घटनाएँ सामने आती हैं, उनकी हत्या कर दी जाती है। मैं आपके माध्यम से हाथ जोड़ कर इस सरकार से निवेदन करूँगा कि कृपा करके कुछ सख्त कदम उठाइए, एक निश्चित समय-सीमा में सजा दिलाने का प्रावधान कीजिए और फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट्स का ज्यादा से ज्यादा गठन कीजिए। देश भर में शहरों के अन्दर और गाँवों के अन्दर ज्यादा से ज्यादा सीसीटीवी कैमरे लगवाने का काम कीजिए।

इसके साथ-साथ जहाँ ब्लैक स्पॉट्स हैं, जो अंधेरे की जगहें हैं, वहाँ पर लाइट का प्रॉपर इंतजाम हो, जिससे महिलाओं को सुरक्षा महसूस हो सके। आपके माध्यम से मैं सरकार से फिर से यही अनुरोध करूँगा कि इस मामले में न्याय में देरी नहीं हो और बलात्कार के मामलों में निश्चित समय-सीमा में फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट्स के अन्दर सजा का प्रावधान किया जाए।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, the conscience of the nation was shaken. As it has been said, it is a rarest of the rare cases. I tweeted that I join the mother of the girl, since it is the rarest of the case, in demanding death penalty for the persons involved in this. But, the main question here whether our legislations, which are in the nature of coercive measures, will solve this problem or something more cultural has to be done. On the front of legislation, again, we are making the laws very stringent. We have brought in criminal punishment to the extent of death penalty. But the point is: rule of law can't be implemented in isolation. The entire ecosystem of adherence to the rule of law lacks in this country. In this particular case, as I was going through the newspaper, just two days ago, the authorities were checking his licence and he could hoodwink them and then go ahead. Probably, this particular situation could have been prevented had that particular person been caught at that time. So, this is one aspect. The second aspect, which is more important, is the cultural aspect. The cultural aspect, in this particular case, is that no amount of education, with the kind of educational background of the accused, you could see that it is not that through schools or media, it can improve. It has to be in the society altogether. The mother of the accused has also said that if they are found guilty, the most stringent punishment should be awarded. So, we have to do something more on the societal front, which, I think, no amount of legislation can do.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, हमारे देश में कुछ वर्षों से महिलाओं के साथ उत्पीड़न व जघन्य अपराध बढ़े हैं, जैसा अभी हैदराबाद में एक महिला के साथ जघन्य अपराध हुआ, उसकी मृत्यु हुई। ऐसी घटना 7 साल पहले दिल्ली में हुई थी— निर्भया कांड। तब उस समय कानून बना था। कानून तो बना, उसके लिए फंड भी सुरक्षित किया गया, किन्तु उस पर अनुपालन नहीं हुआ। इसके साथ-साथ मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि पूरे देश में जो कामकाजी महिलाएँ हैं या निम्न वर्ग की महिलाएँ हैं या अनुसूचित जाति वर्ग की महिलाएँ हैं, उनके साथ तमाम घटनाएँ होती हैं, जो दर्शाती भी नहीं जाती हैं, न उन्हें मीडिया कवरेज देता है और न ही पुलिस में एफआईआर दर्ज होती है।

माननीय सभापति महोदय, मेरा निवेदन यह है कि जैसे * वगैरह में तमाम घटनाएँ हुई हैं।

श्री सभापति: प्रदेश का नाम मत लीजिए।

श्री वीर सिंह: उन पर सख्त कार्रवाई की जाए। इसके साथ ही साथ मेरा यह सुझाव है कि फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट बना कर इस पर कार्यवाही होनी चाहिए और इसके लिए सख्त कानून बनना चाहिए, इस ओर ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिए, धन्यवाद।

SHRIT.K. RANGARAJAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I agree with the Leader of the Opposition and the DMK Member, Shri P. Wilson also. In every newspaper, if you take regional newspapers, it will give you more information about the regional incidents. Sir, today the

[Shri T.K. Rangarajan]

moral education is not there. I want to say that whatever laws we are making here, they are not percolating. The implementing agency is not implementing anything, that is why, these things are happening. I think, the visual media and the print media should attack more on all these things. They should write editorials on these subjects. There should be some good stories about the morals and ethics. If you continue with that it will be good.

But, whatever law we shall make, it should be percolated and action should be taken against the culprit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If you want to associate, you can associate yourself, and if you want to say something you can say it.

SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I do not know, how many times I have stood and spoke about this kind of an अत्याचार. Sir, whether it is Nirbhaya, Kathua or whatever happened in Hyderabad, I think, it is time, the people now want the Government to give a proper answer and a very definite answer. What has happened, how they have tackled it and how far the justice has been done to these people.

सर, मुझे लगता है कि हैदराबाद में यह जो घटना हुई, उसके पहले दिन भी उसी जगह पर एक हादसा हुआ, क्या वहाँ के जो security-in-charge हैं, मैं किसी का नाम नहीं ले रही हूँ, आपको भी पता है, don't you think that they should be questioned and they should be asked to give an answer as to why they were not able to protect that area, जहाँ एक दिन पहले ही हादसा हो चुका था। Sir, I think, the people who have not done their jobs properly, these people need to be shamed in front of the entire country. Of course, the people who have committed the crime they should definitely be punished. कुछ कंट्रीज़ में अगर इस तरह की चीज़ें होती हैं, तो वहाँ पर पब्लिक इस पर जस्टिस देती है। मेरा सजेशन है, I know, it is a little harsh, but, I think, these kinds of people need to be brought out in public and lynched.

DR. BANDA PRAKASH (Telangana): * Hon'ble Chairman Sir, the incident which took place in Hyderabad has put the entire country in shame. Such incidents are reported everyday in newspapers". So many incidents were reflected in the Press. Even today, there was news that a fifty-five years old woman was raped by a boy. There is no age discretion and any other discretion. According to the National Crime Records Bureau, every twenty minutes, there is one rape in India and it is increasing every year. Recently, one-fast track court has given death punishment. If he would have gone for appeal, it would be made a life-term. Sir, we should think about the legal framework also. What is the legal framework in

* English translation of the original speech made in Telugu.

such cases? Everybody is demanding immediate punishment. What is that immediate punishment? What are the laws that we are following? We should think about those laws in a proper manner. The law should be such that these kind of crimes can be dealt with immediately. We should bring such laws in our country.

I request you to kindly give some particular time for discussing in full length as to what are the Acts we can make to control these types of crimes in India.

SHRI VAIKO (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is the country where women have been worshipped as deities, *thai deivam*, but in this country not a single day passes without such a heinous crime taking place either in Hyderabad or Coimbatore or somewhere else. Parents get terribly afraid if their daughters do not turn up from the school at the right point of time. So, there is panic everywhere in the minds of the parents throughout the country. We have to do something, Sir. Concrete action must be taken. You have to deal with such people with an iron hand.

SHRI NARESH GUJRAL (Punjab): Sir, every time, a ghastly incident such as this happens, we express shock. The country gets shocked for a few days, we talk about fast-track courts and the things move on. The fact of the matter is that laws are there but fear of the law has gone because the courts take so much time and delay everything. I have said it before also, High Courts have 40 per cent vacancies, lower courts have 40 per cent vacancies. Sir, something should be done to improve the judicial system. Why should we have fast-track courts? All courts should be fast-tracked?

Today, our girls, our children in all the metro cities fear going out in the evenings only because the police has not been sensitised. The Government needs to sensitise the police and take the necessary action. Thank you.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, after Nirbhaya and Kathua, we heard about the Hyderabad incident. Women are not safe in this country. Even if she is a small girl of four years or a grandmother of 80 years, the newspaper reports suggest that they are getting raped. This country talks a lot about the women and about their greatness. Sir, no one can deny that all of us, the human race and everyone came from the womb of a mother but now the society is forgetting this fact. Culprits are there everywhere. Some of the concepts of a patriarchal society also contribute to this. There is one more thing, Sir.

Today, globalisation and its values suggest that profits are the most important thing. So, drug trafficking, if it gives you profits, do it; pornography, if it gives you profits, do it.

[Shri Binoy Viswam]

Whatever gives you profit is good. These values have to be changed. Personally, I am not for capital punishment but in such cases, those culprits may even be hanged because such incidents should not be repeated. This country should not tolerate such people anymore.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, these are all unfortunate incidents. The major problem is that people who are actually committing such crimes, they are not afraid of law. The crime takes place and the law takes its own course. Culprits go into appeal and sometimes it takes years also. Time is the most important factor. As several hon. Members have said, immediately, within 15 - 20 days, action must be taken so that a message can be given to the people of the country that such and such dangerous fellow who has committed such and such crime will not be spared, no appeal will be allowed and punishment will be given. The fear of law should be there in the minds of the people.

SHR ASHWINI VAISHNAW (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, what I wish to say is that each time, after such incidents happen, we talk about introduction of fast-track courts or some special punishment but what are we doing to change the system? This whole legal system is more than 100 years old. The IPC, Cr.PC, the Evidence Act and the whole judicial system is of the colonial era, which has not been changed at all. Sir, the human psychology and the society will change, (i) through education, and (ii) through certainty of punishment. What is the probability of punishment? Today, the probability of punishment is very low. Why would people not do things that they are doing when there is hardly any probability of punishment? What is the number of personnel of police and the judiciary? The number of police men per thousand in this country is amongst the lowest. What is the position of the police stations? What is the technology that we have? The population has grown manifold whereas the whole system is way behind. My suggestion is that we should focus on changing the system so that these things do not repeat in future.

श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय (पश्चिमी बंगाल): महोदय, इस घटना में जब एक थानेदार ने complaint दर्ज की, तब तक इस लेडी डॉक्टर के साथ सिर्फ सामूहिक बलात्कार ही नहीं हुआ, बल्कि उसको बड़ी बेरहमी से ज़िन्दा जला दिया गया। पुलिस बोलती है कि यह हमारे jurisdiction में नहीं है, आप दूसरे थाने में जाइए। On the ground of jurisdiction, they are avoiding it. But the Supreme Court in umpteen number of cases have directed the States that, jurisdiction कुछ भी हो, कहीं का भी हो, किंतु जब sexual harassment का कोई केस हो और उसकी complaint किसी भी थाने में जाए तो उसमें FIR होनी चाहिए, लेकिन वह इस बार भी नहीं हुआ। इसलिए मैं आपमें माध्यम से गृह मंत्री जी से urge करता हूँ कि सारे स्टेट्स को निर्देशिका भेजी जाए कि पुलिस अगर इस तरह की complaint register नहीं करती है, तो उसी वक्त उस पुलिस वाले को सस्पेंड किया जाए और उसके खिलाफ कार्रवाई की जाए।

MS. DOLASEN (West Bengal): Sir, I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): सभापति महोदय, हैदराबाद में जो दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण घटना हुई है, विक्टिम और उसके परिवार के प्रति संवेदना में हम सब लोग उनके साथ हैं। लेकिन आज मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि इस प्रकार की घटनाएं एक सभ्य समाज में चुभन की तरह होती हैं। आज समाज का जो वातावरण है, उसमें कामकाजी महिलाओं की सुरक्षा, स्वतंत्र रूप से अपना व्यवसाय करने का अधिकार आदि विषय ऐसे हैं, जो केवल प्रशासन के द्वारा ही नहीं, बल्कि हम सबके संकल्प के द्वारा व्यक्त होने चाहिए। महिला सुरक्षा, महिला अधिकार, ये सब हमारे राजनैतिक संकल्पों में भी व्यक्त होने चाहिए। इसलिए समाज की मानसिकता बदलने में हम सब लोग आगे बढ़कर इन सारे प्रश्नों को मूल प्रश्न बनाकर मिलकर काम करें और भविष्य में न्यायिक और कानूनी प्रणाली में जो सुधार हो सकते हैं, उसके लिए हम सब मिलकर एक समय-सीमा के अंदर इसको लागू करने के लिए सामूहिक संकल्प के साथ काम करें, तभी इस संवेदनशील समाज में इस प्रकार के चुभन वाले विषय समाप्त होंगे। महिलाओं की सुरक्षा के अधिकार हम सबके सर्वोपरिता के विषय बनें, मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: सम्मानीय सदस्यों, ...(व्यवधान)...

Dr. K. KESHAVERAO (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already moved on. सम्मानीय सदस्यों, जिन्होंने नोटिस दिए, उन सबको मैंने बोलने का मौका दिया और जिन पोलिटिकल पार्टीज़ की संख्या ज्यादा है, उनके दो-दो मेम्बर्स को बोलने का मौका दिया और अन्य सभी पोलिटिकल पार्टीज़ के मेम्बर्स को भी बोलने का मौका दिया, केशव राव जी... हम सबके सामने सभी पहलू आए। इसका जवाब- जवाब-समाधान, जवाब-न्यायपालिका, जवाब-सरकारें- जवाब यह है कि हम सब लोगों को मिलकर इसका जवाब देना है, अन्य कोई विकल्प नहीं है। केवल कानून बनाने से ही काम नहीं होगा, यह सबको मालूम है। सज़ा देने के बाद भी क्या हो रहा है, हम सब लोग देख रहे हैं। Appeal and mercy का पहलू भी हम सबके सामने आया। Can anybody think of having mercy on such people? And why? Because some practice has been there for years together. The process is there. Then the State Government to appeal, then the Central Government to appeal, then the Home Ministry and then the President. All these things are there. We should really think about it to have a change in our legal system, in our judicial system.

We are discussing it today not because it happened in Hyderabad alone. Let us not make this mistake of attributing it to one State or one city. Such incidents are happening in different parts of the country. Also, let us not attribute it to one regime or the other. It is happening because of social weakness. It is a societal disease. There is certain lacuna in our system both in the legal system and in our police system. Otherwise, how can anyone justify it saying that it is not under his jurisdiction? This has not happened for the first time. Even in other cases also people have responded in such manner, though there is clear

[Mr. Chairman]

direction of the Supreme Court. Then there are Fast Track Courts. फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट एक समाधान है। फास्ट ट्रैक कोर्ट के बाद क्या है? उसके बाद एक प्रक्रिया है, appeal and then next appeal. Another issue is age. I would appeal to the country, the politicians, the political parties, to the hon. Members cutting across party lines because again there is an argument ये तो juvenile हैं, उनको नहीं मालूम के वे क्या कर रहे हैं, वगैरह-वगैरह। इसके बारे में भी हम सब लोगों को गंभीरता से revisit करना चाहिए। जो दुष्कृत्य और अकृत्य कर सकते हैं, उनकी उम्र से क्या लेना-देना है? इस विषय के बारे में भी गंभीरता से हम सभी लोगों को मिलकर सोचना चाहिए। मैंने पहले भी बताया था कि आज भी उसको रिपीट करना चाहूंगा, what is required is not a new Bill; what is required is the political will, administrative skill, change of mindset and then go for the kill of the social evil. The entire country must move in that direction. I was just going through the Constitution. The other day, we all talked about spreading awareness about Fundamental Duties of citizens. These Duties include renouncing practices derogatory to the dignity of women. Here, all mediums of communication, educational system, social media and cinema, pornography being spread and encouraged, being silently supported by the concerned person by not taking action against such activities, etc. are issues on which the country, as a whole, all States and all political parties must pay our attention and see to it that we create awareness and put a stigma on that fellow. His photo should be published and distributed everywhere. Nowadays, we have Aadhaar cards, identity cards, etc. Such fellows should be identified and a social stigma should be there so that there is some fear of this.

Then, there are related issues like drug addiction or selling of alcohol on places like National Highways. Here also, it is a National Highway. What happened in this incident? Earlier also, we have seen what happened. So, all these issues should be focused by all concerned. This kind of violation of dignity of women cannot go on unchallenged. It should be nipped in the bud. It is already too late. That is why, relaxing the rule, I have allowed the issue to be raised by one and all because of its larger importance, seriousness and social dimension so that certain amount of awareness is created in the society. I hope this is the last occasion where we discuss such an incident and we do not have to discuss it in future. Let everybody keep this in mind and move on.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION

Opening of the Kendriya Vidyalaya, Sector -8, R.K. Puram, during festival days in October

श्री कैलाश सोनी (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ कि अभी सैक्टर-8, आर.के. पुरम, नई दिल्ली स्थित केंद्रीय

विद्यालय में पतझड़ अवकाश के समय, जो 6 अक्टूबर से लेकर 15 अक्टूबर तक था, स्कूल को छुट्टी के समय खोला गया। शिक्षकों और छात्र-छात्राओं को एक्सट्रा क्लासेज के नाम पर छुट्टी में विद्यालय में उपस्थित रहने और शिक्षण कार्य कराने के लिए बाध्य किया गया। इसमें सबसे बड़ी चिंता की बात यह है कि इसी बीच में बहुसंख्यक समाज की प्रमुख तिथियां आती हैं - अष्टमी, महानवमी और दशहरा। सारे देश से लोग अपने घर जाकर उपवास करते हैं और तिथि को आयोजित करते हैं। यदि एक्सट्रा क्लासेज भी चलानी हों, तो इतवार के दिन भी बुलाएं, इसमें आपत्ति नहीं, दीगर दिनों में बुलाएं। तो मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि मंत्रालय इसको नोटिस में ले, क्योंकि इससे लोगों की भावनाएं आहत हुई हैं और इस पर कार्रवाई करनी चाहिए।

**Revival of Cement Corporation of India in
Adilabad, Telangana**

SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV (Telangana): * “Namaskar Sir. Adilabad region in Telangana is a very backward region. The cement factory run by Cement Corporation of India (CCI), Adilabad was closed. People are suffering a lot because of this. There are many favorable conditions for reviving this factory. If National Highways Authority of India invests in this plant, the cement produced from this plant can be used in construction of highways. This is a feasible proposal. Revival of this cement plant will result in supply of cement for construction of roads in Telangana and Maharashtra regions. Mainly, revival of this plant will create scope for many ancillary industries and generate employment. It will generate employment for 5000 people - 3000 direct and 2000 indirect employment. The State Government submitted its representation to the Central Government couple of times in this regard. Material required for cement production for the next hundred years is available. If the Central Government plan to start a new cement plant, State Government will tender its support to that. Therefore, through you Sir, I request the Central Government for revival of the Cement Plant at the earliest”.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right Lingaiahji. It is regarding revival of Cement Corporation of India in Adilabad. That is the issue in Telangana.

DR. BANDA PRAKASH (Telangana): Sir, I 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.

*English Translation of the original speech made in Telugu.

**Need for restoration and rejuvenation of river
Cauvery and its tributaries**

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru Edappadi K. Palaniswami, had announced the ambitious Nadanthai Vaazhi Cauvery Project to restore Cauvery and its tributaries on the lines of the Ganga Restoration and Rejuvenation Project. The rejuvenation plan is very comprehensive and on a broader concept. The programmes in the basin could be successful only if the river is rejuvenated and restored.

The Government of Tamil Nadu has set up a 16-member multi-disciplinary committee and held preliminary talks with the National Mission for Clean Ganga to kick start the multi-crore rupee programme. The new committee is likely to entrust the work for preparing a detailed project report shortly to Water and Power Consultancy Services (WAPCOS) of the Union Jal Shakti Ministry. The agenda is to have a multi-departmental approach for biodiversity conservation, afforestation, cleaning of river surface, setting up Sewage Treatment Plant (STP), river front development and rejuvenation of the river and its main tributaries - Bhavani, Amaravathi and Noyyal. The Government of Tamil Nadu has prepared Feasibility Report for rejuvenation of river Cauvery at a rough cost estimate of ₹ 9, 927 crores....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Right. You are reading. Muthukaruppanji, you should look at me and then speak.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, it is because every year as far as the State of Tamil Nadu is concerned, we have the scarcity of water. So, the State Government of Tamil Nadu has prepared this Report. We are seeking permission from the Central Government and we need the financial assistance of ₹ 9, 927 crores. Sir, the same was included in the President's Address to the Joint Session of the Parliament.

Therefore, Sir, I urge the Government of India to sanction the amount of ₹ 9, 927 crores. Thank you so much, Sir.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): The Minister of Jal Shakti is here.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; no. If anybody wants to associate, they can send their names.

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

Need to ensure iron ore for the Vizag Steel Plant

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, Vizag Steel Plant actually has come up with the sacrifice of lives of so many people and, ultimately, they got the steel project. But, unfortunately, as on today, there is no captive mining for iron ore for running the plant. They are buying at higher price from NMDC and other private parties. So, due to this reason, even though last year the turnover was about ₹ 20, 840 crores, they could hardly make a profit of ₹ 90 crores. This year, they are planning a turnover of ₹25, 000 crores but they will be going to incur heavy losses because there is no captive mining. Not only that, about 230 merchant iron ore mining leases are expiring, and it is causing a lot of difficulties for the plant, since iron ore is, actually, the main ingredient for the plant.

So, I demand from the Government, especially the hon. Minister of Steel, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan that they should allow the Plant to procure immediately iron ore mines from Odisha, Jharkhand for this Plant; otherwise it is likely to post losses and once a Navratna Company becomes a sick company, the people of Andhra, Telugu-speaking people will be very much hurt, if the plant is closed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next is Shri Ravi Prakash Verma.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, आपकी तबियत ठीक है? Are you all right?

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a small problem because of the extreme cold, the other day, I started getting pain in the ear.

SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Sir, this is what I can feel from this.

Protection of consumer rights

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे बोलने का मौका दे दिया। हिन्दुस्तान में सब उपभोक्ता हैं और उपभोक्ताओं के हितों में न्याय नहीं हो पा रहा है। जिलों के अंदर जो कंज्यूमर कोर्ट्स बननी थीं, उनमें अभी भी जजों की कमी है। वहां पर बहुत बड़ी तादाद में मुकदमे लम्बित हैं, जिनका कोई डिस्पोजल नहीं हो पा रहा है और कंज्यूमर्स को जस्टिस नहीं मिल रहा है।

सर, FSSAI एक ऐसी संस्था है, जो adulterated food की जांच करती है। सर, उनके साथ में दिक्कत यह है कि वे सेम्पल्स लेकर आते हैं, उनमें लोगों की access हो जाती है और उनके सेम्पल्स का पता नहीं चलता है कि वे कैसे पास हो गए। सर, इनका जो जांच करने का process है, इसे transparent होना चाहिए। इनकी जांचों के जो result आते हैं, उन्हें portal पर डालना चाहिए, जिससे कि सब लोग पता लगा सकें कि उनके जो सैम्पल लिए गए थे, उनके क्या रिजल्ट्स रहे।

[श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा]

सर, कंपनियां *manipulate* कर लेती हैं और लोगों को बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर खाने-पीने का मिलावटी सामान मिल रहा है। सर, *substandard* और *adulterated food* बहुत बड़ी तादाद में मिल रहा है।

सर, दूध की स्थिति तो बहुत खराब है। एक बार, श्रीमती मेनका गांधी जी बता रही थी कि देश में केवल 14 करोड़ लीटर्स दूध पैदा हो रहा है और 64 करोड़ लीटर्स दूध की खपत हो रही है, यानी कि फर्जी दूध चल रहा है। सर, FSSAI क्या कर रही है, सरकार के महकमे क्या कर रहे हैं और हमारी Consumer Courts क्या कर रही हैं? सर, यह बहुत चिन्ताजनक परिस्थिति है। अतः मैं आपके माध्यम से सरकार से विशेष तौर से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि हिन्दुस्तान के जो consumers हैं, सरकार उनके interests को defend करने के लिए उच्च स्तरीय समीक्षा करे और कार्रवाई की जाए।

Steps to tackle the increase of harmful chemicals in soil

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति जी, वर्षों पहले एक फिल्म आई थी, उसके एक गीत की पहली पंक्ति थी-

“मेरे देश की धरती सोना उगले, उगले हीरे-मोती”

परन्तु मान्यवर, आज हमारे देश की मिट्टी ने सोने और हीरे-मोती के स्थान पर जहर उगलना प्रारम्भ कर दिया है, जिसका प्रमुखतम कारण रासायनिक खादों व कीट नाशक दवाओं का लगातार प्रयोग है। इनके निरन्तर प्रयोग से मिट्टी के जैविक गुण और उर्वरा शक्ति घट रही है और खेत की मिट्टी लगातार जहरीली होती जा रही है। यही जहर, अनाज, सब्जियों, दूध व जल के माध्यम से हमारे और आपके शरीर में जा रहा है। इसके कारण कैंसर और हृदयरोग आदि अनेक प्रकार के रोगों की बाढ़ सी आ गई है।

मान्यवर, अभी तीन दिन पहले माननीय कृषि राज्य मंत्री जी ने इसी सदन में एक प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा था कि रासायनिक खादों व कीटनाशकों के कारण से मिट्टी अस्वस्थ नहीं होती है। मैं उनके इस कथन से कतई सहमत नहीं हूँ। यदि उनका कथन सत्य है, तो कृपा करके यह बताएं कि मिट्टी का स्वास्थ्य खराब होने के क्या कारण हैं और देश की पवित्र मिट्टी क्यों जहरीली हो रही है?

मान्यवर, वर्ष 1960 के दशक में एक किलोग्राम रासायनिक खाद डालने से 20 से 30 किलोग्राम तक उत्पादन में वृद्धि होती थी और वह आज घटकर मात्र 3-4 किलोग्राम रह गई है। खेतों की मिट्टी के लिए जरूरी पोषक तत्व- नाइट्रोजन, फास्फोरस, पोटैश तथा सूक्ष्म तत्व के अनुपात का गणित पूरी तरह से गड़बड़ा गया है। परिणामतः भूमि की नमी और उसकी उर्वरकता में निरन्तर कमी आ रही है। मिट्टी को स्वस्थ व शुद्ध बनाए रखने वाले भूमि मित्र जीव-जन्तु, पशु और पक्षियों की अनेक जातियां प्रलुप्त हो गई हैं।

मान्यवर, मथुरा जनपद में कृषि वैज्ञानिकों ने अभी कुछ दिन पहले करीब 3.50 लाख हेक्टेयर भूमि से 85 हजार नमूने लिए थे। जांच में 85 परसेंट नमूनों में नाइट्रोजन, फास्फोरस और पोटैश की मात्रा कम थी।

मान्यवर, प्रधान मंत्री आदरणीय मोदी जी का मैं अभिनन्दन करता हूँ कि उन्होंने मिट्टी की सेहत को सुधारने के लिए अनेक योजनाएं प्रारम्भ की हैं, जिनके कारण परिणाम भविष्य में निश्चित रूप से सुखद होंगे।

श्री सभापति: हरनाथ सिंह यादव जी, कृपया समाप्त कीजिए।

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव: मान्यवर, मैं अन्त में मांग करना चाहता हूँ कि रासायनिक खादों व कीटनाशकों के प्रयोग को कम करने के लिए एक समयबद्ध, व्यापक एवं प्रभावकारी कार्य-योजना बनाई जाए। प्रत्येक खेत की मिट्टी का परीक्षण करने के लिए प्रत्येक विकास खंड पर मिट्टी परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाएं स्थापित हों और जैविक खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए सिक्किम की तर्ज पर कारगर रणनीति बनाकर जनजागरण अभियान चलाया जाए और सारे देश में एक नारा गूंजे कि “रासायनिक खाद भगाओ-जैविक खेती अपनाओ”। धन्यवाद।

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

श्रीमती जया बच्चन (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करती हूँ।

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

جناب جاوید علی خان (اترپردیش): مہودے، میں بھی مانیئے سڈسٹے کے ذریعہ اٹھائے
گئے موضوع سے خود کو سمبڈ کرتا ہوں۔

Concern over deaths of sewer workers

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Sir, I want to bring to the notice of this august House an issue which is so hurting and equally important to the subject discussed just now. Across the country, the death of sanitation workers is continuing and no action has been taken by the concerned authorities. A sanitation worker died and three others were injured and hospitalised when they inhaled toxic gases while cleaning the PWD sewer near Shakurpur in North-West Delhi, last Saturday. One of the three workers is said to be very serious and one has already died. The workers had entered the manhole without any safety precautions. During the time of tragedy, not even a rope was available to lift them out. The workers have to be given gas masks, safety harness belts and helmets, which were

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

[Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah]

not given. The civic bodies have to provide mechanised equipment at dangerous sites, like underground sewers. But, nowhere, it is provided.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your suggestion now?

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Sir, my suggestion is, as a safety measure, in this particular case I want to tell you that even a match stick was not lit when the underground sewer was opened, to find out the poisonous gases. But, nowhere in the country, it is being followed, and those unfortunate people are dying.

श्री सभापति: एक सैकंड रुकिए। आज श्री जगत प्रकाश नड्डा जी का जन्मदिन है, उनको अभिनंदन है। जो सदस्य उनसे इन्डिविजुअली मिलना चाहते हैं, वे उन्हें बाहर मिलकर कह सकते हैं, अंदर नहीं।

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Sir, I request the Government to supply mechanised machines. We are going to Chandrayaan; we are having such big research in the country. Can we not make these small machines in this country? That is my question. It should be supplied to all the civic bodies and all the Government bodies should purchase and use only mechanised machines and the human beings should not be allowed to enter inside such sites where work is required to be done. Then only we can stop such deaths. ...*(Interruptions)*...

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (Bihar): Sir, I associate myself with the matter raised by Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah.

श्री सभापति: श्रीमती सम्पतिया उड़के जी, आप संक्षिप्त में बोलिएगा।

High cost of medical treatment in private hospitals

श्रीमती सम्पतिया उड़के (मध्य प्रदेश): माननीय सभापति महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद कि आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया है। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय, जो इस देश के प्रत्येक नागरिक से जुड़ा है, उस ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित कराना चाहती हूँ।

महोदय, हमारी सरकार देश के प्रत्येक नागरिक को सस्ती और बेहतरीन स्वास्थ्य सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए संकल्पित है, लेकिन देखने में यह आता है कि देश के सभी राज्यों के निजी अस्पतालों में आम जनता को काफी महंगा इलाज कराना पड़ता है। निजी अस्पतालों में इलाज का खर्च इतना ज्यादा है कि लोगों को कर्ज़ लेकर, अपनी संपत्ति बेचकर इलाज कराना पड़ता है। इतना सब होने के बाद भी

यह शिकायत आम है कि निजी अस्पताल के इलाज में फ़ीस एवं अन्य खर्चों की दरों पर कोई नियंत्रण नहीं है।

महोदय, इन निजी अस्पतालों को हरेक राज्य सरकार सस्ती दरों पर भूमि उपलब्ध कराती है एवं केंद्र सरकार कई प्रकार की सब्सिडी भी देती है, लेकिन निजी अस्पताल मनमाने रूप से उपभोक्ताओं का शोषण कर रहे हैं। मैं इस सदन के माध्यम से चाहूंगी कि इस संबंध में आवश्यक दिशा-निर्देश जारी किया जाना चाहिए ताकि सभी को चिकित्सा और सस्ता उपचार बेहतरीन ढंग से उपलब्ध हो सके। आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

Need for construction of highland for wildlife during floods in Kaziranga and Pobitora National Parks

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा (असम): सभापति महोदय, मैं यह बात उठाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे यहाँ पर एलिफेंट...सर, एलिफेंट्स की संख्या की बात बोलनी है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: क्या? नहीं, काजीरंगा और Pobitora National Park की बात है।

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा: सभापति जी, हमने काजीरंगा में हाइलैंड की बात उठाई थी। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट ने 33 हाइलैंड्स क्रिएट किए हैं। जब फ्लड आती है, तो पूरी वाइल्ड लाइफ बह जाती है। हमने इसके लिए सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट से, माननीय प्रकाश जावडेकर जी से रिक्वेस्ट भी की थी और मैं अभी फिर रिक्वेस्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि वहाँ पर हाइलैंड क्रिएट किया जाए, ताकि फ्लड के टाइम वाइल्ड लाइफ वहाँ शेल्टर ले सके।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है। श्री जावेद अली खान।

Cutting of trees on the banks of river Gomti in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

श्री जावेद अली खान (उत्तर प्रदेश): सभापति जी, आधा मिनट का टाइम रह गया है, लेकिन मैं बोलूंगा।

माननीय सभापति जी, जब से हमारा यह सेशन शुरू हुआ है, तब से हम लोग हरेक दिन देश के अंदर पर्यावरण की स्थिति पर किसी न किसी रूप में विचार कर रहे हैं। मैं एक अत्यंत महत्वपूर्ण मुद्दा आपके सामने उठाना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश के लखनऊ शहर में गोमती नदी के किनारे 300 एकड़ जमीन डिफेंस एक्सपो 2020 की तैयारी के लिए चिह्नित की गई है। डिफेंस एक्सपो 2020 की तैयारी के लिए जो जमीन चिह्नित की गई है, उस पर लखनऊ डेपलपमेंट अथॉरिटी को 63, 799 छोटे-बड़े पेड़ों के कटान का निर्देश दिया गया है। माननीय सभापति जी, मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि Defence Expo निश्चित रूप से एक बहुत अच्छी चीज है, जो हर दो वर्ष के बाद होती है। उसे किसी ऐसे स्थान पर आयोजित किया जाना चाहिए, जहाँ वृक्षों का कटान न हो।

12.00 Noon

[श्री जावेद अली खान]

جناب جاوید علی خان (اٹر پردیش) : سبھا پتی جی، آدھا منٹ کا ٹائم رہ گیا ہے، لیکن میں بولوں گا۔

مائنے سبھا پتی جی، جب سے ہمارا یہ سیشن شروع ہوا ہے، تب سے ہم لوگ ہر ایک دن دیش کے اندر پریاورن کی حالت پر کسی نہ کسی روپ میں وچار کر رہے ہیں۔ میں ایک بہت اہم مدعا آپ کے سامنے اٹھانا چاہتا ہوں کہ اگر اٹر پردیش کے لکھنؤ شہر میں گومئی ندی کے کنارے تین سو ایکڑ زمین ڈیفینس ایکسپو 2020 کی تیاری کے لئے نشان زد کی گئی ہے۔ ڈیفینس ایکسپو 2020 کی تیاری کے لئے جو زمین نشان زد کی گئی ہے، اس پر لکھنؤ ڈیولپمنٹ اتھارٹی کو 63,799 چھوٹے بڑے پیڑوں کے کٹاؤ کا نردیش دیا گیا ہے۔

مائنے سبھا پتی جی، میں یہ کہنا چاہتا ہوں کہ ڈیفینس ایکسپو یقینی طور سے ایک بہت اچھی چیز ہے، جو ہر دو سال کے بعد ہوتی ہے۔ اسے کسی ایسی جگہ پر آیوجت کیا جانا چاہئے، جہاں پیڑوں کی کٹائی نہ ہو۔

(ختم شد)

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I associate myself with the issue raised by the hon. Member.

श्री सभापति: ज़ीरो ऑवर का समय समाप्त हो गया है। Now, Question Hour.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

* 136. [The questioner was absent.]

Construction of National Highways in Telangana

*136. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- whether it is a fact that Government has given acceptance for construction of National Highways in the State of Telangana;
- if so, the details of the National Highways considered for construction; and
- the details of the funds allocated and released so far for their early construction?

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRINITHIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways throughout the country including Telangana. The National Highway project are considered for construction based on traffic, viability, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds.

33 National Highways projects having aggregate length of 1196 kms at a cost of ₹ 9598 crore are considered for construction in the State of Telangana. The details of these projects are given in Annexure (*See below*).

(c) Year-wise details of funds allocated for development and expenditure of National Highways entrusted with the State PWD (R&B), Government of Telangana during the last five years and 2019-20 (upto 31.10.2019) are given below:—

(in ₹ crore)

Description	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	TOTAL
Allocation	551.26	730	380	409.93	1212.89	1398	4682
Expenditure	280.57	657.09	358.41	409.93	1212.83	1140.39	4059

In respect of National Highways entrusted with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI), no specific State-wise allocation of funds for National Highway projects is made, rather expenditure is incurred on projects as per the progress of the works. Accordingly the details of expenditure incurred on National Highways entrusted with the NHAI during the last five years and 2019-20 are given below:—

Year	Expenditure (in ₹ crore)
2014-15	429
2015-16	466
2016-17	468
2017-18	1201
2018-19	1121
2019-20 (as on date)	775
TOTAL	4460

*Annexure**Details of construction of National Highways in Telangana*

(A) Works under implementation through State PWD

Sl. No.	NH No.	Name of Project	Length (km)	Sanctioncost (₹ Cr.)	Appointed Date	Schedule / likely date of completion	Physical Progress/ Completed Length
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	167	Widening & Strengthening of NH-167 from km.227/6 to 283/0 in Haggari-Raichur-Jadcherla Section in the State of AP on EPC mode under Corridor approach.	38.748	127.24	12.02.2015	11.02.2017/ 31.12.2019	93.94/ 36.400
2.	363 (New 353C)	Widening of existing 2-lane/intermediate lane to 2-lane with paved shoulders in km.67/2 to km109/0 of NH-363 in the State of Telangana under Corridor Approach on EPC mode.	41.360	153.21	24.07.2015	23.01.2017/ 31.12.2019	93.11/41.360
3.	63	Four Laning from Km 4/8 to 24/6 of Nizamabad-Jagdalpur section of NH-63 (Old NH-16) in the State of Telangana under NH(O) on EPC mode.	19.000	117.56	20.01.2017	15.07.2018/ 31.12.2019	75.56/14.379
4.	167	Wideining to two/four lane with Paved	45.916	298.32	21.02.2017	20.02.2019/ 30.06.2020	40.49/30.10

		Shoulders from existing Km 182.120 to Km 227.600 of NH-167 on Haggiri-Jadcherla road on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.					
5.	63	Wideining to two/four lane with Paved Shoulders from existing Km 180.60 to Km 223.00 of NH-63 on Nizamabad-Jagadalpuri road on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.	42.400	248.83	29.03.2017	28.03.2019/ 31.03.2020	40.27/25.10
6.	365B	Widening to two lane / four lane with paved shoulders from Km 40/410 to Km 84/037 of Thirumalagiri to Suryapet section of NH-365B (Erstwhile SH-16) on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.	43.887	244.54	09.05.2017	08.05.2019/ 31.12.2019	94.40/43.13
7.	365B	Widening to two lane with paved shoulders from Km 0/970 to Km 40/410 of Jangaon-Thirumalagiri section of NH-365B (Erstwhile SH-16) on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.	39.180	196.52	01.11.2017	31.10.2019/ 31.12.2019	95.30/38.440
8.	167	Widening to two lane with paved shoulders from Km 15.525 to Km 62.880 of Jadcherla-Kalwakurthy section of NH-167 (Erstwhile SH-18) on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.	47.355	- 283.00	28.12.2017	27.12.2019	78.87/43.63
9.	163	Widening to two lane with paved	72.533	359.27	11.05.2017	10.05.2019/ 31.12.2019	94.42/68.32

Oral Answers

[2 December, 2019]

to Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		shoulders from Km 59.500 to Km 132.033 of Manneguda-Ravulapally section of NH-163 (Erstwhile SH-4) on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.					
10. 167		Widening to two lane with paved shoulders from Km 67.00 to 114.425 of Kalwakurthy-Mallepally section of NH-167 (Erstwhile SH-18) on EPC mode under NH(O) in the State of Telangana.	47.005	300.00	05.05.2017	04.05.2019/ 31.03.2020	57.87/38.44
11. 44(New No. 07)		Six laning of km.9/900 to 19/948 (Aramgarh-Shamshabad Section) of Hyderabad-Bangalur Section of NH-44 under NH(O) on EPC basis in the State of Telangana.	10.048	283.15	11.05.2018	10.05.2020	17.81/3.13
12. 163		Widening & Strengthening of existing 2-lane to 2-lane with paved shoulders from km. 159/0 to 165/4 & 186/0 to 215/0 of NH-163 on EPC mode in the State of Telangana.	34.690	230.03	04.06.2018	03.12.2019/ 31.03.2020	69.00/29.69
13. 63		Reconstruction of minor bridge at Km 65/4-6 on NH-63 under NH(O) 2017-18 in the State of Telangana. (Job No.NH-063-TS-2017- 038)	0	5.83	23.02.2018	22.02.2019	100

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Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

14. 353C	Widening & Strengthening of existing carriageway in 2 lane with paved shoulders from km.25/0 to 59/2 (Design Ch. Km.25.467 to 59.200) of NH-353C on EPC mode in the State of Telangana.	33.733	206.13	04.06.2018	03.06.2020	72.30/27.80
15. 167	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-167 from design km.113/900 to km 154/479 to two lane with paved shoulders (Mallepalli to Halia Section) on EPC mode (Pkg-1) in the State of Telangana.	40.579	294.13	02.06.2018	28.11.2019/31.03.2020	33.60/16.34
16. 167	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-167 from design km. 157/707 to 187/723 (design length 30.016 kms) to two lane with paved shoulders of Alinagar-Miryalaguda Section on EPC mode (Pkg-2) in the State of Telangana.	30.016	220.28	17.05.2018	12.11.2019/31.03.2020	42.00/15.68
17. 765D	Rehabilitation and upgradation of Hyderabad outer ring road to Medak Section of NH-765D from existing km. 15/970 (Design km.0/0) to existing km.78/70 (Design km.62/92) to two lane with paved shoulder/ four lane in the state of Telangana on EPC Mode under NH(O).	62.920	426.52	27.04.2018	26.04.2020	71.00/54.96
18. 167	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-167 from design km.187/723	46.711	322.81	03.09.2018	01.09.2020	9.00/0

Oral Answers

[2 December, 2019]

to Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
19.	163	to 234/434 (Miryalaguda to Kodad Section) to two lane with paved shoulders on EPC mode (Pkg-3) Construction of six lane Elevated Corridor from km.7/950 (Uppal) to km. 14/200 of NH-163 to De-Congest the Urban Limits of Hyderabad-Bhoopalapatnam Section on EPC mode in the State of Telangana.	6.250	626.76	02.07.2018	01.07.2020	12.94/0
20.	565	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	85.057	270.00	13.03.2017	Work Foreclosed	48.37/45.67
21.	221	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-221 (new No.30) from km.121/0 to 165/0 (Rudrampur- Bhadrachalam Section) in the State of Telangana to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV on EPC	44.000	334.82	25.02.2015	23.02.2017/ 31.12.2019	70.86/42.297
22.	365	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-365 from km.0/0 to 72/600 (Nakrekal to Tanamcherla Sec) to two-lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV on EPC.	66.560	605.08	01.11.2017	31.10.2019/ 31.03.2020	74.92/46.27

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Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

23.	365	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-365 from Design km. 121/0 to 154/0 (Nakrekal-Mallampalli Sec) to two lane with paved shoulders on EPC mode.	33.000	192.67	08.06.2018	07.12.2019/ 31.03.2020	68.00/24.50
24.	221	Construction of HLB across river Godavari at km 166/0 of NH 221 under Annual Plan on EPC mode in the State of Telangana (Warangal) (Job no.221-AP-2013-14-615)	2.4	98.45	25.07.2014	23.07.2016/ 31.03.2020	73.09/0
25.	765	Providing Road Safety measures from km. 128/600 to 191/100, widening of curves, construction of 170m retaining wall from km. 188/408 & km.190/2-6 & Construction of 1500m toe wall from km. 128/6 to 130/4 of Hyderabad-Tokapalle section via Srisailem road section of NH-765 in the State of Telangana.	0	17.82	31.08.2015	30.05.2016/ 31.03.2020	20.35
26.	163	Construction of 4-lane flyover at Amberpet-X road, Hyderabad on NH-202 (new NH-163) in the State of Telangana. (Job NoNH-202-Telangana(1)/2017-S&R(B)-001)	1.465	216.53	10.05.2018 (appointed date to be declared)	-	-
27.	65	Improvement of road safety through provision of service roads, improvement of junction,	2.000	12.63	28.09.2018	28.06.2019/ 31.12.2019	90.00/0.90

Oral Answers

[2 December, 2019]

to Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
28.	167	drains etc. from km.507/000 to 509/000 on Pune-Hyderabad Section of NH-65 in the State of Telangana under Road Safety Annual Plan 2017-18. Widening and Strengthening/ reconstruction of existing pavement to four alne with paved shoulders from Km 266.348 to Km 283.000 of Mahabubnagar-Jadcherla section of NH-167 on EPC mode in the State of Telangana (167-TS-2018-19-48)	16.65	193.19	22.07.2019	12.01.2021	
29.	563	Providing Road Safety provisions, junction improvement, Central Lighting on NH-563 of Jagtial-Karimnagar-Warangal road from km.50/0 to 52/050 (563-TS-2018-19- 49)	2	15.1	11.03.2019	10.03.2020	73.00/2.00
30.	63	Strengthening to NH-63 Nizamabad-Jagdalpur road in selective stretches from km.59/0 to 170/0 on EPC mode (63-TS-2018-19-50)	45.8	47.42	07.03.2019	06.09.2020	83.00/43.50
		TOTAL		1001.17	6947.84		

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Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

B. Projects under implementation by NHAI

Sl.No.	Name of Project	Length (Km)	Civil cost (Cr)	Appointed Date	Schedule/likely date of completion/ Completed length	Physical progress (in %age)
1.	Four-Laning of Yadgiri -Warangal Section of NH-163 (Old NH-202) from Km 54/0 to Km 150/0 (Design Length 99.103 km) in the State of Telangana.	99.103	897.00	01.06.2016	01.03.2020 (Interim EOT granted till 19.07.2019)	83.49% (87.39 kms completed)
2.	Four-laning of NH-161 from Ramsanpalle to Mangloor in the State of Telangana under Bharatmala Pariyojana on Hybrid Annuity Mode.	46.81	950.63	02.05.2019	01.05.2021	22.82% (4.32 kms completed)
3.	Four-laning of NH-161 from Mangloor to Telangana / Maharashtra Border in the State of Telangana under Bharatmala Pariyojana on Hybrid Annuity Mode.	48.96	802.65	12.04.2019	11.04.2021	17% (4.17 kms completed)
TOTAL		194.873	2650.28			
GRAND TOTAL		1196.04	9598.12			

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 136. The questioner is not present. Are there any supplementaries?

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, there are reports which suggest that the proposed dedicated rail corridor could impact the tax collections and, therefore, affect the infrastructure companies which construct, maintain and run the national highways. How is the Government planning to successfully achieve the target of one lakh crore rupees in toll revenues?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Vijayasai Reddyji, the question is: 'Whether it is a fact that the Government has given acceptance for construction of national highways in the State of Telangana. If so, the details.'

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Though it belongs to Telangana, it pertains to the entire country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: First, you need to address the question.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, national highways are there in every State, not only in Telangana.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not the issue. Now, Q.No. 137. The questioner is not present. Are there any supplementaries?

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

Construction of highways by NHAI

*137. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated, released and utilised by NHAI for construction of new highways during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20, so far, year-wise;

(b) the details of new highways constructed during 2017-18 and 2018-19, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) the details of new highways constructed during 2019-20, till 30th November, 2019, State-wise; and

(d) the details of cost of construction of new double lane highways, per kilometre, at present?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The details of funds allocated, released and utilized by National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto October 2019) is given in Annexure-I (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The State-wise details of Highways constructed during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto October 2019) is given in Annexure-II (*See* below).

(d) The revised normative costs for different categories of NHs were issued by MoRTH in 2018-19 according to which the cost of construction of 2-lane highways is 3.71 crores/ Km for plain terrain and 10.11 crores/Km for hilly terrain. However, the actual cost would depend on site-specific requirements, number of bridges/culverts, soil conditions, etc.

Annexure-I

Funds allocated and released to NHAI during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No	Financial Year	Fund from cess	EI& ISC	M& R	Swachata activities	EAP	Fund from NH(o)	TOT	Toll remittances	Total
1.	2017-2018 RE (Allocation and release)	12429.45	120.00	575.00	72.60	341.70	3900.00		8462.14	28900.89
	NHDP-IV* (Exp)	3000.00								
2.	2018-19 (Allocation and release)	11569.00	0.00	272.19	100.00	29.00	0.00	9681.50	9570.13	36221.82
	NHDP-IV*	4998								
3.	2019-20 (Allocation)	11091.00						10000.00	10600.00	36791.00
	NHDP-IV (Allocation)*	5000.00								
4.	Released to NHAI 31.10.19	8318.00		100.00		128	1000		7950.00	20101
	NHDP IV*(Exp)	2605								

* For State PWD

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Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

In addition to the amounts released as per details in the table above, utilization of funds by NHAI includes amounts raised through market borrowings. Details of IEBR raised by NHAI during the said period are as below:

2017-18	₹ 50, 533 crores
2018-19	₹ 61, 217 crores
2019-20	₹ 36, 526 crores
(up to 31.10.2019)	

Annexure-II

State-wise details of National Highways constructed across the country

Sl. No.	State / UT	Length Constructed (in km)		
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (upto Oct. 19)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	459	438	336
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	188	157	22
3.	Assam	302	323	38
4.	Bihar	370	333	102
5.	Chandigarh	0	0	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	522	397	124
7.	Delhi	139	42	18
8.	Goa	20	11	17
9.	Gujarat	189	303	65
10.	Haryana	290	226	123
11.	Himachal Pradesh	134	157	42
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	162	95	29
13.	Jharkhand	236	287	107
14.	Karnataka	768	779	263
15.	Kerala	17	121	75
16.	Madhya Pradesh	594	829	404

1	2	3	4	5
17.	Maharashtra	1, 345	2, 293	1399
18.	Manipur	231	318	65
19.	Meghalaya	48	13	0
20.	Mizoram	43	59	7
21.	Nagaland	0	34	14
22.	Odisha	535	534	156
23.	Puducherry	17	12	0
24.	Punjab	357	209	189
25.	Rajasthan	1, 075	728	516
26.	Sikkim	45	83	4
27.	Tamil Nadu	307	356	134
28.	Telangana	161	370	244
29.	Tripura	82	41	0
30.	Uttar Pradesh	694	882	415
31.	Uttarakhand	256	237	140
32.	West Bengal	222	127	72
33.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21	61	6
TOTAL		9829	10855	5126

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Sir, NHAI has been taking up projects all over the country. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, Sir, the number of projects where the work is not complete within the time stipulated. Due to overrun of time, what is the extra expenditure that is incurred? What is the extra load on the country's exchequer? What are the major reasons for the delay in projects? Those who are responsible for delaying the projects, what actions has the Government taken against them?

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: Sir, Totally, on the projects delayed, already in the Ministry, we have found solutions considering all aspects of the projects, namely, relating to banks, land acquisition, safety, forest and environment, etc. Sir, now the speed is increased. Once upon a time, it was at two kilometres per day. Now it is thirty kilometres per

day, fifteen times more! Still, there are problems. I am giving an example relating only to the State Bank of India. The Chairman submitted to me the Total picture of the problems they are facing in 26 projects. On the 5th, there is going to be a meeting with the Bank and we are resolving the issue. But, basically, in a majority of cases, it is really a fact that many times, the Government has to pay too much cost on a project. That is because of the delay in land acquisition, delay in clearances. And after we get the clearances, the banks also create problems. They say that after the delay, it is an NPA account and that they are not able to finance it. Again, the vicious cycle starts. Now, the position is good. We don't have any financial problem. We have BOT, PPP and Hybrid Annuity. Now, we have selected a new innovative project module—that is, we monetise the project on TOT. So, everywhere, we are getting funds and we are in a position to implement projects.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई: सर, यह जो हाईवे बनाने का agreement होता है, उस agreement में जो पुरानी रोड है, उसकी मरम्मत करने का काम contractor को दिया जाता है, लेकिन मैं मुम्बई-गोवा रोड की बात करता हूँ, उस रोड का काम 5 साल में भी पूरा नहीं हुआ है। उसमें जहाँ काम बाकी है, वहाँ रोड इतनी खराब है कि उसे बिल्कुल maintain नहीं किया जाता। पहले मुम्बई से चिपलून तक जाने के लिए 5 घंटे लगते थे, आज उसमें 9 घंटे लगते हैं। आप उसके बारे में क्या कर रहे हैं और उसको maintain करने के लिए उनको suggestion दे रहे हैं या नहीं?

श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी: सर, मैं सम्माननीय सदस्य से निवेदन करूंगा, चूंकि वे कोंकण के रहने वाले हैं, इसलिए उनको पता है कि कोंकण में मुम्बई-गोवा हाईवे पर बहुत सारी जगह पर काम चल रहा है। उनको यह भी पता है कि पहले ये प्रोजेक्ट्स स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को दिए हुए थे और पनवेल से लेकर आगे तक, पिछले कितने सालों से ये प्रोजेक्ट्स अटके हुए थे। मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि मुम्बई-गोवा कॉरिडोर, देश का business corridor है। वहां एक्सप्रेसवे भी बहुत हो रहे हैं। हमारी सरकार के आने के बाद, हमने पूरी रोड को cement concrete से four-lane बनाने का निर्णय लिया था। पुरानी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट के समय में, उस समय की कांग्रेस-एनसीपी की सरकार के समय में जो प्रोजेक्ट्स दिए गए थे, उनमें कॉन्ट्रैक्टर के थ्रू काम चल रहा था। उस मामले को सैटल करने के लिए हमने कम से कम तीस-तीस, चालीस-चालीस मीटिंग्स बुलाई। इनमें से तीन-चार मीटिंग्स में तो स्वयं माननीय सदस्य भी उपस्थित रहे हैं, लेकिन वह इश्यू अब रिजॉल्व हो गया है। मुझे लगता है कि अब एक साल के अंदर ही मुम्बई-गोवा का प्रोजेक्ट पूरा हो जाएगा। इनमें गोवा की तरफ से जो दो प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, वे लगभग पूरे होने वाले हैं और बाकी के प्रोजेक्ट्स भी जल्दी ही पूरे हो जाएंगे।

श्री सभापति: आप इनके इन्फॉर्मेशन में माननीय सदस्य को भी जरूर लेकर जाइएगा।

श्री विजय गोयल: सभापति जी, आज National Pollution Control Day है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बधाई देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने जो Eastern-Western Peripheral Expressway बनाया, उसके कारण दिल्ली का पर्यावरण काफी सुधर गया है, नहीं तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट स्वयं कह रहा है कि दिल्ली नरक हो गई है। अगर यह Expressway नहीं बनता, तब तो यह नरक से भी नरक हो जाती।

[श्री विजय गोयल]

माननीय मंत्री जी से मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि आने वाले समय में दिल्ली के लिए ऐसी कौन सी योजनाएं आ रही हैं, जिनसे प्रदूषण और कम हो सकता है? इनमें दिल्ली सरकार की क्या भूमिका है और उनकी कितनी फंडिंग है?

श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी: माननीय सभापति महोदय, दिल्ली के लिए हम करीब 50,000 करोड़ रुपये के रोड-प्रोजेक्ट्स पर काम कर रहे हैं। पहले जो Easterly and Westerly Bypass था, उनसे पंजाब, हरियाणा, जम्मू-कश्मीर, उत्तराखंड और हिमाचल प्रदेश की तरफ से जो ट्रैफिक मुम्बई और गुजरात जाता था, वह दिल्ली के बीच से होकर जाता था। अभी हमने जो पूरी रिंग रोड बनाई है, उसके कारण सब प्रॉब्लम्स रिजॉल्व हो गई हैं। यह प्रोजेक्ट पहले सुप्रीम कोर्ट में फंसा हुआ था, जिसके लिए भूरे लाल कमेटी बनी थी, इसका एक बहुत लम्बा इतिहास है। अभी हम लोग 10,000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से द्वारका एक्सप्रेस हाईवे बना रहे हैं। मैं आपको एक सिम्पल उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ, आप सब लोग एयरपोर्ट से आते-जाते हुए धौला कुआं से हो कर गुजरते हैं। पहले धौला कुआं पर सब लोग अटक जाते थे, क्योंकि वहां ट्रैफिक जाम बहुत रहता था। हालांकि वह एनएच भी नहीं था, क्योंकि एनएच तो ब्रिज पर ही खत्म हो जाता था, लेकिन उसको ताज मानसिंह के ब्रिज तक एक्सटेंड करके हमने उसको भी सुधार दिया है। इसी तरह हमने दिल्ली के ऐसे बहुत से स्पोर्ट्स आइडेंटिफाई किए हैं, जिनमें बहुत सारी रोड्स पर काम चल भी रहा है। आने वाले समय में दिल्ली में प्रदूषण कम होगा।

इस काम में दिल्ली सरकार से कोई सहयोग नहीं लिया गया है। जो Easterly and Westerly bypass हैं, इनकी लैंड एक्विजिशन के लिए यूपी, हरियाणा और दिल्ली की सरकारें 50 प्रतिशत कॉस्ट देने वाली थीं, लेकिन वह कॉस्ट उन्होंने नहीं दी, इसलिए अब यह मामला सुप्रीम कोर्ट में चल रहा है।

Revised cost estimates for Polavaram project

*138. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Polavaram Revised Cost Estimates (RCE) are pending for approval with Government even after approval from Central Water Commission (CWC), Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry in February, 2019;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the RCEs are pending and awaiting some clarification from State, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Second Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) of Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) at 2017-18 Price Level (PL) was examined in Central Water Commission (CWC) and accepted by the Advisory Committee of Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti (the then MoWR, RD & GR) in its 141st meeting held on 11.02.2019 for an amount of ₹ 55, 548.87 crore.

Further, in terms of Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No. 24(35)/PF-II/2012, dated 05.08.2016, a Revised Cost Committee (RCC) has been constituted *vide* MoWR, RD & GR O.M. dated 02.04.2019 under the chairmanship of Joint Secretary & Financial Advisor, DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti to examine the cost escalation of PIP. RCC has held two meetings. In its second meeting held in October, 2019, RCC has sought details from the Government of Andhra Pradesh with regard to types of land identified for acquisition along with their quantities/cost as per 1st and 2nd RCE, and also details of land acquisition and corresponding Project Displaced Families as on 31.03.2014 and 31.03.2018. State has submitted partial information in this regard. Findings/ recommendations of RCC is dependent upon satisfactory compliances by the State Government on its observations.

DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Government says that the Revised Cost Estimates were accepted by the CWC and approved by the Technical Advisory Committee for ₹ 55, 548.87 crores at 2017 and 2018 price level. On the other hand, it says that the Centre will bear the irrigation component price of the project as on 1st April, 2014 only. Sir, here my question is, who will bear it? Will it be by the State Government or the Central Government? Who will bear the difference of prices between 1st April, ₹ 2000 price level and the 2017-18 price level, including land acquisition and this entire project?

श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत: माननीय सभापति महोदय, Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act के बाद में, Ministry of Finance ने जलशक्ति मंत्रालय या तत्कालीन Minister of Water Resources को जो निर्देश दिया, उसके आधार पर इसमें स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लिखित है कि 1 अप्रैल, 2014 तक की कॉस्ट को नेशनल प्रोजेक्ट मानते हुए, भारत सरकार बियर करेगी। रिमेनिंग कॉस्ट के लिए और जो कॉस्ट एस्केलेशन हुआ है, उसके लिए, जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने उल्लेख किया है, Revised Cost Committee बनाई गई थी। Revised Cost Committee की अब तक दो मीटिंग्स हो चुकी हैं और उसमें स्टेट से जो इन्फॉर्मेशन मांगी गई है, वे इन्फॉर्मेशन अभी पेंडिंग हैं। Quantity of the land के ऊपर, the category of the land के ऊपर and the cost of the land acquisition — क्योंकि इसमें जो बड़ा difference है, वह सारा cost of the land and R&R issues का है, उसकी कॉस्ट के ऊपर information माँगी गयी है। वह पूरी information आने के बाद इस पर विचार किया जायेगा।

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Sir, Polavaram project was given as a boon to the State of Andhra Pradesh by the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. Your role in getting it the national project status was very much appreciated.

Sir, Polavaram project has been declared as national project under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. The Act mandates that construction of this project is the responsibility of the Central Government. But, the Centre has given construction of this project to the State Government in September, 2016. The State took one year to prepare the revised estimate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your supplementary question?

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Sir, I am coming to my supplementary.

Sir, the CWC and the Technical Advisory Committee took seventeen months to approve it. Now, it is pending with the Government of India for the last nine months.

So, my supplementary is: When the Central Government, CWC, Polavaram Project Authority and the State Government could not finalize the revised estimates even after three years, what is the future of this project?

The project is supposed to be completed by 2018. I want to know from the hon. Minister when it will be completed.

SHRI GAJENDRA SINGH SHEKHAWAT: Sir, this project is being constructed by the State Government. The revised tender floated a couple of weeks ago by the State Government. As per the new revised tender agreement, they have given the date of completion of the project as December, 2021. So, I hope, by December, 2021, this project will be completed.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, you are very well aware that Section 90 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, gives the responsibility for construction and completion of Polavaram project to the Central Government. I wanted to ask the hon. Minister that clearly Section 90 has been given a go-bye. So, what is the commitment that the Minister can make and by when the Polavaram project will actually be completed?

श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत: सर, जहाँ तक प्रोजेक्ट के कम्प्लीशन का प्रश्न है, तो पहले उसके लिए जो तिथि निर्धारित की गयी थी – वर्तमान में जैसा मैंने कहा कि अभी हाल ही में इसका टेंडर स्टेट ने re-sign करके नयी टेंडर एजेंसी को दिया है और उन्होंने यह क्लेम किया है कि उसके कारण कॉस्ट कम हुई है, लेकिन उसके कारण उसकी जो समय सीमा थी, जिस समय तक इसे पूरा होना चाहिए था, यह समय सीमा बढ़ा कर दिसम्बर, 2021 की गयी है। लेकिन दिसम्बर, 2021 के बाद भी, क्योंकि इसमें

R&R के बहुत सारे issues related हैं, इसलिए यह प्रोजेक्ट कम्प्लीट होना उन सबके साथ जुड़ा हुआ है। राज्य की सरकार इसमें R&R के issues के settlement के लिए जितनी गति से काम करेगी, जितनी तेज़ गति से काम करेगी, उसी पर इस प्रोजेक्ट का – फाइनली जिस दिन implement हो जायेगा, यह उसके ऊपर निर्भर करेगा।

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, my supplementary to the hon. Minister is: Hon. Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik, has repeatedly written to the Centre specifying that about 6, 000 people, including tribals, will lose their land in Odisha due to large-scale submergence of Polavaram project. And, there are thousands of hectares get affected. No Gram Sabhas have been conducted in Odisha. People have not been consulted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Sasmit, you have to go through the question.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Therefore, Sir, the point is, since Polavaram project is being expedited and by 2021 it will come about, it is going to have a huge impact on the people of Odisha. But, till now, redressal has not been done. And, Sir, the case is pending before the Supreme Court. But, the hon. Minister is proceeding with the work without taking into consideration...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, please. You are making comments.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, my only supplementary is: How will the hon. Minister respond to these facts which are currently pending?

श्री गजेन्द्र सिंह शेखावत: सर, माननीय सदस्य ने जो बिन्दु उठाये हैं State of Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Telangana, इन तीनों से सम्बद्ध इस तरह के सारे विषय जो सुप्रीम कोर्ट में पेंडिंग हैं, मुझे लगता है कि जब तक उच्चतम न्यायालय इसमें निर्णय नहीं करे, उस पर यहाँ किसी तरह का कमेंट करना ठीक नहीं होगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please remember, Polavaram is the lifeline for Andhra Pradesh and everything needs to be done.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I have a supplementary to ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. I will not allow like that. Subbarami Reddyji, please sit down.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, Polavaram is a subject and...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. It is not going on record, both in print and electronic.

DR. T. SUBBARAMIREDDY: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Three supplementaries are over. You are not following. What can I do? Question No. 139. The questioner is not present. Any supplementaries?

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

Policy on Patent Right

*139. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any incentive policy for introducing new technologies in Indian industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) what is Ministry's current policy on Patent Right?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Credit Linked Capital Subsidy (CLCS) component of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Technology Upgradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS) aims at facilitating technology upgradation by providing capital subsidy to Micro & Small Enterprises on institutional finance (credit) availed by them to modernize their plant and machinery involved in manufacturing process and equipment for rendering services, as the case may be. In addition, the Ministry has established Technology Centres which provide services to the Indian industry by way of precision tooling, training and consultancy.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Patent rights are granted by the Indian Patent Office as statutory right under the Patent Act, 1970. It is granted for 20 years from the date of filing in India or from the international filing date.

* Not recorded.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, the MSME sector is the second-largest employment provider in the country, only next to the agricultural sector. It is also a very big refuge for the unemployed youth, to be an entrepreneur. But, in the recent years, the MSME sector has been shrinking very much due to demonetisation and various other facts. So, it is very imperative that the Government should focus more on the MSME sector. What are the measures that the Government is intending to take, other than the technology, to encourage the MSME sector, especially in the manufacturing sector?

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: Sir, MSME is the heart of the subject that is related with the growth of the country. Presently, 29 per cent of the growth is coming from MSME. Forty-nine per cent of the export of the country is from MSME. At the same time, eleven crore jobs have been created by the MSMEs. So, our maximum concentration is on as to how we can create more employment potential. For these five years, we have taken it as a programme, where our target is to increase five crore employment potential and taking the export up to fifty per cent and 29 per cent in the Total growth where we are now planning to make it up to fifty per cent.

Presently, we are concentrated on the rural, agricultural and tribal areas because there is a lot of migration from the agricultural, rural and tribal areas to the urban areas, where we need to create more employment potential in the backward areas. And, that is the reason that the Government has given special attention on the development of MSME in the rural areas.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Mr. Chairman, Sir, my supplementary question relates to part (d) of the question about the current policy of patents rights.

Sir, in India, patent filing has gone up by only 10 per cent in five-year period, between 2009 and 2014. And, this is not at all impressive as compared to other emerging market economies. Moreover, 75 per cent of patent filings in India are by foreign entities. And, there is a need for taking a concerted action to increase the patent filing by Indians.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question?

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Sir, my question is this. What is the current percentage of patent filings by the Indians, at large, and particularly by the MSMEs? What steps are being taken by the Government to train MSMEs about the importance of patents and leveraging into the IPR to enhance. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question has to be brief. And, the answer has to be much more brief.

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARh Sir, this subject relates to the Ministry of Commerce. The DPIIT is the concerned authority that deals with this subject.

But, as far as MSMEs are concerned, we have scheme that we are giving 15 per cent of the project cost as the grant-in-aid. The maximum limit is rupees one crore. However, one thing is clear that we have to encourage new research and development because innovation, entrepreneurship, science & technology, and research is the key to knowledge. And, the conversation of knowledge into wealth is the future for the country. So, in MSME sector, we are seriously thinking about giving priority for all these new inventions and researches. And, we need to simplify the registration system. We are coordinating with the Ministry of Commerce and we will find out a solution.

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister had recently sanctioned rupees two hundred crores for setting up an MSME Technology Centre in Coimbatore. The Union Government had previously announced twelve such centres for twelve cities. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether any timeline has been fixed for setting up these twelve centres. Also, will the hon. Minister extend this scheme to other cities also?

SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: The Government has already decided giving high-priority for development of skills, new technology and new innovations. About 12 technology centres have already been sanctioned. The Government is giving approximately ₹ 200 crores, which is the cost, for that. We have a collaboration with German institutions where we need to have the latest or the best technology available in the world. One of the problems is about the land acquisition. The land is supposed to be given by the State Government. We are in the process. At maximum places, we have already received the land. The tender process has already started. We will start the work. Within two years, we want to complete that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. NO. 140

सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में वृद्धि

*140. श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: क्या सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में वर्ष 2018 की तुलना में वर्ष 2019 में सड़क यातायात में होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं में भारी वृद्धि हुई है;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि प्रेशर हॉर्न का प्रयोग करना और जनता को यातायात नियमों की पर्याप्त जानकारी न होना उक्त दुर्घटनाओं के प्रमुख कारणों में से एक हैं; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा वर्ष 2019-20 में देश में सड़क यातायात में होने वाली दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या-क्या आवश्यक कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं?

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री (श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी): (क) से (ग): एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) 26 राज्यों और 5 संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के संबंध में सड़क सुरक्षा पर उच्चतम न्यायालय समिति से प्राप्त अनंतिम आंकड़ों के अनुसार कैलेंडर वर्ष 2019 (सितंबर, 2019 तक) में पिछले कैलेंडर वर्ष 2018 की इसी अवधि (सितंबर, 2018 तक) की तुलना में सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में कुल मिलाकर 2.2% की कमी आई है। तथापि, इस अवधि के दौरान घातकताओं की कुल संख्या में 0.2% की वृद्धि हुई है। राज्य-वार डेटा उपाबंध में दिया गया है। (नीचे देखिए)।

(ख) सड़क दुर्घटनाएं अनेक कारणों से होती हैं जैसे कि अति गति में वाहन चलाना, वाहन चलाते समय मोबाइल फोन का प्रयोग, शराब पीकर/नशे में वाहन चलाना, अधिक भार से लदे वाहन, कम रोशनी, रेड लाइट को पार करना, ओवरटेकिंग, नगर निकायों की लापरवाही, खराब मौसम, चालक की गलती, गलत दिशा में वाहन चलाना, सड़क की खराब हालत, मोटर वाहन की खराब स्थिति, साइकिल यात्री की गलती, पैदल-यात्री की गलती आदि हैं। हालांकि, प्रेशर हॉर्न के इस्तेमाल के कारण हुई दुर्घटनाओं के संबंध में कोई विशिष्ट डेटा उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ग) संसद द्वारा पारित मोटर वाहन (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2019 सड़क सुरक्षा पर ध्यान केंद्रित करता है और अन्य विषयों में, यातायात उल्लंघन के लिए दंड में अत्यधिक बढ़ोतरी और उसकी इलेक्ट्रॉनिक निगरानी, किशोर चालक के लिए दंड बढ़ाना, गोल्डन आवर के दौरान नगदी रहित उपचार, वाहन की फिटनेस और चालन का कम्प्यूटरीकरण / स्वचालन, परीक्षण, दोषपूर्ण वाहनों को वापस बुलाना, तीसरे पक्ष की देयता का दायरा बढ़ाना और हिट एंड रन मामलों के लिए बड़े हुए मुआवजे का भुगतान आदि इसमें शामिल हैं। संशोधन में राष्ट्रीय सड़क सुरक्षा बोर्ड के गठन का भी प्रावधान है। संशोधन में सड़क सुरक्षा परिदृश्य में सुधार और जीवन क्षति को कम करने के लिए कानून को मजबूत किया गया है।

मंत्रालय वाहन सुरक्षा मानकों में सुधार करने, ब्लैक स्पॉट्स से निपटने के लिए स्थान विशिष्ट उपाय करने के विनियमन जारी करता है और सड़क सुरक्षा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए विभिन्न गतिविधियां जैसे सड़क सुरक्षा समर्थन और जागरूकता कार्यक्रम आयोजित करता है।

उपाबंध

सड़क दुर्घटनाएं, मारे गए और घायल व्यक्तियों का ब्यौरा

क्र.सं.	राज्य/संघ राज्य क्षेत्र	जनवरी-सितम्बर, 2018			जनवरी-सितम्बर, 2019			जनवरी-सितम्बर, 2018 का तुलना में जनवरी-सितम्बर, 2019 के दौरान वृद्धि/कमी				
		सड़क दुर्घटनाओं की कुल संख्या	मारे गए व्यक्ति	घायल व्यक्ति	सड़क दुर्घटनाओं की कुल संख्या	मारे गए व्यक्ति	घायल व्यक्ति	सड़क दुर्घटनाएं	सड़क दुर्घटनाएं %	मारे गए व्यक्तियों	मारे गए व्यक्ति %	घायल व्यक्ति
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	आंध्र प्रदेश	15,029	5,638	17,787	15,545	6,023	18,515	516	3.4%	385	6.8%	728
2.	अरुणाचल प्रदेश	138	107	309	142	69	249	4	2.9%	-38	-35.5%	-60
3.	असम	6,099	2,125	5,445	6,312	2,404	5,749	213	3.5%	279	13.1%	304
4.	बिहार	7,139	4,973	5,131	7,512	5,428	5,318	373	5.2%	455	9.1%	187
5.	छत्तीसगढ़	10,525	3,337	9,534	10,731	3,764	10,411	206	2.0%	427	12.8%	877
6.	गोवा	2,752	186	1,122	2,521	203	1,012	-231	-8.4%	17	9.1%	-110
7.	गुजरात	13,952	5,943	12,959	12,610	5,532	12,224	-1,342	-9.6%	-411	-6.9%	-735
8.	हरियाणा	8,521	3,882	7,401	8,140	3,744	6,976	-381	-4.5%	-138	-3.6%	-425
9.	हिमाचल प्रदेश	2,583	1,016	4,523	2,350	907	4,039	-233	-9.0%	-109	-10.7%	-484

10.	जम्मू और कश्मीर	4,485	757	6,014	4,309	739	5,711	-176	-3.9%	-18	-2.4%	-303
11.	झारखंड	3,895	2,545	2,616	3,872	2,854	2,416	-23	-0.6%	309	12.1%	-200
12.	कर्नाटक	31,291	8,140	38,859	30,468	7,828	38,204	-823	-2.6%	-312	-3.8%	-655
13.	केरल	29,895	3,224	33,991	30,790	3,362	34,427	895	3.0%	138	4.3%	436
14.	मध्य प्रदेश	39,101	8,092	42,088	38,492	8,235	41,869	-609	-1.6%	143	1.8%	-219
15.	महाराष्ट्र	26,169	9,821	23,508	25,130	9,463	22,031	-1,039	-4.0%	-358	-3.6%	-1,477
16.	मणिपुर	410	94	703	500	106	805	90	22.0%	12	12.8%	102
17.	मेघालय	311	124	240	408	133	275	97	31.2%	9	7.3%	35
18.	मिजोरम *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
19.	नगालैंड	317	25	159	216	27	121	-101	-31.9%	2	8.0%	-38
20.	ओडिशा	8,296	3,826	8,722	8,203	4,115	8,268	-93	-1.1%	289	7.6%	-454
21.	पंजाब	4,513	3,284	2,594	4,488	3,233	2,617	-25	-0.6%	-51	-1.6%	23
22.	राजस्थान	16,541	7,702	16,671	18,012	7,882	17,787	1,471	8.9%	180	2.3%	1,116
23.	सिक्किम *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
24.	तमिलनाडु	49,338	9,451	57,733	44,197	8,250	52,043	-5,141	-10.4%	-1,201	-12.7%	-5,690
25.	तेलंगाना	16,626	4,922	18,126	16,029	5,142	16,482	-597	-3.6%	220	4.5%	-1,644
26.	त्रिपुरा *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Oral Answers

[2 December, 2019]

to Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
27.	उत्तराखंड	1,078	771	1,217	1,022	642	1,160	-56	-5.2%	-129	-16.7%	-57
28.	उत्तर प्रदेश	31,719	16,614	22,254	32,255	17,235	22,126	536	1.7%	621	3.7%	-128
29.	पश्चिम बंगाल	9,649	4,362	8,946	9,207	4,214	8,656	-442	-4.6%	-148	-3.4%	-290
30.	अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह	69	6	62	51	2	40	-18	-26.1%	-4	-66.7%	-22
31.	चंडीगढ़	239	74	226	219	58	229	-20	-8.4%	-16	-21.6%	3
32.	दादरा और नगर हवेली	67	43	61	51	36	93	-16	-23.9%	-7	-16.3%	32
33.	दमन और दीव *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	दिल्ली	4,862	1,270	4,606	4,277	1,027	3,904	-585	-12.0%	-243	-19.1%	-702
35.	लक्षद्वीप *	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36.	पुद्दुचेरी	1,197	115	1,435	1,076	78	1,310	-121	-10.1%	-37	-32.2%	-125
	जोड़	346,806	112, 469	355,042	339,135	112,735	345,067	-7,671	-2.2%	266	0.2%	-9,975

* 2019 (सितंबर, 2019 तक) के लिए डेटा उपलब्ध नहीं कराया गया है।

Increase in road accidents

†*140. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a huge increase in the traffic related road accidents in the country in the year 2019 *vis-a-vis* year 2018;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that one of the main reasons for said accidents is the use of pressure horn and inadequate information of traffic rules to the public; and
- (c) the necessary steps being taken by Government to prevent traffic related road accidents in the country in the year 2019-20?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) As per provisional data obtained from the Supreme Court Committee on Road safety for the calendar year 2019 (up to September, 2019) in respect of 26 States and 5 Union Territories, there is an overall decrease in road accidents by 2.2% in comparison to the corresponding period of last calendar year 2018 (Up to September, 2018). However, the Total no. of fatalities during the period has increased by 0.2% in the same period. State-wise data is given at Annexure (*See* below).
- (b) Road accidents occur due to multiple causes such as over speeding, use of Mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol/ drug, overloaded vehicle, poor light condition, jumping red light, overtaking, neglect of civic bodies, weather condition, fault of driver, driving on wrong side, defect in road condition, defect in condition of motor vehicle, fault of cyclist, fault of pedestrian etc. However, no specific data is available in respect of accidents caused due to use of pressure horn.
- (c) The Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2019 passed by Parliament focuses on road safety and includes, *inter-alia*, stiff hike in penalties for traffic violations and electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, cashless treatment during the golden hour, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, streamlining the third party insurance and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc. The Amendment also provides for setting up of a National Road Safety Board. The Amendment has strengthened the Law to improve the road Safety scenario and reduce loss of lives.

The Ministry issues regulations to improve vehicle safety standards, undertakes site specific interventions to address black spots, and also mobilises various activities to promote road safety such as road safety advocacy and awareness programmes.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

*Annexure**Details of Road Accidents, Persons Killed and Injured*

Sl. No.	States/UT's	Jan - Sept, 2018			Jan - Sept, 2019			Increase/ Decrease during Jan - Sept, 2019 compared to Jan - Sept, 2018				
		Total number of Road Accidents	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Total number of Road Accidents	Persons Killed	Persons Injured	Road Accidents	Road Accidents %	Persons Killed Absolute	Persons Killed %	Persons Injured
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15,029	5,638	17,787	15,545	6,023	18,515	516	3.4%	385	6.8%	728
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	138	107	309	142	69	249	4	2.9%	-38	-35.5%	-60
3.	Assam	6,099	2,125	5,445	6,312	2,404	5,749	213	3.5%	279	13.1%	304
4.	Bihar	7,139	4,973	5,131	7,512	5,428	5,318	373	5.2%	455	9.1%	187
5.	Chhattisgarh	10,525	3,337	9,534	10,731	3,764	10,411	206	2.0%	427	12.8%	877
6.	Goa	2,752	186	1,122	2,521	203	1,012	-231	-8.4%	17	9.1%	-110
7.	Gujarat	13,952	5,943	12,959	12,610	5,532	12,224	-1,342	-9.6%	-411	-6.9%	-735
8.	Haryana	8,521	3,882	7,401	8,140	3,744	6,976	-381	-4.5%	-138	-3.6%	-425
9.	Himachal Pradesh	2,583	1,016	4,523	2,350	907	4,039	-233	-9.0%	-109	-10.7%	-484

10.	Jammu and Kashmir	4,485	757	6,014	4,309	739	5,711	-176	-3.9%	-18	-2.4%	-303	<i>Oral Answers</i>
11.	Jharkhand	3,895	2,545	2,616	3,872	2,854	2,416	-23	-0.6%	309	12.1%	-200	
12.	Karnataka	31,291	8,140	38,859	30,468	7,828	38,204	-823	-2.6%	-312	-3.8%	-655	
13.	Kerala	29,895	3,224	33,991	30,790	3,362	34,427	895	3.0%	138	4.3%	436	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	39,101	8,092	42,088	38,492	8,235	41,869	-609	-1.6%	143	1.8%	-219	
15.	Maharashtra	26,169	9,821	23,508	25,130	9,463	22,031	-1,039	-4.0%	-358	-3.6%	-1,477	
16.	Manipur	410	94	703	500	106	805	90	22.0%	12	12.8%	102	
17.	Meghalaya	311	124	240	408	133	275	97	31.2%	9	7.3%	35	
18.	Mizoram*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
19.	Nagaland	317	25	159	216	27	121	-101	-31.9%	2	8.0%	-38	
20.	Odisha	8,296	3,826	8,722	8,203	4,115	8,268	-93	-1.1%	289	7.6%	-454	<i>[2 December, 2019]</i>
21.	Punjab	4,513	3,284	2,594	4,488	3,233	2,617	-25	-0.6%	-51	-1.6%	23	
22.	Rajasthan	16,541	7,702	16,671	18,012	7,882	17,787	1,471	8.9%	180	2.3%	1,116	
23.	Sikkim*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
24.	Tamil Nadu	49,338	9,451	57,733	44,197	8,250	52,043	-5,141	-10.4%	-1,201	-12.7%	-5,690	
25.	Telangana	16,626	4,922	18,126	16,029	5,142	16,482	-597	-3.6%	220	4.5%	-1,644	
26.	Tripura*												

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
27.	Uttarakhand	1,078	771	1,217	1,022	642	1,160	-56	-5.2%	-129	-16.7%	-57
28.	Uttar Pradesh	31,719	16,614	22,254	32,255	17,235	22,126	536	1.7%	621	3.7%	-128
29.	West Bengal	9,649	4,362	8,946	9,207	4,214	8,656	-442	-4.6%	-148	-3.4%	-290
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	69	6	62	51	2	40	-18	-26.1%	-4	-66.7%	-22
31.	Chandigarh	239	74	226	219	58	229	-20	-8.4%	-16	-21.6%	3
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	67	43	61	51	36	93	-16	-23.9%	-7	-16.3%	32
33.	Daman and Diu*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
34.	Delhi	4,862	1,270	4,606	4,277	1,027	3,904	-585	-12.0%	-243	-19.1%	-702
35.	Lakshadweep*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
36.	Puducherry	1,197	115	1,435	1,076	78	1,310	-121	-10.1%	-37	-32.2%	-125
	TOTAL	346,806	112,469	355,042	339,135	112,735	345,067	-7,671	-2.2%	266	0.2%	-9,975

*Data for 2019 (Upto September, 2019) not provided.

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने मोटर व्हीकल ऐक्ट में जो अमेंडमेंट किया, उसके बारे में क्या इन्होंने आम पब्लिक में जन-जागरण किया? क्या पब्लिक के बीच में उसका प्रचार किया गया? पब्लिक को कॉन्फिडेंस में लिया गया कि नहीं? अगर नहीं लिया गया, तो क्यों?

श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी: सर, मैं सदन को धन्यवाद दूँगा कि मोटर व्हीकल ऐक्ट का सब लोगों ने समर्थन किया, जिसके बाद यह ऐक्ट पास हुआ है। यह बात सच है और आज जब मैंने statistics देखी, तो मुझे दुःख के साथ यह कहना पड़ता है कि अभी भी मरने वालों और ऐक्सिडेंट्स की संख्या में कोई ज्यादा फर्क नहीं आया है। इसके चार कारण हैं। इसका पहला कारण रोड इंजीनियरिंग है, जिसके लिए एनएचएआई ने सात-सात हजार करोड़ के दो प्रोजेक्ट्स तैयार करके वर्ल्ड बैंक और एडीबी को दिए हैं। जो ब्लैक स्पॉट्स हैं, जहाँ ऐक्सिडेंट्स होते हैं, उनको हम आइडेंटिफाई करने का काम कर रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... सर, दूसरा प्रश्न उन्होंने अवेयरनेस के बारे में पूछा है। हमने एनजीओज़ के द्वारा, यूनिवर्सिटीज़ के द्वारा, एजुकेशनल इंस्टिट्यूट्स के द्वारा तथा सोशल ऑर्गनाइजेशंस के द्वारा अवेयरनेस के बारे में काफी प्रोग्राम्स आयोजित किए हैं। नए ऐक्ट के कारण लाइसेंस, फिटनेस सर्टिफिकेट तथा पॉल्यूशन सर्टिफिकेट के बारे में जो हो रहा है, उससे बहुत अवेयरनेस आया है। कानून थोड़ा-सा स्ट्रिक्ट होने के कारण लोगों का रिस्पांस भी बहुत अच्छा है। मुझे लगता है कि हम लोग निश्चित रूप से सब प्रकार से इस बात का प्रयास करेंगे कि मरने वालों की संख्या कैसे कम हो।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: मान्यवर, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी का ध्यान इस बात की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूँ कि आपके जवाब में बताया गया है कि घातक इंसिडेंट्स बढ़े हैं।

श्री सभापति: यह मंत्री जी ने बताया है।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: उसमें 0.2 परसेंट की वृद्धि हुई है। अगर आपका इम्प्लिमेंटेशन ठीक है, तो फिर घातक इंसिडेंट्स में यह वृद्धि क्यों हो रही है? मान्यवर, मैं एक और बात मंत्री जी के संज्ञान में लाना चाहता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: सवाल पूछिए।

श्री रेवती रमन सिंह: सर, सवाल यह है कि आपने गाड़ी चलाते समय मोबाइल इस्तेमाल करने पर भी बैन लगाया है, लेकिन महानगरों में अभी भी गाड़ी चलाते समय मोबाइल का प्रयोग बड़े पैमाने पर हो रहा है, उस पर आप रोक नहीं लगा पा रहे हैं।

श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी: सर, सम्माननीय सदस्य जो बात कह रहे हैं, उसमें सच्चाई है, क्योंकि आज भी बड़े पैमाने पर लोगों में बाइक पर चलते-चलते, गाड़ी चलाते-चलाते मोबाइल पर बात करने की आदत है। सम्माननीय सभापति महोदय, इसी के लिए तो हमने नियमों को काफी कड़ाई से लागू करने का निर्णय किया है। इसके पीछे कोई रेवेन्यू earn करने की भावना नहीं थी, पर कानून के बारे में सम्मान भी नहीं है और डर भी नहीं है, ऐसी एक विचित्र अवस्था तैयार हुई थी और इसलिए यह कोशिश की गई। अब काफी बड़े पैमाने पर सुधार हो रहा है, पर यह इतना बिगड़ा हुआ था कि इसको सुधारने के लिए

[श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी]

काफी समय लगेगा और यह आपके, सदन के सभी लोगों के सहयोग से, सभी पार्टियों और राज्य सरकारों के सहयोग से ही संभव है।

सर, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें सबसे अच्छा काम तमिलनाडु ने किया है। तमिलनाडु ने कम से कम 29 परसेंट *reduce* किया है। चूँकि यह *Concurrent List* में है, इसलिए तमिलनाडु में वहाँ की सरकार ने जो कुछ किया है, उसके बारे में हमने सभी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को लिखा है। हमने कहा है कि तमिलनाडु के आधार पर वही काम बाकी की राज्य सरकारें भी करें। इस तरह के प्रयास चल रहे हैं।

KUMARI SELJA: I must compliment the hon. Minister for his dynamic and open-minded working style. सर, माननीय मंत्री जी ने खुद अभी कहा कि जो नया मोटर व्हीकल ऐक्ट बनाया गया, उसका मेन मकसद पैसे *earn* करना नहीं था, *revenue collection* नहीं था, लेकिन उसमें इतनी *strict penalties* की गई हैं कि जितने की गाड़ी नहीं होती, उससे ज्यादा पेनल्टी ड्राइवर पर थोप दी जाती है। सर, कई स्टेट्स ने इस कानून को मानने से इनकार भी किया है और उसको डायल्यूट भी किया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगी कि क्या आप इतनी *stiff penalties* को थोड़ा कम करने पर विचार करेंगे? क्योंकि अगर इसका उल्टा *effect* होता है, तो वह कानून कभी *effective* नहीं हो पाएगा।

श्री नितिन जयराम गडकरी: माननीय सभापति महोदय, इसमें मैंने एक केस को जांचा है, उसमें पाया कि ट्रक ओवरलोडेड था, ड्राइवर दारू पिये हुए था, उसके पास फिटनेस सर्टिफिकेट नहीं था, पॉल्युशन सर्टिफिकेट नहीं था, तो. उसके साथ सारे *violation register* हुए, इसलिए फाइन लग गया।

दूसरा यह कि फाइन के बारे में *Concurrent List* में दिया हुआ है। ये फाइन 20 साल पहले तैयार हुए थे। आज रुपये का मूल्य कितना है, वह आप दूँढ़ लें। लोगों को लगता है कि फाइन बहुत ज्यादा हो गया। ये फाइन वर्ष 1984 में लगाए गए थे, आज हम वर्ष 2019 में हैं, इतने साल के बाद तो बढ़ोतरी होने वाली है। जब 50-100 रुपये फाइन था तो लोग पुलिस के सामने *violation* करके गाड़ी चला रहे थे। अब उसमें कुछ अधिकार राज्य सरकार के हैं। हमने कहा कि मिनिमम 500 रुपये से 5,000 रुपये तक फाइन है। अब फाइन 500 रुपये रखना है, 600 रुपये रखना है या 5,000 रुपये रखना है, यह राज्य सरकार तय करे, उसके पास अधिकार है। बहुत-सी जगह उन्हें *consider* भी करना है तो वे कर सकते हैं।

तीसरी बात यह है कि अगर आप कानून को भंग नहीं करेंगे, तो फाइन नहीं लगेगा। हमें सबको यह कहना चाहिए कि आप *violation* क्यों करते हैं, आप क्यों अपनी जान को जोखिम में डालते हैं?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri M. Shanmugam. Correct. अच्छा है। This legislation is really a very progressive legislation. We must all respect it. Shri Shanmugam.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Sir, in the transport industry, most of the drivers are in all unorganized sector. In Tamil Nadu, we have one Auto Board to give social security to all the drivers. On par with same and similar, I want to know whether the Minister in the Centre is also going to establish any Board to help the poor drivers.

SHRINITIN JAIRAM GADKARI: Sir, actually, in new Motor Vehicles Act, we have a lot of provisions, particularly, in the social schemes from the Government of India, we now are going to coordinate all the schemes for drivers, for cleaners and for everybody for getting benefit from AYUSHMAN to Pension Yojana. So, everywhere, we are thinking that how we can give maximum benefit to the drivers. The most important thing is now we are opening, at least, 1, 000 driving training centres in every district where the computer will take the test and it will decide whether he will pass or fail. So, on that basis, there also, the training programme is there, and, at the same programme, we are now planning to give him all type of information regarding the welfare of the drivers; and under the different schemes, we will cover that and we are very positive that how we will be helpful for the drivers.

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम: सभापति महोदय, मेरठ से गढ़ जाने के लिए सिंगल रोड है और बृजघाट और लखनऊ जाने के लिए आगे हाईवे पड़ता है। वहां बहुत एक्सीडेंट्स होते हैं, बिल्कुल अंधेरा रहता है और वहां एकदम जंगली इलाका है। हम पेपर में पढ़ते रहते हैं कि यह 4 लेन होगा, 6 लेन होगा, लेकिन अभी तक उसका काम शुरू नहीं हुआ है। मेरा मंत्री जी से आपके माध्यम से सवाल था कि क्या मेरठ से गढ़ के लिए यह रोड आपके प्रोजेक्ट में है?

श्री सभापति: आप इसको ध्यान में लीजिए। यह सुझाव है, आप ध्यान दीजिए। क्वेश्चन 141, सुशील कुमार गुप्ता जी।

Pitiable living conditions of sportspersons

*141. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many sportspersons of national level are living in a pitiable condition in various parts of the country;
- (b) whether Government has taken any steps to identify them; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports is implementing the Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons (PDUNWFS), which caters to sportspersons of yesteryears now living in indigent conditions. PDUNWFS Scheme

has been circulated to the Sports Authority of India, Indian Olympic Association, all recognized National Sports Federations, all State Governments/UT Administrations. The scheme is also available on the website of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. The cases of players living in indigent conditions coming to the notice of the Ministry and proposals received in the Ministry are proactively processed and financial assistance is provided to such sportspersons. The details of financial assistance provided from the Fund to sportspersons during each of the last three years and current year (as on 27.11.2019) is given at Annexure (*See below*). My Ministry is also implementing the Scheme of 'Pension to Meritorious Sportspersons' for providing lifelong monthly pension to medal winners of Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, World Championships etc., after they retire from active sports. At present, 627 sportspersons are getting lifelong monthly pension ranging from ₹ 12, 000 to 20, 000 under this Scheme. My Ministry is also providing assistance for training of athletes and participation in sports events and competitive exposures.

Annexure

Details of Financial assistance sportspersons

Year	Sl. No.	Name of sports person/ organization	Sports discipline	Purpose for financial assistance	State/UT to which beneficiary belongs	Amount paid (in ₹)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2016-17	1	Shri Mohd. Shahid	Hockey	Medical Treatment	Uttar Pradesh	10,00,000
	2	Shri Bir Bahadur Singh	Football	Ameliorating financial condition	Telangana	2,00,000
	3	Ms Preeti Beniwal	Boxing	For Medical Treatment	Haryana	85,000
					TOTAL	12,85,000
2017-18	4	Shri Mohammad Habib	Football	Medical Treatment	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000
	5	Shri N.K. Mishra	volleyball	Ameliorating financial condition	Rajasthan	5,00,000
	6	Shri Kaur Singh	Boxing	Ameliorating financial condition	Punjab	5,00,000
	7	Family of Late Ms Nitisha Negi	Football	Financial assistance to family	Delhi	5,00,000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	Ms Gohela Boro	Archery	Medical Treatment	Assam	3,37,500
	9	Family of Late Master Praveen, hockey trainee at STC Bhopal	Hockey	Financial assistance to family	Haryana	2,00,000
					TOTAL	25,37,500
2018-19	10	Shri N. Brij Kishore	Gymnastic	Medical treatment	Telangana	6,00,000
	11	Family of Shri Sumit Rabha, football player	Football	Medical treatment	Assam	5,00,000
	12	Ms Khaidem Kalambia Chanu	Fencing	Medical treatment	Assam	5,00,000
	13	Shri Lakshmi Kanta Das	Weightlifting	Medical treatment	West Bengal	2,00,000
	14	Shri Limba Ram	Archery	Medical treatment	Rajasthan	5,00,000
	15	Ms Gohela Boro	Archery	Medical treatment	Assam	5,00,000
	16	Shri Ashok Soren	Archery	Ameliorating financial condition	Jharkhand	5,00,000
	17	Ms Garima Joshi	Athletics	Medical treatment	Uttrakhand	5,00,000
	18	Shri Prem Lal	Wrestling	Medical treatment	Delhi	5,00,000
	19	Shri Hakam Singh	Athletics	Medical treatment	Punjab	10,00,000
	20	Ms Vandana Suryavanshi	Judo	Ameliorating financial condition	Madhya Pradesh	3,00,000
	21	Shri G. Lakshaman	Athletics	Ameliorating financial condition	Kerala	10, 00,000
					TOTAL	66,00,000
2019-20	22	Shri Limba Ram Ahari	Archery	Medical treatment	Rajasthan	5,00,000
	23	Shri Madasu Srinivas Rao	Badminton (Para)	Ameliorating financial condition	Andhra Pradesh	5,00,000
	24	Ms Chandro Devi Tomar	Shooting	Medical treatment	Uttar Pradesh	5,00,000
	25	ShriRenjith Maheshwari	Athletics (Para)	Medical treatment	Tamil Nadu	2,20,000
	26	Ms Veera Pal Kaur	Athletics	Medical treatment	Punjab	1,50,000
	27	Ms Mithula U.K.	Badminton	Medical treatment	Karnataka	10,00,000

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	28	Shri J. Pitchayya	Ball badminton	Medical treatment	Telangana	5,00,000
	29	Shri AnshYadav	Athletics	Medical treatment	Uttar Pradesh	10,00,000
	30	Ms Inshah Bashir	Basketball (Para)	Medical treatment	Jammu and Kashmir	50,000
	31	Shri Sanjay Singh	Wushu	Medical treatment	Haryana	1,00,000
	32	Ms Saly George	Volleyball	Ameliorating financial condition	Kerala	2,50,000
	33	Ms Gohela Boro	Archery	Medical Treatment	Assam	1,62,415
					TOTAL	49,32,415
				GRAND TOTAL		1,53,54,915

Monthly pension is also being given from 'Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons' to the following sportspersons of yesteryears:—

Sl. No.	Name of yesteryear sportsperson	State/UT to which beneficiary belongs	Monthly pension (in ₹)
1.	Smt. Bhagwan Devi	Delhi	10,000
2.	Smt. NilimaVasant Ponkhe	Maharashtra	8,000
3.	Shri H.L. Prabhakar	Karnataka	8,000
4.	Shri O.K. Sathyan	Kerala	8,000
5.	Shri V. Govardan	Kerala	8,000
6.	Shri N. Jayaraman	Kerala	8,000
7.	Shri P. Ravindran	Kerala	8,000
8.	Smt. Ritika Dhar	West Bengal	8,000
9.	Smt. Jaspreet Kaur	Punjab	10,000
10.	Shri Samar Banerjee	West Bengal	8,000
11.	Shri Robin Hazra	West Bengal	8,000
12.	Shri Nikhil Kumar Nandi	West Bengal	8,000
13.	Shri E. Rama Krishna Rao	Karnataka	8,000

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में प्रतिभाशाली खिलाड़ी बहुत हैं। राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जब खिलाड़ी खेलता है और वह अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर किसी कारणवश जाने से रह जाता है- अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर जब खिलाड़ी खेलता है तो उसको बहुत पैसा मिलता है, वह बहुत फेमस हो जाता है, परंतु जो राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर कई बार मेडल जीतता है, उसको कुछ नहीं मिल पाता, न ही उसकी नौकरी में रिजर्वेशन...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question, please.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, मैं क्वेश्चन पर ही आ रहा हूँ। कुल 13 लोगों को दिल्ली, महाराष्ट्र, कर्नाटक, केरल, पश्चिमी बंगाल और पंजाब...

श्री सभापति: आप जानकारी दे रहे हैं, आपको सवाल पूछना है। You have to ask the question.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: महोदय, 6 राज्य मिलकर 13 लोगों को पेंशन दे रहे हैं। क्या भारत सरकार की तरफ से कुछ ऐसा प्रावधान बनेगा कि इन राष्ट्रीय स्तर के खिलाड़ियों को पेंशन देने की योजना बने?

श्री सभापति: मंत्री जी।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सर, पेंशन तो भारत सरकार की तरफ से दी ही जा रही है, लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने जो सवाल पूछा है, उसके संबंध में मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि अगर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट और सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट मिलकर काम करेंगे, तो हमारे पास खिलाड़ियों के लिए काम करने के लिए बहुत कुछ है। हर राज्य के जो खिलाड़ी नेशनल लेवल में पार्टिसिपेट करते हैं, उसकी जिम्मेदारी राज्य सरकार को लेनी होती है, उसे सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट bear नहीं कर सकती है। जब भारत के लिए इंटरनेशनल लेवल पर खेलते हैं, तो उसकी जिम्मेदारी भारत सरकार की होती है। जो मेडल मिल चुके हैं, उनकी कैटेगरी है, जिसका जवाब बहुत डीटेल में आपको दिया गया है। ओलम्पिक्स में मेडल मिलने की अलग पेंशन स्कीम्स हैं, एशियन गेम्स में जो मेडल मिलता है, उसकी अलग पेंशन है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर कोई भी मेडल लेता है, उसकी पेंशन मंथली जाती है।

इसकी डीटेल आपको दी गई है। इसके अतिरिक्त हम Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya National Welfare Fund for Sportspersons Welfare के लिए अलग से, जो मेरे पास discretion power है, 10 लाख तक कोई भी खिलाड़ी, अगर उसको जीने के लिए तकलीफ है या मेडिकल के लिए, उसके लिए भी हम देते हैं। उसका भी ब्यौरा आपको दिया हुआ है।

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: तीन वर्षों के अंदर 57 खिलाड़ियों का उपचार किया गया, मेरा इस सवाल से हटकर यह सवाल है कि हमारे यहां साधनों के अभाव में, स्टेडियम्स के अभाव में खिलाड़ी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर तक नहीं पहुंच पाते हैं। कुश्ती वाले को मैट नहीं मिलता...

श्री सभापति: आपका सवाल क्या है?

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता: अच्छे turf के ग्राउंड नहीं मिलते। क्या भारत सरकार स्पोर्ट्स अथॉरिटी के माध्यम से जिला स्तर पर कोई ऐसा स्टेडियम और उसके अंदर खेलने की नर्सरी बनाने का प्रावधान करना चाहती है?

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सर, हमने अभी-अभी दो महीने पहले एक निर्णय किया कि भारत में स्पोर्ट्स ऑथोरिटी ऑफ इंडिया ने, जो भारत सरकार के अधीन है, कोई भी स्पोर्ट्स फैसिलिटी है, वह सारे sports persons और accredited coach के लिए हमने फ्री कर दी है। हम किसी स्टेडियम को यूज करने के लिए एक रुपया भी चार्ज नहीं ले रहे हैं। यह एक क्रांतिकारी फैसला है। बहुत से खिलाड़ियों ने इसकी सराहना की है। इसके अलावा सारी फैसिलिटीज़ पर तो हम कब्जा नहीं कर सकते हैं, क्योंकि कुछ स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स का है, कुछ फेडरेशन का है। उन्हें भी अपनी-अपनी स्पोर्ट्स फैसिलिटीज़ को खिलाड़ियों के लिए फ्री खोल देना चाहिए, मैं ऐसा आग्रह भी कर चुका हूँ।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: सभापति महोदय, स्पोर्ट्स में दो चीज़ें होती हैं। एक तो process reward होता है और दूसरा output reward होता है। Output reward के बारे में तो हमने सुन लिया है कि वह मिल रहा है, लेकिन जो process reward होता है, जब खिलाड़ी खेलने के क्रम में नेशनल लेवल तक पहुंचते हैं, यदि वे कोई मेडल लेकर नहीं आते हैं, तो क्या उनका recognition होता है? मेरे विचार से उनको वही सुविधाएं मिलनी चाहिए। मेडल मिलना accidental भी हो सकता है, चार में से एक को मिलता है। जो लोग नेशनल लेवल के खिलाड़ी हैं, स्पोर्ट्स ऑथोरिटी ऑफ इंडिया उनकी एक वेबसाइट जारी करे, उनका और उनके परिवार का ख्याल रखे। पूरे देश में इस process reward को शुरू किया जाए।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सर, खिलाड़ियों के लिए सिर्फ सरकार को नहीं, बल्कि सबको मिलकर सोचना होगा। उसको साधन देना, नौकरी देना, उसके भविष्य, उसके परिवार के लिए, हमने कार्पोरेट सेक्टर के लोगों को भी पुकारा है। हमने अभी Sports Summit की है। 10 billion dollar का एक टारगेट लेकर हमने एक Summit की है। स्पोर्ट्स एक बड़ी economic activity बनता जा रहा है। स्पोर्ट्स way of life भी है और एक economic जरिया भी बनता जा रहा है। इसलिए इसे सभी को मिलकर करना चाहिए। मैं एक example दे रहा हूँ और यह एक important बात है, जैसे Kabaddi League है, उसमें कोई भारत के लिए तो खेला नहीं है या कोई प्लेयर मेडल नहीं जीता, लेकिन Kabaddi League में खेलने की वजह से, उसको अभी हर साल करोड़ों रुपया मिल रहा है। हम देश भर में ऐसे ही तरीके निकाल रहे हैं, जिसमें खिलाड़ियों को प्रोत्साहन मिल सके।

श्री सभापति: कबड़ी हमारा भारतीय खेल है, इसको प्रोत्साहन देना चाहिए। Now, Q. No. 142.

Key findings of India State of Forest Report, 2017

*142. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the key findings of India State of Forest Report, 2017;

(b) whether the geographical area of forest cover increased over the last ten years; and

(c) the top three States where forest cover has increased over the last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The key findings of India State of Forest Report, 2017 are given at Annexure-I (See below).

(b) The geographical area of forest cover increased by 17374 square kilometres between assessment of 2007 and 2017.

(Area in square kilometre)

Total Forest Cover (2007 assessment in ISFR-2009)	Total Forest Cover (2017 assessment in ISFR-2017)	Increase in Forest cover
690899	708273	17374

However, within the above ten years period, forest cover increased by 6788 square kilometres between assessments 2015 and 2017 itself.

(c) The top three States which have increased the forest cover over the last ten years are West Bengal, undivided Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. The details are given at Annexure-II.

Annexure-I

Key Salient Findings of India State of Forest Report ISFR-2017

- (i) Forest and Tree Resources:- The Total forest cover of the country, as per current assessment is 7, 08, 273 square kilometre (sq km) which is 21.54% of the geographical area of the country. The tree cover of the country is estimated to be 93.815 sq km (9.38 million ha) which is 2.85 percent of the geographical area.
- (ii) The Total forest and tree cover of the country as per this assessment is 8, 02, 088 sq km (80.20 million ha) which is 24.39 percent of the geographical area of the country.

- (iii) After taking into account the changes observed during the two assessments periods *i.e.* ISFR 2015 (Updated) and ISFR 2017, there has been an increase of 6,788 sq km forest cover at the national level. Three States namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala have contributed to an increase of 2, 141. sq km, 1, 101 sq km and 1, 043 sq km respectively, much of which can be attributed to plantation and conservation activities both within and outside the Recorded Forest Area as well as improvement in interpretation due to better radiometric resolution of the recent satellite data from Resourcesat-2.
- (iv) There is an increase of 1243 sq km in the tree cover of the country as compared to 2015 assessment.
- (v) The forest cover information has been given separately inside and outside the recorded forest area for sixteen States where digitized forest boundaries are available. For rest of the States, the information has been given inside and outside the green wash of Survey of India (SOI) toposheets.
- (vi) The per cent assessment shows that 15 States/UTs have above 33 per cent of their geographical area under forest cover.
- (vii) As per the present assessment, the forest cover in the hill districts of the country is 2, 83, 462 sq km, which is 40.22 per cent of the Total geographic area of these districts. The current assessment shows net increase of 754 sq km in the hill districts of the country.
- (viii) The Total forest cover in the tribal districts is 4, 21, 170 sq km, which is 37.43 % of the geographical area of these districts. The current assessment shows net increase of 86.89 sq km in all the tribal districts of the country.
- (ix) As per the present assessment, the Total forest cover in the North Eastern region is 1,71,306 sq km, which is 65.34 % of the geographical area. In comparison to the national forest cover of 21.54%, the current assessment shows a decrease of forest cover to the extent of 630 sq km in the North-Eastern region.
- (x) Net increase in forest cover has been observed in areas less than 1000m altitude. In all other altitudinal zones small net decrease has been observed.
- (xi) There is net increase of 2, 647 sq km in the extent of waterbodies over the decade 2005-2015. In general, all the States and UTs show an increase except Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar. The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat,

Madhya Pradesh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka show an increase of more than 100 sq km over the decade.

- (xii) Mangrove cover has increased by 181 sq km as compared to 2015 assessment.
- (xiii) The Total growing stock of India's forests and tree outside forests is estimated as 5823.377 million cubic metre of which 4218.380 million cubic metre is inside the Recorded Forest Area(RFA) and 1603.997 million cubic metre outside.
- (xiv) There in an increase of 53.990 million cubic metre in Total growing stock of the country as compared to previous assessment. The increase in side RFA is 23.333 million cubic metre and that outside the forest is 30.657 million cubic metre.
- (xv) The annual potential production of timber from Trees Outside Forest (TOF) is 74.51 million cubic metre.
- (xvi) The Total bamboo bearing area of the country is estimated to be 15.69 million hectare. As compared to the estimates of ISFR 2011, the Total bamboo bearing area in the county has increased by 1.73 million hectare.
- (xvii) In the present assessment, Total carbon stock in forest in estimated to be 7082 million tonnes. There in an increase of 38 million tonnes in the carbon stock of county as compared to the last assessment.
- (xviii) Soil Organic Carbon represents the largest pool of carbon stock at 56.19 tonnes/hectare followed by Above Ground Biomass 31.59 tonnes/hectare and Below Ground Biomass at 9.86 tonnes/hectare.

Annexure-II

Top three States which have shown increase in forest cover in last 10 years

(Area in square kilometre)

S. No.	States/UTs	Total Forest Cover in 2007 assessment	Total Forest Cover in 2017 assessment	Difference
1	West Bengal	12994	16847	3853
2	Andhra Pradesh (Undivided)	45102	48566	3464
3	Kerala	17324	20321	2997

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Sir, while I compliment the hon. Minister for having increased the forest cover by one per cent, which is up by 8, 021 square kilometers — it has gone up by 21.54 per cent — there is a big worry. Forest cover in the North East has come down by 630 square kilometers. What is the reason for this and what are the remedial measures that the Government is taking?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, the North East has a peculiar problem. It has a tradition of jhum cultivation. These are private forests, and they go on changing the sites. So, that is a problem. Hence, the overall forest cover has come down by 630 square kilometers, because otherwise North East is the place where forest cover is 75 per cent-plus in all the States. So, it has gone down only by about 600 square kilometres. But there would be a new survey of 2019 which would surely be held by the end of this month. So, let us wait for that. That would give a good picture. More importantly, we would be calling a separate meeting of the North-Eastern States' Ministers. Two days ago we had a meeting with all the Forest Ministers of the country. We would hold separate meetings.

SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Sir, I compliment the Government because the tiger count in this country is an all-time high of 2, 226. But the worrying fact is that 23 lions died in Gir Forest in September-October last year. Out of these, 4 lions died of a disease called Canine Distemper Virus. Has the Ministry investigated the reason for this? Are you sure that this Canine Distemper Virus would not affect the lions again?

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, we must be proud of our ecological system. The tiger count is not 2, 226. It was last time. Now, it is 2, 967.

पिछले चार साल में 750 टाइगर्स की संख्या में वृद्धि हुई है। लॉयन्स की बात है, टाइगर की बात है, हाथी की बात है या रायनो की बात है, यह भारत की सम्पदा है। अगर वायरस से किसी की मृत्यु होती है, तो हरेक की स्पेशल जांच होती है और उसके उपाय किए जाते हैं। इसीलिए हमारा यह नम्बर बढ़ रहा है।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बताना चाहती हूँ कि हिमाचल प्रदेश की इकोनॉमी फॉरेस्ट के ऊपर डिपेंड करती है और हम चाहते हैं कि वहां पर फॉरेस्ट कवर ज्यादा होना चाहिए। वहां पर फॉरेस्ट कवर ज्यादा हो, उसके लिए कम्पनसेशन देने के लिए क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट कोई फाइनेंशियल हेल्प देगी, जिससे कि वहां पर फॉरेस्ट न कटें और वे वैसे के वैसे रहें? सर, ऐसा वहां पर होना बहुत जरूरी है।

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: सभापति महोदय, फॉरेस्ट के साइंटिफिक मैनेजमेंट के लिए जितना कटाव होता है, वह जरूरी होता है और उसी से फॉरेस्ट ग्रो होता है। लेकिन फॉरेस्ट की अवैध कटाई न हो,

यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है, इसके लिए पूरी चुस्त योजना बनी है। हिमाचल प्रदेश ने अपने फॉरेस्ट कवर में ग्रीन करने का एक पांच साल का बहुत ambitious कार्यक्रम बनाया है और हम उनको सहयोग दे रहे हैं।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No.143. Shri Md. Nadimul Haque; not present. Hon. Minister, lay the reply on the Table.

SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR: Sir, I lay it on the Table.

* 143. [The questioner was absent.]

**Expenditure incurred on Government
advertisements**

*143. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of newspaper advertisements sanctioned by Government over the last three years and Total expenditure incurred on the same, State-wise;
- (b) Total expenditure incurred on advertisements on the internet over the said period; and
- (c) whether Government plans to increase advertisement spending in regional newspapers and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The Bureau of Outreach and Communication (BOC) under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting releases notices for tenders, auctions, recruitments etc. and also undertakes awareness campaigns and dissemination of information about the Government schemes and programmes through various media. The detail of State-wise expenditure incurred on release of advertisements in newspapers during last three years is given in the website of BOC i.e. <http://davp.nic.in>.

During 2013-14 to 2019-20, per sq. cm rate of advertisements released in print media has increased from ₹ 42.31 to ₹ 62.13. However, the average per year print media space of advertisement given by BOC has gone down from 11.88 crore sq cm during the year 2009-10 to 2013-14 to ₹ 10.95 crore sq cm for 2014-15 to 2018-19.

(b) The Total expenditure incurred by BOC on release of advertisements on internet during the three years period from 2016-17 to 2018-19 is ₹ 38.99 crores. The advertisements on internet are done by BOC as per the requirement indicated by the concerned client Ministries/Departments.

(c) BOC finalizes the media plans in respect of campaigns undertaken by them keeping in view the requirements, target audience and budget availability, as indicated by the client Ministries/Departments. It releases advertisements to the newspapers as per the provisions of Print Media Advertisement Policy, 2016 which *inter-alia* provides that BOC will, to the extent possible, keeping in view the over-all media strategy, ensure that balance is maintained between various categories of newspapers in language terms as under:—

English language : 30%

Indian languages : 70%

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 144.

Development of shipbuilding activities

*144. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is focusing on development of shipbuilding activities in the country; and

(b) if so, the measures being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Ministry of Shipping has formulated the following major policies to promote shipbuilding activities in the country:—

1. Financial assistance policy on shipbuilding to provide a level playing field *vis-a-vis* foreign shipyards. Details are given below:—

(i) To support the domestic shipbuilding industry, the Union Cabinet approved the Shipbuilding Financial Assistance Policy for Indian Shipyards on December 09, 2015.

- (ii) A projection of ₹ 4000 crore as Financial Assistance to shipyards for 10 years for contracts secured between 01.04.2016 and 31.03.2026 (including these dates) had been approved.
- (iii) Financial assistance will be granted to Indian Shipyards equal to 20% of the lower of “Contract Price” or the “Fair Price” or actual payments received of each vessel built by them as per guidelines for a period of at least 10 years commencing 2016-17 (plus 3 years or more, as the case may be for spillover cases as per the guidelines). This rate of 20% will be reduced by 3% every three year.

Ministry of Shipping is releasing financial assistance to Indian shipyards except defence PSU shipyards, as defence PSU shipyards are under the administrative control of Ministry of Defence. Detailed guidelines are uploaded on the website of this Ministry.

2. Grant of Right of First Refusal to Indian shipyards by Government departments or agencies. Details are given below:—
 - (i) The Union Cabinet has approved on 09.12.2015 that all government departments or agencies including PSUs have to provide Right of First Refusal(ROFR) to Indian shipyards while procuring or repairing vessels meant for governmental or own use till 2025, after which only Indian shipyards would build and repair vessels for above mentioned organisations.
3. Eligibility criteria has been relaxed by Government for Indian shipyards to qualify for ROFR. Prior experience in construction and delivery of similar ships will not be used as qualifying criteria in technical qualification or otherwise. Technical qualification of Indian shipyards will be based on the infrastructure availability and capability of the shipyards to execute the shipbuilding contract. Detailed guidelines are uploaded on the website of this Ministry.
4. Government of India has recently approved this Ministry’s proposal to release committed liability of shipbuilding subsidy for eligible cases pertaining to the old subsidy scheme (2002-2007).
5. In addition, Ministry of Shipping had pursued with Ministry of Finance for grant of infrastructure status to Indian shipyards.

The Department of Economic Affairs has granted infrastructure status to standalone 'Shipyards' on 13.04.2016. With the infrastructure status, shipyards will be able to avail flexible structuring of long term project loans, long term funding from Infrastructure Funds at lower rates of interest and for a longer tenure equivalent to the economic life of their assets, relaxed ECB norms, issuance of infrastructure bonds for meeting working capital requirements.

6. Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL), a central PSU shipyard under the administrative control of Ministry of Shipping, is constructing a New Dry Dock within their premises at an estimated cost of ₹ 1799 crores. The new Dry Dock will enable the Company to build specialized and technologically advanced large vessels such as LNG vessels, larger aircraft carriers and drill ships. CSL has set up a subsidiary Hooghly Cochin Shipyard Limited (HCSL) for primarily building Inland Water Transport (IWT) vessels.

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, मैं अभिनंदन करना चाहूंगा कि मिनिस्टर साहब पहली बार डोमेस्टिक शिपिंग इंडस्ट्री में दिसम्बर, 2015 में नई पॉलिसी लेकर आए। डोमेस्टिक शिपिंग इंडस्ट्री के असिस्टेंट्स के लिए...

श्री सभापति: आप क्वेश्चन पूछिए।

डा. विकास महात्मे: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इसके लिए बजट में कितना पैसा आवंटित किया था और उसमें से कितना उपयोग में लाया गया है, कितना यूटिलाइज़ किया गया है?

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: माननीय सभापति महोदय, शिपबिल्डिंग के लिए 2016 से 2026 तक 10 साल की एक intensive योजना बनी हुई है। उसमें से 20 परसेंट, इंडियन शिपयार्ड में जो शिपबिल्डिंग होता है, उसको 20 परसेंट हम सब्सिडी देते हैं। इस 20 परसेंट सब्सिडी के लिए अभी तीन-चार साल में हमारे पास कुल 64 एप्लीकेशन्स आई हैं, 86 शिप के लिए आई हैं और कुल मिलाकर 320 करोड़ रुपया हमें देना होता है। सर, हमारे लिए शिपबिल्डिंग के लिए फंड की कोई प्रॉब्लम नहीं है, जितनी भी एप्लीकेशन्स दस साल में आएंगी और जितने शिपबिल्डिंग इंडिया में होंगे, उनको हम 20 परसेंट इंसेंटिव देंगे, क्योंकि हमारे यहां फंड की कोई प्रॉब्लम नहीं है।

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, यह पॉलिसी दिसम्बर, 2015 में तय हुई थी। उसके बाद से डोमेस्टिक शिपबिल्डिंग इंडस्ट्री में कितनी बढ़ोतरी आई और उनके कारोबार में कितनी बढ़ोतरी आई?

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: सभापति महोदय, जब से न्यू शिपबिल्डिंग पॉलिसी आई है, तब से हमें 64 एप्लीकेशन्स मिली हैं। उन 64 एप्लीकेशन्स में से 86 शिप अभी बन रहे हैं, उनके लिए हमने इन प्रिंसीपल एप्रूवल दिया है और कुल मिलाकर उससे 520 करोड़ का शिप अभी बिल्डिंग में आ रहा है।

MS. DOLASEN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I appreciate what the Minister has already stated that he has ample fund for development of ship building activities. But I want to know as to how the Ministry will be effectively doing the development of shipbuilding activities if dredging is not done in a proper manner. I know in Bengal, there is huge dues for dredging in Kolkata Port Trust.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your question?

MS. DOLASEN: What is the allotment for dredging in Kolkata Port and other areas to effect the development of ship building activities?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may go to the Minister, if he has the information, he will give it. Otherwise, collect it from him.

श्री मनसुख मांडविया: सभापति महोदय, शिपबिल्डिंग इंडस्ट्रीज और dredging दोनों अलग-अलग विषय हैं, लेकिन देश में कुल मिलाकर 204 minor ports हैं और 12 major ports हैं। Major ports का संचालन भारत सरकार करती है और minor ports का संचालन State Governments करती हैं या PPP mode से private लोग करते हैं। माननीय सदस्या ने major ports के अन्तर्गत Kolkata Port का जिक्र किया है। Kolkata Port चूंकि riverine port है और riverine port में dredging की एक continuous process होती है और देश में सभी पोर्ट्स पर आवश्यकता के अनुसार हम dredging करते रहते हैं और उनके लिए फंड की कोई प्रॉब्लम नहीं होती है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q.No. 145, the questioner is not present. Are there any supplementaries?

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

Conservation of Gulf of Mannar

*145. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has placed 'Gulf of Mannar' in the State of Tamil Nadu under the category of 'Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas' (CVCA);
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has proposed to provide special care to preserve and conserve 'Gulf of Mannar'; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification accords special consideration and identifies Gulf of Mannar in the State of Tamil Nadu as one of the Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA) amongst other CVCAs listed in the said notification, with the objective of protecting the critical coastal environment and sustainable use of coastal resources. To this end, all the CVCAs are required to be managed through the Integrated Management Plans (IMPs) to be prepared by respective State Governments as per the guidelines of Notification.

(c) and (d) The Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park (GoMMNP) and Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve (GoMBR) were established to conserve the valuable coastal & marine resources and its biodiversity richness. A project titled 'Coastal Habitat Rehabilitation for Climate Change Adaptation in Gulf of Mannar' has been approved under the Climate Change Action Programme (CCAP). The National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change (NAFCC) launched in 2015 has approved 27 projects for management and rehabilitation of coastal habitats and biodiversity for climate change adaptation and sustainable livelihood in Gulf of Mannar. Also India's National Wildlife Action Plan for 2017 - 2031, identifies a number of priority areas for research and on-ground implementation towards conservation of coastal and marine ecosystems from the impacts of climate change including the Gulf of Mannar.

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister must be aware, as he has said in his answer, that the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification accords special consideration and identifies Gulf of Mannar as one of the Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas. Now, the Government appointed a Commission headed by Dr. Pachauri on the Sethusamudram Project and also declared this project which goes through the Gulf of Mannar as an environmentally disastrous project. Yet, to date, the Government has not formally scrapped the Sethusamudram Project, although on the Ram Setu matter, the assurance was given that it will not be touched.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the question, Swamiji?

DR. SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: The question is: Why has the Government not scrapped the Sethusamudram Project when a Commission has said that it is an environmental disaster?

श्री प्रकाश जावडेकर: माननीय सभापति जी, राम सेतु प्रोजेक्ट के बारे में, माननीय सदस्य डा. सुब्रमण्यम स्वामी जी को सब कुछ पता है, he is himself very actively engaged. लेकिन यह प्रश्न मेरे मंत्रालय के अन्तर्गत नहीं आता है, इसलिए मैं यह प्रश्न जिस मंत्रालय से संबंधित है, मैं उन्हें जरूर बताऊंगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Q. No. 146; Shri Binoy Viswam, not present. Answer can be laid on the Table.

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

CPSEs in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh

*146. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) operational in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh during 2000-2014, 2014-2019 and August, 2019 to December, 2019;
- (b) the Total employment and vacancies in these enterprises;
- (c) Government's financial investment in CPSEs in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh during 2000-2014, 2014-2019 and August, 2019 to December, 2019; and
- (d) Government's plan to increase Government investment in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) As per available information in the Public Enterprises Survey laid in both the Houses of Parliament every year, two CPSEs (J & K Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. and HMT Chinar Watches Ltd.) are located in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh from 2000-2001 to 2013-14. Regarding the period, 2014-15 to 2018-19, three CPSEs namely J & K Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., HMT Chinar Watches Ltd. and Jammu and Kashmir Development Finance Corporation Ltd. are located in the above region. The HMT Chinar Watches is presently under closure. In addition to the above three CPSEs, there are 46 other CPSEs having their units/projects offices in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh.

The details of employment and financial investment regarding 3 CPSEs located in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh for the period 2000-2001 to 2018-19 are given in enclosed

Annexure-I (*See below*). The details of employment and value of Gross Block of 49 CPSEs (3 CPSEs in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and 46 CPSEs having projects/units and office in the region) for the year 2018-19 is given in Annexure-II (*See below*). The major projects/offices having significant employment in Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh are reported in NHPC Ltd., Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Food Corporation of India, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Airports Authority of India.

(d) CPSEs are under the administrative control of respective administrative Ministries/Departments. The plan to increase Government investment in CPSEs is made by the Board of Directors /concerned administrative Ministries / Departments.

Annexure-I

Details of employment and financial investmet of CPSEs located in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh during 2000-2001 to 2017-2018

Year	HMT Chinar Watches Limited		J & K Mineral Development Corporation Limited		Jammu and Kashmir Development Finance Corporation Limited	
	Employees including casual/ contractual (in Numbers)	Financial Investment (₹ in Lakhs)	Employees including casual/ contractual (in Numbers)	Financial Investment (₹ in Lakhs)	Employees including casual/ contractual (in Numbers)	Financial Investment (₹ in Lakhs)
	2	3	4	5	6	7
2001-02	764	3730	12	474		
2002-03	662	4876	8	474		
2003-04	664	5114	8	474		
2004-05	637	5522	8	474		
2005-06	610	5958	7	474	This CPSE was included in PE Survey from 2016-17	
2006-07	577	6376	6	474		
2007-08	476	6746	6	474		
2008-09	228	26216	5	948		
2009-10	147	31386	4	474		
2010-11	112	21616	4	474		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2011-12	111	23038	4	474		
2012-13	54	16875	5	474		
2013-14	61	16875	5	474		
2014-15	54	25166	5	474		
2015-16	0	166	6	2974		
2016-17	0	166	7	2974	16	8000
2017-18	0	166	6	2974	16	8000
2018-19	0	0	6	2974	18	8000

Annexure-II

*Details of CPSE/ Project offices in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh
for the year, 2018-19*

Sl. No.	CPSE/ Project offices	Gross Block (₹ in lakh)	Employment (in numbers)
1	2	3	4
1.	AAI Cargo Logistics & Allied Services Company Ltd.	110	0
2.	Air India Air Transport Services Ltd.	87	0
3.	Airports Authority of India*	44320	381
4.	BEML Ltd.	14	12
5.	Bharat Broadband Network Ltd.	0	0
6.	Bharat Petroleum Corpn. Ltd*.	19684	138
7.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.*	212137	1689
8.	Central Warehousing Corpn.	0	0
9.	E. C. G. C. Ltd.	0	1
10.	Engineering Projects (India) Ltd.	20	2
11.	Engineers India Ltd.	0	1
12.	Food Corpn. of India*	4516	709
13.	Hindustan Petroleum Corpn. Ltd*	28898	342

1	2	3	4
14.	Hindustan Prefab Ltd.	0	0
15.	HLL Lifecare Ltd.	0	0
16.	HMT Chinar Watches Limited	0	0
17.	Hotel Corpn. of India Ltd.	820	0
18.	Housing & Urban Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	527	10
19.	HSCC (India) Ltd.	0	0
20.	ITI Ltd.	264	96
21.	India Tourism Dev. Corpn. Ltd.	165	15
22.	Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.*	51857	435
23.	Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corpn. Ltd.	0	7
24.	IRCON Infrastructure & Services Ltd.	642	2
25.	IRCON International Ltd.	66	198
26.	J & K Mineral Development Corpn. Ltd.*	2879	6
27.	Jammu and Kashmir Development Finance Corporation Ltd*	63	17
28.	Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.	0	96
29.	National Handloom Development Corporation Ltd.	0	2
30.	National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corpn. Ltd.	0	0
31.	National Projects Construction Corpn. Ltd.	11	25
32.	National Seeds Corpn. Ltd.	0	0
33.	National Small Industries Corpn. Ltd.	0	0
34.	NBCC (India) Ltd.	0	18
35.	NHPC Ltd.*	1429455	3651
36.	NMDC Ltd.	0	1
37.	NTPC Ltd.	0	1
38.	Oil India Ltd.	0	1
39.	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd*.	313622	735

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1	2	3	4
40.	RailTel Corporation India Ltd.	0	1
41.	REC Ltd.	36	5
42.	REC Power Distribution Co. Ltd.	8	5
43.	REC Transmission Projects Co. Ltd.	14	0
44.	RISES Ltd.	0	2
45.	SJVN Ltd.	0	8
46.	Steel Authority of India Ltd.	890	8
47.	Telecommunications Consultants (India) Ltd.	41	1
48.	THDC India Ltd.	0	1
49.	WAPCOS Ltd.	12	2
TOTAL		211158	8624

*Employment includes contract and casual employees.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 147, Shri P. Bhattacharya, not present. What is happening today?

*147. [The questioner was absent.]

Encouragement of charkha in 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi

*147. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal to encourage the use of charkha in the country on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi; and

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

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is encouraging the use of charkhas by spinners in the country under the following schemes:—

- (i) Rozgar Yukt Gaon (RYG) - To give further boost and generate employment opportunities in the villages through hand spun charkha, a new Scheme titled 'Rozgar Yukt Gaon' has been launched during 2019-20. This has an objective to introduce enterprise-led model replacing subsidy-led model in 50 villages, which are deprived of opportunities and sustainable livelihood support systems, and to empower them with charkhas, looms, warping units, required professional skills and administrative framework support, creating direct and indirect employment opportunities.
- (ii) Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) has been under implementation for making Traditional Industries more productive, market driven and competitive by organizing the Traditional Industries and artisans into clusters. The Scheme envisages providing need-based assistance for setting up of Common Facility Centres (CFCs), product development, quality improvement, improved marketing, training and capacity building etc. with the financial assistance extended by the Government. Under this scheme, traditional industries clusters including Khadi related clusters are set up.
- (iii) Mission Solar Charkha: Ministry of MSME has launched the Mission Solar Charkha for implementation of 50 Solar Charkha Clusters across the country with a budget of ₹ 550 crore. Solar Charkha Cluster consists of a focal village and other surrounding villages in a radius of 8 to 10 kilometres and will have 200 to 2042 beneficiaries, viz., Spinners, Weavers, Stitchers and other Skilled Artisans. Each spinner is given two solar charkhas of 10 spindles each. On an average, it is considered that such a cluster will have about 1000 solar charkhas. Activity of Solar Charkha is covered under the Village Industries (VI) vertical of KVIC.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Q.No. 148.

Sports infrastructure in Punjab

*148. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sports infrastructure projects sanctioned/implemented in the State of Punjab during the last three years under various schemes of the Ministry;
- (b) the details of facilities made available in different sports disciplines by Sports Authority of India (SAI) for sportspersons in Punjab; and
- (c) the funds allocated/released by Government for development of sports in Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
(SHRI KIREN RIJU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

- (a) 'Sports' being a State subject the responsibility for providing sports infrastructure rests with the State/Union Territory Governments. Central Government supplements their efforts by training, coaching and bridging gaps in sports infrastructure. Details of sports infrastructure projects sanctioned/implemented in the State of Punjab during the last three years and the current year under various schemes of this Ministry are given at Annexure-I (*See* below).
- (b) Sports Authority of India (SAI) has established 13 Sports Centres in the State of Punjab *i.e.* [1 National Centers of Excellence (NCOE), 3 SAI Training Centers (STCs), 5 Extension Centers of STCs, 1 Indigenous Games & Martial Arts (IGMA) & 3 Akharas] where 428 talented sportspersons (268 Boys & 160 Girls) are being trained in 13 sports disciplines. SAI also has Regional Centers at Chandigarh and NIS Patiala which caters to sporting needs, including from sportspersons of Punjab. Details of various SAI facilities in the State of Punjab are at Annexure-II (*See* below). A Total of nine sports academies have also been accredited by Sports Authority of India in the State of Punjab. Sports facilities of this Ministry are for all athletes including those of Punjab.
- (c) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports does not allocate funds State/Union Territory-wise. Information relating to funds released for sports including food, training, and Ministry facilities is at Annexure-III.

Annexure-I

Details of sports infrastructure projects sanctioned/implemented and grant released in the State of Punjab during the last three years and the current year under various schemes of this Ministry

(Amount ₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Project	Grant sanctioned	Grant released	Status
2016-17				
1.	Renovation of old Motibagh palace at Patiala	979.17	415.00	40% completed
2.	Construction of 150 bedded hostel at NIS Patiala	1288.00	1137.00	80% completed
3.	Establishment of Regional Centre at Zirakhpur	1295.00	789.19	60% completed
2017-18				
4.	Construction of Multipurpose Indoor Hall at Smt. Lajwanti Sports Complex, Hoshiarpur	700.00	504.00	65% completed
5.	Construction of Multipurpose Indoor Hall at War Heroes's Stadium, Sangrur	747.00	579.00	75% completed
6.	Setting up of National Centre for Sports Coaching	200.00	200.00	60% completed
2019-20 (As on 31.10.2019)				
7.	Construction of 300 bedded sports hostel at NIS, Patiala	2677.00	803.10	Nil
8.	Construction of 200 Bedded Hostel (one for Men and one for Women) including furnishing at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar	1120.00	306.00	Nil
9.	Renovation /upgradation of SJ Hostel at NIS Patiala	253.87	76.00	15% completed

Annexure-II*Details of SAI sports facilities in the State of Punjab*

Sl. No.	Name of facility	Purpose	No. of Centers	No. of sports person
1	National Centers of Excellence (NCOEs)	To maintain uniformity of financial norms and to dispense with the differentiation between various athletes getting training in SAI campus/premises.	01	118
2	SAI Training Centers (STC)	To groom the junior level sports persons in the age group of 12-18 years.	03	170
3	Extension Centers of STCs	To develop sports standards in schools and colleges.	05	64
4	National Sports Talent Contest (NSTC)			
	(i) IGMA	To promote traditional games popular in the country.	01	13
	(ii) Akharas	To create a broader base for modern wrestling.	03	63
TOTAL			13	428

Annexure-III*Details of funds released for development of sports in the State of punjab during last three years and the current year (₹ in crore)*

Sl.No.	Name of scheme	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Khelo India	6.34	6.00	0	3.06

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Sports Authority of India	78.13	86.65	92.81	59.17
3.	National Sports Development Fund	0	0.40	1.59	0.5
4.	National Center of Sports Sciences and Research	0	2.42	2.23	0
TOTAL		84.47	95.47	96.63	62.73

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सर, स्पोर्ट्स अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया ने इस क्वेश्चन के मुताबिक 13 स्पोर्ट्स सेंटर्स सैंक्शन किए हैं, लेकिन उन सेंटर्स में, फिर चाहे वे पंजाब के सेंटर्स हों या अन्य राज्यों के, उनमें इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर, जैसे सिंथेटिक गद्दे, स्पोर्ट्स की किट्स अथवा डाइट आदि स्पोर्ट्समैन को प्रॉपरली नहीं मिलती है। पंजाब में तो स्पोर्ट्समैन की संख्या 428 है, उनमें 268 लड़के हैं, लेकिन 160 लड़कियां हैं। इन सबके लिए proper facilities नहीं हैं।

श्री सभापति: आप क्या पूछना चाहते हैं, वह पूछिए।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सभापति जी, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहना चाहता हूं कि यह ठीक है कि सरकार ने सेंटर्स खोल दिए हैं, लेकिन उनमें बच्चों को फेसिलिटीज नहीं हैं, सही स्पोर्ट्स किट्स नहीं मिलती हैं एवं डाइट नहीं मिलती है और चूंकि सारे बच्चे गरीब ग्रामीण परिवारों से आते हैं, इसलिए क्या मंत्री जी इस बारे में ध्यान देंगे कि गांवों में भी सुविधा दी जाये।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सर, पंजाब में हम जितने भी स्पोर्ट्स सेंटर्स स्पोर्ट्स अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया के माध्यम से चला रहे हैं, उनमें राज्य सरकार के भी कुछ सेंटर्स हैं, जिन्हें हमने काफी सपोर्ट दिया हुआ है। मैंने अभी-अभी इसकी रिव्यू मीटिंग ली थी। मैं पटियाला भी जाकर आया हूं। वहां रिव्यू लेकर जो-जो जरूरी चीजें हैं, जैसे होस्टल फेसिलिटीज के लिए, वहां ट्रेनिंग फेसिलिटीज के लिए और बाकी खिलाड़ियों के लिए जो-जो भी जरूरतें हैं, उनका हमने रिव्यू लिया और वह सैंक्शन भी हो गया, उस पर काम भी चल रहा है। इस बारे में कुछ इन्फॉर्मेशन माननीय सदस्य को भी दी गई है।

सर, डाइट के बारे में हमने एक इम्पोर्टेंट निर्णय लिया है कि चाहे वह सीनियर खिलाड़ी हो या जूनियर, उसमें हमने सभी को खुली छूट दे दी है, फिर चाहे वह स्टेट का खिलाड़ी हो या सेंटर का।

श्री सभापति: आप खाने की छूट दीजिए, पीने की छूट मत दीजिए।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सभापति जी, पीने के लिए मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि स्पोर्ट्स के लिए जो ड्रिंक्स यानी एनर्जी ड्रिंक्स या एनर्जी बूस्ट वगैरह होते हैं, जितने भी सप्लीमेंट एनर्जी ड्रिंक्स होते हैं, वे सभी उन्हें प्रोवाइड कराए जाते हैं। सर, मैं खराब वाला ड्रिंक नहीं बोल रहा हूं, बल्कि मैं यह कह रहा हूं कि खिलाड़ियों के लिए जो अच्छे वाले ड्रिंक्स हैं, वे हम उन्हें दे रहे हैं।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सभापति जी, मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने जो “खेलो इंडिया” स्पोर्ट्स का नाम चेंज किया है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इस “खेलो इंडिया” के तहत इन्होंने फंड एलोकेशन करने में यूनिफॉर्मिटी नहीं बरती है। मुझे खुशी है कि इन्होंने अपनी स्टेट के लिए तो तकरीब 39 करोड़, 50 लाख रुपये रखे हैं, लेकिन जो बाकी स्टेट्स हैं - जैसे इन्होंने इस साल पंजाब को एक भी पैसा नहीं दिया है और पिछले साल भी पंजाब को 6 करोड़ ही रुपये दिए हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री सभापति: आप सवाल पूछिए। आपकी मांग क्या है?

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: मैं समझता हूँ कि उसमें यूनिफॉर्म criteria होना चाहिए और वह पॉपुलेशन बेस्ड होना चाहिए। सर, खिलाड़ी कहाँ से ...**(व्यवधान)**... गरीब ग्रामीण परिवारों से आते हैं? ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनको भी सुविधाएं चाहिए।

श्री सभापति: कुछ बेसिस होने चाहिए।

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: इन्होंने सबसे ज्यादा पैसा अपनी स्टेट को दे दिया है।

श्री सभापति : वह तो भारत में है। आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे मंत्री बनने के बाद से अभी तक मेरे राज्य को एक भी रुपया नहीं दिया गया है। माननीय सदस्य, आप पुरानी लिस्ट देख रहे हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: मुझे जानकारी है।

श्री सभापति: इस तरह से संवाद नहीं कीजिए। यदि मंत्री जी ने गलत बोला है, तो आपको मालूम है कि इसके लिए क्या उपाय रखे हैं। आप उनको बाद में नोटिस देकर कह सकते हैं, लेकिन वे ऐसा बता रहे हैं कि यह उनके मंत्री बनने से पहले दिया गया है।

श्री किरन रिजिजू: सभापति जी, पंजाब के लिए कोई कमी नहीं है। सर, फंड देने की जो प्रक्रिया है, मैं आपके माध्यम से उसके बारे में बताना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें कोई डिस्क्रिपेंसी नहीं बरती गई है, कोई डिस्क्रिमिनेशन नहीं किया गया है। पंजाब राज्य को जो पैसा दिया गया है, उसकी मैंने आपको लिखित में एक सूचना दी है कि यह पैसा खर्च में लगा नहीं है, इसकी लागत नहीं हुई है। जो पैसा दिया गया है, वह खर्च नहीं हो रहा है। इस पर भारत सरकार में एक नियम है कि जितना पैसा दिया है, अगर उसका चालीस परसेंट भी खर्च नहीं हो रहा है, तो दूसरा फंड कैसे दे देंगे? यह एक नॉर्मल प्रोसिज़र है, अदरवाइज़ पंजाब राज्य के लिए कोई रुकावट नहीं है, कोई डिस्क्रिमिनेशन नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question. Question No. 149.

Employee issues in HAL

*149. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the trade unions of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) have demanded more pay for the HAL employees and they have been on strike on this issue;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the HAL has refused to entertain the demand of the employees stating the financial position of HAL; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Based on the Government guidelines of 24.11.2017 on Wage Policy for Central Public Sector Enterprises, the Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) management negotiated with the Workmen Trade Unions for their wage revision.

However, the Trade Unions of HAL workmen went on strike from 14.10.2019 to 22.10.2019 to press their demand of 15% Fitment benefits and 35% Perks *w.e.f.* 1.1.2017 on par with Executives. They resumed their work from 23.10.2019 on the directions of the Hon'ble Karnataka High Court.

(c) and (d) HAL management has held thirteen rounds of discussions with the representatives of the recognized Unions. The issue of wage revision has been discussed by HAL management in consonance with the statutory provisions and also keeping in mind the interest of the Company, employees and Nation at large.

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Sir, I have been given to understand that the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is facing serious financial difficulties. That is why, the HAL could not agree to the demand of its employees. The major cause of the financial difficulties is that the Government is yet to release outstanding amount of over ₹ 20, 000 crore to the company. So, my first supplementary question is: was the HAL able to realise this amount from the Government?

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति महोदय, जहाँ तक एचएएल की हड़ताल का प्रश्न है, उस संबंध में मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि अब वहाँ पर हड़ताल पूरी तरह से समाप्ति पर है, क्योंकि वहाँ की मैनेजमेंट और लेबर यूनियन्स की 13 सिटिंग्स हो चुकी हैं। जो अंतिम सिटिंग, यानी 13वीं सिटिंग मैनेजमेंट और

लेबर यूनियन्स के बीच हुई है, वह 28 और 29 नवंबर को हुई है। जो जानकारी प्राप्त हुई है, उसके अनुसार मैनेजमेंट ने जो भी ऑफर दिया है, उसको लेबर यूनियन्स ने अब मान लिया है और अंततोगत्वा 5 दिसंबर को पुनः एक मीटिंग बुलाई गई है, जिसमें एमओयू पर अर्थात् मेमोरेंडस ऑफ अंडरस्टैंडिंग पर सिग्नेचर हो जाएंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, second supplementary. Muthukaruppanji, are you happy with the reply?

SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Yes, Sir. The hon. Minister, in his reply, has stated that 13 rounds of discussions were held with the trade unions. I would like to know whether these negotiations or discussions were held prior to the employees going on strike from 14.10.2019 to 22.10.2019. What were the directions given by the hon. High Court of Karnataka in this regard and have the employees' trade unions agreed to the point of view of HAL?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can't go on asking supplementary after supplementary. Only one should be asked.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति जी, जहाँ तक हाई कोर्ट के जजमेंट का प्रश्न है, आपको इसका पता है और मैं समझता हूँ कि यदि यहाँ पर हाई कोर्ट के जजमेंट के संबंध में जानकारी देने के लिए आप समझते हैं कि वह देनी चाहिए, तो मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि इस समय हमारे पास जजमेंट की कॉपी नहीं है, जिससे मैं आपको पढ़कर बताऊँ कि क्या जजमेंट था, लेकिन हाँ, मैं इतना कह सकता हूँ कि कोर्ट का जो जजमेंट था, उस जजमेंट के आधार पर ही उस समय लेबर यूनियन ने वह हड़ताल विद्रोह की थी, वह हड़ताल समाप्त हुई थी, लेकिन मैनेजमेंट और लेबर यूनियन्स के बीच नेगोशिएशन का सिलसिला लगातार चल रहा था। सभापति महोदय, जैसी कि मैंने आपको जानकारी दी है कि उनके साथ 13 सर्टिंग्स हो चुकी हैं और अब मामला लगभग रिजॉल्व हो चुका है एवं 5 दिसंबर को मेमोरेंडम ऑफ अंडरस्टैंडिंग पर भी सिग्नेचर हो जाने की पूरी संभावना है।

श्री सभापति: डा. अशोक बाजपेयी, क्या आपका प्रश्न भी एचएएल से संबंधित है?

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी: माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय रक्षा मंत्री जी से जानना चाहूँगा कि HAL के लिए जो लक्ष्य निर्धारित किया गया है, उसके सापेक्ष उसकी उत्पादकता क्या है? विशेषकर HAL, Lucknow की उत्पादकता के बारे में अगर वहाँ की कोई ऐसी achievement है, तो मैं जानना चाहूँगा।

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति महोदय, आप जानते हैं कि यह इस प्रश्न से सीधे सम्बन्धित नहीं है। इसके लिए हमें जानकारी हासिल करनी पड़ेगी, तभी मैं इसके बारे में सदन को अवगत करा सकता हूँ, लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा है, तो मैं निश्चित रूप से उनके पास जानकारी भेज दूँगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 150, Shri Ripun Bora.

Waiving off of income tax on disability pension

*150. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has sent a proposal to Ministry of Finance to waive off income tax on the disability pension for Defence personnel; and

(b) if so, the details of the proposal and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI RAJNATH SINGH): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A clarification was sought by Ministry of Defence on Circular No. 13 dated 24.06.2019 issued by CBDT, Ministry of Finance. It has been clarified by CBDT that above Circular dated 24.06.2019 issued by them is only clarificatory in nature and all other Circulars issued earlier are operative.

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

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, actually my question was that the Ministry of Defence has sent one proposal to the Ministry of Finance to waive off the income tax on the disability pension for defence personnel. Now, the Minister has replied that Ministry of Defence has written a letter to CBDT and CBDT has also replied to that. I want to know from the hon. Minister if the Ministry of Finance has agreed to this proposal of the Ministry of Defence.

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति महोदय, disability pension पर income tax के exemption को लेकर Defence Ministry ने Finance Ministry से एक clarification seek किया था। मैं आपके माध्यम से जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ कि Finance Ministry के द्वारा, यानी CBDT के द्वारा Defence Ministry को clarification प्राप्त हो चुका है। जहाँ तक disability pension पर income tax में exemption देने का प्रश्न है, तो जो during service period invalidate हो जाएँगे, केवल उन्हीं को income tax में exemption की सुविधा प्राप्त होगी।

SHRI RIPUN BORA: Sir, I want to know from the hon. Minister, are the personnel of the three forces, i.e., Army, Navy and Air Force, getting three different and separate compensation facilities for disability?

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि मुझे इसके बारे में जानकारी लेनी पड़ेगी और जानकारी प्राप्त होने के बाद ही मैं सदन को अवगत करा पाऊँगा। वैसे यदि सारी detailed जानकारी चाहेंगे कि disability या pension क्या है, यह कैसे निर्धारित होता है और किन मामलों में

disability pension दी जाती है, तो इसका जवाब बहुत लंबा है। यदि आप इस समय के मौजूदा provisions भी जानना चाहेंगे, तो मैं आपको वे भी दे दूँगा, लेकिन आपने जो जानकारी चाही है, मैं समझता हूँ कि वह इस प्रश्न से सीधे सम्बन्धित नहीं है। मैं इसकी जानकारी हासिल करके आपको अवगत करा दूँगा।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next supplementary question is of Shri Amar Shankar Sable.
...(Interruptions)...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, very important.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are always important. ...(Interruptions)... Very rarely revolutions happen, विप्लव कभी-कभी आता है, हरेक दिन विप्लव कैसे होता है?

श्री अमर शंकर साबले: सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से रक्षा मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या दिव्यांग रक्षा कर्मियों की अच्छी सेवा के लिए उनके परिवार को कोई विशेष सुविधा देने की सरकार की कोई योजना है?

श्री राजनाथ सिंह: सभापति महोदय, हमारे जो भी veterans हैं; Army, Naval Force अथवा Air Force के जो भी retired personnel हैं, सरकार उनकी चिंता करती भी है और उनके प्रति समस्त देशवासियों के मन के अन्दर बेहद सम्मान भी है।

श्री सभापति: बहुत दिन के बाद राजनाथ जी का सवाल आया है और राजनाथ जी से सदस्य इतना प्यार करते हैं, इसलिए सम्बन्धित-असम्बन्धित, सब प्रश्न पूछते रहते हैं।

Hon. Members, I am sorry, I have to make an observation because it is happening time and again. There were fifteen Starred Questions today and seven Members were absent. After having asked the questions, if they are absent, it is a sorry state of affairs. I hope the media will publish the names of those hon. Members who were kind enough not to come to the House in spite of putting the questions also. Today is Monday, a working day. This is a very serious matter.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Initiatives to boost coal production

1441. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

- (a) the various initiatives taken by Government to boost domestic coal production;

(b) whether Government has fixed any target of coal production to boost economic growth as well as to attract fresh investment;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the amount of coal imported last year and details of the forex outflow?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) The focus of the Government is on accelerating domestic production of coal through allocation of more coal blocks, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal.

Prior to ongoing tranche of coal allocation, coal blocks were allocated to private companies for captive use purpose only and not for sale of coal. In the current tranche of auction, 25% of coal production has been allowed for sale of coal for private companies.

Further, for sale of coal, allowing 100% FDI for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure is expected to attract international players and create efficient and competitive coal market.

In order to enhance coal production, CIL has taken the following steps:

- Opening of 55 greenfield projects having capacity of 92 MTPA and expansion of 193 brownfield projects having capacity of about 310 MTPA in next five years.
- Portal based monitoring of on-going projects to ensure timely completion of projects.
- Introduction of state of the art technology to improve its work efficiency with high capacity Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), like 42 cum Shovel and 240 T Rear Dumpers in Gevra Expansion, Dipka and Kusmunda open cast mines.
- Introduction of Surface Miners in opencast mines to improve operational efficiency and to cater to environmental needs. During 2018-19 in CIL, around 50% of the opencast coal production was through Surface miners.
- Introduction of IT enabled Operator Independent Truck Dispatch System (OITDS) in 11 nos. of mines of CIL.
- Introduction of Mass Production Technology in underground coal mines, 2 mines are worked with Powered Support Longwall technology and 9 mines are worked with Continuous Miner technology.

- For rapid coal evacuation, 19 nos. Coal Handling Plants with silos and rapid loading system having existing capacity of 152.5 million tonnes are in operation.

(b) and (c) The details of coal production target fixed by the Government for the year 2019-20 is given below:-

Company	Production Target (MT)
Coal India Limited	660.00
Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd	67.00
Captive and others	83.00
TOTAL ALL INDIA	810.00

(d) The amount of coal imported during last year and its value is given below:-

Quantity in MT & Value in ₹ Crores		
Year	Quantity	Value
2018-19	235.24	170881

Abolition of coal linkage Committees

1442. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of a proposal to abolish the coal linkage Committees governing the distribution of coal to the companies;

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

(c) the details of the method being adopted by Government for allocation of coal in the absence of coal linkage Committees?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) There is no proposal with the Government to abolish the Standing Linkage Committee (Long Term) [SLC(LT)].

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Exploration of non-CIL coal blocks

†1443. SHRI RAM SHAKAL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has chalked out any plan for extensive exploration of non-Coal India Limited (CIL) coal blocks;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount of funds allocated in the current financial year 2019-20 for the same?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir.

Exploration of non-Coal India Limited (non-CIL) coal blocks is carried out under the Central Sector Scheme “Exploration of Coal and Lignite” of the Ministry of Coal. Under this scheme, both regional exploration and detailed drilling of these blocks are conducted.

Each year exploration programme of regional exploration and detailed drilling in Non-CIL blocks in Coal and Lignite is approved. The regional exploration for the year 2019-20 has been planned for 37 Coal blocks and 10 Lignite blocks, whereas detailed drilling has been planned for 121 Coal blocks and 1 Lignite block.

(c) The Government has allocated funds of ₹ 937 crore (₹ 120 crore for regional exploration and ₹ 817 crore for detailed drilling) in the current financial year 2019-20 for carrying out exploration in Non-CIL blocks in Coal and Lignite.

Production and consumption of coal

1444. SHRI C. M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production and consumption of coal in the country during the last three years;

(b) the amount of coal imported from abroad during the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to boost coal production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) The all India coal production, and consumption of coal during the last three years is given below:-

Year	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
All India Coal production (MT)	657.87	675.40	730.35
Domestic Supply (MT)	645.98	690.28	734.23
Import (MT)	190.95	208.27	235.24
TOTAL consumption/supply (MT)	836.93	898.55	969.47

(b) Details of country-wise coal imports during last three years is given below:-

(Qty. in Million Tonnes)			
Country	2016-17 Quantity	2017-18 Quantity	2018-19 Quantity
Indonesia	91.26	95.814	112.773
Australia	46.65	46.145	48.166
South Africa	33.98	38.493	31.152
U.S.A	5.10	12.032	14.976
New Zealand	0.48	0.602	0.499
Canada	2.38	3.562	4.458
Mozambique	3.71	5.914	7.092
Russia	4.20	4.297	4.921
Singapore			5.656
Others	3.19	1.414	5.547
TOTAL	190.95	208.273	235.240

(c) The focus of the Government is on accelerating domestic production of coal through allocation of more coal blocks, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal.

Further, for sale of coal, allowing 100% FDI for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure is expected to attract international players and create efficient and competitive coal market.

In order to enhance coal production, CIL has taken the following steps:

- Opening of 55 greenfield projects having capacity of 92 MTPA and expansion of 193 brownfield projects having capacity of about 310 MTPA in next five years.
- Portal based monitoring of on-going projects to ensure timely completion of projects.
- Introduction of state of the art technology to improve its work efficiency with high capacity Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), like 42 cum Shovel and 240 T Rear Dumpers in Gevra Expansion, Dipka and Kusmunda open cast mines.

- Introduction of Surface Miners in opencast mines to improve operational efficiency & to cater to environmental needs. During 2018-19 in CIL, around 50% of the opencast coal production was through Surface miners.
- Introduction of IT enabled Operator Independent Truck Dispatch System (OITDS) in 11 nos. of mines of CIL.
- Introduction of Mass Production Technology in underground coal mines, 2 mines are worked with Powered Support Longwall technology and 9 mines are worked with Continuous Miner technology.
- For rapid coal evacuation, 19 nos. Coal Handling Plants with silos and rapid loading system having existing capacity of 152.5 million tonnes are in operation.

Production of non-coking coal

†1445. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of production of non-coking coal in the year 2019-20, as compared to the year 2018-19; and

(b) the details of necessary steps proposed to be taken to increase the production of non-coking coal in the country in the coming years?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) The all India Non-Coking coal production during April-October, 2019 was 323.18 MT as compared to 349 MT during the corresponding period of last year 2018-19.

(b) The focus of the Government is on accelerating domestic production of coal through allocation of more coal blocks, pursuing with State Government for assistance in land acquisition and coordinated efforts with Railways for movement of coal.

Prior to ongoing tranche of coal allocation, coal blocks were allocated to private companies for captive use purpose only and not for sale of coal. In the current tranche of auction, 25% of coal production has been allowed for sale of coal for private companies.

Further, for sale of coal, allowing 100% FDI for coal mining activities including associated processing infrastructure is expected to attract international players and create efficient and competitive coal market.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In order to enhance coal production, CIL has taken the following steps:

- Opening of 55 greenfield projects having capacity of 92 MTPA and expansion of 193 brownfield projects having capacity of about 310 MTPA in next five years.
- Portal based monitoring of on-going projects to ensure timely completion of projects.
- Introduction of state of the art technology to improve its work efficiency with high capacity Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM), like 42 cum Shovel and 240 T Rear Dumpers in Gevra Expansion, Dipka and Kusmunda open cast mines.
- Introduction of Surface Miners in opencast mines to improve operational efficiency and to cater to environmental needs. During 2018-19 in CIL, around 50% of the opencast coal production was through Surface miners.
- Introduction of IT enabled Operator Independent Truck Dispatch System (OITDS) in 11 nos. of mines of CIL.
- Introduction of Mass Production Technology in underground coal mines, 2 mines are worked with Powered Support Longwall technology and 9 mines are worked with Continuous Miner technology.
- For rapid coal evacuation, 19 nos. Coal Handling Plants with silos and rapid loading system having existing capacity of 152.5 million tonnes are in operation.

Purchase of defence equipments

1446. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government buys highest number of Defence equipments from USA and Israel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the other countries from which Defence equipments are bought?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Capital procurement of defence equipment is undertaken from various domestic as well as foreign vendors, based on operational requirements of the Armed Forces, the availability or capacity to produce the equipment in India and abroad, to keep

the Armed Forces in a state of readiness to meet the entire spectrum of security challenges.

During last three financial years (2016-17 to 2018-19), 58 contracts have been placed on foreign vendors out of which 23 contracts have been signed with USA and Israel for capital procurement of defence equipment for the Indian Defence Forces.

The other major countries from which defence equipment have been procured include Russia, France and United Kingdom.

Violations of the LoC by Pakistan

†1447. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times Pakistan has violated the Line of Control (LoC) after the abrogation of the Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the details of action taken in retaliation to the actions of Pakistan and the number of Pakistani-posts destroyed by-Indian Army?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There have been 950 incidents of Ceasefire Violations along Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir region during the last three months (August to October, 2019).

(b) Appropriate retaliation to the ceasefire violations, as required, has been carried out by Indian Army. Also all violations of ceasefire and infiltration are taken up with Pakistan authorities at the appropriate level through the established mechanism of hotlines, flag meetings, Directorate General of Military Operations talks as well as diplomatic channels between the two countries.

Performance of HAL

1448. SHRI MATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite challenges, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has achieved significant growth in revenue and profits in 2017-18;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether it is also a fact that HAL has recorded the highest ever turnover of ₹18,28,386 lakhs in 2017-18; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The details are as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Particulars	2016-17*	2017-18	% increase over 2016-17
Revenue from Operations (Net)	17950	18519	3%
Profit After Tax*	2616	2070	-7%
TOTAL Sales (Turn Over)	17604	18284	4%

* Profit After Tax for the year 2016-17 includes ₹393 crore (net of tax) for one time finalisation of Prices for Bison Project.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The details are indicated below:

(₹ in crore)

Particulars	Inland Sale	Export Sale	TOTAL Sales
A. Sale of Products			
Finished Goods	9349.36	158.46	9507.82
Spares	1279.27	145.11	1424.38
Development	656.40	0.00	656.40
Miscellaneous	646.72	0	646.72
Sub TOTAL (A)	11931.75	303.57	12235.32
B. Sale of Services			
Repair and Overhaul	6125.58	10.01	6135.59
Other Services	17.04'	0.44	17.48
Sub TOTAL (B)	6142.62	10.45	6153.07
C. Gross Sales (A+B)	18074.37	314.02	18388.39
D. Excise Duty	104.53	-	104.53
E. Net Sales (CD)	17969.84	314.02	18283.86

**Committee for corporatisation of Ordnance
Factory Board**

1449. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any committee was formed in the past to advise for the corporation of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of ordnance factories and whether there is any plan for strategic tie-up between private sector and OFB;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether manufacture of the non-core items from OFB would be discontinued; and

(f) if so, whether any protest was made by the employees and if so, the response of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) During the past two decades, several High Level Committees like TKA Nair Committee, Vijay Kelkar Committee and Raman Puri Committee have *inter alia* recommended that Ordnance Factories should be converted from a Government Department into a Corporate entity.

(c) and (d) The OFB is an attached office of Department of Defence Production, Government of India. There is no plan at present for strategic tie-up between private sector and Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).

(e) and (f) In respect of non-core items, OFB can still participate in RFPs of the users, *i.e.* Armed Forces on competitive basis. Decision to declare items as non-core was taken in consultation with all the stake holders and was done to enable OFB to focus on core areas and complex systems like artillery guns, tanks, ammunitions etc. The above position has been adequately explained to the employees of OFB through various meetings in the Ministry. Further, in order to ensure smooth transition from non-core to core areas for production, re-training of workers of non-core factories has also commenced to enable them to work in the core areas.

iDEX Scheme

1450. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount spent by Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) to defence manufacturing companies in the last three years;
- (b) the number of new jobs created in the companies funded by iDEX, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of all the new jobs created and the number of these which have been given to women?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) framework was launched in April, 2018 with the aim to achieve self-reliance and to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace by engaging industries including MSMEs, start-ups, individual innovators, R&D institutes and academia, iDEX is being implemented through Defence Innovation Organisation, a Section 8 company established as a JV between HAL and BEL.

iDEX framework has provisions for grant/aid up to ₹ 1.5 Cr for the iDEX winners for prototype/technology development. So far 44 iDEX winners have been identified for 14 problem statements of Armed forces/OFB & DPSUs. Out of these, grants have been released to 24 of them amounting to ₹ 298.90 lakh. The list of the grantees is given in the Statement (*See below*). Job creation is taking place at start-ups level and varies from case to case.

Statement*Details of grantees under iDEX Scheme*

Sl. No.	iDEX Winners	Company	Winner Location
1	2	3	4
1.	Pradeep Kumar	Logic-Fruit Technologies Private Limited	Haryana
2.	Mohan Jindal	Chipspirit Technologies Private Limited	Karnataka
3.	Neha Satak	Astrome Technologies Private Limited	Karnataka
4.	Kannan G	Bigcat Wireless Private Limited	Tamil Nadu

1	2	3	4
5.	Ramu TS	Lekha Wireless Solutions Private Limited	Karnataka
6.	Suruchi Rao	OSSUS Biorenewables Private Limited	Karnataka
7.	Gadhadar Reddy	Nopo Nanotechnologies Private Limited	Karnataka
8.	Nagendra Prasad Kumble	Radome Technologies and Services Private Limited	Karnataka
9.	Aliasgar Calcuttawala	Saif Automations Services LLP	Andhra Pradesh
10.	Pankaj Raut	Dimension NXG Private Limited	Maharashtra
11.	Shivaraman Ramaswamy	Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (for iDEX-problem Statement-1)	Tamil Nadu/ Telangana
12.	Arvind Lakshmikummar	Tonbo Imaging India Private Limited	Karnataka
13.	Deepak Bhat	Kinetix Engineering Solutions Limited	Karnataka
14.	Shyam Mohan Murari	Tatvabodh Technology Private Limited	Haryana
15.	Ajay Sangwan	Nyokas Technologies Private Limited	Kerala
16.	Athul Pai	Centauri Composites Private limited	Telangana/Goa
17.	Rini Bansal	North Street Cooling Towers Private Limited	Uttar Pradesh
18.	Sandeep Shah	Optimized Electrotech Private Limited	Gujarat
19.	Mrutyunjay Hegde	ZMotion Autonomous System Private Limited	Karnataka
20.	Saravana Kumar G	MMRFIC Technology Private Limited	Karnataka
21.	Jayakrishnan A L	HW Design Labs OPC Private Limited	Kerala
22.	Harshad Dave	Gurutvaa Systems Private Limited	Maharashtra
23.	Karan Behar	iSenses Incorporation Private Limited	Karnataka
24.	Shivaraman Ramaswamy	Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (for iDEX problem Statement-2)	Tamil Nadu/ Telangana

Deputation of IOFS officers

1451. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the large number of Indian Ordnance Factories Service (IOFS) officers are on deputation in other Government Organisations, if so, the details of such officers with time period of deputation, designation-wise;

(b) whether Government is aware that such officers become a liability on IOFS as they served most of their time on deputation and if so, the Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the corrective steps being taken by Government for-strengthening of IOFS during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir. Presently, 99 out of 1392 (Existing Strength) IOFS officers are on deputation, which is only 7.11% against the OFB policy/guidelines of allowing upto 7.5% IOFS officers to go on deputation. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir. The deputation of IOFS officers to other central Departments/ Ministries -actually widens their horizon and provides enrichment to their knowledge which is beneficial to the Ordnance Factory Board and the Ministry of Defence. Moreover, there is a specific provision for deputation reserve in the Total sanctioned strength of the IOFS Cadre to cater to the shortfall caused by the deputation of such IOFS officers.

(c) The Restructuring of the IOFS Cadre is taken up at periodic intervals regularly.

Statement

*List of IOFS officers who are on Central Deputation under
CSS/Non CSS to various Ministry/Department*

Sl. No.	Name	Grade	Deputation (CSS/Non-CSS)	Period
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Goel Sangeeta Smt	SAG	NON CSS	4 Years
2.	Tripathi Vinod Kr	SAG	CSS	7 Years
3.	Singh Rakesh Lal	SAG	CSS	7 years
4.	Gupta Ashok	SAG	CSS	7 years
5.	Nayak Anil Kumar	SAG	NON CSS	7 Years
6.	Srhrila Datta Kumar	JAG	NON CSS	Permanent Secondment
7.	Lohia Ms.Deepika	JAG	CSS	8 Years
8.	Mishra Ashwini Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
9.	Mishra Akhilesh Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
10.	Verma Mahendra Rolley Smt	JAG	CSS	8 years
11.	Sharma Vineet	JAG	NON CSS	7 Years
12.	Trivedi Jitendra	JAG	CSS	5 years
13.	Singh Sanjay Kumar	JAG	CSS	8 Years

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Kaur Sukhgeet Ms	JAG	CSS	8 Years
15.	Trivedi Mrs. Jyoti	JAG	CSS	5 Years
16.	Satpute Sushil	JAG	CSS	5 years
17.	Kumar Rajesh	SAG	NON CSS	7 Years
18.	Mehrishi Sanjay	SAG	CSS	7 Years
19.	Mishra Ramachandra	SAG	CSS	5 Years
20.	Kumar Ashish	JAG	CSS	7 Years
21.	Rao Saksena Sumati	JAG	CSS	Permanent Secondment
22.	Das Amiya Kumar	JAG	CSS	7 years
23.	Gaur Vaibhav Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 Years
24.	Ngachan Z	JAG	CSS	5 years
25.	Pratap Birendra	JAG	CSS	5 Years
26.	Basumatary Atul	SAG	CSS	7 years
27.	Sinha Kumar Rakesh	JAG	CSS	5 Years
28.	Mishra Anjan Kumar	JAG	CSS / NON CSS	7 years
29.	Chandandeep Singh	JAG	NON CSS	6 years
30.	Smt. Seema Gupta	JAG	CSS	5 Years
31.	Ms Mudita Mishra	JAG	CSS	5 years
32.	Lokesh Kr. Sharma	JAG	CSS	5 years
33.	Vivek Virmani	JAG	CSS	5 years
34.	Poonam Singh	JAG	CSS	5 Years
35.	Dr. Anil Ranga	JAG	CSS	5 Years
36.	Prasad Shiva Shankar	SAG	CSS	5 Years
37.	Meena Babu Lal	JAG	CSS	4 years
38.	Panda Bala Krishna	SAG	CSS	5 Years
39.	Tyagi Ajay	JAG	CSS	5 Years
40.	Bhatnagar A.S	SAG	CSS	5 Years
41.	Dharemendra Kumar	STS(NF)	NON CSS	4 years
42.	Rakesh Kumar Tiwari	SAG	CSS	7 Years
43.	Murlidhar Pandey	SAG	CSS	5 Years
44.	G.C.Aron	SAG	CSS	5 Years

1	2	3	4	5
45.	R.P. Singh	JAG	CSS	5 years
46.	Mukesh Choudhary	JAG	CSS	5 years
47.	Manoj Kumar Singh	JAG	CSS	5 years
48.	S.R.K. Vidyarthi	JAG	CSS	5 years
49.	Y M Dixit	JAG	CSS	5 years
50.	Rajeev Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
51.	B. B. Dash	JAG	CSS	5 years
52.	Harish Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
53.	Rupesh Kumar Shrivastav	JAG	CSS	5 years
54.	Dharmendra Kumar Madan	JAG	CSS	5 years
55.	Niranjan Lal	JAG	CSS	5 years
56.	Rajnish Kumar Gupta	JAG	CSS	5 years
57.	Santanu Saha	JAG	NON CSS	3 years
58.	Neeraj Agarwal	JAG	CSS	5 years
59.	T. Dola Sankar	JAG	NON CSS	3 years
60.	V.K. Adhana	JAG	CSS	5 years
61.	Rajendra Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
62.	B. C. Joshi	JAG	CSS	5 years
63.	Amit Mehta	SAG	CSS	5 years
64.	Anil Kumar	STS (NF)	CSS	4 years
65.	Binod Kumar	JAG	CSS	5 years
66.	C. Chandrasekhar	JAG	CSS	5 years
67.	G. Krishna Kishore	SAG	CSS	5 years
68.	P. K. Sahoo	JAG	NON CSS	5 years
69.	Dr. (Smt.) Vani Anand Singh	SAG	CSS	5 years
70.	Hemant Kumar Nanda	JAG	CSS	5 years
71.	Roop Kishor	JAG	CSS	4 years
72.	Gurjeet Singh Dillon	JAG	CSS	5 years
73.	Shri Somnath Tripathy	SAG	NON CSS	2/3 Years
74.	Shri Biswatanu Sarkar	SAG	NON CSS	2/3 Years
75.	Tanzin Wangyal	SAG	NON CSS	2/3 Years
76.	Akhilesh Kumar	SAG	NON CSS	2/3 Years

1	2	3	4	5
77.	Rajesh Bansal	SAG	NON CSS	3 years
78.	Bolewar Babu	JAG	NON CSS	3 years
79.	S. K. Singh	JAG	CSS	5 Years
80.	Kapil Chaudhary	JAG	CSS	5 years
81.	Kalu Ram Meena	JAG	CSS	5 years
82.	Dr. H. B. Panda	JAG	NON-CSS	5 years
83.	P. S. Lingewara Swami	STS (NF)	CSS	4 Years
84.	Lokesh Bajpai	JAG	CSS	5 years
85.	Jyoti Mehta	SAG	CSS	5 years
86.	Naval Kishor	JAG	CSS	5 years
87.	Koushik Chakraborty	STS(NF)	CSS	4 Years
88.	N. N. Nareendra	JAG	NON CSS	3 years
89.	Sanjay Krishna Navahale	STS(NF)	CSS	4 years
90.	Provash Ranjan Biswas	JAG	CSS	5 years
91.	D. Rajeev	STS(NF)	NON CSS	3 years
92.	K.Vijaya Dat	JAG	CSS	3 years
93.	Arti C Srivastava	SAG	CSS	3 years
94.	Narendra Singh	STS	NON CSS	3 years
95.	Kumar Ambedkar	STS	NON-CSS	3 years
96.	Srikara Pradhan	SAG	NON CSS	3 years
97.	Rajiv Srivastava	SAG	NON CSS	5 years
98.	Rashmi Sinha	JAG	NON CSS	5 years
99.	Jyoti Prakash Dash	SAG	NON CSS	3 years

Airborne warning system

1452. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that in order to keep the country safe, air defence system needs to be always in ready mode;
- (b) whether Air Force has sufficient airborne warning system to detect approaching enemy aircraft; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) In order to safeguard against aerial threats, air defence system needs to be consistently in a mode of readiness. The Indian Air Force (IAF) is suitably equipped, trained and organized to cater for the threat environment that exists and is ready to meet the role assigned to it.

Review of defence procurement procedure

1453. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to review the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has constituted a committee to review the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP), 2016 and the Defence Procurement Manual, 2009; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government has planned to review the Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP). In this regard, a Review Committee has been constituted on 16.08.2019 under the Chairmanship of the Director General (Acquisition) to align and standardise the procedure for Defence Capital Acquisitions as given in DPP-2016 and Defence Revenue Procurements as given in Defence Procurement Manual (DPM)-2009 with the objectives of simplifying and synergising both procedures, facilitating greater participation of Indian industry, optimising life cycle support for equipment and supporting “Make-in-India” initiative.

Defence equipment developed by DRDO

1454. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total number of defence equipment developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and other Indian institutions during the last three years;
- (b) the percentage of the Total number of defence export equipment that were indigenously produced during the said period; and

(c) the policies/schemes undertaken to encourage indigenous development of defence equipment in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) develops systems/equipments for the Armed Forces in various technology domains. A Total of 39 different systems/equipments worth over ₹ 95062.08 Crores designed and developed by DRDO, have been approved for induction into the Services during the last three years. These systems include various types of platforms, Sonars, Radars, Software Defined Radios, Missile Systems, Gun Systems, Munitions, Bridging equipment etc.

(b) During the last three years; 1210 authorisations worth ₹ 16950.04 Crores were issued for export of indigenously produced equipments. All equipments are indigenously developed.

(c) Various policies/schemes undertaken to encourage indigenous development of defence equipment in the country are as under:

- A policy has been introduced in Defence Procurement Procedure-2016 to involve industry as Development Partner from the development Stage itself for all Design and Development cases of DRDO. Necessary guidelines have been issued for the same.
- As per new Transfer of Technology (ToT) guidelines, ToT fees and royalty have been waived-off for all defence equipment supplied to Armed Forces by the Development cum Production Partner (DcPP)/ Production Agency of DRDO.
- A policy for sharing of DRDO Intellectual Property Rights with Indian Industry has been recently promulgated.

Power and responsibilities of CDS

†1455. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is mulling over appointment of “Chief of Defence Staff” (CDS);

(b) if so, the prospective role of CDS in the integration of Navy, Army and Air Force of India;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) the committees where CDS would be appointed; and
- (d) whether CDS would also come in the ambit of 'Right to Information Act', if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Government has approved in principle the creation of a post of CDS. An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization. The said Committee has submitted its report.

- (d) "Chief of Defence Staff" would come in the ambit of 'Right to Information Act', in accordance with the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

Civilians working in the ministry

1456. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a part of the defence budget is being utilised towards payments to civilians working under the Ministry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of civilians presently employed under the Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Total budget of Ministry of Defence is distributed over four grants viz. Grant No. 18 - Ministry of Defence (Civil), Grant No. 19 - Revenue Expenditure (Defence Services), Grant No. 20 - Capital Outlay on Defence Services and Grant No. 21 - Defence Pensions.

Civilians working under the Ministry of Defence which includes the three Services and other organizations are paid out of three grants namely Grant No. 18, Grant No. 19 and Grant No. 21.

- (c) As per records approximately 3.76 lakh defence civilians are employed under the Ministry as on 01st March, 2019.

Report on Chief of Defence Staff

1457. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government proposes to create the post of a Chief of Defence Staff (CDS);
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the reasons for such a post being created; and
- (d) whether any report in this regard has been submitted and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) The Government has approved in principle the creation of a post of CDS. An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization. The said Committee has submitted its report.

A number of Committees viz. the Kargil Review Committee, Group of Ministers (GoM) Report, Task Force on National Security and Shekatkar Committee have studied and recommended creation of the post of CDS/Permanent Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Setting-up of coast guard academy in Kerala

1458. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of the proposed coast guard academy in Azhikkal in Kerala;
- (b) whether the final approval from concerned Departments are being obtained for starting the same;
- (c) by when it is expected to start functioning; and
- (d) the reason behind this delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) Since Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has denied grant of Environment and Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearances for setting-up of Indian Coast Guard Academy at Azhikkal, Kerala, as the project site at Azhikkal falls under CRZ-1(A) area, wherein no construction is permissible as per the CRZ notification, the project of Indian Coast Guard to establish Indian Coast Guard Academy at Azhikkal, Kerala has been dropped.

Operational accidents involving naval vessels

1459. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of operational accidents involving naval vessels have been reported from various parts of the country during each of the last three years and current year, if so, the details thereof, State-wise along with number of persons who died/got injured in each of such accidents during said period;

(b) whether Government has provided adequate compensation to the injured/next of kin to the deceased in such accidents during said period;

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

(d) other steps taken by Government to keep a check on such accidents in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) During the last three years and current year, 15 incidents/accidents involving Indian Navy vessels have been reported. Five Navy personnel (one each from Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and two from Madhya Pradesh) had died in these accidents.

The compensation for the Next of kin of deceased personnel is paid as per the extant policy of the Government, Liberalised/Special Family Pension, Death Cum Retirement Gratuity and Ex-gratia Compensation.

Indian Naval Safety Organization (INSO) which was established in October, 2012, is responsible for analyzing incidents and accidents, reviewing safety regulations and procedures, issuing policy directives and conducting safety assessment, etc.

Phasing out of MIG aircrafts

†1460. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to phase out ageing MIG aircrafts;

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

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Phasing out of aircrafts and their replacement with new generation aircrafts depends upon national security, strategic objectives and operational requirements of the defence forces and is reviewed by the Government from time to time. This is a continuous process. The MiG-21, MiG-27 UPG and MiG 29K aircrafts follow the process of phasing out in a staggered manner on completion of their Total Calendar Life/Total Technical Life.

**Security concerns relating to public access to
cantonment roads**

1461. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the security concerns raised by defence personnel and their families over unrestricted public access to cantonment roads;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken by Government; and
- (c) whether Government will give assurance that the security concerns raised by defence personnel and their families living in the cantonment will be addressed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) As per statutory provisions under section 258 of Cantonment Act, 2006, SOP guidelines dated 04.09.2018 were issued regarding 'Road Closure in Cantonment' after due consideration and consultation with various stake holders including Army.

Measures to create synergy among defence services

1462. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of creation of the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS); and
- (b) the details of other reforms Government is planning to create synergy, integration and further inter-service operational capabilities between the three defence services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) The Government has approved in principle the creation of a post of CDS. An Implementation Committee was also approved and constituted to further determine and finalize the exact responsibilities, an enabling framework for this new post and all other

issues involved to ensure smooth operationalization. The said Committee has submitted its report.

Military reforms is a continuous process and requisite steps are taken by the Government from time to time, as deemed necessary. Such steps taken include establishment of Integrated Defence Staff, two Tri-Service Commands, three Tri-Service Agencies in specialized fields, etc.

Allowing defence companies to self-certify quality

1463. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has decided to allow defence firms to self-certify the quality of their products; and
- (b) whether through this move, the role of the defence establishment Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) will be reduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) With a view to promote ease of doing business to achieve national vision of 'Make in India', Government has instituted a mechanism for awarding Self Certification status to Private Industry with self-evident Quality system that meets requisite standards. Self-Certification is the status awarded to manufacturers to certify through their approved designated functionary, the specific products produced by them through an approved quality system for supply to Defence. Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) is nominated as the competent authority for assessment and award of self-certification. Moreover, the critical activities like Audit of quality system and processes, however, continue to be carried out by DGQA.

Tejas-1 (LAH) and Tejas Mk2 (MWF) aircrafts

1464. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has successfully conducted tests of performances of Tejas-1 (LAH) and Tejas Mk2 (MWF);
- (b) whether these fighter planes will be commissioned by 2020;
- (c) if not, the probable date of commissioning and the reasons for delay thereof;
- (d) whether there is any policy of manufacturing these LAH and MWF aircrafts at Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), Hyderabad also; and

- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) is the Programme, Management Agency for design and development of Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) - Tejas. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) is the design partner and production agency and manufacturing facilities have been established by HAL. LCA - Tejas Mk1 aircraft has attained Initial Operational Clearance (IOC) on 20th December, 2013 on completion of required performance trials and all 16 fighter aircraft against IOC order have been manufactured by HAL. Subsequently Final Operational Clearance (FOC) was attained by ADA on 20th February, 2019 and production activities of FOC configuration have commenced at HAL.

Indian Air Force LCA Squadron "Flying Daggers" is operational since 1st July, 2016, with the induction of IOC aircraft.

Tejas Mk-II preliminary design of the aircraft has been finalized. However, the same is in initial development stage. Induction and production can commence only after successful development and test flight.

(d) and (e) HAL Hyderabad is an Avionics Division and avionics related to HAL manufactured platforms including LCA are manufactured at this facility.

'Make in India' in defence sector

†1465. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any initiative on 'Make-in-India' has been taken in defence sector;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the areas of defence production which have been benefited by the said initiative?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Government has taken following policy initiatives to promote 'Make in India' in defence sector:-

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- i. A new category of procurement 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM (Indigenously Designed, Developed and Manufactured))' has been introduced in Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP)-2016 to promote indigenous design and development of defence equipment. It has been accorded top most priority for procurement of capital equipment.
- ii. The 'Make' Procedure has been simplified with provisions for funding of 90% of development cost by the Government to Indian industry and reserving Government funded Make-I projects not exceeding development cost of ₹10 Crore and procurement cost ₹ 50 Cr per year for MSMEs. The industry funded Make-II Projects not exceeding development cost of ₹ 3 Crore and procurement cost ₹ 50 Cr per year have also been reserved for MSMEs.
- iii. Separate procedure for 'Make-II' category has been notified under DPP to encourage indigenous development and manufacture of defence equipment; Number of industry friendly provisions such as relaxation of eligibility criterion, minimal documentation, provision for considering proposals suggested by industry/individual etc. have been introduced in this procedure.
- iv. An innovation ecosystem for Defence titled Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) has been launched in April, 2018. iDEX is aimed at creation of an ecosystem to foster innovation and technology development in Defence and Aerospace by engaging Industries including MSMEs, Start-ups, Individual Innovators, R&D institutes and Academia and provide them grants/funding and other support to carry out R&D which has potential for future adoption for Indian defence and aerospace needs.
- v. Government has notified the 'Strategic Partnership (SP)' Model which envisages establishment of long-term strategic partnerships with Indian entities through a transparent and competitive process, wherein they would tie up with global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to seek technology transfers to set up domestic manufacturing infrastructure and supply chains.
- vi. FDI Policy has been revised and under the revised policy, FDI is allowed under, automatic route upto 49% and beyond 49% through Government route wherever it is likely to result in access to modern technology or for other reasons to be recorded.

- vii. Government has notified a 'Policy for indigenisation of components and spares used in Defence Platforms' in March, 2019 with the objective to create an industry ecosystem which is able to indigenize the imported components (including alloys and special materials) and sub-assemblies for defence equipment and platform manufactured in India.
- viii. Government has decided to establish two defence industrial corridors to serve as an engine of economic development and growth of defence industrial base in the country. They span across Chennai, Hosur, Coimbatore, Salem and Tiruchirappalli in Tamil Nadu and spanning across Aligarh, Agra, Jhansi, Kanpur, Chitrakoot and Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh (UP).
- ix. A Policy on 'Utilisation of Third Party Inspection Services' has been notified in May, 2018 for effective administration of inspection Services with involvement of third parties and promote Ease of Doing Business for MSMEs and private sector.
- x. Offset guidelines have been made flexible by allowing change of Indian Offset Partners (IOPs) and offset components, even in signed contracts. Foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are now allowed to provide the details of IOPs and products after signing of contracts. In order to bring more transparency and efficiency into the Offset discharge process, "Offset portal", has been created in May, 2019.
- xi. The Ministry has instituted a new framework titled 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti' in November, 2018 which aims to provide boost to the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) culture in indigenous defence industry.
- xii. Defence Investor Cell has been created in February-2018 in the Ministry to provide all necessary information including addressing queries related to investment opportunities, procedures and regulatory requirements for investment in the sector.
- xiii. Defence Products list requiring Industrial Licences has been rationalised and manufacture of most of parts or components does not require Industrial License. The initial validity of the Industrial Licence granted under the IDR Act has been increased from 03 years to 15 years with a provision to further extend it by 03 years on a case-to-case basis.
- xiv. Department of Defence Production has notified 112 items under Public Procurement Order 2017 notified by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade

(DPIIT). The Defence PSUs and OFB are thereby required to give preference to domestic manufacturers while procuring these items in accordance with the said policy.

As a result of the aforesaid initiatives undertaken, the Government in the last five years i.e. from 2014-15 to 2018-19 and current year till September, 2019, has accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) to 218 proposals, worth ₹ 409, 244 Crore approximately, under various categories of Capital procurement which promotes domestic manufacturing as per DPP-2016.

(c) All the major areas of defence production such as weapons, ammunition, fighter aircrafts, helicopters, missile systems, warships, submarines, armoured vehicles, radars, communication systems, surveillance systems, etc. have benefited from the aforesaid initiatives.

Scholarship for wards of deceased personnel

1466. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any scheme to provide scholarships to the wards of deceased defence personnel;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has increased the amount of scholarships under the said scheme;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, especially details in respect of scholarships granted to wards of deceased defence personnel of Rajasthan;
- (e) whether Government has expanded the scope of beneficiaries under the scheme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There is no exclusive scheme to provide scholarship to the wards of deceased defence personnel.

(b) The wards of deceased defence personnel are already covered under the Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme (PMSS) under National Defence Fund which is meant for wards of Ex-servicemen.

- (c) Yes, Sir.
- (d) The details of the scheme are as follows:
- (i) Initially the Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme (PMSS) was started from Academic Year (AY) 2006-07 wherein students were awarded Prime Minister's Scholarship annually @ ₹ 15, 000/- for boys and ₹ 18,000/- for girls.
 - (ii) With effect from AY 2012-13 the rate of scholarship under Prime Minister's Scholarship was revised annually at the rate of ₹ 24,000/-for boys and ₹ 27,000/- for girls.
 - (iii) With effect from AY 2019-20, the existing rate of scholarship has been increased annually at the rate of ₹ 30,000/- for boys and ₹ 36,000/-for girls.
 - (iv) The allotment of scholarship is made on merit among the wards of Ex-servicemen including deceased defence personnel who have applied each year. No separate data of state-wise distribution of deceased personnel is maintained. However, during the last three financial years, scholarship disbursed to wards of Ex-servicemen of Rajasthan as under:-

Financial Year	No. of Beneficiaries	Amount disbursed
2016-17	198	₹ 50, 83, 500/-
2017-18	221	₹ 56, 57, 875/-
2018-19	335	₹ 80, 52, 320/-

- (e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The ambit of PMSS has been extended to the wards of State Police officials also who are martyred during terror/naxal attacks. The quota of new scholarships for wards of state police officials will be 500 in a year from Academic Year 2019-20. Ministry of Home Affairs will be the nodal. Ministry in this regard.

Plan to shift DRDE to an alternative site

1467. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether *vide* notification dated 17.09.2005 under Section 3 of the Works of Defence Act, 1903, all constructions falling within 200 metres of Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE), Jhansi Road, Gwalior are to be demolished, including

Jiwaji University, Head Quarters of Municipal Corporation, CID Office, Cricket Stadium, etc. which would cause losses of more than ₹ 9000 crore;

(b) whether there is any plan to shift DRDE to an alternative site to avoid such massive public inconvenience and if so, present status of the same; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to further reduce the notified area below 200m?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) No, Sir. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) does not have any proposal to demolish constructions which were in existence within 200 mtrs of Defence Research and Development Establishment (DRDE) prior to date of Notification under Section-3 of Works of Defence Act 1903.

All constructions which have come in existence after date of notification are illegal and required to be demolished as per Works of Defence Act 1903.

(b) No, Sir. There is no plan to shift DRDE to alternative location, however, few critical facilities of DRDE are planned to be shifted to alternate location subject to Madhya Pradesh Government handing over land free of cost to facilitate removal of restrictions under Works of Defence Act 1903 in phased manner.

(c) Subject to free of cost allotment of land by Government of Madhya Pradesh, Notified Zone will be reduced in phased manner:

In Phase I: The notified zone will be reduced to 50 mtrs by providing adequate redundancy to ensure a risk free environment. The task will be completed within three months from possession of alternate land.

In Phase II: Facilities will be created at new site within a maximum period of three years. The notified zone thereafter will be removed.

Ban on fire crackers

†1468. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a terrible menace of air pollution in many of the metropolitan cities including the National Capital of Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the details of the measures taken by Government to reduce air pollution; and

(c) whether Government proposes to ban the manufacturing and selling of the gunpowder firecrackers completely across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) In reference to the overall air quality status of National Capital of Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality in 2019 (from January 2019 upto 20th of November 2019) as compared to that of 2018. It is submitted that the number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 159 in 2018. Correspondingly, the number of 'Poor' to 'Severe' days has reduced to 148 in 2019 as compared to 206 in 2018. In Mumbai, the number of 'Poor' to 'Severe' days has reduced to 12 in 2019 as compared to 16 in 2018. In Chennai, the number of 'Poor' to 'Severe' days has reduced to 4 in 2019 as compared to 7 in 2018. The measures taken by the Government to reduce air pollution inter alia include; notification of Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) identifying timelines and implementing agency for actions identified for prevention, control and mitigation of air pollution in Delhi and NCR; launching of National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a time bound national level strategy to tackle air pollution problem across the country in comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20 % to 30 % reduction in PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration; specific action plan for all 102 non-attainment cities for ground implementation under NCAP; launch of National Air Quality Index; notification of Graded Response Action Plan for Delhi and NCR; comprehensive set of directions have been issued under section 18(1) (b) of Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1986 for implementation of 42/31 measures to mitigate air pollution in major cities; setting up of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; notification of NAAQS; leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards; introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending; promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads; streamlining the issuance of Pollution Under Control Certificate; closing of Badarpur thermal power plant; shifting of all operational brick kilns to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR; launch of new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for in-situ management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi'; ban on burning of biomass; notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, construction and

demolition waste and hazardous wastes in 2016; notifications regarding dust mitigation measures for construction and demolition activities; public outreach programme etc.

(c) Hon'ble Supreme Court limited the manufacturing and sale of conventional firecrackers and allowed only the crackers with reduced emission (improved crackers) and green crackers. The manufacture, sale and use of joined firecrackers (series crackers or laris) is banned as the same cause huge air, noise and solid waste problems. Petroleum and Safety Organisation (PESO) has been directed to ensure fireworks with permitted chemicals only to be purchased/possessed/sold/used during Diwali and all other religious festivals, of any religion whatsoever, and other occasions like marriages, etc. PESO has ensures that only those crackers whose decibel (sound) level are within the limits are allowed in the market and take action by suspending the licenses of the manufacturers on such violations. Accordingly, new formulation fireworks and crackers as per the guidelines of the Supreme Court only are manufactured and sold in the country.

Severe pollution in Delhi

1469. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently Supreme Court of India expressed its displeasure and deep concern over the manner in which the severe pollution in Delhi is being dealt with by Central Government and Government of Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Punjab wherein it also observed that it had resulted in deaths of the people in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government has taken or proposes to take to deal with the concerns of the apex court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Apex Court in the matter of IA No 127792 of 2017 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 13029 of 1985 titled as M.C. Mehta Vs Union of India & Ors., had directed that necessary steps be taken so that no stubble burning would take place in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh and farmers who did not burn stubble be compensated by the concerned State Governments. It further banned the construction and demolition activity in Delhi and NCR until further orders and directed Government of NCT of Delhi to take stringent steps in combating garbage dumping, burning of industrial and municipal waste, and adequate sprinkling of water and dust suppressants particularly in all the identified hotspots.

(c) The State Governments of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh have completely banned the stubble burning. In compliance to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* order dated 06.11.2019 to take care of stubble, which had not been burnt by the small and marginal farmers, the Government of Punjab brought out a scheme for providing compensation @ ₹ 100/-per quintal to those small and marginal farmers who cultivated non-basmati paddy and managed the paddy residue by in-situ method without burning. The Government of Haryana also brought out the scheme to provide ₹ 1000/-per acre operational charges for crop residue management for in-situ and ex-situ purposes. In addition, the Government of Haryana has provided ₹ 100 per quintal incentive to those farmers who sold their paddy after 06.11.2019 and till 15.11.2019 and did not burn the crop residue.

Several measures have been undertaken for the abatement and control of air pollution which include *inter alia* strict enforcement of micro level action plans in identified hotspots. Strict vigil on open dumping and construction activity, stringent actions against illegal industries, strict penal actions including challans on violators as per regulatory provisions, strict monitoring by CPCB of weekly action taken reports about regulatory actions, prosecutions, penalties imposed, etc., swift redressal of complaints lodged on social media platforms.

Also a meeting with concerned Central Ministries, State Governments and Municipal Corporations of Delhi, DMs/DCs and Municipal Corporations of NCR cities of Ghaziabad, Noida, Gurugram and Faridabad was convened on 18.11.2019 where immediate and long term steps were discussed.

Further, the Central Government has notified a Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for Delhi and NCR for different levels of pollution. The nature, scope and rigor of measures to be taken are linked to levels of pollution *viz.* severe + or emergency, severe, very poor, moderate to poor and moderate, after due consideration by authorities concerned.

Community driven Environmentally Sustainable Village Programme

1470. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the status of Community Driven Environmentally Sustainable Village Programme (CESVP);
- (b) the number of projects taken up under the said programme;

- (c) whether it has produced any positive impact; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Under the ongoing Environmental Information System (ENVIS) Scheme of the Ministry, the Community driven Environmentally Sustainable Village Programme (CESVP) was taken up during 2017-18, on pilot basis. As part of the pilot, Delhi based 7 ENVIS Resource Partners (RPs) hosted by Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF), International Institute of Health and Hygiene (NIH), Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Centre for Media Studies (CMS), School of Planning and Architecture (SPA) and The Energy Resources Institute (TERI) carried out coordinated activities from October, 2017 till March 2018 aimed at creation of awareness about major environmental issues covering pollution, waste management, water management, setting up of community driven projects, such as solar energy, health status, etc. in three villages, viz., Dhirpur, Ghoga and Singhola in Delhi. Further, a preliminary survey was undertaken by these RPs in April, 2018 in three villages - Neemka (Gautam Budh Nagar, UP), Oledha (Bulandshahr, UP) and Kachaida (Gautam Budh Nagar, UP).

(c) and (d) The activities carried out in the three villages of Delhi on pilot basis had a positive impact on the population covered as they became more aware about the adoption of environmentally sustainable practices. The inhabitants of these villages started segregating the waste, using clean energy for cooking, vermi composting of household waste etc. and adopted good sustainable practices contributing towards environment protection.

Encroachment of forest land

1471. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state?

- (a) whether Government is aware that State Governments have been directed to summarily evict encroachers of forest land, if so, details thereof;
- (b) quantum of forest land under encroachment;
- (c) details of families evicted during the last three years, State-wise/UT-wise;
- (d) whether Government has received representations to relax rules, as there is a human aspect to the problem and it is claimed that the land in question has been used for farming and the forest economy by indigenous communities for generations;

(e) whether Government is taking any steps to safeguard the livelihood of these communities;

(f) if so, details thereof; and

(g) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) The Hon'ble Supreme Court in their recent judgment dated 13.02.2019 in Writ Petition No. 109/2008 in the matter of Wildlife First and Others versus Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Others, directed the State/UT Governments to evict the persons/parties whose claims under Forest Rights Act, 2006 have been rejected.

As per the above order dated 13.02.2019, a Total number of 11, 91, 327 claims were rejected.

Subsequently, Government of India filed an application on 26.02.2019 for modification of the above order. Considering the prayer in the application, Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 28.02.2019 stayed its earlier order dated 13.02.2019 regarding eviction.

(d) No such representation has been received in the Ministry.

(e) to (g) Government has taken various initiatives for safeguarding livelihood of these communities. Under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 as on 31.03.2019 a Total of 19, 64, 048 titles have been issued to these communities. Declarations of Minimum Support Prices of forest produce, relaxation of bamboo grown from felling and transit regime etc. are also steps in this direction.

Forest fire in Nilgiri hills

1472. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that Indian forests are vulnerable to fire accidents and number of incidents of forest fire reported during last three years;

(b) whether Government will take steps to control fires in forests using advanced technology;

- (c) whether the Nilgiri hills forest is decreasing in size due to fire; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Forest Fires do occur every year during summer due to various natural and anthropogenic reasons including accumulation of inflammable materials such as dry leaves, twigs, pine needles etc. The details of number of incidents of forest fire reported during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) Government of India is taking adequate steps to control fires in forests using advanced technologies such as satellite based remote sensing technology and GIS tools which have been effective in better prevention and management of fires through creation of early warning for fire prone areas, monitoring fires on real time basis and estimation of burnt scars.

Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization under the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has been alerting State Forest Departments of forest fire locations detected by the Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectro-radiometer (MODIS) sensor on-board Aqua and Terra Satellites of NASA since 2004. From the year 2017, FSI has incorporated another sensor Suomi-National Polar-orbiting Partnership-Visible Infrared Imaging Radiometer Suite (SNPP-VIIRS) which has better night time detection capability as compared to MODIS and can also detect small fire and under canopy fire.

Forest Fire Alerts are disseminated together with Google Earth compatible KML files through email to the Nodal Officers of State/UT Forest Departments. A registered user, who is registered on the FSI website, can also avail forest fire alerts as SMS for their area of interest which can now be chosen up to 'Beat' level (as per the data available from State/UT). Till date around 69, 000 users have been registered to receive the fire alerts from FSI.

FSI has initiated an innovative "Large Forest Fire Monitoring Programme" in January 2019 which aims at improving tactical as well as strategic response to large forest fires by the respective States/UTs. This uses near real time, SNPP-VIIRS data as a part of the (FSI Fire Alerts System) FAST 3.0 and tracks large fire events across the country.

Since forests are managed by the States/UTs, the responsibility of forest fire prevention and management including use of advanced technologies lie primarily with the respective State/UT Governments. The Ministry supports the efforts of State/UT

Governments in prevention and control of forest fire by providing financial assistance for various forest fire prevention and management measures under the Centrally Sponsored Forest Fire Prevention and Management Scheme. Funds are also provided to the States/UTs for capacity building, providing appropriate firefighting equipment to forest fire fighting squads and activities for forest fire management under the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Rules 2018.

(c) and (d) As per the information received from the Tamil Nadu Forest Department, all the fire incidents in the State/District were of ground fire. There were no damage to the tree covers. The Forest Survey of India biennial report does not show any decrease in forest area in the Nilgris.

Statement

Details of forest fire incidents reported during last three years

Sl. No.	States	No. of Incidents Reported in 2016	No. of Incidents Reported in 2017	No. of Incidents Reported in 2018
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8885	8274	16171
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	5	18	28
3.	Assam	3303	2405	2200
4.	Bihar	332	581	293
5.	Chhattisgarh	1745	33179	23091
6.	Goa	92	47	38
7.	Gujarat	752	1276	976
8.	Haryana	138	81	213
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1832	1164	2544
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1245	444	429
11.	Jharkhand*	740	1133	666
12.	Karnataka	913	925	985
13.	Kerala	737	315	581

1	2	3	4	5
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2096	5840	3490
15.	Maharashtra	4641	5889	8464
16.	Manipur	1661	2711	5716
17.	Meghalaya	142	734	1054
18.	Mizoram	298	32	20
19.	Nagaland	3	1	0
20.	Odisha	2572	36827	31680
21.	Punjab	165	131	693
22.	Rajasthan	133	140	260
23.	Sikkim	49	60	48
24.	Tamil Nadu	1079	711	1153
25.	Telangana*	1512	3390	13002
26.	Tripura	73	58	76
27.	Uttar Pradesh	77	250	661
28.	Uttarakhand	2074	790	2148
29.	West Bengal	312	263	688
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	13	9	6
31.	Chandigarh	1	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	6	12	15
33.	Delhi	10	14	13
34.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0

*Fire alerts sent by FSI.

Change in land use

1473. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of compensation for change in land use from forest to otherwise;

(b) whether there is any mechanism to derive at the extent of loss due to change in land use and subsequent compensation therefor; and

(c) the area where there has been a change in land use from forest to otherwise that took place in 2015-16 to 2018-19?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) In lieu of permission for non-forest use of forest land under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, the Central Government stipulates compensatory levies in terms of Compensatory Afforestation (CA), payment of Net Present Value (NPV) and other site specific mitigating measures such as preparation of Wildlife Management Plan, Catchment Area Treatment Plan, Soil and Moisture Conservation Plan, etc. Proposals are examined and considered on case to case basis and if approved, CA is stipulated to compensate the loss of land with land and trees with trees, while NPV is realized to enrich the surrounding forest areas with the ecosystem goods and services foregone by allowing the non-forest use of forest land.

(b) Amount of NPV is realized by the concerned State Government in accordance with rate prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court for different forest types of the country in its order dated 24.03.2008 passed in Writ Petition No. 202/1995. Similarly, cost of CA is realized from the user agencies as per the site-specific afforestation schemes prepared by the concerned State Forest Department.

(c) A TOTAL of 59, 782.08 hectare of forest area was approved for change in land use from forest to non-forest during the period 2015-16 to 2018-19 and during the same period it has been stipulated for taking up compensatory afforestation over 1, 03, 260.11 hectare of land and plantation of 10.32 crore plants.

Hazardous levels of polluted air

1474. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is one of the top polluted countries of the world;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) whether Government is aware that citizens are subjected to poor air quality and

are inhaling very hazardous levels of polluted air in many metropolitan cities, especially in Delhi; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken by Government to control pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The government is aware that several private institution and universities, while adapting different methodologies, different data set and giving different weightages to the parameters are ranking the countries. The data used for ranking is extracted primarily from satellite imageries, which are not validated by proper ground truthing. Further, the methodology for ranking needs to be peer reviewed. With the growing concerns on air pollution, the Government has introduced National Air Quality Index (NAQI), which is computed scientifically using PM10, PM2.5, NO2, SO2, CO, O3, NH3, and Pb that would facilitate effective dissemination of Air Quality.

(c) and (d) The Central Government has taken several measures for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution across the country which *inter alia* includes issuing stringent plans like Comprehensive Action Plan, Graded Response Action Plan, National Clean Air Programme; increasing of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country; Introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.); ensuring the stricter norms for reducing industrial emissions; notifying 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes in 2016 etc. All these measures helped in the improvement of overall air quality in the country. On the analysis of last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), across the country, it is observed that most of the cities were within the National Standards with respect to parameters of SO2 and NO2. With respect to PM10 and PM2.5, 18 and 12 cities respectively showed decreasing trend. In reference to Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019 as compared to that of 2016. The number of 'Good to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 108 in 2016.

Permission of cut trees

1475. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has given permission to cut 1,09,75,844 trees in the last five years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the highest number of trees were felled in 2018-19;

(c) if so, the reasons for increased leniency in permission for felling of trees; and

(d) whether the rate of felling of trees is sustainable in the face of climate crisis engulfing India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Government Policy is to ensure more trees are planted than removed under different developmental proposals approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. In the last five years 1,09,75,844 number of trees were removed and plantation of more than 12,60,00,000 trees have been stipulated under compensatory afforestation. The trees are removed only when it is absolutely necessary. Because of this policy, India's forest cover is increasing.

(b) This is nearly same every year.

(c) and (d) As per the provisions of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, Government of India accords prior permission for change in land use from forest to non-forest. Such permissions are accorded subject to recommendation of the concerned State/UT Government and for unavoidable developmental projects/purposes. While according such permissions, it is ensured that minimum number of trees are removed which are inevitable. Government of India is committed to achieve the goals enshrined in the National Forest Policy and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) target of 2.5 to 3.0 billion tonnes CO₂ equivalent by 2030. Government's efforts to plant more trees than removed has also been reflected in the assessments in biennial India State of Forest Reports (ISFR) by Forest Survey of India. As per the biennial edition of ISFR of 2015, the forest and tree cover has been increased by 4902.6 sq km over that of 2013 assessment and as per ISFR 2017, the forest and tree cover has increased by 8021 sq km as compared to that of ISFR 2015.

List of factories emitting toxic pollutants

1476. DR. KANWARDEEPSINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has the list of factories emitting toxic pollutants and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any feedback from various stakeholders/groups to protect the States from the effects of pollution;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government has given any instruction to State Governments to formulate schemes to stop pollution; and

(e) whether the State Governments have executed any plan or initiated any measures in this regard and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) is monitoring and inspecting industrial units based on alerts generated from Online Continuous Effluent/Emission Monitoring System (OCEMS) and taking appropriate action against non-complying industries as per the provisions of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. A TOTAL of 663 industries have been inspected during the last 3 years and the current year till 21.11.2019 and 385 directions have been issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to non-complying industries and 1 direction issued under Section 18(1)(b) of the Air and Water Acts to State Pollution Control Board. Industrial sector-wise-details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) Further, Consultation with stakeholders concerned is an integral part of the process of formulation of various policy initiatives. Feedback, as and when received from stakeholders, have been duly considered and necessary appropriate steps have been taken to mitigate pollution impact.

(d) and (e) The Central Government has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in 2019 under the Central Sector “Control of Pollution” Scheme as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner. Under this programme, 102 non-attainment cities have been identified based on ambient air quality data for the period 2011 - 2015 and WHO report 2014/2018. City specific Action Plans have been approved for all 102 non-attainment cities and directions have been issued under Section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 to States for ground implementation of these action plans.

CPCB in association with the State Pollution Control Boards is monitoring the water quality of rivers across the country through a network of monitoring stations under the

National Water Quality Monitoring Programme. Based on the monitoring results in terms of Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), a key indicator of organic pollution, CPCB have identified 351 polluted stretches on 323 rivers in the country. Hon'ble National Green Tribunal has directed all State Governments and UT Administrations to prepare action plans for bringing all polluted river stretches identified by CPCB to be fit at least for bathing purposes. Action plans have been prepared by the River Rejuvenation Committee (RRC) constituted in each State/ UT.

The State Governments and Urban Local bodies are also extended support by the Central Government for abatement of pollution of rivers for implementation of schemes like 'Namami Gange', National River Conservation Plan (NRCP), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), etc.

Statement

*Sector-wise number of industries inspected and action
taken from 2016 to till 21.11.2019*

Sl. No.	Sector	No. of Industries Inspected	No. of Directions issued under Section 5 of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986	No. of Directions issued under Section 18(l)(b) of Air and Water Acts
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Refineries	22	15	0
2.	Fertilizer	42	23	0
3.	Dye	33	21	0
4.	Pharmaceutical	62	38	0
5.	Pesticide	34	13	0
6.	Caustic	20	12	0
7.	Petrochemical	22	23	0
8.	Power	85	44	0
9.	Aluminium	10	8	0

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Copper	3	2	0
11.	Zinc	2	1	0
12.	Steel	76	49	0
13.	Cement	124	64	0
14.	Sugar	20	9	1
15.	Pulp & Paper	46	28	0
16.	Distillery	40	17	0
17.	Tannery	22	18	0
TOTAL		663	385	1

**Impact of data centres and cloud computing
on the environment**

1477. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken cognizance of the impact of data centres and cloud computing on the environment;
- (b) if so, steps being taken to reduce the damage caused to the environment; and
- (c) if not, whether Government is planning to do so in the near future and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) Centralised data processing mainframes, minicomputers etc. are after end of their life considered as e-Waste and producers of the same have been mandated to take back the equipment for sound management of e-waste under Extended Producers Responsibility obligations as per E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2016.

Conservation of tigers

1478. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's efforts have yielded in increase in tiger population in India;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is considering to develop a connectivity corridor between the habitations of tigers in India and neighbouring countries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the progress made in this regard so far;
- (e) whether Government is planning to repopulate the Buxa Tiger Reserve in Bengal by introducing tigers from Assam's Kaziranga National Park;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other significant steps taken by Government for conservation of tigers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Governments efforts have yielded an increase in tiger population in India.

Under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, several activities are undertaken for tiger conservation which are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Government of India, through the National Tiger Conservation Authority has already mapped out 32 major tiger corridors which inter alia include corridor connectivity through Nepal and Bhutan. The list of these corridors is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(e) and (f) The Government of India has recommended a project to repopulate the Buxa Tiger Reserve with tigers for which a five year plan at a Total cost of ₹ 1849.50 lakhs has been approved by the Government of India in 2017.

(g) Milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority for conservation of tigers are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I

*Details of activities undertaken for tiger conservation under the ongoing
Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger*

1. Stepping up protection: (Antipoaching squad/Tiger Protection Force deployment)

The antipoaching operations in tiger reserves are site specific. However, the

following activities, *inter alia*, form part of the protection strategy in tiger reserves, namely:—

- (a) Raising, arming and deployment of Special Tiger Protection Force.
- (b) Use of information technology in wildlife crime prevention.
- (c) Launching M-STrIPES for field patrolling.
- (d) Deployment of antipoaching squads.
- (e) Establishing and maintenance of existing patrolling camps/chowkis and deployment of camp labourers for patrolling.
- (f) Organising vehicular patrolling by constituting squads (Tiger Protection Force), comprising of field staff, labourers and police/SAF/ex-army personnel, with wireless handset and paraphernalia for apprehending offenders, apart from prescribing a patrolling calendar for the squad.
- (g) Establishing and maintenance of wireless network.
- (h) Organising surprise raids jointly with the local police in railway stations, local trains, bus-stops, buses, catchers and cafeteria.
- (i) Ensuring special site-specific protection measures, during monsoon as 'Operation Monsoon' - considering the terrain and accessibility of Protected Areas.
- (j) Deployment of ex-army personnel/home guards.
- (k) Deployment of local work force for patrolling, surveillance of water holes, manning barriers.
- (l) Procurement of arms and ammunition.
- (m) Procurement/maintenance of elephant squads.
- (n) Rewards to informers.
- (o) Legal support for defending court cases.
- (p) Procurement of vehicles, boats.
- (q) Procurement of field gear, night vision device.

2. Deciding inviolate spaces for wildlife and relocation of villagers from core or critical tiger habitats in Tiger Reserves within a timeframe and settlement of rights.

- 2.1. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as well as the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, require that rights of people (Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers) recognized in forest areas within core and critical tiger or wildlife habitats of tiger reserves or protected areas may be modified and resettled for providing inviolate spaces to tiger or wild animals. This requires payment of compensation (rights settlement in addition to the relocation package offered under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme at present). Chapter IV of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 (section 24) provides for acquisition of rights in or over the land declared by the State Government under section 18 (for constituting a Sanctuary) or section 35 (for constituting a National Park). Sub-section (2) of section 24 of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 authorizes the Collector to acquire such land or rights. Therefore, payment of compensation for the immovable property of people forms part of modifying or settling their rights which is a statutory requirement.
- 2.2. The ongoing study and the analysis of the available research data on tiger ecology indicate that the minimum population of tigresses in breeding age, which are needed to maintain a viable population of 80-100 tigers (in and around core) require an inviolate space of 800-1200 sq. km. Tiger being an “umbrella species”, this will also ensure viable populations of other wild animals (co-predators, prey) and forest, thereby ensuring the ecological viability of the entire area and habitat. Thus, it becomes an ecological imperative to keep the core areas of tiger reserves inviolate for the survival of source populations of tiger and other wild animals.
- 2.3. The proposed package has following two options, namely:
- (a) Option I - Payment of the entire package amount (₹ 10 lakhs per family) to the family in case the family opts so, without involving any rehabilitation or relocation process by the Forest Department.
 - (b) Option II - Carrying out relocation or rehabilitation of village from protected area or tiger reserve by the Forest Department.

3. Strengthening of infrastructure within Tiger Reserves.

The following activities, *inter alia*, would form part of reinforcing the infrastructure of Tiger Reserves (including support to new tiger reserves), namely:—

- (a) Civil Works (staff quarters, family hostels, office improvement, patrolling camp, house keeping buildings, museum, culverts).
- (b) Maintenance, creation and upgradation of road network.
- (c) Maintenance and creation of wireless tower.
- (d) Maintenance and creation of fire watch tower.
- (e) Maintenance and creation of bridges, dams, anicuts.
- (f) Maintenance, creation of firelines and firebreaks.
- (g) Maintenance and creation of earthen ponds.
- (h) Procurement, maintenance of vehicles (Gypsy, Jeep, Truck, Tractor etc.).
- (i) Habitat improvement works.
- (j) Procurement of hardware, software and Geographical Information System (GIS).
- (k) Procurement of compass, range finder, Global Positioning System (GPS), camera traps.
- (l) Procurement of satellite imageries for management planning.
- (m) Map digitization facility for management planning.

4. **Habitat improvement and water development.**

These, *inter alia*, may include, weed eradication, removal of gregarious plant growth from grasslands, grass improvement, water retention structures and the like. These initiatives would increase the forage and browse values of the habitat for wild animals.

5. **Addressing man-animal conflict (ensuring uniform, timely compensation for human deaths due to wild animals, livestock depredation by carnivores, crop depredation by wild ungulates) (compensation for crop loss is a new component):**

This would involve:

- (a) payment of compensation for cattle lifting, death of human beings and crop depredation due to wild animals.

- (b) creation of crop protection structures.
- (c) procurement and deployment of traps, cages to catch problematic animals
- (d) procurement of tranquilizing equipments, rescue vehicles and drugs.

6. Co-existence agenda in buffer or fringe areas.

The fringe areas around tiger reserve have corridor value, and their ecological sustainability is important to prevent the area from becoming ecological sinks on account of over use of resources and unwise land use. This calls for delineation of buffer zone around a tiger reserve to incorporate such fringe areas so that it can fulfill the following objectives, namely:

- (a) providing ecologically viable livelihood options to local stakeholders for reducing their dependency on forests.
- (b) conserving the forest area through restorative inputs involving local people for providing habitat supplement to wild animals moving out of core areas.

7. Rehabilitation of traditional hunting tribes living around tiger reserves.

There is an urgent need to launch a rehabilitation and development programme for the denotified tribes and tribes involved in traditional hunting, living around tiger reserves and tiger corridors. The following denotified tribes and communities are involved in traditional hunting of wild animals: Behelias, Ambalgars, Badaks, Mongias, Bavariyas, Monglias, Pardhi, Boyas, Kaikads, Karwal Nat, Nirshikaris, Picharis, Valayaras, Yenadis, Chakma, Mizo, Bru, Solung and Nyishi. While this list is not exhaustive, around 5, 000 such families are required to be taken up under a welfare programme (forming part of NTCA initiatives) during the Plan period. The rehabilitation and welfare package should be evolved in a site specific, consultative manner with livelihood options, to include: wages for such people towards their deployment in foot patrolling for protecting wildlife, providing agricultural land with irrigation, basic health care, housing and related community welfare inputs and basic education facilities. The experience gained in the past for settling denotified tribes by the salvation army is required to be considered dispassionately while structuring the programme.

8. Research and field equipments.

The All India tiger estimation using the new methodology approved by the Tiger Task Force has resulted in a permanent monitoring protocol for the field units. The

Phase-IV, tiger reserve level, would be launched to monitor the source populations of tiger. Further, assistance would be provided for fostering field oriented research and to equip the staff with facilities like Global Positioning System (GPS), camera traps, night vision, range finder and related accessories including hardware and software.

9. Staff development and capacity building.

9.1. This would involve:

- (a) Capacity building and training.
- (b) Providing project allowance and special incentives.
- (c) Specialized training in the use of Geographical Information System (GIS), antipoaching operations.
- (d) Specialized training in jurisprudence and wildlife forensics.
- (e) Study tours for appraisal of good practices in other reserves.
- (f) Dissemination workshops.
- (g) Specialized training in park interpretation.
- (h) Specialized training in management planning.

9.2. The above inputs are extremely important for enhancing the skill of field staff. Several instances of poaching occur for want of specialized training in crime detection and related skills.

10. Mainstreaming wildlife concerns in tiger bearing forests and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy involving locals to arrest fragmentation of habitats.

This would involve:

- (a) Redressing man-animal conflict.
- (b) Capturing problematic and aberrant wild animals.
- (c) Monitoring of wild animals.
- (d) Antipoaching operations.

(e) Habitat improvement measures.

11. **Safeguards and Retrofitting measures in the interest of wildlife conservation.**

Several tiger reserves are affected on account of heavily used infrastructure like roads, railway tracks etc. The high tension electric lines passing through many reserves cause mortality of wild animals due to electrocution by poachers. In the interest of wild animals several safeguards as well as retrofitting measures may be required, which would be supported on a site-specific basis.

12. **Providing basic infrastructure.** The expenditure for consultancy, field visits by expert teams, all India tiger estimation and continuous monitoring of tigers (Phase-IV), support for monitoring tigers outside tiger reserves through National Tiger Conservation Authority grant, developing a National Repository of Camera Trap Photo Database of tiger, strengthening of National Tiger Conservation Authority at the Center and Regional Offices, besides establishing a monitoring lab.

13. **Independent monitoring and evaluation of tiger reserves.**

The second round of independent monitoring has been completed using globally accepted indicators. This would be further refined and continued.

14. **Establishment and development of new tiger reserves.**

‘Project Tiger’ has a holistic ecosystem approach. Though the focus is on the flagship species ‘tiger’, the project strives to maintain the stability of ecosystem by fostering other trophic levels in the food chain. This is essential to ensure an ecologically viable population of tiger, which is at the ‘apex’ of the ecological food chain. The community pressures on forests are ever on the increase in developing countries and India is no exception. As a sequel, the tiger habitat has become fragile and weak at several places, warranting a focused conservation approach. Our protected areas and tiger reserves are analogous to “islands” in an ocean of the other-use patterns. Empirical evidences from ‘island biogeography’ indicate that “isolated” reserves lose their species rapidly owing to ‘ecological insularization’. Further, apart from fragmentation, the situation is aggravated by degraded forest cover owing to biotic pressure, dislocated prey - predator ratio, absence of effective measures to ensure the desired level of protection and lack of eco developmental initiatives for the fringe dwelling stakeholders to reduce their dependency on forest resources. Since ‘Project Tiger’ would go a long way

in redressing the above situation, the Steering Committee of Project Tiger in its meeting held on the 23rd January, 2003 recommended inclusion of new tiger reserve areas so as to increase the TOTAL area of 'Project Tiger' from existing 37761 sq. kms. to 50, 000 sq. kms. during the Tenth Plan period.

15. Provision of Project Allowance to staff of Project Tiger.

The tiger States would be supported (100%) for Project Allowance to staff of tiger reserves.

16. Staff welfare activities.

Staff welfare inputs like residential accommodation for the children of frontline staff in nearby towns or villages, supply of kerosene, medicine, field kit, mosquito net, torch and the like would be supported.

17. Fostering Tourism or Ecotourism in tiger reserves.

'Tourism' in the context of Tiger Reserves is contemplated as "ecotourism", which needs to be ecologically sustainable nature-tourism. This is emerging as an important component of tourism industry. It is distinct from 'mass tourism', having sustainable, equitable, community based effort for improving the living standards of local, host communities living on the fringes of tiger reserves. Ecotourism is proposed to be fostered under 'Project Tiger' to benefit the host community in accordance with tiger reserve specific Tourism Plan forming part of the Tiger Conservation Plan, subject to regulation as per carrying capacity, with a focus on buffer areas. Since, tourism has been happening in areas of national parks and wildlife sanctuaries which are now designated as core or critical tiger habitat, regulated low impact tourism (visitation) would be allowed in such areas subject to site specific carrying capacity. However, no new tourism infrastructure should be permitted in such core and critical tiger habitats. Further, the buffer forest areas should also be developed as wildlife habitats with the active involvement of local people living in such areas. This would provide extended habitat to tiger population for its life cycle dynamics, besides benefitting local people from ecotourism activities in such areas while reducing the resource dependency of people on core or critical tiger habitats and human-tiger interface conflicts. The opportunities for stakeholders would include management of low cost accommodation for tourists, providing guide services, providing sale outlets, managing excursions, organizing ethnic dances and the like.

Statement-II*List of macro/landscape level tiger corridors*

Sl. No.	Landscape	Corridor	States/Country
1	2	3	4
1.	Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains	(i) Rajaji-Corbett (ii) Corbett-Dudhwa (iii) Dudhwa-Kishanpur-Katerniaghat	Uttarakhand Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Nepal Uttar Pradesh, Nepal
2.	Central India and Eastern Ghats	(i) Ranthambhore-Kuno-Madhav (ii) Bandhavgarh-Achanakmar (iii) Bandhavgarh-Sanjay Dubri-Guru Ghasidas (iv) Guru Ghasidas-Palamau-Lawalong (v) Kanha-Achanakmar (vi) Kanha-Pench (vii) Pench-Satpura-Melghat (viii) Kanha-Navegaon Nagzira-Tadoba-Indravati (ix) Indravati-Udanti Sitanadi-Sunabeda (x) Similipal-Satkosia (xi) Nagarjunasagar-Sri Venkateshwara National Park	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh Chhattisgarh, Odisha Odisha Andhra Pradesh

3.	Western Ghats	(i) Sahyadri-Radhanagari-Goa	Maharashtra, Goa
		(ii) Dandeli Anshi-Shravathi Valley	Karnataka
		(iii) Kudremukh-Bhadra	Karnataka
		(iv) Nagarahole-Pusphagiri-Talakavery	Karnataka
		(v) Nagarahole-Bandipur-Mudumalai-Wayanad	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
		(vi) Nagarahole-Mudumalai-Wayanad	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
		(vii) Parambikulam-Eranikulam-Indira Gandhi	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
		(viii) Kalakad Mundanthurai-Periyar	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
4.	North East	(i) Kaziranga-Itanagar WLS	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
		(ii) Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong	Assam
		(iii) Kaziranga-Nameri	Assam
		(iv) Kaziranga-Orang	Assam
		(v) Kaziranga-Papum Pane	Assam
		(vi) Manas-Buxa	Assam, West Bengal, Bhutan
		(vii) Pakke-Nameri-Sonai Rupai-Manas	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam
		(viii) Dibru Saikhowa-D'Ering-Mehaong	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
		(ix) Kamlang-Kane-Tale Valley	Arunachal Pradesh
		(x) Buxa-Jaldapara	West Bengal

Statement-III

Details of milestone initiatives taken by the Government of India through the National Tiger Conservation Authority for conservation of tigers

Legal steps

1. Amendment of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 in 2006 to provide enabling provisions for constituting the National Tiger Conservation Authority under section 38 IV B and the Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau under section 38 IV C.
2. Enhancement of punishment for offence in relation to the core area of a tiger reserve or where the offence relates to hunting in the tiger reserves or altering the boundaries of tiger reserves, etc.
3. Comprehensive guidelines under section 380 1 (c) of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 issued for Project Tiger and Tourism in Tiger Reserves on 15th October, 2012.

Administrative steps

4. Constitution of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) with effect from the 4th September, 2006, for strengthening tiger conservation by, *inter-alia*, ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management, preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan, laying down annual audit report before Parliament, constituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Ministers and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation.
5. Constitution of a multidisciplinary Tiger and Other Endangered Species Crime Control Bureau (Wildlife Crime Control Bureau) with effect from the 6th June, 2007 to effectively control illegal trade in wildlife.
6. Strengthening of antipoaching activities, including special strategy for monsoon patrolling, by providing funding support to tiger reserve States, as proposed by them, for deployment of antipoaching squads involving ex-army personnel or home guards, apart from workforce comprising of local people, in addition to strengthening of communication and wireless facilities.
7. In-principle approval has been accorded by the National Tiger Conservation Authority for creation of new tiger reserves, and the sites are: Sunabeda (Odisha) and Guru Ghasidas (Chhattisgarh). The State Governments have been advised to

send proposals for declaring the following areas as tiger reserves: (i) Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary (Goa), (ii) Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel/Megamalai Wildlife Sanctuaries/Varushanadu Valley (Tamil Nadu), (iii) Dibang Wildlife Sanctuary (Arunachal Pradesh), (iv) Cauveri-MM Hills Wildlife Sanctuary (Karnataka) and (v) Nandhaur Wildlife Sanctuary (Uttarakhand).

8. Rajaji National Park (Uttarakhand), Orang National Park (Assam) and Kamlang Wildlife Sanctuary (Arunachal Pradesh) have been notified as 48th, 49th and 50th Tiger Reserves.
9. The revised Project Tiger guidelines have been issued to State Governments for strengthening tiger conservation, which apart from ongoing activities, inter alia, include financial support to States for enhanced village relocation or rehabilitation package for people living in core or critical tiger habitats (from ₹ 1 lakh per family to ₹ 10 lakhs per family), rehabilitation or resettlement of communities involved in traditional hunting, mainstreaming livelihood and wildlife concerns in forests outside tiger reserves and fostering corridor conservation through restorative strategy to arrest habitat fragmentation.
10. A scientific methodology for estimating tiger (including co-predators, prey animals and assessment of habitat status) has been evolved and mainstreamed. The findings of this estimation and assessment are bench marks for future tiger conservation strategy.
11. The 18 tiger States have notified the core/critical tiger habitat (40145.30 sq. km.), and the buffer/peripheral area (32603.72 sq.km.) of all the 50 tiger reserves in the country, under section 38V of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972, as amended in 2006.
12. Regional Offices of the National Tiger Conservation Authority are operational at Nagpur, Bengaluru and Guwahati headed by an Inspector General of Forests.

Financial steps

13. Financial and technical help is provided to the State Governments under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, such as “Project Tiger” and “Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats” for enhancing the capacity and infrastructure of the State Governments for providing effective protection to wild animals.

International Cooperation

14. India has a bilateral understanding with Nepal on controlling trans-boundary illegal trade in wildlife and conservation, apart from a protocol on tiger conservation with China.
15. A protocol has been signed in September, 2011 with Bangladesh for conservation of the Royal Bengal Tiger of the Sunderban.
16. A sub-group on tiger and leopard conservation has been constituted for cooperation with the Russian Federation. Indo-Russia bilateral took place in September 2018 at Moscow, wherein a tripartite MoU between the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Wildlife Institute of India and A.N. Severtsov Institute of Ecology and Evaluation was agreed upon and signed on 4.12.2018.
17. India is the founder member of the Global Tiger Forum of Tiger Range Countries for addressing international issues related to tiger conservation.
18. During the 14th meeting of the Conference of Parties to CITES, which was held from 3rd to 15th June, 2007 at The Hague, India introduced a resolution along with China, Nepal and the Russian Federation, with direction to Parties with operations breeding tigers on a commercial scale, for restricting such captive populations to a level supportive only to conserving wild tigers. The resolution was adopted as a decision with minor amendments. Further, India made an intervention appealing to China to phase out tiger farming and eliminate stockpiles of Asian big cats body parts and derivatives. The importance of continuing the ban on trade of body parts of tigers was emphasized.
19. Based on India's strong intervention during the 62nd meeting of the Standing Committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) at Geneva from 23-27 July, 2012, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Secretariat has issued a notification No. 2012/054 dated the 3rd September, 2012 to Parties to fully implement Decision 14.69 and report to the Secretariat by 25 September, 2012 (Progress made on restricting captive breeding operations of tigers etc.).

During the 18 CoP held at Geneva in August 2019, based on an intervention from India, a slew of decisions were adopted to intervene in territories which had facilities for keeping big cats as a reinforcement of decision 14.69.

20. The 3rd Asia Ministerial Conference (3 AMC) was organized in New Delhi from 12-14 April 2016. Inspired by the statement of Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi, during this conference that “conservation of tigers is not a choice, it is an imperative”, to achieve the concrete results of ensuring the conservation of tigers in the wild and their habitats by 2022, the representatives of the Governments of the Tiger Range Countries resolved to:

- Accelerate implementation of the Global Tiger Recovery Programme (GTRP)/ National Tiger Recovery Programme (NTRP) and agreed actions from the above-mentioned declarations, review and update priority and differentiated action plans, and track progress through mutual and systematic reporting and evaluation.
- Align development and tiger conservation in a mutually complementary manner by re-orienting development strategies to mainstream the concerns of tiger conservation, such as by integrating tiger and wildlife safeguards in infrastructure at the landscape level, developing partnerships with business groups, and strong engagement with local stakeholders.
- Leverage funding and technical support from international organisations, bilateral and multilateral financial institutions, foundations, civil society organisations, private sector, and climate funds, in addition to TRC governments.
- Recognise and enhance the importance of tiger habitats by promoting them as providing ecosystem services, as engines of economic growth and helping to address climate change.
- Emphasize recovery of tiger populations in areas with low tiger densities and restoration in areas from which they have been extirpated by using successful programs of tiger reintroduction and rehabilitation of their habitats and prey.
- Strengthen co-operation at the highest levels of government to combat wildlife crime, address the demand for tiger products, and increase formal and informal transboundary coordination.
- Enhance knowledge sharing and capacity development for all stakeholders and increase the use of technology, including smart tools, monitoring protocols, and information systems, to improve management effectiveness.

Other miscellaneous steps

21. Creation of Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF):-The Special Tiger Protection Force (STPF) has been made operational in the States of Karnataka (Bandipur), Maharashtra (Pench, Tadoba-Andhari, Nawegaon-Nagzira, Melghat), Rajasthan (Ranthambhore) and Odisha (Similipal), out of 13 initially selected tiger reserves, with 60% central assistance under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, Kaziranga (Assam) with 90% central assistance.
22. In collaboration with TRAFFIC-INDIA, an online tiger mortality data base is operational and Generic Guidelines for preparation of reserve specific Security Plan have been prepared which form a basis for antipoaching strategies in the overarching Tiger Conservation Plan.
23. Implementing a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with tiger States, linked to fund flows for effective implementation of tiger conservation initiatives.
24. Steps taken for modernizing the infrastructure and field protection, besides launching 'Monitoring system for Tigers' Intensive Protection and Ecological Status (M-STrIPES)' for effective field patrolling and monitoring. The M-STrIPES application has been made android based with three distinct modules, viz. patrol, ecological and conflict.
25. Initiatives taken for improving the field delivery through capacity building of field officials, apart from providing incentives.
26. As a part of active management to rebuild Sariska and Panna Tiger Reserves where tigers have become locally extinct, reintroduction of tigers and tigresses have been done. The successful reintroduction of wild tigers in Panna is a unique exercise and one of a kind in the world. The reintroduced tigresses are breeding.
27. All India Tiger, Co-predators and Prey Estimation, 2018:- The fourth round of country level tiger status assessment completed in 2018, with findings indicating an increase with a tiger population estimate of 2967 (lower and upper limits being 2603 and 3346 respectively), as compared to the last country level estimation of 2014, with an estimate of 2226 (lower and upper limits being 1945-2491 tigers), 2010 estimation with an estimation of 1706 (lower and upper limits being 1507-1896) and 2006 estimation, with an estimate of 1411 (lower and upper limits being 1165 and 1657). At present, India has around 75% of tiger population and its source areas

amongst the 13 tiger range countries in the world, owing to its long history of conserving the species through Project Tiger (2.21% of country's geographical area spread out in 50 tiger reserves in 18 States).

28. Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE): A report on Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) of Tiger Reserves was released in July, 2019, containing the fourth round of independent assessment based on refined criteria done in 2018 for 50 tiger reserves. Out of 50 tiger reserves, 21 were rated as 'very good', 17 as 'good' and 12 as 'fair'.
29. Providing special assistance for mitigation of human-tiger conflicts in problematic areas.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

30. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for dealing with tiger deaths has been issued, based on advisories of Project Tiger/National Tiger Conservation Authority, with inputs from Wildlife Crime Control Bureau, State officials and experts, fine tuned to meet the present challenges.
31. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for dealing with straying tigers in human dominated landscape has been issued.
32. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for disposing tiger/leopard carcass/body parts has been issued.
33. A Standard Operating Procedure has been issued to deal with orphaned/abandoned tiger cubs and old/injured tigers in the wild.
34. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' has been issued to deal with tiger depredation on livestock.
35. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' for Interstate Co-ordination amongst tiger reserves that share boundary was issued by the NTCA.
36. A 'Standard Operating Procedure' has been issued for active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at landscape level.
37. Phase-IV tiger reserve level, continuous monitoring of tigers using camera traps and building/up data on photo captures of individual tigers, has been institutionalized.
38. A national repository of camera trap photo IDs of individual tigers has been created.

39. Field level workshops for capacity building of field officers to deal with straying tigers.
40. On completion of pilot e-surveillance project in Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand), central assistance (100%) has been provided for installing 24X7 e-surveillance at Kaziranga Tiger Reserve (Assam) and fringes of Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary (Madhya Pradesh).
41. Economic Valuation of sixteen tiger reserves done in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Forest Management to assess value of the ecosystem services they provide and their potential role in climate change mitigation.
42. Trial of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for monitoring done in the Panna Tiger Reserve (Madhya Pradesh), in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India and now getting extended to 13 other tiger reserves too. Frontline staff has been capacity built and first set of equipment handed over at the Panna Tiger Reserve.
43. Assessment of Status, Density and Change in Forest Cover in and around tiger reserves of the Shivalik Gangetic Plain Landscape done in collaboration with the Forest Survey of India.
44. A joint report of Bangladesh has been brought out on the assessment of tiger status in the Sundarbans.
45. National Tiger Conservation Authority and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau have established an online tiger/wildlife crime tracking/reporting system in tiger reserves.
46. Based on International standards, security audit framework of the NTCA has been validated for implementing across all tiger reserves. 25 tiger reserves have been assessed for their security protocols through this framework.
47. To assess status of tiger bearing areas outside tiger reserves, the CA|TS (Conservation Assured | Tiger Standards) framework is being used, which helps identify inadequacies in management interventions in such areas so that gaps can be addressed through appropriate strategies. 2 of the 4 global sites accredited with CA|TS certification are in India, namely the Ramnagar and Lansdowne Forests Divisions in Uttarakhand.
48. Initiative has been taken to come out with a sub-continental level tiger estimation report along with Nepal, Bhutan and Bangladesh.

49. To assess occupancy of tigers in high altitude landscapes, a collaborative project with the Global Tiger Forum has been initiated.

Blue Flag Certification for beaches

1479. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of criteria being followed to grant Blue Flag certifications and the significance and importance of such a certification;
- (b) the details of each of the twelve beaches selected by Government for Blue Flag certification in the country, State- wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Rushikonda in Andhra Pradesh is also included in this; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Ministry has embarked upon a programme for 'Blue Flag' Certification for select beaches in the country. This Certification is accorded by an international agency "Foundation for Environment Education, Denmark" based on 33 stringent criteria in four major heads i.e. (i) Environmental Education and Information, (ii) Bathing Water Quality, (iii) Environment Management and Conservation and (iv) Safety and Services in the beaches. The 'Blue Flag' beach is an Eco-tourism model endeavouring to provide to the tourists/beach goers clean and hygienic bathing water, facilities/amenities, safe and healthy environment and sustainable development of the area.

(b) 13 pilot beaches that have been identified for the certification, in consultation with concerned coastal States/UTs, are Ghoghala Beach (Diu), Shivrajpur beach (Gujarat), Bhogave (Maharashtra), Padubidri and Kasarkod (Karnagaka), Kappad beach (Kerala), Kovalam beach (Tamil Nadu), Eden beach (Puducherry), Rushikonda beach (Andhra Pradesh), Miramar beach (Goa), Golden beach (Odisha), Radhanagar beach (Andaman and Nicobar Islands) and Bangaram beach (Lakshadweep).

(c) and (d) Rushikonda beach in Andhra Pradesh also features in the list of 13 pilot beaches, for development of facilities and infrastructure accordingly.

Shifting of heavy Industries

1480. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) actions taken by Government to shift the heavy industries/plants situated in the urban/residential areas/metro cities like Delhi to the Industrial areas outside these areas to check the worsening Air Quality Index (AQI) and water pollution; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Central Government has taken a number of initiatives to control air and water pollution arising from heavy industries/plants situated in the urban/residential areas/metro cities. These *inter alia* include imposing stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs), Closure of Badarpur thermal power plant from 15th October, 2018, Banning of Pet coke and furnace oil as fuel in Delhi and NCR States, Import of pet coke to be done by industries using it as a feedstock/in process across the country, out of about 4700 industrial units in Delhi - NCR, about 2600 units have shifted to PNG, Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices in all red category industries in Delhi and NCR. 503 industrial units in Delhi- NCR have installed it out of about 599 units, Revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time, SO_x and NO_x standards for boilers have been introduced, about 2800 brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR, only brick kilns with zig zag technology can operate in Delhi and NCR. Further, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change vide Notifications No. S.O. 157(E) of 27.02.1996 and S.O 730 (E) dated 10.07.2002, has delegated the powers vested under section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to the Chairman, Central Pollution Control Board, to issue directions to any industry or any local body or any other authority for violations of emission and effluent standards and rules notified under the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and amendment thereof. Under the Air (Prevention and Control Pollution) Act, 1981 the State pollution control boards are vested with the powers for prevention, control or abatement of air pollution.

Conversion of stubble into CNG

1481. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any proposal for conversion of stubble into Com-

pressed Natural Gas (CNG), in collaboration with gas companies, in order to reduce pollution in the National Capital Delhi, as well as its adjoining States;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the alternate arrangements being made by Government to reduce stubble burning, which increases air pollution to hazardous levels in the months of October and November?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) can be produced from biomass and organic waste sources including stubble. Compressed Bio-Gas has properties similar to the commercially available natural gas and can be used as an alternative, renewable fuel along with CNG.

According to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India has launched Sustainable Alternative Towards Affordable Transportation (SATAT) initiative on 1.10.2018 to promote CBG as an alternative, green transport fuel for efficient management of biomass and organic waste. As part of the SATAT Scheme, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Gail (India) Limited and Indraprastha Gas Limited had launched an Expression of Interest (Eoi) for procurement of CBG from the entrepreneurs. SATAT initiative has the potential of addressing environmental problems arising from stubble burning.

As informed by Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Haryana Renewable Energy Development Agency (HAREDA) has signed an MoU with Indian Oil Corporation to promote bio-CNG plants based on crop residue/paddy straw/ organic waste.

Further, in order to prevent stubble burning, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare with the Total release from the Central funds of ₹ 1178.47 crore.

Under this Scheme, the agricultural machines and equipments for *in-situ* crop residue management such as Super Straw Management System (SMS) for Combine Harvesters, Happy Seeders, Hydraulically Reversible MB Plough, Paddy Straw Chopper, Mulcher, Rotary Slasher, Zero Till Seed Drill and Rotavators are provided with 50% subsidy to the

individual farmers and 80% subsidy for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres. The State Governments during 2018-19 have supplied more than 56, 290 machines to the individual farmers and Custom Hiring Centres on subsidy for *in-situ* management of crop residue. During 2019-20, it has been targeted to supply more than 46, 578 machines.

As per analysis of paddy residue burning in Punjab and Haryana using Remote Sensing Satellite carried out by Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modeling from Space (CREAMS) Laboratory, Division of Agricultural Physics, ICAR–Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, about 54% reduction in the number of burning events is observed in 2019 (till 14th November) as compared to that in 2016. About 53% and 58% reduction in number of burning events have been observed in 2019 (till 14th November) as compared to that in 2016 in the States of Punjab and Haryana respectively. During 2019-20 season, the Total burning events recorded in the three States are 19.2% less than in 2018 till 18th November. Uttar Pradesh has recorded 36.8% reduction, Haryana recorded 25.1% reduction, and Punjab recorded 16.8% reduction, respectively, in the current season than in 2018.

Subsidy for CETP in Rajasthan

1482. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 25 per cent of the Total project cost under “Policy Package for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, 2008” for water pollution at Pali Unit in Rajasthan for establishment of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) was to be borne by the Ministry as a subsidy;

(b) whether Government intends to release the remaining amount for each CETP; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change approved central subsidy of 25% of the Total cost for establishment of two on-going CETPs at Pali, Rajasthan under the scheme of ‘Common Effluent Treatment Plants’ to which ₹41.13 Lakh each were released.

(b) and (c) The funding details of the two CETPs is given in the Statement (*See below*). The remaining amount has not been released as Utilisation Certificates and

technical report and compliance with all the environmental standards and norms by the constructed CETP have not yet been submitted.

Statement

Details of funding regarding two CETPs

Detail of the on-going CETP	CETP Unit V, Mandia Road, Pali, Rajasthan	CETP Unit VI, Punayata Road, Pali, Rajasthan
Capacity	12MLD	12MLD
Total Project Cost as approved by MoEF&CC	₹14,70,00,000/-	₹ 13,40,00,000/-
MoEF&CC (Central) Share	₹ 3,67,50,000/-	₹ 3,35,00,000/-
Central Share released so far	₹41,13,000/-	₹ 41,13,000/-

National Clean Air Programme for small cities

1483. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the worsening air quality in cities with less than a million people;
- (b) if so, whether Government has planned to expand the ambit of National Clean Air Programme to cities with less than a million people; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) The Central Government launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) as a long-term, time-bound, national level strategy to tackle the air pollution problem across the country in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20 % to 30 % reduction in PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as the base year for the comparison of concentration. Under NCAP, 102 non-attainment cities have been identified based on ambient air quality data for the period 2011-2015 and WHO report 2014/2018. The city specific Action Plans have been approved for ground implementation for all 102 non-attainment cities. It is also submitted that out of 102 cities 28 cities are with million plus population and PM₁₀ > 90 µg/m³ and remaining 70 cities

are cities with population less than a million. The list of 102 Non-attainment cities is given in the Statement (*See below*).

Out of 102 non-attainment cities identified under NCAP, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is funding '10 Crores in the current year for 28 cities with million plus population and $PM_{10} > 90 \mu g/m^3$. For the remaining non-attainment cities, funds of ₹ 10 lakhs per city for cities with population less than 5 lakhs and ₹ 20 lakhs per city, for cities with a population of 5 to 10 lakhs are allocated.

Statement

*Non-Attainment cities with respect to Ambient Air Quality
India (2011-2015) and WHO report 2014/2018*

Sl. No.	State	Cities Sl. No	Cities
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1.	Guntur
		2.	Kurnool
		3.	Nellore
		4.	Vijayawada
		5.	Vishakhapatnam
2.	Assam	6.	Guwahati
		7.	Nagaon
		8.	Nalbari
		9.	Sibsagar
		10.	Silchar
3.	Chandigarh	11.	Chandigarh
4.	Chattisgarh	12.	Bhillai
		13.	Korba
		14.	Raipur
5.	Delhi	15.	Delhi
6.	Gujarat	16.	Surat
		17.	Ahmedabad

1	2	3	4
7.	Himachal Pradesh	18.	Baddi
		19.	Damtal
		20.	Kala Amb
		21.	Nalagarh
		22.	Paonta Sahib
		23.	Parwanoo
		24.	Sunder Nagar
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.	Jammu
		26.	Srinagar
9.	Jharkhand	27.	Dhanbad
10.	Karnataka	28.	Bangalore
		29.	Devanagere
		30.	Gulburga
		31.	Hubli-Dharwad
11.	Madhya Pradesh	32.	Bhopal
		33.	Dewas
		34.	Indore
		35.	Sagar
		36.	Ujjain
		37.	Gwalior
12.	Maharashtra	38.	Akola
		39.	Amravati
		40.	Aurangabad
		41.	Badlapur
		42.	Chandrapur
		43.	Jalgaon
		44.	Jalna

1	2	3	4
		45.	Kolhapur
		46.	Latur
		47.	Mumbai
		48.	Nagpur
		49.	Nashik
		50.	Navi Mumbai
		51.	Pune
		52.	Sangli
		53.	Solapur
		54.	Ulhasnagar
13.	Meghalaya	55.	Byrnihat
14.	Nagaland	56.	Dimapur
		57.	Kohima
15.	Odisha	58.	Angul
		59.	Balasore
		60.	Bhubaneswar
		61.	Cuttack
		62.	Rourkela
		63.	Talcher
16.	Punjab	64.	DeraBassi
		65.	Gobindgarh
		66.	Jalandhar
		67.	Khanna
		68.	Ludhiana
		69.	NayaNangal
		70.	Pathankot/Dera Baba
		71.	Patiala

1	2	3	4
17.	Rajasthan	72.	Amritsar
		73.	Alwar
		74.	Jaipur
		75.	Jodhpur
		76.	Kota
		77.	Udaipur
18.	Tamilnadu	78.	Tuticorin
19.	Telangana	79.	Hydrabad
		80.	Nalgonda
		81.	Patancheru
20.	Uttar Pradesh	82.	Agra
		83.	Allahabad
		84.	Anpara
		85.	Bareilly
		86.	Firozabad
		87.	Gajraula
		88.	Ghaziabad
		89.	Jhansi
		90.	Kanpur
		91.	Khurja
		92.	Lucknow
		93.	Moradabad
		94.	Noida
		95.	Raebareli
		96.	Varanasi
21.	Uttarakhand	97.	Kashipur
		98.	Rishikesh

1	2	3	4
22.	West Bengal	99.	Kolkata
		100.	Patna
23.	Bihar	101.	Gaya
		102.	Muzaffarpur

Action taken to stop marine and air pollution

1484. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether ocean and river water is contaminated which kills most of the marine life;

(b) whether smoke emission from vehicles is making breathing difficult for everyone and garbage thrown out openly is a serious health threat to every living being; and

(c) if so, action taken by Government to stop marine and vehicular pollution?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Marine life in ocean and rivers gets affected due to pollution caused by chemicals, waste, garbage and sewage discharged into coastal water from various sources including industries. These contaminants have adverse impacts on mammals, seas turtles etc., and other forms of marine life, besides incidences of fish deaths due to depletion of oxygen, algal blooms and change in colour of sea surface.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has laid down standards for effluent discharge under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 including the Water Quality Criteria (dissolved oxygen, bacteria, and heavy metals etc.) for safe discharge of treated effluent into the coastal waters. The Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) regulations also prohibits the discharge of untreated waste water and effluents onto the coast/sea.

(b) and (c) A number of measures have been taken by the Government to curb vehicular pollution such as adoption of BS VI standards from 1st April, 2017. Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi, in NCR since October 2019 and by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country for both fuel as well as vehicles, promotion of electric vehicles and manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME) -2 scheme has been rolled out with an outlay of ₹ 10000 crore for 3 years, streamlining the

issuance of Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates, permit requirement for electric vehicles has been exempted, operationalization of Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Western Peripheral Expressway in 2018 to divert non-destined traffic from Delhi, Use of RFID tags have been made mandatory for commercial vehicles entering Delhi, Network of metro has expanded in Delhi NCR with TOTAL length of 377 km and 274 stations and Environment Protection Charges (EPC) have been imposed on vehicles with engine capacity of 2000cc and above in Delhi NCR.

Regarding management of garbage thrown out openly, the ministry has notified Solid Waste Management Rules, 2016 which *inter alia* prescribe the duties and responsibilities of waste generators and local authorities. The Rules prescribe that no waste generator shall throw, burn or bury the solid waste generated by him, on streets, open public spaces outside his premises or in the drain or water bodies. Further, the Rules direct the waste generators to segregate the waste at source and hand over the segregated waste to authorised waste pickers or waste collectors.

In order to tackle the problem of marine littering, the Government has come out with revised regulations for management of Plastic Wastes and notified “Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016”, which, *inter alia* regulates manufacture, sale, distribution of plastics aiming to minimize the plastic waste generation *vis-a-vis* encouraging recycling and re-use of plastic waste in road construction, energy and oil recovery. The Government of India along with International agencies have initiated several programs with the prime focus on reducing marine litter and other pollutants specifically plastic waste and promoting countermeasures against Marine Plastic Litter.

Use of plastic by e-commerce companies

1485. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is planning to ban single-use plastics used by the e-commerce companies;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is planning to launch any scheme for recycling of waste generated by the e-commerce companies; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) As per Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules 2016, plastic sheet and cover made of plastic, less than fifty microns in thickness, which are used for packaging and wrapping the commodity are prohibited. Further, plastic carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic less than fifty microns in thickness are also prohibited. However, the Rules mandate the producers, importers and brand owners of product using plastic to work out modalities for waste collection system based on the principle of Extended Producer responsibility so that plastic waste can be channelized for environmentally sound recycling.

Considering the high environmental cost associated with the use of Single-use plastic, particularly the adverse effect on soil, water bodies and on marine environment, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced India's pledge to phase out Single-use plastic by 2022.

(c) and (d) For efficient recycling of the plastic waste, the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 mandates the generators of waste to take steps to minimize generation of plastic waste, not to litter plastic waste, ensure segregated storage of waste at source and handover the segregated waste to the local bodies or agencies authorised by the local bodies. The Rules also mandate that the plastic waste, which can be recycled, shall be channelized to the registered plastic waste recyclers and the recycling of plastic shall conform to the Indian Standard: IS 14534:1998. Further, local bodies are mandated to encourage the use of plastic waste (preferably the plastic waste which cannot be further recycled) for road construction, as per Indian Road Congress guidelines, energy recovery or waste to oil etc.

Steps taken to check Air Quality Index

1486. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government to check the severe Air Quality Index and air pollution in urban areas due to the burning of fossil fuels in heavy industries and plants; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Central Government has taken a number of initiatives for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in urban areas due to the burning of fossil fuels in heavy industries and plants. These inter alia include imposing the stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs), Closure of Badarpur thermal power plant from 15th October, 2018, Banning of Pet coke and furnace oil as fuel in Delhi and NCR States, imported pet coke can be used only a feedstock across the country, installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices in all red category industries in Delhi and NCR, 503 industrial units in Delhi- NCR have installed it out of about 599 units, revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time, SO_x and NO_x standards for boilers have been introduced, about 2800 brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR, Only brick kilns with zig zag technology can operate in Delhi and NCR, out of about 4700 industrial units in Delhi - NCR, about 2600 units have shifted to PNG.

All these measures helped in the improvement of overall air quality in the country. Further, on the analysis of last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), across the country, it is observed that most of the cities were within the National Standards with respect to parameters of SO₂ and NO₂. With respect to PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, 18 and 12 cities respectively showed decreasing trend. In reference to Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019 as compared to that of 2016. The number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 108 in 2016.

Ban of Manjha

1487. SHRMATI WANSUK SYIEM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the National Green Tribunal has banned the manufacturing and sale of Manjha in India alarmed by large number of accidental deaths during kite flying in festive seasons caused by use of synthetic kite strings (Manjha) coated with finely powdered glass;
- (b) whether the illegal use of Manjha for flying kite invokes the Environment (Protection) Act, Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act and Wildlife (Protection) Act for causing accidental deaths to birds; and

(c) whether despite several State Government banning the use of Manjha, there is no sustained endeavour to enforce the penal provisions under the said Acts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Yes. Sir. The National Green Tribunal has banned manufacture, sale, storage, purchase and use of Manjha in India.

(b) Yes. Sir. The illegal use of Manjha for flying kite invokes Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act for causing accidental deaths to birds.

(c) Cruelty to animal is an offence under Section 11(1) of the Prevention of cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and its Rule. The Animal Welfare Board of India has also issued several advisories/circulars to see that the animals are not subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering.

Emission of Green House Gases

†1488. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the decreasing Carbon in soil on account of the desertification of land due to soil erosion is becoming a leading cause of increase in emission of Green House Gases and climate change;

(b) whether the experts, while having deliberations on the report of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) have opined that the agriculture, forests and land use accounts for one third of Total global emissions and deforestation leads to more emission of Green House Gases; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government to nullify the ill-effects of land erosion by the year 2030?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released in 2014 has assessed the increase in the annual anthropogenic Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions between 2000 and 2010. According to this report, TOTAL annual anthropogenic GHG emissions have increased by about 10 Gt CO₂eq. Since 2000, GHG emissions have been growing in all sectors, except in agriculture, forestry and other land use (AFOLU). In 2010, 35% of GHG emissions were

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

released by the energy sector, 24% (net emissions) from AFOLU, 21% by industry, 14% by transport and 6.4% by the building sector.

(b) According to the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land released in August 2019, AFOLU activities accounted for around 13% of CO₂, 44% of methane (CH₄), and 82% of nitrous oxide (N₂O) emissions from human activities globally during 2007-2016, representing 23% (12.0 +/- 3.0 Gt CO₂ eq per year) of Total net anthropogenic emissions of GHGs. However, as per India's second Biennial Update Report submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in December 2018, in India GHG emissions from AFOLU activities were about 5% of Total net GHG emissions in 2014.

(c) The Government is implementing National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC). The National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture under the NAPCC focuses on agriculture sector with objectives including resource conservation, restoration of soil fertility and productivity focusing on integrated farming, water use efficiency and soil health management especially in rainfed agriculture areas. Further, thirty-three States/Union Territories have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change in line with NAPCC, which outline sector specific and cross sectoral priority actions.

The Government of India has been implementing large number of programmes and projects such as Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), National Afforestation Programme (NAP), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR). These schemes also contribute to afforestation, reforestation, shelterbelts to halt desertification, agro forestry and land reclamation programmes to nullify the ill effects of land degradation and desertification.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research is working on improving soil carbon and health through conservation agriculture practices, crop residue recycling (in-situ decomposition and retention) coupled with best management practices and balanced fertilizer application. Conservation agriculture practices improve soil organic carbon significantly compared to conventional farming practices and also help in reducing soil erosion.

Further, during 14th Session of Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification held at New Delhi in September 2019, India has announced to raise its ambition to restore 26 million hectare degraded land by 2030.

Pollution due to stubble burning

†1489. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that air pollution has reached a very severe level in Delhi for want of timely action by Government, which led to closing down of schools;
- (b) the reasons behind increase in pollution in Delhi and whether burning of crop residue in neighbouring States is also one of the reasons for pollution;
- (c) if so, steps taken by Government to prevent the burning of crop residue and the results thereof; and
- (d) the details of plan formulated by Government so that people of Delhi do not have to face air pollution in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) There is an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019, as per Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) data, in the period 1st Jan - 26th November in comparison to 2016. The number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 in comparison to 108 days in 2016.

However, increase in pollution level was noticed in Delhi and NCR on certain days in November this year due to adverse meteorological conditions like low surface wind speed, low mixing depth and local sources of emissions like industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, road and soil dust, construction and demolition activities coupled with contribution from stubble burning in Northern States of India.

Stubble burning in Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh is considered as one of the contributors to the poor air quality in Delhi and NCR during the months of October and November along with local emissions like industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, road and soil dust, construction and demolition activities and adverse meteorological conditions. As per System of Air Quality and Weather Forecasting and Research (SAFAR) of Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, the estimated impact of stubble burning in PM_{2.5} levels of Delhi ranged between 2% (07.11.2019) to 46% (31.10.2019).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) In order to prevent stubble burning, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare with the Total release from the Central funds of ₹ 1178.47 crore.

Under this Scheme, the agricultural machines and equipments for in-situ crop residue-management such as Super Straw Management System (SMS) for Combine Harvesters, Happy Seeders, Hydraulically Reversible MB Plough, Paddy Straw Chopper, Mulcher, Rotary Slasher, Zero Till Seed Drill and Rotavators are provided with 50% subsidy to the individual farmers and 80% subsidy for establishment of Custom Hiring Centres. The State Governments during 2018-19 have supplied more than 56, 290 machines to the individual farmers and Custom Hiring Centres on subsidy for in-situ management of crop residue. During 2019-20, it has been targeted to supply more than 46, 578 machines.

As per analysis of paddy residue burning in Punjab and Haryana using Remote Sensing Satellite carried out by Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modeling from Space (CREAMS) Laboratory, Division of Agricultural Physics, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, about 54% reduction in the number of burning events is observed in 2019 (till 14th November) as compared to that in 2016. About 53% and 58% reduction in number of burning events have been observed in 2019 (till 14th November) as compared to that in 2016 in the States of Punjab and Haryana respectively. During 2019-20 season, the TOTAL burning events recorded in the three States are 19.2% less than in 2018 till 18th November. UP has recorded 36.8% reduction, Haryana recorded 25.1% reduction, and Punjab recorded 16.8% reduction, respectively, in the current season than in 2018.

(d) Central Government has taken a number of regulatory measures for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in the country. A Comprehensive Air Plan (CAP) for Delhi NCR has been developed identifying the timelines and implementing agencies for actions delineated. The Central Government has notified a Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for Delhi and NCR for different levels of pollution. The nature, scope and rigor of measures to be taken are linked to levels of pollution *viz.* severe + or emergency, severe, very poor, moderate to poor and moderate, after due consideration by authorities concerned. Also, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in January 2019 to tackle the problem of air pollution in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20 to 30 % reduction in PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$

concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as base year. The plan includes 102 non-attainment cities, across 23 States and Union Territories, on the basis of their ambient air quality data between 2011 and 2015.

Several initiatives taken by the Government are given in the Statement.

Statement

*Details of initiatives taken by the Government for the abatement
and control of air pollution*

Vehicular Emissions

- BS-IV standards adopted from 1st April, 2017. Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi, in NCR since October 2019 and by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country for both fuel as well as vehicles. About ₹ 60000 crore was spent on switching over to BS VI fuels.
- 80% reduction in particulate matter emissions in BS IV heavy duty diesel vehicles with respect to BS III and further 50 % reduction in PM due to BS VI standards with respect to BS IV.
- Operationalization of Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Western Peripheral Expressway in 2018 at a cost of about ₹ 17000 crore to divert non-destined traffic from Delhi. About 60000 vehicles are diverted on these roads daily.
- Introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending in petrol.
- In Delhi, about 500 new CNG stations have been opened during the last 5 years.
- Use of RFID tags have been made mandatory for commercial vehicles entering Delhi. This has resulted in decrease in traffic congestion at Toll collection/ Environmental Compensation Charge collection centres.
- Network of metro has expanded in Delhi NCR with Total length of 377 km and 274 stations at a cost of about ₹ 70000 crore. It is used by over 30 lakh people every day and due to this about 4 lakh vehicles are avoided on roads, thereby reducing pollution considerably.
- To promote electric vehicles, Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric Vehicles (FAME -2) Scheme has been rolled out with an outlay of ₹ 10000 crore

for 3 years. DHI has sanctioned 300 buses for Delhi and 100 buses for DMRC under this scheme so far.

- Permit requirement for electric vehicles has been exempted.
- Promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads.

Industrial Emissions

- Stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs).
- Badarpur thermal power plant has been closed from 15th October, 2018.
- Pet coke and furnace oil have been banned as fuel in Delhi and NCR States. Import of pet coke to be done by industries using it as a feedstock/in process across the country.
- Out of about 4700 industrial units in Delhi - NCR, about 2600 units have shifted to PNG.
- Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices in all red category industries in Delhi and NCR. 503 industrial units in Delhi- NCR have installed it out of about 599 units.
- Revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time. SO_x and NO_x standards for boilers have been introduced.
- About 2800 brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR. Only brick kilns with zig zag technology can operate in Delhi and NCR.

Crop Residue Management

- In order to prevent stubble burning, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare with the Total outgo from the Central funds of ₹ 1151.80 crore (₹ 591.65 crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 560.15 crore in 2019-20).
- The State Governments during 2018-19 have supplied more than 56290 machines to the individual farmers and Custom Hiring Centres on subsidy for in-situ management of crop residue. During 2019-20, it has been targeted to supply more than 46578 machines.

- With the efforts of the Government, overall, about 15% and 41% reduction in burning events were observed in 2018 as compared to that in 2017 and 2016, respectively. During 2019-20 season, the Total burning events recorded in the three States are 19.2% less than in 2018 till 18th November. Uttar Pradesh has recorded 36.8% reduction, Haryana recorded 25.1% reduction, and Punjab recorded 16.8% reduction, respectively, in the current season than in 2018.

Solid Waste

- Notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes issued in 2016.
- Ban on burning of biomass/garbage.
- 3 Waste-to-Energy (W-t-E) plants are currently operational in Delhi with a Total capacity of 5100 Tonnes Per Day (TPD) generating 52 MW.
- A 200 TPD waste to compost plant is also operational in Delhi.
- Bioremediation and biomining of landfill sites have also been undertaken in Delhi.
- Number of mechanised road sweeping machines has been increased significantly and presently 60 machines are deployed for clearing of roads in Delhi.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Activities

- SoPs and notification regarding dust mitigation measures for construction and demolition activities have been issued.
- Three C&D waste processing plants with 2650 TPD capacity are operational in Delhi. About 2 lakh ton of end products have been used this year till August.

Monitoring

- Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards in 2009 and launch of National Air Quality Index in 2015.
- Ambient air quality is monitored at 793 locations covering 344 cities in 28 States and 7 Union Territories (UTs) across the country under National Air Quality Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Under NAMP, PM_{2.5} is monitored at 274 locations covering 132 cities.

- Implementation of Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi in October, 2018 in association with Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). The system provides timely alerts to implementing agencies for facilitating proactive actions.

Technical Interventions

- Pilot projects were deployed in Delhi for evaluation of air pollution mitigation technologies:
 - Ambient air purification through Wind Augmentation and Purification Units (WAYUs) for pollution abatement at traffic intersections and Pariyayantra filtration units on 30 buses was evaluated. Though minimal improvement in ambient air quality was observed, however, WAYU may be explored for providing improved air quality at localised levels.
 - Application of dust suppressant -The effectiveness of the dust suppressant lasted up to 6 hours after which it had to be reapplied. About 30% reduction in dust concentrations was observed up to 6 hours. Advisory has been issued to State Boards to use dust suppressant.
- Research projects are being carried out by CPCB in collaboration with premier institutions like IIT, NEERI, etc. under Environment Protection Charge (EPC) funds.
- Lack of certification system of ambient air quality monitoring instruments in India was identified. A certification scheme has been established in collaboration with National Physical Laboratory (NPL).
- Regular engagements with technical bodies and experts have been undertaken for knowledge sharing.

Ban on charcoal as fuel or raw material

1490. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has not yet amended the notification on Wood Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation) Guidelines, 2016 to check illegal cutting of trees for making charcoal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to ban the use of charcoal as fuel or raw material in industries across the country; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) The Government *vide* Gazette Notification No. S.O. 955(E) dated 22nd February, 2019 has amended Wood Based Industries (Establishment and Regulation), Guidelines, 2016 to regulate wood based charcoal industries.

- (c) and (d) There is no such proposal.

Restrictions on use of Hookah

1491. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to examine the effect of hookah in respect of indoor air pollution and prescribe appropriate standards on the issue;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;

- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government lacks jurisdiction to restrain the use of hookah in restaurants and bars in the cities; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) Studies such as Weitzman et. al., 2016 demonstrate potentially hazardous levels of home air pollution in rooms where hookahs were being smoked as well as in adjacent rooms. $PM_{2.5}$ levels were also elevated in hookah smoking homes compared to cigarette and non-smoking homes, although not significantly different. CO was also significantly greater in rooms where hookahs were smoked than in the cigarette-smoking rooms and non-smoking households. In addition, CO levels in rooms adjacent to where hookah was smoked were 2.5-folds to 4-folds greater than those in the smoking and non-smoking rooms of cigarette smoking homes. Building the specific guidelines and protocols on monitoring and management of indoor air pollution is a component under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) and a Committee on Indoor Air Pollution Management has been constituted by MoEF&CC to develop and finalize guidelines on monitoring and management of indoor air pollution.

Loss of wildlife due to floods

†1492. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the wildlife had suffered a great loss on account of floods in different parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether Government is considering to take any special step for the protection of wildlife in future; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Flood is a natural phenomena occurring in many parts of the country resulting in mortality of wild animals, damage to infrastructure etc. both in Protected Areas as well as outside Protected Areas.

(b) and (c) The measures necessary for appropriate management of wildlife are decided by the authorities in the concerned State Governments in accordance with the requirement/management plans. The Ministry has been providing financial assistance for undertaking measures to protect the wildlife in flood affected States under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant'.

Tiger corridors in country

1493. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of tiger corridors in the country, State-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware of the wild animals including tigers entering into villages and causing huge damage to human life thereby creating mess in the human habitations and also causing damage to crops and properties in the country;
- (c) whether Government proposes to establish more tiger corridors in the country to curb the rising incidents of such conflicts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated for Project Tiger during the last three years and the current year, State-wise?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) The National Tiger Conservation Authority in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India has published a document titled “Connecting Tiger Populations for Long-term Conservation”, which has mapped out 32 major corridors across the country, management interventions for which are operationalised through a Tiger Conservation Plan, mandated under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The list of macro/landscape level tiger corridors are as under:

Sl. No.	Landscape	Corridor	States/Country
1	2	3	4
1.	Shivalik Hills and Gangetic Plains	(i) Rajaji-Corbett (ii) Corbett-Dudhwa (iii) Dudhwa-Kishanpur-Katerniaghat	Uttarakhand Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Nepal Uttar Pradesh, Nepal
2.	Central India and Eastern Ghats	(i) Ranthambhore-Kuno-Madhav (ii) Bandhavgarh-Achanakmar (iii) Bandhavgarh-Sanjay Dubri-Guru Ghasidas (iv) Guru Ghasidas-Palamau-Lawalong (v) Kanha-Achanakmar (vi) Kanha-Pench (vii) Pench-Satpura-Melghat (viii) Kanha-Navegaon Nagzira-Tadoba-Indravati (ix) Indravati-Udanti Sitanadi-Sunabeda (x) Similipal-Satkosia (xi) Nagarjunasagar-Sri Venkateshwara National Park	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh Chhattisgarh, Odisha Odisha Andhra Pradesh
3.	Western Ghats	(i) Sahyadri-Radhanagari-Goa (ii) Dandeli Anshi-Shrivathi Valley (iii) Kudremukh-Bhadra (iv) Nagarhole-Pusphagiri-Talakavery (v) Nagarhole-Bandipur-Mudumalai-Wayanad	Maharashtra, Goa Karnataka Karnataka Karnataka Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu

1	2	3	4
		(vi) Nagarahole-Mudumalai-Wayanad	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu
		(vii) Parambikulam-Eranikulam-Indira Gandhi	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
		(viii) Kalakad Mundanthurai-Periyar	Kerala, Tamil Nadu
4.	North East	(i) Kaziranga-Itanagar WLS	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
		(ii) Kaziranga-Karbi Anglong	Assam
		(iii) Kaziranga-Nameri	Assam
		(iv) Kaziranga-Orang	Assam
		(v) Kaziranga-Papum Pane	Assam
		(vi) Manas-Buxa	Assam, West Bengal, Bhutan
		(vii) Pakke-Nameri-Sonai Rupai-Manas	Arunachal Pradesh, Assam
		(viii) Dibru Saikhowa-D'Ering-Mehaong	Assam, Arunachal Pradesh
		(ix) Kamlang-Kane-Tale Valley	Arunachal Pradesh
		(x) Buxa-Jaldapara	West Bengal

Further, a 3 pronged strategy to manage human-tiger negative interactions has been advocated as follows:-

- (i) Material and logistical support: Funding support through the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, is provided to tiger reserves for acquiring capacity in terms of infrastructure and material, to deal with tigers dispersing out of source areas. These are solicited by tiger reserves through an Annual Plan of Operation (APO) every year which stems out from an overarching Tiger Conservation Plan (TCP), mandated under Section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Inter alia*, activities such as payment of *ex-gratia* and compensation, periodic awareness campaigns to sensitize, guide and advise the general populace on man-animal conflict, dissemination of information through various forms of media, procurement of immobilization equipment, drugs, training and capacity building of forest staff to deal with conflict events are generally solicited.
- (ii) Restricting habitat interventions: Based on the carrying capacity of tigers in a tiger reserve, habitat interventions are restricted through an overarching TCP. In case tiger numbers are at carrying capacity levels, it is advised that habitat interventions should be limited so that there is no excessive spill over of wildlife

including tigers thereby minimizing man-animal conflict. Further, in buffer areas around tiger reserves, habitat interventions are restricted such that they are sub-optimal *vis-a-vis* the core/critical tiger habitat areas, judicious enough to facilitate dispersal to other rich habitat areas only.

- (iii) Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs): The National Tiger Conservation/Authority has issued following three SOPs to deal with man-animal conflict which are available in public domain:
- i. To deal with emergency arising due to straying of tigers in human dominated landscapes.
 - ii. To deal with tiger depredation on livestock.
 - iii. For active management towards rehabilitation of tigers from source areas at the landscape level.

The three SOPs *inter alia* include the issue of managing dispersing tigers, managing livestock kills so as to reduce conflict as well as relocating tigers from source areas to areas where density of tiger is low, so that conflict in rich source areas does not occur.

In technical collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India, the National Tiger Conservation Authority has also published a document titled 'Eco-Friendly measures to mitigate impacts of Linear infrastructure on wildlife' to safeguard these corridors from linear infrastructure development besides sensitizing user agencies which *inter alia* include Indian Railway Traffic Service Probationers, National Highways Authority of India personnel, Indian Railway Engineers, besides others.

(d) An amount of ₹ 370 crores, ₹ 345 crores and ₹ 350 crores was allocated during the financial years 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively, while an amount of ₹ 350 crores has been allocated for the current financial year under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger. Details of funds released under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, during the last three years and the current year, State-wise, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Funds released under the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Project Tiger, during the last three years and the current year, State-wise

(₹ in Lakhs)					
Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (as on 21.11.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	173.49	232.49	217.992	114.480
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	597.29	671.0222	929.762	737.080
3.	Assam	1510.93	2309.608	1919.624	2198.760
4.	Bihar	487.84	552.273	570.897	562.840
5.	Chhattisgarh	626.57	1315.076	536.135	358.530
6.	Jharkhand	323.76	338.62	367	172.070
7.	Karnataka	3203.62	2308.846	2267.428	1985.950
8.	Kerala	780.23	636.412	653.03	593.160
9.	Madhya Pradesh	12885.6	11455.457	5343.89	2985.910
10.	Maharashtra	8229.72	6524.165	11049.59	3709.550
11.	Mizoram	301.55	215.316	318.842	0.000
12.	Odisha	917.17	1646.127	1022.322	1303.320
13.	Rajasthan	381.3	773.09	791.83	1164.030
14.	Tamil Nadu	949.87	2551.058	2366.823	1387.700
15.	Telangana	239.26	350.416	1115.65	333.701
16.	Uttarakhand	1023.41	1187.439	685.336	1242.490
17.	Uttar Pradesh	1057.05	820.074	1417.26	1793.960
18.	West Bengal	536.14	597.5808	719.01	480.280
19.	All India Tiger Estimation (AITE) All Tiger Reserve States including Nagaland, Manipur and Goa.	0.00	14.93	24.8625	0.00
TOTAL		34224.80	34500.00	32317.284	21123.811

Illegal trafficking of Tigers

1494. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that more than 2, 300 endangered Tigers have been killed and were illegally trafficked;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that on an average more than 120 illegally trafficked Tigers are seized each year; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reason for losing this fight?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) No Sir, in so far as tigers in India are concerned, there were 21 confirmed cases of poaching while 10 cases of tiger body part seizures were reported during the year 2018.

Complete ban on single-use plastic in packaging

1495. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the large scale use of single-use plastic in packaging industry despite knowing that the material cannot be recycled and is hazardous to environment, human and animal life, especially when burnt;
- (b) action Government proposes to take to ban use of plastic in packaging of liquid and food items by suggesting appropriate material; and
- (c) whether top priority has been given to encourage research and development in identification of effective alternatives to plastics for use in packaging industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The TOTAL quantity of plastic waste including Single-use plastic waste generated in India is estimated to be around 25, 940 T/day and around 15, 384 Ton/day, which is 60% of the Total, is collected and recycled. Major (94%) portion of the plastic are thermoplastics which are recyclable. The rest 06% belong to the other type of plastics, including thermoset-plastics, which too have some alternative uses, provided such plastic waste are collected and channelized to recyclers/processing plants for proper utilization. The uncollected and littered plastic is a challenge to environ-

ment. Littering and burning of plastic has an adverse environmental impact on environment and human health.

(b) As per the provision of Plastic Waste Management (PWM) Rules 2016, use of plastic bags, plastic sheet or like with thickness less than 50 microns is prohibited. The Rules also prohibit use of carry bags made of recycled plastic or products made of recycled plastic for storing, carrying, dispensing or packaging ready to eat or drink food stuff. Further, sachets using plastic material are prohibited for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala.

(c) The Government has identified “Compostable plastic” as one of the alternatives to the regular plastic. The Rules specify standards/norms for “Compostable plastic”. Further, to promote the use of such plastic, the restrictive provision of minimum thickness of fifty microns is not applicable to the carry bags made up of Compostable plastic, conforming IS/ISO 17088. Further, a committee has been constituted by Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) with respect to research and development for Compostable/Biodegradable Technologies on Plastic.

**Declaration of global climatic emergency
by scientists**

1496. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken note of the declaration by 11258 scientists from 153 countries including 69 from India, stating that untold sufferings are inevitable due to green house gas emissions and other factors related to climatic change and have called for global climatic emergency;

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

(c) whether Government proposes to bring out an action plan to restrict activities which ultimately lead to climate change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Reports from various sources including Intergovernmental Panel Climate Change namely Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C, Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and Special Report on the Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, highlight the challenges faced due to climate change arising mainly from historical emissions of greenhouse gases by developed

countries. A recent report entitled “World Scientists’ Warning of a Climate Emergency” published in journal *Bioscience*’ (<https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biz088>) with many authors from a broad range of disciplines informs that the planet clearly and unequivocally faces a climate emergency, and provides six broad policy goals in the area of energy, short-lived climate pollutants, nature conservation and ecosystem restoration, food, sustainable economic growth and population stabilisation that must be met to address it.

(c) Climate change is a global phenomenon and requires the cooperation of all nations based on the principles of ‘Equity’ and ‘Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities’. India is a Party to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. The ambitious Paris Agreement has mechanisms like global stocktake and ratcheting up action every 5 years to address climate change and avoid adverse consequences.

For addressing the challenge of climate change, India adheres to the paramountcy of the UNFCCC processes. It has proactively contributed to multilateral efforts to combat climate change and continues to do so while undertaking its own independent, enhanced initiatives in climate mitigation and adaptation besides meeting all its commitments under the UNFCCC, its Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement. Independent studies rate India’s efforts highly and compliant with the requirements under Paris Agreement.

The Government is implementing National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) which comprises eight missions in specific areas of solar energy, energy efficiency, water, agriculture, Himalayan ecosystem, sustainable habitat, green India and strategic knowledge on climate change. NAPCC provides an overarching framework for all climate actions. Thirty three States/Union Territories (UTs) have prepared their State Action Plan on Climate Change in line with NAPCC taking into account State’s/UT’s specific issues relating to climate change. Under the Paris Agreement, India has submitted Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) with target to reduce the emissions intensity of its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 33 to 35 % by 2030 from 2005 level, to achieve about 40% cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil fuel based energy resources by 2030, and so create an additional carbon sink of 2.5 to 3 billion tones of CO₂eq through additional forest and tree cover by 2030.

Protection from hazards of air pollution

1497. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the nation-wide efforts undertaken by Central and State Governments to

protect the poor, migrant labourers, informal sector workforce from hazards of air pollution and to provide them better with quality of life;

(b) the alternatives available to such people as these sections are excluded from market products; and

(c) whether there is any plan of intervention in this regard by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) The Central Government has taken a number of initiatives for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in the country for the protection of all sectors of citizens including the poor, migrant labourer and informal sector workforce. The Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 also mentions that the work force or persons handling the hazardous substances to comply with procedural safe guards. Accordingly, whenever the environmental clearances are issued to any industries it is a condition that the workers should be provided with the proper protective gear which shields against all types of envisaged hazards. Further, solid waste management rules, 2016 also mention that rag pickers/workers should be provided with personal protection equipment which includes appropriate foot wear, hand gloves, masks etc. The Central Government has taken several measures for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution across the country which inter alia includes issuing stringent plans like Comprehensive Action Plan, Graded Response Action Plan, National Clean Air Programme; increasing of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country; Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.); ensuring the stricter norms for reducing industrial emissions; notifying 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes in 2016 etc. All these measures helped in the improvement of overall air quality in the country. On the analysis of last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), across the country, it is observed that most of the cities were within the National Standards with respect to parameters of SO_2 and NO_2 . With respect to PM_{10} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, 18 and 12 cities respectively showed decreasing trend. In reference to Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019 as compared to that of 2016. The number of 'Good to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 108 in 2016.

Measurement of air pollution

†1498. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of remedial measures taken regarding degradation of environment due to air pollution in the cities; and

(b) the year from which measurement of level of air pollution was introduced in Delhi and the major reasons and the outcome of effective steps taken towards prevention thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Central Government has taken a number of regulatory measures for prevention, control and abatement of air pollution in the country. A Comprehensive Air Plan (CAP) for Delhi NCR has been developed identifying the timelines and implementing agencies for actions delineated. The Central Government has notified a Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for Delhi and NCR for different levels of pollution. The nature, scope and rigor of measures to be taken are linked to levels of pollution *viz.* severe + or emergency, severe, very poor, moderate to poor and moderate, after due consideration by authorities concerned. Also, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has launched National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) in January 2019 to tackle the problem of air pollution in a comprehensive manner with targets to achieve 20 to 30 % reduction in PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} concentrations by 2024 keeping 2017 as base year. The plan includes 102 non-attainment cities, across 23 States and Union Territories, on the basis of their ambient air quality data between 2011 and 2015.

Several initiatives taken by the Government are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) In Delhi, the measurement of air pollution using manual techniques started in 1987 and Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) started functioning from 2007. Further, 'National Air Quality Index' (AQI) was launched in 2015. Major sources contributing to air pollution include inter alia industrial emissions, vehicular emissions, stubble burning, road and soil dust, construction and demolition activities.

There is an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019, as per Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (CAAQMS) data in the period 1st Jan - 26th

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

November in comparison to 2016. The number of 'Good' to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 in comparison to 108 days in 2016.

Also, in Delhi, the average annual $PM_{2.5}$ concentration has reduced in 2018 by 7.3% over 2017 and 14.8% over 2016 and the average annual PM_{10} concentration has reduced in 2018 by 8.6% over 2017 and 16.5% over 2016.

Statement

Details of initiatives taken by the Government for the abatement and control of air pollution

Vehicular Emissions

- BS-IV standards adopted from 1st April, 2017. Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi, in NCR since October 2019 and by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country for both fuel as well as vehicles. About Rs 60000 crore was spent on switching over to BS VI fuels.
- 80% reduction in particulate matter emissions in BS IV heavy duty diesel vehicles with respect to BS III and further 50 % reduction in PM due to BS VI standards with respect to BS IV.
- Operationalization of Eastern Peripheral Expressway and Western Peripheral Expressway in 2018 at a cost of about ₹ 17000 crore to divert non-destined traffic from Delhi. About 60000 vehicles are diverted on these roads daily.
- Introduction of cleaner / alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.), ethanol blending in petrol.
- In Delhi, about 500 new CNG stations have been opened during the last 5 years.
- Use of RFID tags have been made mandatory for commercial vehicles entering Delhi. This has resulted in decrease in traffic congestion at Toll collection/ Environmental Compensation Charge collection centres.
- Network of metro has expanded in Delhi NCR with Total length of 377 km and 274 stations at a cost of about ₹ 70000 crore. It is used by over 30 lakh people every day and due to this about 4 lakh vehicles are avoided on roads, thereby reducing pollution considerably.
- To promote electric vehicles, Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric

Vehicles (FAME -2) Scheme has been rolled out with an outlay of ₹ 10000 crore for 3 years. DHI has sanctioned 300 buses for Delhi and 100 buses for DMRC under this scheme so far.

- Permit requirement for electric vehicles has been exempted.
- Promotion of public transport and improvements in roads and building of more bridges to ease congestion on roads.

Industrial Emissions

- Stringent emission norms for Coal based Thermal Power Plants (TPPs).
- Badarpur thermal power plant has been closed from 15th October, 2018.
- Pet coke and furnace oil have been banned as fuel in Delhi and NCR States. Import of pet coke to be done by industries using it as a feedstock/in process across the country.
- Out of about 4700 industrial units in Delhi - NCR, about 2600 units have shifted to PNG.
- Installation of on-line continuous (24x7) monitoring devices in all red category industries in Delhi and NCR. 503 industrial units in Delhi- NCR have installed it out of about 599 units.
- Revision of emission standards for industrial sectors from time to time. SO_x and NO_x standards for boilers have been introduced.
- About 2800 brick kilns have been shifted to zig-zag technology in Delhi and NCR. Only brick kilns with zigzag technology can operate in Delhi and NCR.

Crop Residue Management

- In order to prevent stubble burning, a new Central Sector Scheme on 'Promotion of Agricultural Mechanization for In-Situ Management of Crop Residue in the States of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi' for the period from 2018-19 to 2019-20 is being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare with the Total outgo from the Central funds of ₹ 1151.80 crore (₹ 591.65 crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 560.15 crore in 2019-20).

- The State Governments during 2018-19 have supplied more than 56290 machines to the individual farmers and Custom Hiring Centres on subsidy for in-situ management of crop residue. During 2019-20, it has been targeted to supply more than 46578 machines.
- With the efforts of the Government, overall, about 15% and 41% reduction in burning events were observed in 2018 as compared to that in 2017 and 2016, respectively. During 2019-20 season, the Total burning events recorded in the three States are 19.2% less than in 2018 till 18th November. Uttar Pradesh has recorded 36.8% reduction, Haryana recorded 25.1% reduction, and Punjab recorded 16.8% reduction, respectively, in the current season than in 2018.

Solid Waste

- Notifications of 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes issued in 2016.
- Ban on burning of biomass/garbage.
- 3 Waste-to-Energy (W-t-E) plants are currently operational in Delhi with a Total capacity of 5100 TonnesPer Day (TPD) generating 52 MW.
- A 200 TPD waste to compost plant is also operational in Delhi.
- Bioremediation and biomining of landfill sites have also been undertaken in Delhi.
- Number of mechanised road sweeping machines has been increased significantly and presently 60 machines are deployed for cleaning of roads in Delhi.

Construction and Demolition (C&D) Activities

- SoPs and notification regarding dust mitigation measures for construction and demolition activities have been issued.
- Three C&D waste processing plants with 2650 TPD capacity are operational in Delhi. About 2 lakh ton of end products have been used this year till August.

Monitoring

- Notification of National Ambient Air Quality Standards in 2009 and launch of National Air Quality Index in 2015.
- Ambient air quality is monitored at 793 locations covering 344 cities in 28 States and 7 Union Territories (UTs) across the country under National Air Quality

Monitoring Programme (NAMP). Under NAMP, PM_{2.5} is monitored at 274 locations covering 132 cities.

- Implementation of Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi in October, 2018 in association with Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). The system provides timely alerts to implementing agencies for facilitating proactive actions.

Technical Interventions

- Pilot projects were deployed in Delhi for evaluation of air pollution mitigation technologies:
 - Ambient air purification through Wind Augmentation and Purification Units (WAYUs) for pollution abatement at traffic intersections and Pariyayantara filtration units on 30 buses was evaluated. Though minimal improvement in ambient air quality was observed, however, WAYU may be explored for providing improved air quality at localised levels.
 - Application of dust suppressant - The effectiveness of the dust suppressant lasted up to 6 hours after which it had to be reapplied. About 30% reduction in dust concentrations was observed up to 6 hours. Advisory has been issued to State Boards to use dust suppressant.
- Research projects are being carried out by CPCB in collaboration with premier institutions like IIT, NEERI, etc. under Environment Protection Charge (EPC) funds.
- Lack of certification system of ambient air quality monitoring instruments in India was identified. A certification scheme has been established in collaboration with National Physical Laboratory (NPL).
- Regular engagements with technical bodies and experts have been undertaken for knowledge sharing.

Promoting plantation on private land

†1499. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) Government's plan to promote plantation by States on private lands along with details of the amount of assistance given in this regard, State-wise, including the State of Madhya Pradesh; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of special scheme for promotion of bamboo plantation in the country and the amount of assistance given to Madhya Pradesh in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change does not implement any special scheme for promoting plantation on the private land at present. Tree plantation/afforestation being the cross-sectoral effort, is however, done by various departments, Non-Government Organizations, civil society, corporate bodies etc.

(b) As informed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare, the restructured National Bamboo Mission (NBM) was launched during 2018-19 for addressing the complete value chain and holistic development of bamboo sector and to establish an effective linkage between producers (farmers) and industry for realizing better economic returns to the growers. The scheme is being implemented in non-forest, Government and private farmer's field and in States where it has social, commercial and economic advantage. Budget estimates for the year 2019-20 under NBM is ₹ 150 crores. An amount of ₹ 150.03 crore has been released to States/Agencies during the financial year 2018-19 which includes an amount of ₹ 21.08 crores released to Madhya Pradesh.

Deaths due to severe air pollution

1500. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that in some States level of air pollution has created emergency like situation;

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

(c) whether more than five lakh people have died in India due to air pollution in 2016 as per the recent Lancet Countdown Report, 2019; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Based on ambient air quality data for the period of 2014 - 2018 Central Pollution Control Board identified 122 non-attainment cities. The ambient air quality data of the 122 Non-attainment cities is given in the Statement (*See* below). The Central Government has taken several measures for

prevention, control and abatement of air pollution across the country which *inter alia* includes issuing stringent plans like Comprehensive Action Plan, Graded Response Action Plan, National Clean Air Programme; increasing of monitoring network for assessment of ambient air quality; Leapfrogging from BS-IV to BS-VI fuel standards since 1st April, 2018 in NCT of Delhi and from by 1st April, 2020 in the rest of the country; Introduction of cleaner/alternate fuels like gaseous fuel (CNG, LPG etc.); ensuring the stricter norms for reducing industrial emissions; notifying 6 waste management rules covering solid waste, plastic waste, e-waste, bio-medical waste, C&D waste and hazardous wastes in 2016 etc. A.11 these measures helped in the improvement of overall air quality in the country. On the analysis of last five-year ambient air quality data (2014-2018), across the country, it is observed that most of the cities were within the National Standards with respect to parameters of SO₂ and NO₂. With respect to PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5}, 18 and 12 cities respectively showed decreasing trend. In reference to Delhi, there has been an overall improvement in air quality of Delhi in 2019 as compared to that of 2016. The number of 'Good to 'Moderate' days has increased to 175 in 2019 as compared to 108 in 2016.

(c) and (d) There is no conclusive data available in the country to establish direct correction of death/disease exclusively due to air pollution. Air pollution is one of the many factors affecting respiratory ailments and associated diseases. Health is impacted by number of include food habits, occupational habits, socio-economic status, medical history, immunity, heredity etc. of the individuals apart from the environment.

Statement

Ambient air quality in Non-Attainment cities (122 cities) of the country with respect to SO₂, NO₂, PM₁₀ during 2018 under NAMP (manual stations)

Sl. No.	State and UTs	Sl. No.	City/town/village	Annual average concentration in µg/m ³		
				SO ₂	NO ₂	PM ₁₀
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		1.	Anantapur	4	19	71
		2.	Chittoor	5	24	62
		3.	Eluru	5	22	67
		4.	Guntur	5	22	49
		5.	Kadapa	5	17	61

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6.	Kurnool	4	18	66
		7.	Nellore	5	22	63
		8.	Ongole	5	21	66
		9.	Rajahmundry	9	20	94
		10.	Srikakulam	9	20	71
		11.	Vijayawada	5	21	77
		12.	Vishakhapatnam	10	20	77
		13.	Vizianagaram	10	21	65
		14.	Guwahati	8	18	112
		15.	Nagaon	7	17	96
2.	Assam	16.	Nalbari	7	17	97
		17.	Silchar	6	11	49
		18.	Sivasagar	7	14	72
		19.	Gaya	12	21	89
3.	Bihar	20.	Muzaffarpur	14	24	139
		21.	Patna	5	51	207
4.	Chandigarh (UT)	22.	Chandigarh	2	17	102
		23.	Durg-Bhillainagar	8	19	84
5.	Chattisgarh	24.	Korba	10	19	59
		25.	Raipur	14	20	65
6.	Delhi (UT)	26.	Delhi	15	44	243
		27.	Ahmedabad	16	29	236
7.	Gujarat	28.	Surat	22	29	176
		29.	Vadodara	20	25	188
		30.	Baddi	2	31	164
		31.	Damtal	2	10	62
8.	Himachal Pradesh	32.	Kala Amb	3	14	104

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		33.	Nalagarh	2	24	148
		34.	Paonta Sahib	3	14	88
		35.	Parwanoo	2	5	63
		36.	Sunder Nagar	2	10	84
9.	Jammu and Kashmir (UT)	37.	Jammu	4	19	165
		38.	Srinagar	-	-	153
10.	Jharkhand	39.	Dhanbad	14	37	264
		40.	Bangalore	2	30	90
11.	Karnatka	41.	Devanagere	4	6	44
		42.	Gulburga	2	14	55
		43.	Hubli-Dharwad	5	23	75
		44.	Bhopal	7	14	135
		45.	Dewas	16	20	68
12.	Madhya Pradesh	46.	Gwalior	13	21	134
		47.	Indore	10	19	88
		48.	Sagar	3	14	75
		49.	Ujjain	13	15	83
		50.	Akola	12	12	73
		51.	Amravati	16	17	104
		52.	Aurangabad	13	35	70
		53.	Badlapur	24	67	144
		54.	Chandrapur	4	30	149
		55.	Jalgaon	13	34	74
		56.	Jalna	11	43	103
		57.	Kolhapur	20	35	90
13.	Maharashtra	58.	Latur	5	22	95

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		59.	Mumbai	2	21	166
		60.	Nagpur	10	28	103
		61.	Nashik	12	21	85
		62.	Navi Mumbai	19	47	71
		63.	Pune	37	75	106
		64.	Sangli	10	46	84
		65.	Solapur	15	33	71
		66.	Thane	17	44	108
		67.	Ulhasnagar	22	58	122
14.	Meghalaya	68.	Byrnihat	26	12	166
15.	Nagaland	69.	Dimapur	2	8	134
		70.	Kohima	2	5	104
		71.	Angul	9	25	101
		72.	Balasore	4	11	86
		73.	Bhubneshwar	2	17	99
16.	Odisha	74.	Cuttack	4	31	114
		75.	Kalinga Nagar	2	11	118
		76.	Rourkela	8	14	108
		77.	Talcher	10	29	110
		78.	Amritsar	13	34	177
		79.	Dera Baba Nanak	7	12	81
17.	Punjab	80.	DeraBassi	6	13	95
		81.	Gobindgarh	7	38	121
		82.	Jalandhar	11	20	153
		83.	Khanna	8	32	135
		84.	Ludhiana	9	32	162
		85.	NayaNangal	6	12	91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		86.	Patiala	5	11	98
		87.	Alwar	10	34	182
		88.	Jaipur	8	32	165
18.	Rajasthan	89.	Jodhpur	7	24	223
		90.	Kota	7	28	152
		91.	Udaipur	9	30	147
19.	Tamilnadu	92.	Trichy	17	23	110
		93.	Tuticorin	14	11	102
		94.	Hyderabad	5	30	105
20.	Telangana	95.	Nalgonda	6	24	60
		96.	Patancheru	6	23	81
		97.	Sangareddy	6	38	81
		98.	Agra	4	22	209
		99.	Allahabad	4	45	231
		100.	Anpara	18	28	191
		101.	Bareilly	14	22	233
		102.	Firozabad	8	31	226
		103.	Gajraula	20	33	224
		104.	Ghaziabad	21	43	245
21.	Uttar Pradesh	105.	Jhansi	6	18	96
		106.	Kanpur	7	47	218
		107.	Khurja	21	20	214
		108.	Lucknow	7	30	217
		109.	Moradabad	20	34	227
		110.	Noida	20	52	264
		111.	Raebareli	11	17	141
		112.	Varanasi	9	34	189

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		113.	Dehradun	25	28	217
22.	Uttarakhand	114.	Kashipur	14	23	105
		115.	Rishikesh	21	25	133
		116.	Asansol	13	35	146
		117.	Barrackpore	10	49	108
		118.	Durgapur	12	34	141
23.	West Bengal	119.	Haldia	14	38	99
		120.	Howrah	11	72	179
		121.	Kolkata	6	44	148
		122.	Raniganj	12	35	147

Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas

1501. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has categorized Coringa East Godavari and Krishna in Andhra Pradesh as Critical Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA) in its Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 2018;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) details of steps taken to protect Coringa East Godavari and Krishna in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) details of funds allocated for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) The Coastal Regulation Zone Notification issued *vide* notification dated 18th January, 2019 accords special consideration and identifies Coringa, East Godavari and Krishna in Andhra Pradesh as Critically Vulnerable Coastal Areas (CVCA), amongst others CVCA's listed in the said notification, with the objective of protecting the critical coastal environment and sustainable use of coastal resources. To this end, all the CVCA's are required to be managed through the Integrated Management Plans (IMPs) to be prepared by respective State Governments

as per the guidelines of Notification. Respective States/Union territories, arising out of the IMPs, can propose suitable project interventions in these areas under various schemes of this Ministry, as applicable.

**Loss of employment due to ban on
single use plastic**

1502. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any data on employment created by single-use plastic manufacturing industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) if not, whether Government is planning to collect the said data;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) by when, the data would be collected a large number of people will loose employment with the gradual ban of single-use plastic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (e) As per the information provided by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), based on the Annual Report submitted by various State/UT Pollution Control Boards/Committees (PCBs/PCCs), 4773 plastic manufacturing / compostable manufacturing /Multi-Layer Plastic manufacturing / recycling units are registered with PCBs/PCCs in the country. No specific information is available on employment created specifically by the Single-use plastic manufacturing industry.

Considering the high environmental cost associated with the use of Single-use plastic, particularly the adverse effect on soil, water bodies and on marine environment, Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced India's pledge to phase out Single-use plastic by 2022. However, the Government has identified "Compostable plastic" as one of the alternatives to the regular plastic. To promote the use of such plastic, the restrictive provision of minimum thickness of fifty microns is not applicable to the carry bags made up of compostable plastic, conforming IS/ISO 17088. Some of the State Governments which have imposed a complete ban on the use of plastic bags have permitted Compostable plastic bags for various applications such as plant nurseries, horticulture, agriculture and other uses.

In addition to the traditional materials like jute bags, leaf plates, bamboo cutleries, the new materials like bagasse based products, banana stem based products etc. are widely available in market.

The above shall not only ensure that people associated with respective activities remain employed but has the potential to encourage entrepreneurial activities.

Prevention of poaching

1503. SHRI C.M. RAMESH:
SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that incidents of poaching in some States are increasing, if so, the details of the last three years;
- (b) steps taken by Government to prevent incidents of poaching; and
- (c) whether Government proposes to strengthen the vigilance system to monitor incidents of poaching, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Incidences of poaching are reported in various parts of the country from time to time. The Wildlife Crime Control Bureau received data from States related wildlife crime are given in the Statement-I (*See below*). As per information received from National Tiger Conservation of Authority, there have been 21 cases of poaching of tiger and 10 cases of tiger body part seizures during 2018. The death of elephant due to poaching during the last three years is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The steps taken by the Government for conservation and protection of wild animals are follows:—

- i. The Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 provides for punishment for violation of its provisions. The Act also provides for forfeiture of any equipment, vehicle or weapon that is used for committing wildlife offence(s).
- ii. Law enforcement authorities in the States maintain strict vigil against poaching of wild animals.

- iii. Wildlife Crime Control Bureau has been set up to gather intelligence about poaching and unlawful trade in wild animals and animal articles and to achieve inter-State and trans-boundary coordination in enforcement of wildlife laws.
- iv. The State/Union Territory Governments have been requested to strengthen the field formations and intensify patrolling in and around Protected Areas.
- v. Protected Areas, viz., National Parks, Sanctuaries, Conservation Reserves and Community Reserves covering important wildlife habitats have been created all over the country under the provisions of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 to conserve wild animals and their habitats.
- vi. Financial assistance is provided to the State/Union Territory Governments under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of 'Development of Wildlife Habitats', 'Project Tiger' and 'Project Elephant', for providing better protection to wildlife including leopards and improvement of habitat.

Recently, the Ministry has not received any proposal to strengthen the vigilance system to monitor incidents of poaching.

Statement-I

Details of cases of wildlife crime for last three years, State-wise

Sl. No.	States	2016	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	NA	NA	NA
2.	Andhra Pradesh	8	7	2
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	NA	1	1
4.	Assam	40	41	42
5.	Bihar	8	8	4
6.	Chandigarh	3		
7.	Chhattisgarh	14	14	9
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	NA	NA	NA
9.	Daman and Diu	NA	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Delhi	5	3	3
11.	Goa	NA	NA	1
12.	Gujarat	14	6	7
13.	Haryana	5	7	6
14.	Himachal Pradesh	13	11	9
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	1
16.	Jharkhand	1	2	8
17.	Karnataka	13	24	11
18.	Kerala	9	31	4
19.	Lakshadweep	NA	NA	NA
20.	Madhya Pradesh	26	30	29
21.	Maharashtra	45	39	43
22.	Manipur	7	2	
23.	Meghalaya	1	5	3
24.	Mizoram	5	NA	NA
25.	Nagaland	2	NA	2
26.	Odisha	13	15	5
27.	Puducherry	NA	NA	NA
28.	Punjab	NA	6	9
29.	Rajasthan	3	2	4
30.	Sikkim	NA	NA	1
31.	Tamil Nadu	22	44	32
32.	Telangana	2	1	1
33.	Tripura	1	1	1
34.	Uttar Pradesh	66	16	35
35.	Uttarakhand	20	20	18
36.	West Bengal	66	59	55
TOTAL		412	395	346

Statement-II*Details of Elephant Deaths by Poaching from 2016-17 to 2018-2019*

Sl. No.	State	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	NR	NR	0
3.	Assam	2	4	0
4.	Chhattisgarh	0	0	0
5.	Jharkhand	0	1	1
6.	Karnataka	4	0	
7.	Kerala	2	0	0
8.	Maharashtra	0	0	
9.	Meghalaya	1	0	1
10.	Nagaland	0	1	0
11.	Odisha	2	2	2
12.	Tamil Nadu	1	0	1
13.	Tripura	0	0	NR
14.	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	0
15.	Uttarakhand	0	0	1
16.	West Bengal	1	0	0
TOTAL		13	8	6

Protection of trees

1504. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether-Government has taken any measures to safeguard trees that have been planted across the country;

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
- (c) the TOTAL amount spent for the purpose, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (c) Tree Plantation/Afforestation being multi departmental activity are carried out under various schemes of different ministries which include National Afforestation Programme (NAP), National Mission for a Green India (GIM), under Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management and Planning Authority (CAMPA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY)e/c. It is also taken up cross-sectorally by various Departments, NGOs, Civil Society, Corporate bodies etc. under various Central and State Plan/Non Plan Schemes.

After plantations of seedlings, maintenance work including watering/irrigating, weeding and casualty replacement is done by the implementing agency, to ensure good health and survival of plants and the expenditure for the same is met from various schemes, of the centre and the states, under which the plantations are carried out and as per the specific scheme guidelines. Protection of trees is also done against forest fires, encroachments and other threats. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) implements NAP and GIM and the state-wise details of TOTAL funds released during last three years under these schemes which includes funds for creation, maintenance and safeguarding the saplings planted are given in the Statement (*See* below).

Besides, Joint Forest Management Committees (JFMCs) formed in each State/UT Government to encourage participatory approach, are also involved in planning and execution of various forestry activities including protection and management of forests.

Various schemes implemented by Ministry and the State/UT Governments are implemented with the involvement of these committees.

The multi departmental efforts, in safeguarding the trees planted has yielded good results, besides keeping the pace of development, which is evident from the fact that the forest cover has stabilized and has been constantly increasing over the years. As per the biennial edition of India State of Forest Report (ISFR) by Forest Survey of India (FSI) of the ministry, the forest and tree cover has increased around 13, 000 square kilometer (sq. km) over the assessment period of four years (ISFR 2013 to ISFR 2017). A study by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), USA has also stated that India and China are leading the increase in greening on land.

Statement

*State-wise Details of Total funds released during the last three years
(2016-17 to 2018-19) under National Afforestation Programme(NAP)
and Green India Mission (GIM)*

(₹ in crores)

Sl. No.	State	NAP	GIM
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11.07	4.18
2.	Bihar	6.41	-
3.	Chhattisgarh	23.6	36.54
4.	Gujarat	4.36	-
5.	Haryana	6.21	-
6.	Himachal Pradesh	4.65	-
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	7.20	-
8.	Jharkhand	-	-
9.	Karnataka	21.56	3.35
10.	Kerala	-	-
11.	Madhya Pradesh	20.52	24.16
12.	Maharashtra	26.82	10.30
13.	Odisha	19.47	7.53
14.	Punjab	-	6.22
15.	Rajasthan	3.35	-
16.	Tamil Nadu	3.63	-
17.	Telangana	-	-
18.	Uttar Pradesh	3.54	-
19.	Uttarakhand	5.94	-
20.	West Bengal	-	-
TOTAL (OTHER STATES)		168.33	92.28

1	2	3	4
North Eastern States			
21.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.86	-
22.	Assam	0.58	-
23.	Manipur	8.79	19.12
24.	Meghalaya	2.39	-
25.	Mizoram	20.33	52.24
26.	Nagaland	17.47	-
27.	Sikkim	11.07	3.32
28.	Tripura	4.94	-
TOTAL (NE STATES)		66.43	74.68
GRAND TOTAL		234.76	166.96

Death of birds near Sambhar lake

1505. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that thousands of birds of several species were found dead under mysterious circumstances near the Sambhar lake in the Dudu district near Jaipur in November, 2019;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government has investigated the exact reasons for these deaths; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) to (d) The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is aware of the death of birds in Sambhar lake in Rajasthan. In order to assess and inquire into the matter regarding deaths of birds in Sambhar lake, Rajasthan, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has constituted a Committee comprising of the Deputy Inspector General of Forests (WL), MoEFCC, Scientist, Wildlife Institute of India (WII), Dehradun and Scientist, Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izzatnagar, Bareilly. The Committee had visited the site on 23rd

and 24th November 2019 and had detailed discussions with the Rajasthan State Forest Department also. Based on the site visit and discussions, the following are the important findings:

- i. As per information provided by the State Forest Department during the visit, birds which have been found with infection, are mostly omnivorous and insectivorous. However, Flamingoes, land birds (Crows, Kites, domestic chicken in nearby villages) were not affected.
- ii. The rescued birds were given parenteral injections of Betamethazone, Neurobion, oxytetracycline and Atropine and also fresh feed and water.
- iii. The birds responded well to the treatment in 24 to 48 hours depending upon the severity.
- iv. As per IVRI, based on the epidemiological and laboratory investigations, the cause of mortality in migratory birds is Avian Botulism caused by *Clostridium botulinum*. Several factors like, presence of crustaceans, invertebrates, heavy rains in month of July and August and thereby decrease in salinity level, etc. have been attributed to favouring the growth of *Clostridium botulinum*.

The important steps taken by the Government in this regard include:

- i. The ailing birds are given first aid treatment at the site and are taken to a rescue centre at Kachroda Forest Nursery, Jaipur District.
- ii. A small rescue centre has also been established at Nawa in Nagaur.
- iii. So far, 591 live but ailing birds have been rescued from various sites at Sambhar Lake and treated at Kachiroda Nursery Rescue Centre.
- iv. A soft release facility has been set up for release of birds recovered from ailment.
- v. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change is coordinating with State Forest Department, Scientific institutions/organizations and civil society organizations for management of the issue.

Importance of forest cover for environment

1506. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that forest cover is essential for healthy environment;

(b) whether forest cover has increased or decreased during the last three years; and

(c) the details thereof, State-wise, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) Yes, Sir. Forest is necessary to keep the environment of the country clean and healthy. Forests provide various environmental benefits and services. Trees purify the polluted air by absorbing large amount of pollutants like carbon dioxide, sulphur dioxide by their leaves and releasing oxygen. Trees produce a healthy environment by providing clean air, water and soil. Trees, especially broad leaved ones trap aerosols and small particles and acts as dust filter. Forests absorb rain water and allow the drained water to percolate into the soil thus maintaining ground water table and reducing runoff.

(b) and (c) Assessment of forest cover of the country is carried out biennially by Forest Survey of India, Dehradun, an organization under the Ministry and findings are published in India State of Forest Report (ISFR) accordingly. As per ISFR-2017, there is an increase of 8, 021 square kilometre (forest cover 6, 778 square kilometre, tree cover 1, 243 square kilometre) of Total forest and tree cover compared to that of ISFR-2015. The comparative details of State/UTs-wise forest cover during the last three years is given in the Statement.

Statement

Comparative details of Forest and Tree Cover State/UTs - wise as per ISFR 2017

Sl. No.	Name of State /UT	ISFR-2015 (update)				ISFR-2017			
		Geogra- phical Area	Forest Cover	Tree Cover	Total Forest and Tree Cover	Forest Cover	Tree Cover	Total Forest and Tree Cover	Difference
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	162968	26006	3965	29971	28147	3753	31900	1929
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	83743	67154	761	67915	66964	807	67771	-144
3.	Assam	78438	27538	1613	29151	28105	1496	29601	450
4.	Bihar	94163	7254	2182	9436	7299	2263	9562	126
5.	Chhattisgarh	135192	55559	3629	59188	55547	3833	59380	192

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
6.	Delhi	1483	188.77	111	299.77	192.41	113	305.41	5.64
7.	Goa	3702	2210	325	2535	2229	323	2552	17
8.	Gujarat	196244	14710	7914	22624	14757	8024	22781	157
9.	Haryana	44212	1580	1355	2935	1588	1415	3003	68
10.	Himachal Pradesh	55673	14707	757	15464	15100	822	15922	458
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	222236	22988	8354	31342	23241	7815	31056	-286
12.	Jharkhand	79716	23524	2783	26307	23553	2922	26475	168
13.	Karnataka	191791	36449	5552	42001	37550	5713	43263	1262
14.	Kerala	38852	19278	2951	22229	20321	2959	23280	1051
15.	Madhya Pradesh	308252	77426	7773	85199	77414	8073	85487	288
16.	Maharashtra	307713	50699	9558	60257	50682	9831	60513	256
17.	Manipur	22327	17083	243	17326	17346	220	17566	240
18.	Meghalaya	22429	17262	710	17972	17146	657	17803	-169
19.	Mizoram	21081	18717	535	19252	18186	467	18653	-599
20.	Nagaland	16579	12939	381	13320	12489	379	12868	-452
21.	Odisha	155707	50460	3986	54446	51345	3993	55338	892
22.	Punjab	50362	1771	1544	3315	1837	1622	3459	144
23.	Rajasthan	342239	16106	8269	24375	16572	8266	24838	463
24.	Sikkim	7096	3353	35	3388	3344	35	3379	-9
25.	Tamil Nadu	130060	26208	4505	30713	26281	4671	30952	239
26.	Telangana	112077	19854	2549	22403	20419	2669	23088	685
27.	Tripura	10486	7890	233	8123	7726	215	7941	-182
28.	Uttar Pradesh	240928	14401	7044	21445	14679	7442	22121	676
29.	Uttarakhand	53483	24272	752	25024	24295	767	25062	38
30.	West Bengal	88752	16826	2088	18914	16847	2136	18983	69
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8249	6751	37	6788	6742	35	6777	-11
32.	Chandigarh	114	21.66	9	30.66	21.56	10	31.56	0.9
33.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	491	206	28	234	207	30	237	3
34.	Daman and Diu	111	19.61	10	29.61	20.49	10	30.49	0.88
35.	Lakshadweep	30	27.06	4	31.06	27.1	2	29.1	-1.96
36.	Puducherry	490	56.95	27	83.95	53.67	27	80.67	-3.28
TOTAL		3287469	701495	92572	794067	708273	93815	802088	8021

Ban on plastic manufacturing units

†1507. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of plastic manufacturing factories in the country and whether Government has banned plastic manufacturing in these factories from 2nd October, 2019 onwards;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has banned the use of plastic in many products such as chips, kurkure, namkeen, maggi, etc. produced by multinational companies; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the Central Pollution Control Board, based on the Annual Reports submitted by the State/UT Pollution Control Boards/Committees (PCB/PCCs), 4773 plastic manufacturing/compostable manufacturing /Multi-Layer Plastic manufacturing/recycling units are registered with PCBs/PCCs in the country. Considering the high environmental cost associated with the use of Single-use plastic, particularly the adverse effect on soil, water bodies and on marine environment, Hon'ble Prime Minister has announced India's pledge to phase out Single-use plastic by 2022.

(c) and (d) As per the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the carry bag made of virgin or recycled plastic less than fifty microns in thickness has been prohibited. There is a complete ban on sachets using plastic material used for storing, packing or selling gutkha, tobacco and pan masala. Many States/UTs through their own notifications have also imposed partial or complete prohibition on the use of plastic carry bags and/or single use plastic. 23 States and 9 UTs have issued notifications/orders introducing regulations pertaining to complete or partial ban on plastic carry bags and/or other single-use plastic items.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The Ministry has also issued “Standard Guidelines on Single Use Plastic” with suggestions on different set of actions for State/UT Governments for minimisation of Single-use plastic.

Issuance of notification for ban on RO

1508. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Green Tribunal has been persistently demanding the immediate issuance of notification pertaining to the prohibition on the use of Reverse Osmosis (RO) systems which results in wastage of almost 80 per cent of the water;

(b) whether the NGT order issued in May this year mentions that wherever RO has to be permitted, the condition of recovery of water to the extent of more than 60 per cent is required; and

(c) whether the NGT has given the deadline of 31st December, 2019 for issue of notification by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE (SHRI BABUL SUPRIYO): (a) and (b) Hon’ble NGT in O.A. 134 of 2015 titled ‘Friends through its General Secretary *versus* Ministry of Water Resources’ *vide* its order dated 20.05.2019 has directed the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue appropriate notification prohibiting use of RO where TDS in water is less than 500 mg/l and wherever RO is permitted, a requirement is laid down for recovery of water be more than 60%.

(c) Hon’ble NGT *vide* their order dated 04.11.2019 has directed the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change to issue notification by 31.12.2019.

Capacity building of CPSEs

1509. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the initiatives taken by Government over the last three years for capacity building of Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs);

(b) the details of outstanding debt of CPSEs over the last three years, if any;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for revival or restructuring of distressed CPSEs, if any; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) The Initiatives taken by the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) for capacity building of CPSEs includes:

1. Professionalization of the Boards of CPSEs through filing up of vacant positions of Non-official Directors (NODs).
2. Monitoring of CAPEX of selected CPSEs and sending monthly report to PMO on regular basis.
3. Issue guidelines on personnel, and wage matters, performance improvement and evaluation, autonomy and financial delegation and corporate governance.
4. Conducted following trainings/workshops and orientation programmes during the last 3 years;

Years	Number of training programmes/ workshops/orientation programme	Number of officers/ employees of CPSEs and State Level Public Enterprises
2016-17	34	2009
2017-18	32	1584
2018-19	39	1815

(b) Based on the Public Enterprises Surveys, (2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18) laid in the Parliament in the respective years, the Total short term and long term loan of CPSEs as on 31.3.2016, 31.3.2017 and 31.3.2018 was ₹ 11, 71, 767.40, 12, 43, 187.87 and 14, 76, 798.80 crore respectively.

(c) and (d) DPE has issued Guidelines dated 29.10.2015 for “Streamlining the mechanism for revival and restructuring of sick/incipient sick and weak CPSEs”: General principles and mechanism of restructuring”. As per these guidelines, the administrative Ministries/Departments concerned are responsible for monitoring the performance of CPSEs functioning under them and taking timely measures for revival/restructuring of sick/loss making CPSEs on a case to case basis as per the principles outlined in DPE guidelines dated 29.10.2015.

Electric public transport infrastructure

1510. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased state:

(a) whether Government has been taking any steps to curb pollution by promoting electric public transport infrastructure in Delhi-NCR areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the timeline of such projects and budgetary allocation for the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has taken steps for promoting electric public transport infrastructure through Phase-II of Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in (FAME-INDIA) scheme. The objective of the Scheme is to reduce dependency on fossil fuel and to address issues of vehicular emissions.

The Scheme is pan India basis including Delhi-NCR for a period of 3 years commencing from 1st April, 2019 with budgetary allocation of ₹ 10,000 crore. On purchase of Electric vehicles for public transport, upfront Incentive is offered under the scheme and also supports creation of necessary Charging Infrastructure for electric vehicles. Under this scheme about 500 electric buses amounting to ₹ 250 Crore (Approx.) Govt, incentive are sanctioned to Delhi-NCR for public transport.

Promotion to manufacturing of electric vehicles

1511. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to promote the manufacturing of electric vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of electric vehicles sold during the last two years;

(d) whether Government is providing any subsidy to the consumers to purchase electric vehicles in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government approved Phase-I of FAME India Scheme in March, 2015 for a period of 2 years w.e.f 1st April 2015 to promote adoption of Electrical Vehicles with an aim to reduce dependency on fossil fuel and to address issues of vehicular emissions. The Phase-I of the Scheme was extended from time to time and the last extension was allowed till 31st March 2019.

Based on outcome and experience gained during the Phase-I of FAME India Scheme and after having consultations with all stakeholders including Industry and Industry Associations, the Government notified Phase-II of FAME India Scheme on 8th March 2019, which is for a period of three years commencing from 1st April 2019 with a Total budgetary support of ₹ 10, 000 crore. This phase will mainly focus on supporting electrification of public and shared transportation, and aims to support through incentives about 7000 e-Buses, 5 lakh e-3 Wheelers, 55000 e-4 Wheeler Passenger Cars and 10 lakh e-2 Wheelers. In addition, creation of charging infrastructure will be also supported to address range anxiety among users of electric vehicles.

(c) Since Automobile Sector is a liberalized Sector, Department of Heavy Industry is not required to maintain the data related to sale of vehicles including Electrical vehicles. However, since inception of the scheme, about 2.8 lakh vehicles have been supported by way of extending demand incentives of about ₹ 359 Crore [Approx.]. As pilot project, 425 e-buses were also supported to various cities/States to promote public transportation.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Under Phase-II of FAME-India Scheme, incentives is being provided to the consumers on purchase of electric vehicles, used for public transport or those registered for commercial purposes in e-3W, e-4W(including Strong Hybrid) segment however, privately owned registered e-2W are also be covered under the scheme. The demand incentive to these electrical vehicles is linked to battery capacity *i.e.* ₹ 10, 000/ KWh subject to capping of 20% cost of these vehicles. Demand incentive is restricted to vehicles with prices less than the threshold value which is ₹ 1.5 Lakh for e-2W, 5 lakh for e-3W and 15 Lakh for e-4W.

Employment of apprentices in CPSUs

1512. SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSUs) are employing apprentices who successfully complete training within the establishment;

(b) if so, the number of such apprentices employed in each CPSUs during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether those who have completed apprenticeship in various CPSUs are being provided any job reservation in the respective PSUs?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (d) As per the advisory issued by Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) *vide* OM dated 17th May, 2018 the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) are required to engage the apprentices as per the provisions of the Apprenticeship Act, 1961 and rules framed thereunder from time to time. Further, as per available information CPSEs have engaged 47143 apprentices in 2018-19. The CPSEs are required to follow the provisions of the Apprenticeship Act, 1961 and no specific instructions have been issued by DPE to CPSEs for providing compulsory employment or reservation in employment to the apprentices engaged by them.

Scheme to promote hybrid/electric technology

1513. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched any scheme to promote hybrid/electric technology in transportation so as to reduce dependency on fossil fuel;

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

(c) the details regarding various components of such scheme; and

(d) the details regarding progress made and objectives achieved during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government approved Phase-I of FAME India Scheme in March, 2015 for a period of 2 years *w.e.f* 1st April 2015 to promote adoption of Electrical Vehicles with an aim to reduce dependency on fossil fuel and to address issues of vehicular emissions. The Phase-I of the Scheme was extended from time to time and the last extension was allowed till 31st March, 2019.

Based on outcome and experience gained during the Phase-I of FAME India Scheme and after having consultations with all stakeholders including Industry and Industry Associations, the Government notified Phase-II of FAME India Scheme on 8th March 2019,

which is for a period of three years commencing from 1st April 2019 with a Total budgetary support of ₹ 10, 000 crore. This phase will mainly focus on supporting electrification of public and shared transportation, and aims to support through incentives about 7000 e-Buses, 5 lakh e-3 Wheelers, 55000 e-4 Wheeler Passenger Cars and 10 lakh e-2 Wheelers. In addition, creation of charging infrastructure will be also supported to address range anxiety among users of electric vehicles.

(c) Various components of FAME-India Scheme Phase-II are as under:—

- i. Demand Incentives
- ii. Establishment of network of Charging Stations
- iii. Administration of Scheme including Publicity, ICE (Information, Education and Communication) activities

(d) Since inception of the scheme, about 2.8 lakh vehicles have been supported by way of extending demand incentives of about ₹ 359 Crore [Approx.] and 425 e-buses were supported under Phase-I of FAME-India Scheme. In addition, 500 nos. of charging stations were also sanctioned in this phase.

Supply chain for critical components of EVs

1514. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian supply chain for critical power train components of Electric Vehicles (EVs) will come up only if there are enough such vehicles on the road;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the industry body Society of Manufacturers of Electric Vehicles (SMEV) has said that Government should give more thrust on e-mobility under the smart city project which is currently missing; and

(c) if so, whether Government is considering the proposal of SMEV?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) Yes, Sir. Development of local supply chain for critical Electric Vehicles (EVs) components and uptake of Electric Vehicles (EVs) are inter-linked to each other.

(b) and (c) No such proposal is under consideration in Department of Heavy Industry.

Precautionary measures on fake news

1515. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any precautionary measures on fake news being published in various newspapers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) In pursuance of its policy to uphold the freedom of press, the Government does not interfere in the functioning of newspaper industry. However, the Press Council of India, a statutory autonomous body has been set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with twin objectives to preserve the freedom of the Press and to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India. In order to inculcate principles of self-regulation amongst the Press, the Council under section 13(2) of the Act, has framed “Norms of Journalistic Conduct” for adherence by the media. These norms cover principles and ethics of journalism and also the guidelines for news reporting.

The complaints of content in print media which are violative of the ethical norms of journalism, public taste or professional conduct are adjudicated by the Council in exercise of its powers provided under section 14 of the Act. As per section 14 of the Act read with Press Council (Procedure of Inquiry) Regulations, 1979 the Council, after holding an inquiry, may warn, admonish or censure the newspaper, the news agency, the editor or the journalist or disapprove the conduct of the editor or the journalist as the case may be.

Mann ki Baat

1516. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plans to introduce and broadcast ‘Mann ki Baat’ concerning Chief Ministers of different States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to broadcast “Mann ki Baat” concerning Chief Ministers.

Target achievement of MIDP

†1517. SHRI RAM SHAKAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Media Infrastructure Development Programme (MIDP) is operated by Government;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the target fixed for year 2018-19 has been accomplished;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) The Media Infrastructure Development Programme (MIDP) scheme aims to augment and improve infrastructure of the Media Units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting including Bureau of Outreach and Communication(BOC), Press Information Bureau (PIB), Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI), Publications Division and opening of new Regional Centres of Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC).

(c) to (e) During 2018-19, several activities have been undertaken under the MIDP Scheme including upgradation of the Photo Division of PIB, completion of construction of Regional Centres of IIMC at Kottayam and Aizawl, upgradation of infrastructure of Publications Division, etc.

Action against paid news

1518. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any action to tackle the paid news which is a huge media crisis in today's media world; and
- (b) action taken by Government for the freedom of press and to make them more independent and politically neutral, if not, the reasons therefor to check this huge media crisis?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): (a) and (b) Election Commission of India has a well structured mechanism at the national, state and district levels to receive complaints relating to 'Paid News' and take necessary remedial action. The expenditure involved in these cases is included in the election expenditure of the candidates against which the paid news cases are confirmed.

Press Council of India (PCI) a statutory autonomous authority has been set up under the Press Council Act, 1978 with twin objectives to preserve the Freedom of the Press and to maintain and improve the standards of newspapers and news agencies in India.

UN study on impact of SBM

1519. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per a United Nations (UN) study, impact of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), in reducing open defecation is highly satisfactory;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, during 2014 to 2019, State-wise;
- (c) whether Government would continue SBM with the same speed and spirit;
- (d) if so, the details of the further plans; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Government of India had launched Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) on 02.10.2014 with the aim to attain Open Defecation Free (ODF) India by 2nd October, 2019. As per the United Nations Children Funds (UNICEF) study (2017), it was estimated that ₹50, 000 is saved every year on average by a household in an ODF village due to health costs avoided. Another study of UNICEF undertaken on environmental impact of SBM in 2019 revealed that the relative risk of faecal contamination of groundwater traceable to human is 12.7 times less likelihood in ODF villages. Further, as per the World Health Organisation (WHO) Study released in 2018, it was estimated that Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) would result in averting more than 3, 00, 000 deaths (diarrhoea and protein-energy malnutrition) between 2014 and 2019.

(b) State/UT-wise percentage of sanitation coverage as on 02.10.2014 and the percentage of ODF declared villages as on 02.10.2019 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Government is now focusing on ODF-Plus activities *i.e.* sustainability of ODF status and to cover the villages with Solid and Liquid Waste Management (SLWM).

Statement

State/UT-wise percentage of sanitation coverage as on 02.10.2014 and the percentage of ODF declared villages as on 02.10.2019

Sl. No.	State/UT	Percentage sanitation coverage as on 02.10.2014	Percentage of ODF declared villages as on 02.10.2019
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	55.19	100
2.	Andhra Pradesh	43.10	100
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	37.41	100
4.	Assam	37.98	100
5.	Bihar	24.77	100
6.	Chandigarh	94.31	100
7.	Chhattisgarh	31.88	100
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	43.71	100
9.	Daman and Diu	7.25	100
10.	Goa	60.59	100
11.	Gujarat	37.41	100
12.	Haryana	76.29	100
13.	Himachal Pradesh	87.60	100
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	23.24	100
15.	Jharkhand	19.34	100
16.	Karnataka	38.29	100
17.	Kerala	95.19	100
18.	Ladakh	49.39	100
19.	Lakshadweep	98.34	100
20.	Madhya Pradesh	29.25	100
21.	Maharashtra	47.93	100

1	2	3	4
22.	Manipur	43.29	100
23.	Meghalaya	52.72	100
24.	Mizoram	60.43	100
25.	Nagaland	49.17	100
26.	Odisha	10.61	100
27.	Puducherry	49.57	100
28.	Punjab	75.07	100
29.	Rajasthan	26.59	100
30.	Sikkim	91.85	100
31.	Tamil Nadu	48.30	100
32.	Telangana	27.45	100
33.	Tripura	51.17	100
34.	Uttar Pradesh	32.63	100
35.	Uttarakhand	68.31	100
36.	West Bengal	53.24	100
	INDIA	38.70	100

Source: Data reported by the States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of SBM(G).

Ganga Data Collector application

1520. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has launched a mobile application, namely, “Ganga Data Collector”, under the Biodiversity and Ganga Conservation Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the funds sanctioned and utilised by Government for the same;

(c) number of ‘Ganga Prahris’ and staff of the forest departments of the States concerned trained to collect data using the application;

(d) whether similar mobile applications are proposed to be used in the physiochemical tests of other rivers in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The 'Ganga Data Collector' mobile application has been developed by the Wildlife Institute of India, Dehra Dun, as a prototype for in-house use under the project 'Biodiversity and Ganga Conservation' sponsored by National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).

The 'Ganga Data Collector' mobile application can be used to collect data on dolphin, otters, birds, crocodiles, turtle, amphibians, snakes, and their habitat parameters.

Developing this application is one of the deliverables of the project 'Biodiversity and Ganga Conservation' sanctioned to Wildlife Institute of India (WII).

(c) No specific training is required to use the 'Ganga Data Collector' mobile application.

(d) and (e) National Remote Sensing Centre/ISRO, Hyderabad has developed "Bhuvan Ganga" mobile application which is a user friendly, Android based application to collect information regarding sources of pollution like urban sewage, semi-urban/rural sewage, natural drains/nallas, industrial waste water, solid waste disposal or any other pollution, to enable decision makers to prioritize interventions.

Funds under SBM(G)

†1521. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated under Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) (SBM)(G) during the last one year, State/UT-wise;

(b) whether Government has released first installment of the Central assistance for the year 2018-19;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and by when this fund is expected to be released;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) the details of the current progress of SBM(G); and

(e) whether Government has issued any guidelines to States for its improvement and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)] is a demand driven scheme, hence fixed State-wise allocation of funds is not made. However, State/UT-wise details of Centre share funds released by the Government of India during 2018-19 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) 1st installment of Central assistance under SBM(G) for the year 2018-19 was released to the States/UTs as per their eligibility in accordance with SBM(G) guidelines.

(d) Government of India had launched SBM (G) with effect from 2nd October, 2014 with the aim to attain Open Defecation Free (ODF) India by 2nd October, 2019. As per the data reported by the States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System of SBM(G), 10.14 crore individual household toilets have been constructed under the programme as on 28.11.2019. As a result, the sanitation coverage in the country, which was 38.7% as on 2nd October, 2014 has increased to 100% and all the 5, 99, 963 villages of the country have declared themselves ODF.

(e) Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation have issued detailed guidelines for implementation of SBM(G). Further, advisories/guidelines on various aspects of the programme such as ODF Sustainability, Capacity Strengthening of the field functionaries, ensuring that no one is left behind in access to toilets, etc. have also been issued to the States/UTs.

Statement

State/UT-wise details of Central share funds released by the Government of India under SBM(G) during 2018-19

Sl. No.	State/UT	Amount released (₹ in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6.05
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1381.11

1	2	3
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	51.31
4.	Assam	882.09
5.	Bihar	2943.69
6.	Chhattisgarh	448.50
7.	Chandigarh	0.00
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.65
9.	Daman and Diu	0.19
10.	Goa	0.00
11.	Gujarat	192.92
12.	Haryana	70.24
13.	Himachal Pradesh	0.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	278.37
15.	Jharkhand	753.02
16.	Karnataka	739.73
17.	Kerala	12.47
18.	Lakshadweep	0.00
19.	Madhya Pradesh	590.94
20.	Maharashtra	1352.92
21.	Manipur	75.06
22.	Meghalaya	0.00
23.	Mizoram	12.73
24.	Nagaland	59.93
25..	Odisha	1367.62
26.	Puducherry	0.00
27.	Punjab	0.00
28.	Rajasthan	865.88
29.	Sikkim	1.96

1	2	3
30.	Tamil Nadu	760.99
31.	Telangana	515.05
32.	Tripura	116.93
33.	Uttar Pradesh	7414.07
34.	Uttarakhand	65.80
35.	West Bengal	534.25
	TOTAL	21, 494.48

Damage caused by Farakka barrage

†1522. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is making any effort to deal with the damage caused due to Farakka Barrage in Bihar and Jharkhand;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (c) Soil erosion by rivers is a dynamic and natural process resulting in changes in river course and causing loss of land and property, the intensity of which varies with time and space. After the floods of 2016, as per a study carried out by Central Water Commission, the maximum extent of back water effect of Farakka Barrage even in the severe most flood is up to about 42 km upstream of Farakka Barrage.

(b) The flood management schemes are formulated and implemented by the State Governments as per their priority. The Government of India supplements the efforts of State Governments by providing technical advice and promotional financial assistance in critical areas.

Anti-erosion/ river bank protection works in the jurisdiction of Farakka Barrage Project in the critical reaches are executed by Farakka Barrage Project Authority as per the recommendations of Technical Advisory Committee of Farakka Barrage Project.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Funds for Mission Bhagiratha

1523. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received any representation along with Detailed Project Report (DPR) from Telangana Government requesting for sanction of around ₹ 35, 000 crores to its prestigious water grid flagship programme “Mission Bhagiratha”, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has taken any action on the request, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether it is a fact that NITI Aayog has consented for the financial assistance, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) Government of Telangana has requested financial assistance *inter alia* seeking ₹ 19, 205 Crore as Central assistance for Mission Bhagiratha (Telangana Drinking Water Supply Project), which was recommended by the NITI Aayog.

Meanwhile, Government of India has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) with an outlay of ₹ 3.60 lakh Crore with Central share of ₹ 2.08 lakh Crore, to provide Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) to every rural household by 2024. Under JJM, funds are allocated to the States as per approved criteria. During the current financial year, Telangana has been allocated an amount of ₹ 211.03 Crore, out of which ₹ 105.51 Crore has already been released as first installment. Once the State utilizes the available funds, can seek 2nd installment and after its utilization and reporting performance, the State can also ask for additional fund to be provided based on functionality assessment of household tap connections.

Irregularities in Polavaram project

1524. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Committee set up by Andhra Pradesh Government to look into the irregularities in Polavaram Project has submitted its Report which indicated that a benefit of ₹ 2,343.85 crores have been additionally given benefit to Transtrai and others;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Committee came to the conclusion that ₹ 787 crores paid to Navayuga company for Polavaram power project violating the rules; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and Government's reason in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (d) As per Central Water Commission, Expert Committee (EC) constituted by Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP) has reported payment of excess amount of ₹ 2346.85 Cr., in its report submitted in July, 2019. The break-up of this excess amount, as reported by EC, is as follows:

Sl. No.	Reason for excess payment	in crore.
1.	Revision of agreement rates with 2015-16 SSR	1331.00
2.	Interest on mobilization advance	84.43
3.	Paid through Imprest	144.22
4.	Advance paid before handing over of hydro-electric project	787.20
TOTAL		2346.85

State Government *vide* its letter dated 13.11.2019 has intimated that the views of Expert Committee are preliminary in nature. There are no procedural or codal violations with regard to above decisions. All decisions have been taken after obtaining the approval of competent authority. Further, action is dependent upon the report of Vigilance and Enforcement Department of the State Government in this regard.

Declaration of ODF

†1525. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the States, districts and villages declared 'Open Defecation Free' in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that people are still found defecating near the railway tracks and slums in Delhi; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the people of the States, districts, villages declared 'Open Defecation Free' are still compelled to defecate in the open due to construction of poor-quality toilets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As per the data reported by the States/UTs on the online Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) of Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) [SBM(G)], all the 5,99,963 villages of the country have declared themselves Open Defecation Free (ODF).

(b) All the five Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in NCT of Delhi have already been declared ODF. Further, sufficient number of Community Toilets and Public Toilets have also been constructed by ULBs. Besides, Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board (DUSIB) who has the mandate for ensuring cleanliness and sanitation in slum areas, has constructed more than 20,000 Community Toilets Seats in slum areas. Agencies have deputed field staff, Asstt. Sanitary Inspectors/Sanitary Inspectors and Supervisors to keep watch around the vulnerable areas but no instance of Open Defecation has been reported as yet. However, occasionally one or two cases are reported through newspapers for which concerned agencies are asked to take needful action immediately to stop Open Defecation. Agencies have also stationed Mobile Toilet Vans near railway tracks, discourage people against Open Defecation and advise them to avail these Mobile Toilet Vans.

(c) Under SBM(G), safe and eco-friendly toilet technologies such as twin leach pit are promoted for sustainable use of toilets. However, as sanitation is a State subject, flexibility has been provided to the States/UTs to choose the technology best suited to the local conditions. As per report of National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey (NARSS) 2018-19 conducted through an independent verification agency, 96.5% of the households having access to toilet use them regularly.

**Access to safe drinking water for all
rural households**

1526. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the target date for completion of National Rural Drinking Water Programme along with the reasons for the slow pace of its implementation specially in drought affected district of Latur in the State of Maharashtra;

(b) whether certain States have not framed and submitted water security plans so far and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the new steps taken by Government for ensuring access to safe drinking water to all rural habitations, Government schools and aanganwadis in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) which is coterminous with the 14th Finance commission *i.e.* upto 31.03.2020, the coverage was monitored in terms of Fully Covered (FC) habitations *i.e.* having provision of minimum 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of potable water with sources at a reasonable distance. As reported by State of Maharashtra as on 27.11.2019, out of Total 1, 180 rural habitations in Latur district, 922 rural habitations (78.13%) are FC and the remaining habitations are Partially Covered habitations (*i.e.* getting less than 40 lpcd of potable water).

(b) As per NRDWP guidelines, States are required to prepare district-wise Drinking Water Security Plan and a toolkit for preparation of the same was circulated by Government of India in 2015.

(c) To enable every rural household including government schools and aanganwadies in the country for providing potable water at service level of 55 litre per capita per day (lpcd) through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024, Government of India has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), with an outlay of ₹ 3.60 lakh Crore. Further, Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA), a water conservation campaign has been launched, which is being implemented in two phases in 256 water-stressed districts of the country. This campaign has generated huge awareness among various stakeholders.

Additional allocation of funds under NWQSM

1527. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that State of Rajasthan is suffering from high levels of Fluoride, Salinity and Nitrates in ground water;

(b) if so, whether Government is considering to provide additional allocation of funds under National Water Quality Sub Mission (NWQSM) for projects that will enable the State to complete the ongoing projects and to achieve last mile connectivity in particular areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As reported by Government of Rajasthan, district-wise number of habitations having drinking water sources affected with fluoride, salinity and nitrate is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Rural drinking water supply is a State subject and Government of India supplements the efforts of States by providing financial and technical assistance to provide potable water to rural population through the centrally sponsored scheme Jal Jeevan Mission(JJM). Powers to plan, approve, and implement rural drinking water supply schemes are vested with States. While allocating the funds under JJM to States/UTs, 10% weightage has been given to the population residing in habitations affected by chemical contaminants. The funds provided to the States under JJM can be utilized for taking up schemes in water quality-affected areas on priority.

In March 2016 an amount of ₹ 1, 000 Crores was released to various Arsenic and Fluoride affected States for installation of Community water purification plants and commissioning of piped water supply schemes. An amount of ₹ 431.29 crores was released to State of Rajasthan.

Further, in March 2017, National Water Quality Sub-Mission (NWQSM) was launched as a part of National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), which has now been subsumed under Jal Jeevan Mission, to provide safe drinking water to 27, 544 Arsenic/ Fluoride affected rural habitations in the country. The project wise eligible central share under NWQSM has been determined as per existing guidelines and '895.50 Crores has been released to Rajasthan State under NWQSM.

Statement

District-wise number of habitations having drinking water sources affected with fluoride, salinity and nitrate as on 27th November, 2019

Sl. No.	District Name	Contamination Wise Number of Habitations			
		Fluoride	Salinity	Nitrate	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Ajmer	24	7	0	31

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Alwar	140	63	0	203
3.	Banswara	100	0	11	111
4.	Baran	1	6	5	12
5.	Barmer	531	8,594	4	9,129
6.	Bharatpur	4	420	6	430
7.	Bhilwara	63	19	13	95
8.	Bikaner	6	29	103	138
9.	Bundi	56	41	60	157
10.	Chittaurgarh	113	45	42	200
11.	Churu	17	14	16	47
12.	Dausa	91	6	23	120
13.	Dhaulpur	0	1	0	1
14.	Dungarpur	1 11	1	18	130
15.	Ganganagar	2	0	0	2
16.	Hanumangarh	2	3	0	5
17.	Jaipur	105	59	12	176
18.	Jaisalmer	262	2	16	280
19.	Jalor	450	94	26	570
20.	Jhalawar	8	7	6	21
21.	Jhunjhunun	23	6	8	37
22.	Jodhpur	183	2,542	57	2,782
23.	Karauli	51	38	41	130
24.	Kota	30	24	14	68
25.	Nagaur	739	87	129	955
26.	Pali	136	9	29	174
27.	Pratapgarh	37	8	162	207
28.	Rajsamand	181	5	66	252

1	2	3	4	5	6
29.	Sawai Madhopur	27	18	6	51
30.	Sikar	23	3	7	33
31.	Sirohi	92	8	0	100
32.	Tonk	132	1	0	133
33.	Udaipur	16	22	10	48
TOTAL		3,756	12,182	890	16,828

Source: IMIS, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

Ground water exploitation in Haryana

1528. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that 61 per cent of the Total number of assessed units of ground water in Haryana were found to be over exploited; and

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to correct this issue in Haryana?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) The Dynamic Ground Water Resources of the country are being periodically assessed jointly by Central Ground Water Board (CGWB) and State Governments. As per the latest assessment (2017), out of the TOTAL 128 assessment units (Block) in the Haryana, 78 Blocks (61%) have been categorized as 'Over-exploited' where the Annual Ground Water Extraction is more than Annual Extractable Ground Water Resource.

Hon'ble Prime Minister has written a letter to all Sarpanchs on 08.06.2019 regarding the importance of water conservation and rain harvesting and exhorted them to adopt all appropriate measures to make water conservation a mass movement.

Government of India launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan which is a time bound campaign with a mission mode approach intended to improve water availability including ground water conditions in the water stressed blocks of 256 districts in India. In this regard, teams of officers from Central Government along-with technical officers from Ministry of Jal Shakti were deputed to visit water stressed districts and to work in close collaboration with district level officials to undertake suitable interventions.

As per information received from Government of Haryana various steps taken by them to conserve water are given as under:

- “The Haryana State Preservation of Sub Soil Water Act, 2009” has been enacted which prohibits sowing and transplanting of paddy before 15th of May and 15th of June respectively.
- Government of Haryana launched a new pilot scheme - Jal Hi Jeevan during Kharif, 2019 with a goal to bring behavior change in farmers for cultivating maize instead of water guzzling paddy.
- In order to prevent seepage and evaporation losses, the Government of Haryana is providing subsidy to the farmers for laying Underground Pipe Line System (UGPL).
- Land leveling with Laser land leveler is being used for precision/scientific leveling of land thereby facilitating effective utilization of farm inputs. Government of Haryana is promoting use of laser leveling technology by way of demonstrations, providing machines on custom hiring basis and subsidy. Further, they are promoting use of Zero tillage technology by way of demonstrations and subsidy.

In addition, Water being a State subject, initiatives on water management including conservation and artificial recharge to ground water in the Country is primarily States’ responsibility. The important measures taken by the Central Government for conservation, management of ground water and effective implementation of rain water harvesting in the country are at the following URL: http://mowr.gov.in/sites/default/files/Steps_to_control_water_depletion_Jun2019.pdf.

Water management in economic development

1529. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether water management has a special role in the economic development of the nation;
- (b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;
- (c) whether re-cycling of water is necessary for increasing the availability of water and if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) the percentage of polluted water that can be recycled for use out of the Total quantum of polluted water being generated in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Development and management of water play a vital role in economic development of the Nation. The National Water Policy (2012) States that water needs to be managed as a common pool community resource held by the State, under public trust doctrine to achieve food security, support livelihood, and ensure equitable and sustainable development for all. Water being a State subject, measures for management of water resources are primarily taken by respective State Governments. The Union Ministry of Jal Shakti, supplements the efforts of the State Governments by providing technical and financial assistance through various centrally funded programmes. The ongoing key programmes, whereby management and distribution of river waters is sought to be continuously improved, include Accelerated Irrigation Benefits Programme (AIBP), Command Area Development and Water Management (CADWM), Surface Minor Irrigation (SMI) and Flood Management and Border Area Programme (FMBAP). Further, aiming for nation-wide water reforms, the Union Ministry is also striving for bringing consensus on certain key initiatives including National Water Framework, River Basin Management, Inter-basin Transfer of River Water and Improving Water-use Efficiency.

(c) Yes, recycling of water is necessary for increasing the availability of water. The availability of water is limited but the demand of water is increasing rapidly due to growing population, rapid urbanization, rapid industrialization and economic development. Therefore, availability of water for utilization needs to be augmented to meet increasing demands of water. The National Water Policy (2012) accordingly recommends that recycle and reuse of water should become the general norm. Recycling of canal irrigation water is often achieved through conjunctive ground water use. Most of the industries are directed to reuse the treated water for the washing and cleaning of the processing unit floors, containers, reuse for gardening purpose etc. The capacities of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are also being continuously augmented for treating urban waste water for its possible reuse.

(d) Some of the States have formulated/are formulating State policy for recycle and reuse of treated water. Polluted water, after treatment, can be recycled and reused for various purposes including irrigation, industrial processes, toilet flushing, ground water recharge etc. The extent up to which treated water can be reused will depend on various factors including quantum of treated water available, the location of Sewage Treatment Plant and its proximity to the user agency, economics of such reuse etc.

Aspirational Districts Programmes

†1530. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) funds spent on the provision of drinking water and toilets under ‘Aspirational Districts Programme’;

(b) the number of households that are being supplied with tap water and have toilet facilities in the said districts, the details thereof along with the situation prior to the introduction of the scheme thereof; and

(c) the volume of drinking water being provided to each household in the said districts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As reported by States/ UTs, ₹ 1, 085 Crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 193 Crore in 2019-20 (upto 28.11.2019) have been utilized as Central share under National Rural Drinking Water Programme, which has now been subsumed into Jal Jeevan Mission, for making provision of drinking water in rural areas of Aspirational districts. Further, ₹ 2, 820.88 Crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 1, 655.39 Crore in 2019-20 (upto 28.11.2019) have been spent as Central share on construction of toilets under Swatchh Bharat Mission-Grameen (SBM-G).

(b) The Aspirational District Programme was launched in January, 2018. As on date, 26.25 lakh households have been provided with piped water supply against 21.02 lakh households in January, 2018. Sanitation coverage in aspirational districts as on 02.10.2014 was 29.43%. So far, 1.86 Crore individual household latrines (IHHL) have been constructed in these districts. All the 1, 20, 818 villages in the aspirational districts have declared themselves as Open Defecation Free (ODF).

(c) As of November, 2019, out of 3.62 lakh rural habitations in 117 aspirational districts, 3.0 lakh habitations are fully covered with water supply provision of 40 litres or more per capita per day (lpcd) and 49, 000 habitations are partially covered *i.e.* with the provision of less than 40 lpcd.

Flooding of Sardar Sarovar dam

1531. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for allowing the Sardar Sarovar Dam to fill to such a level that over 4000 families had to be evacuated in October, 2019; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) steps taken by Government to rehabilitate these families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 18.10.2000 in Writ Petition (C) No. 319 of 1994 (Narmada Bachao Andolan Vs Union of India and others) had directed to complete the Sardar Sarovar Dam (SSD) as expeditiously as possible. Narmada Control Authority (NCA) in its 89th emergency meeting held on 16th June, 2017 after following the procedure as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court's above mentioned order granted permission for Phase-II of SSD project for "Lowering down of the gates and impounding water in the reservoir to Full Reservoir Level at Elevated Level of 138.68m" after taking note of the clearances by the Environment Sub-Group, the Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Sub-Group of NCA and consultation with the Grievance Redressal Authorities (GRAs) of Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 08.02.2017 in IA Nos.42-53 in Writ Petition (C) No.328 of 2002 (Narmada Bachao Andolan Vs. Union of India and others) had directed all Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) to be completed in 3 months and project affected families to vacate the submergence area by 31st July, 2017 failing which State Government may remove them forcibly.

Government of Madhya Pradesh (GoMP) in the 36th meeting of the Task Force of NCA on Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) concerning Sardar Sarovar Project (SSP) held on 10th August, 2018 reported that around 4000 households are residing in submergence area, though they have been paid/extended R&R benefits. However, 4000 households continued to reside in the submergence area inspite of Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 08.02.2017 in IA Nos. 42-53 in Writ Petition(C) No.328 of 2002 to vacate submergence area by 31.07.2017 and GoMP reportedly extended R&R benefits to them. They had to be evacuated due to heavy rains in the Narmada river basin and excessive releases from upstream Madhya Pradesh reservoirs.

(b) Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) Award (Clause XI, Sub-Clause-IV) mandates respective State Governments to rehabilitate project affected families. The respective State Governments have taken necessary actions as per NWDT Award stipulations, State Government liberalized policy on R&R, various decisions/directions of NCA/R&R Sub-Group of NCA, Task Force of NCA, Orders of Grievances Redressal Authority for SSP and directions of Supreme Court judgements dated 18.10.2000 and 08.02.2017 on SSP.

Allocation of funds under NRDWP

1532. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has achieved the aims and objectives of the National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP), if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) the details of the funds allocated and released by Government under the said programme during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes a scheme/programme to ensure drinking water to all by the year 2024 across the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the present status of such scheme/programme; and

(e) the other steps taken/being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Under erstwhile National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) which is coterminous with the 14th Finance commission *i.e.* upto 31.03.2020, the coverage was monitored in terms of Fully Covered (FC) habitations *i.e.* having provision of minimum 40 litre per capita per day (lpcd) of potable drinking water with sources at a reasonable distance. As reported by States/ UTs, as on 27.11.2019, 81.25% rural habitations having 76.60% population are fully covered *i.e.* service level of 40 litre or more per capita per day (lpcd) potable water and 15.53% rural habitations having 19.67% population are partially covered, *i.e.* service level of less than 40 lpcd potable water whereas 3.22% rural habitations having 3.73% population is having water sources with quality issues.

(b) State/ UT-wise details of the funds allocated and released by Government of India under erstwhile NRDWP during the last three years and under Jal Jeevan Mission (restructured and subsumed NRDWP) in the current year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Government of India has launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) with an outlay of ₹3.60 lakh Crore, which aims at providing potable water through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by 2024. As reported, as on 27.11.2019, 18.41% rural households have piped water supply with tap connection.

(e) After the launch of JJM, a conference of minister in-charge of rural water supply of various States was held in New Delhi followed by five regional workshops to discuss various aspects of JJM and modalities of the implementation. In addition, regular review of the programme is also held with States/UTs.

Statement

State/UT-wise fund allocation and releases under erstwhile NRDWP during last three years and under JJM in current year (in ₹ Crore)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20 (up to 27.11.2019)	
		Allo- cation	Rel- ease	Allo- cation	Rel- ease	Allo- cation	Rel- ease	Allo- cation	Rel- ease
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.45	0.22	0.43	0	0.62	0.31	1.45	0.5
2.	Andhra Pradesh	181.02	204	159.51	233.09	197.56	185.85	303.47	151.73
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	100.89	92.84	77.51	63.08	96.95	90.89	110.47	55.23
4.	Assam	401.43	348.06	524.1	474.8	567.89	300.76	578.65	339.33
5.	Bihar	311.7	373.81	394.53	355.6	476.63	234.84	638.9	301.58
6.	Chhattisgarh	70.65	84.28	64.33	49.84	95.47	48.19	169.42	65.82
7.	Goa	2.44	1.19	2.32	0	3.34	1.67	6.16	0
8.	Gujarat	281.14	278.5	231.62	290.86	237.09	222.27	317.85	-158.93
9.	Haryana	114.53	111.53	118.95	88.82	81.88	76.76	122.12	61.06
10.	Himachal Pradesh	69.65	83.31	66.02	101.85	91.12	85.43	121.07	60.54
11.	Jammu and Kashmir (including Ladakh)	232.88	225.14	222.26	325.33	309.07	249.34	397.96	188.67
12.	Jharkhand	115.86	131.74	172.68	209.09	207.97	85.12	218	104.76
13.	Karnataka	360.07	343.72	290.86	365.81	331.04	276.06	444.69	222.34
14.	Kerala	62.54	75.22	56.88	95.16	90.37	84.86	202.58	101.29
15.	Madhya Pradesh	213.87	232.26	195.67	135.51	274.09	243.62	465.49	232.74
16.	Maharashtra	413.57	404.45	338.13	282.47	474.16	239.06	690.55	345.27
17.	Manipur	41.83	39.38	32.2	66.25	40.25	37.73	56.41	28.20
18.	Meghalaya	42.02	40.42	41.86	85.91	52.43	49.15	71.69	35.84
19.	Mizoram	25.33	24.49	22.4	46.1	28	26.25	33.22	16.61
20.	Nagaland	37.93	36.84	27.66	17.88	34.72	17.36	47.07	23.54
21.	Odisha	114.99	134.96	102.69	83.59	154.99	128.82	297.03	148.51

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
22.	Puducherry	0.86	0.29	0.82	0	1.29	0	2.03	0
23.	Punjab	46.02	51.89	115.25	173.29	125.97	119.41	185.24	92.62
24.	Rajasthan	1, 114.55	1, 072.92	891.95	714.24	692.13	655.41	856.47	428.24
25.	Sikkim	14.77	19.42	9.3	17.51	11.62	10.89	12.85	6.42
26.	Tamil Nadu	155.29	174.68	121.61	185.1	180.99	167.31	302.89	151.45
27.	Telangana	117.03	133.09	775.01	843.56	131.4	123.18	211.04	105.52
28.	Tripura	39.48	43.73	32.26	83.93	55.18	51.73	89.71	1.09
29.	Uttar Pradesh	602.41	621.95	539.09	472.52	713.95	670.72	947.14	623.57
30.	Uttarakhand	90.88	71.86	68.42	110.28	99.17	92.97	138.87	69.43
31.	West Bengal	437.17	418.97	810.48	996.68	917.82	890.28	809.37	404.69

Source: IMIS, DDWS.

Awareness campaign for cleaning Ganga

1533. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) the details for the various initiatives carried by Government in order to restore Ganga's 'Aviralta' and 'Nirmalta' during the last three years;

(b) whether Government has launched a unique open-water rafting and kayaking expedition on the river Ganga to create awareness on Ganga rejuvenation and water conservation recently, if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the various awareness exercises along the expedition carried out by the team;

(d) whether Government is successful in popularizing the said awareness campaign; and

(e) the other steps taken by Government in this regard to create awareness among people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Cleaning of river is a continuous process and the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.

Under Namami Gange Programme, diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up. These include pollution abatement activities including sewage, industrial effluent, solid waste etc., river front management, aviraldhara, rural sanitation, afforestation, biodiversity conservation, public participation along with the initiatives taken by Government towards Aviralta (continuous flow) of river Ganga.

A TOTAL of 305 projects have so far been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 28, 613.75 Crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation.

(b) The National Mission for Clean Ganga organised a River Rafting and Kayaking Expedition named 'Ganga Aamantran' from Devprayag to Gangasagar. aimed at creating awareness about Ganga Rejuvenation and Water Conservation. The expedition also drew attention to the ecological challenges being faced by Ganga during its journey over the five Ganga basin states *i.e.* Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal, with 34 halt at locations including Rishikesh, Haridwar, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Varanasi, Patna, and Kolkata.

(c) and (d) The team, during the expedition, took up public awareness campaigns on the various locations at which they stopped. They organised mass cleaning drives on Ghats and streets, interacted with students of the village/city and spread the message of river conservation. These public participation programmes were duly supported by local organisations. Several cultural programmes, rallies were organised involving youths, students and general public.

The expedition concluded successfully achieving the intended objectives in large measures. The response of the local population and specially students throughout the expedition was very encouraging. This was the longest rafting expedition on Ganga in terms of Total length covering over 2, 500 kms and one of the biggest social campaigns in the world through an adventure sporting event and the message touched large number of people all the way through direct and indirect contacts.

(e) NMCG is committed to make Ganga Cleaning Programme a People's Movement and towards this goal, it organises several public outreach programmes to connect with people and directly carry messages to them. Some of the interventions are mass cleaning drives, ghat cleaning drives, organising campaigns, putting up exhibitions, conducting quiz and other competitions etc.

Setting up of desalinisation plants

1534. SHRI SYED NASIR HUSSAIN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken to promote desalinisation of water in States where ever possible;
- (b) the States which can be benefitted from desalinisation;
- (c) the cost of setting up of a desalinisation plant; and
- (d) the assistance required, if any, from any other country for setting up of desalinisation plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Drinking water supply is a State subject and Government of India assists States by providing financial and technical assistance to provide potable water to rural population through centrally sponsored scheme Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM). Powers to plan, approve, and implement rural water supply schemes are vested with States.

- (b) Coast States/UTs with access to seawater can set up the desalination plant.

(c) The cost of desalination plant depends on a number of factors *inter alia* which includes technology used and cost of electricity. The actual cost of setting up of a desalination plant can be discovered through tendering process.

- (d) The States can seek assistance from other country as per laid down procedures.

Deadline for cleaning of river Ganga

1535. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the deadline for cleaning up the river Ganga has been revised the second time from 2019 to 2020 and finally to 2021; and
- (b) if so, the reasons for the delay and extension thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.

So far, a Total of 305 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹28, 613.75 crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and made operational; rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation.

The pace of these projects have gathered momentum and all efforts are being made to complete these projects well within the respective timelines.

Cleaning of rivers is a continuous process; close monitoring and efforts are being made to complete all the sanctioned projects for river Ganga by March 2022, creating required sewage treatment capacity.

Implementation of JSA

1536. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) has been implemented all over the country:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of targets set under the scheme and the present stage of implementation of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) Government of India has launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in 256 water-stressed districts of the country. The State-wise details showing the number of districts covered under JSA is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) As JSA is a water conservation campaign through community mobilisation and convergence, as such no targets have been set under JSA. This Campaign aims to promote water conservation and water resource management by focusing on accelerated implementation of five target interventions, viz. water conservation and rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse and recharge of bore wells, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

JSA is carried out in two phases. Phase I was carried out from 1st July, 2019 to 30th September, 2019 for all States. For States/UTs with retreating monsoon namely Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Puducherry, the campaign is also continued from 1st October, 2019 to 30th November, 2019 in Phase-II.

Statement*State-wise number of districts implementing
Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA)*

Sl. No.	State Name	No. of District implementing JSA
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
2.	Andhra Pradesh	9
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1
4.	Assam	1
5.	Bihar	12
6.	Chandigarh	1
7.	Chhattisgarh	2
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1
9.	Daman and Diu	1
10.	Delhi	10
11.	Goa	1
12.	Gujarat	5
13.	Haryana	19
14.	Himachal Pradesh	4
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
16.	Jharkhand	2
17.	Karnataka	18
18.	Kerala	2
19.	Lakshadweep	1
20.	Madhya Pradesh	11
21.	Maharashtra	8
22.	Manipur	1
23.	Meghalaya	1
24.	Mizoram	1
25.	Nagaland	1

1	2	3
26.	Odisha	1
27.	Puducherry	1
28.	Punjab	20
29.	Rajasthan	29
30.	Sikkim	1
31.	Tamil Nadu	27
32.	Telangana	24
33.	Tripura	1
34.	Uttar Pradesh	35
35.	Uttarakhand	1
36.	West Bengal	1
	TOTAL	256

Contamination of heavy metals in drinking water

1537. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of permissible limits of arsenic, fluoride, mercury and other heavy metals in drinking water as per the international norms;
- (b) the details of the level of contamination of heavy metals in drinking water in the country, State-wise and metal-wise;
- (c) whether there is any decrease or increase in contamination level of heavy metals in drinking water since last five years; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) As per existing guidelines, IS 10500 is to be adopted for ensuring safe drinking water supply, as per the standard, the details of permissible limits of Arsenic, Fluoride, Mercury and other heavy metals is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) As reported by States, as on 27.11.2019, the details of habitations having drinking water sources with heavy metal contamination is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) and (d) As reported by States, the year-wise details of habitations having drinking water sources with heavy metal contamination, are given below.

Sl. No.	State	As on 01.04.2016	As on 01.04.2017	As on 01.04.2018	As on 01.04.2019	As on 01.04.2020
1.	Assam	6	7	7	7	7
2.	Karnataka	3	1	1	1	1
3.	Punjab	2080	2222	1947	1899	1853
4.	West Bengal	0	276	265	255	254
	TOTAL	2089	2506	2220	2162	2115

Source: IMIS, DDWs

Statement-I

Details of Permissible Limits of Arsenic, Fluoride and Heavy Metals in drinking water as per BIS standard IS 10500:2012

Sl. No.	Characteristic	Unit	Requirement (Acceptable Limit)	Permissible Limit in the absence of alternate source
1.	Arsenic	Milligram/litre	0.01	No relaxation
2.	Fluoride	Milligram/litre	1.0	1.5
3.	Iron	Milligram/litre	1.0	No relaxation
4.	Selenium	Milligram/litre	0.01	No relaxation
5.	Zinc	Milligram/litre	5.0	15.0
6.	Mercury	Milligram/litre	0.001	No relaxation
7.	Lead	Milligram/litre	0.01	No relaxation
8.	Copper	Milligram/litre	0.05	1.5
9.	Chromium	Milligram/litre	0.05	No relaxation
10.	Cadmium	Milligram/litre	0.003	No relaxation
11.	Manganese	Milligram/litre	0.1	0.3
12.	Aluminum	Milligram/litre	0.03	0.2

Statement-II

Details of Number of habitations having drinking water sources with heavy metal contamination as on 27.11.2019

Sl. No.	State	Manganese	Aluminum	Mercury	Uranium	Lead	Cad- mium	Chr- omium	Selenium	Zinc	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Assam	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
2.	Karnataka	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
3.	Punjab	1	419	19	455	525	107	4	322	1	1853
4.	West Begngal	254	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	254
TOTAL		263	419	19	455	525	107	4	322	1	2115

Source: IMIS, DDWS

Clean Ganga Drive

†1538. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the targeted progress is not being achieved under clean Ganga drive which aims at the rejuvenation of Ganga and other rivers;
- (b) if so, the reasons which are hampering the revival of rivers; and
- (c) the regions where river Ganga becomes more polluted and the steps taken to clean up the wastes of rivers in those regions along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Cleaning of river is a continuous process and the Government of India is supplementing the efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga and other rivers by providing financial and technical assistance.

Regarding Ganga, Namami Gange Programme an integrated umbrella programme to ensure effective abatement of pollution and conservation of river Ganga by adopting a river basin approach for comprehensive planning and management has been launched under which diverse set of interventions for cleaning and rejuvenation of river Ganga have been taken up. These include pollution abatement activities including sewage, industrial effluent, Solid Waste etc., River Front Management, Aviral Dhara, Rural Sanitation, Afforestation, Biodiversity Conservation, Public Participation etc.

So far, a Total of 305 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 28, 613.75 crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and made operational; rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation. The pace of these projects have gathered momentum and all efforts are being made to complete these projects well within the respective timelines.

Regarding other rivers, assistance is provided to State Governments for abatement of pollution in identified stretches of various rivers (under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) on cost sharing basis between the Central and State Governments for taking up various pollution abatement works relating to interception and diversion of raw sewage, construction of sewerage systems, setting up of sewage treatment plants, low cost sanitation, river front/bathing ghat development, etc.

The NRCP has so far covered polluted stretches of 34 rivers in 77 towns spread over 16 States in the country at a sanctioned cost of ₹ 5870.54 crore. Central share of ₹ 2452.35 crore has been released to the State Governments for implementation of various pollution abatement schemes. Sewage treatment capacity (STP) of 2522.03 mld (million litres per day) has been created under the NRCP resulting in reduction in pollution load being discharged into the various rivers.

Rivers in the country are mainly polluted due to discharge of untreated and partially treated sewage from cities/towns and industrial effluents. Non-point sources of pollution like agricultural runoff, runoff from solid waste dump sites, etc. also contribute to pollution of river.

(c) There were four polluted river stretches of river Ganga identified during 2018 based on the water quality data of 2016 and 2017 as provided in Table given below:—

Table: State-wise & Priority wise number of Polluted Stretches on River Ganga

State	Stretch Identified	BOD Range (mg/l)	Priority*
Uttarakhand	Haridwar To Sultanpur	6.6	IV
Uttar Pradesh	Kannauj To Varanasi	3.5-8.8	IV
Bihar	Buxar To Bhagalpur	3.2-4.2	V
West Bengal	Tribeni To Diamond Harbour	5.0-12.2	III

*The identified Polluted River Stretches were classified under Priority Classes such as Priority Class I (exceeding BOD 30 mg/l), Priority Class II (BOD between 20-30 mg/l), Priority Class III (BOD between 10-20 mg/l), Priority Class IV (BOD between 6-10 mg/l) and Priority Class V (BOD between 3-6 mg/l).

The following steps have been taken for reduction of pollution level in Ganga to ensure cleaning of the river at the earliest in a sustainable manner:—

- (i) All four polluted river stretches of river Ganga fall under Priority class III, IV and V for which Action Plan is being implemented under the overall supervision of River Rejuvenation Committee in the five Ganga main stem states.

- (ii) Scientific assessment of sewage treatment capacity along Ganga for projected population in 2035 and long term operation and maintenance for 15 years have been made part of the project cost for ensuring sustained performance.
- (iii) In the four polluted stretches, a Total of 75 sewerage projects have been taken up creating a Sewage Treatment capacity of 1, 990 MLD. Out of these 22 projects have been completed, 53 projects are under implementation. The stretch-wise details of the sewerage projects are given in table below:

*Table: State-wise and Polluted Stretch-wise Sewerage
Projects on River Ganga*

State	Stretch Identified	Total No. of Projects	STP capacity (MLD)	No. of Projects Comp- leted	Under Imple- mentation
Uttarakhand	Haridwar To Sultanpur	6	100	5	1
Uttar Pradesh	Kannauj To Varanasi	27	671	13	14
Bihar	Buxar To Bhagalpur	26	606	1	25
West Bengal	Tribeni To Diamond Harbour	16	613	-	13
TOTAL		75	1, 990	22	53

However, as per the latest CPCB water quality data available for river Ganga (January to October, 2019), there are no polluted stretches in Uttarakhand and Bihar. Further improvement in water quality has taken place in terms of BOD in the other polluted stretches viz. KANNAUJ TO VARANASI in Uttar Pradesh (BOD range: 2.65-4.4 mg/l) and TRIBENI TO DIAMOND HARBOUR in West Bengal (BOD range: 2.05-4.1 mg/l). With the completion of projects under implementation, the pollution is expected to reduce further.

- (iv) Inventorisation of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPIs) along Ganga with 100% annual inspection thereof by independent institutions and action on non-complying industries have led to improvement in compliance.
- (v) 20 MLD Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) project for Jajmau tannery cluster at Kanpur has been taken up.
- (vi) All 4465 Ganga villages have been made Open Defecation Free (ODF).

- (vii) River Surface cleaning activities through trash skimmers and projects for cleaning of ghats have been taken up.

**Compensation to families displaced by
construction of dams**

1539. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total number of families displaced by construction of dams, State-wise;
- (b) the number of people who are eligible for compensation under various Tribunals and Supreme Court orders who have been displaced due to the construction of dams, State-wise; and
- (c) the Total number of people eligible for compensation and those who have been granted the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) The Water Resources Projects are planned, funded, executed and maintained by the concerned State Governments themselves as per their own resources and priority. The land acquisition (LA) and Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R & R) works of such projects are also carried out by the concerned State Governments. In order to supplement their efforts, Government of India provides technical and financial assistance to encourage sustainable development and efficient management of water resources through various schemes and programmes.

Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP), declared as National Project under Section 90 of Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act-2014, is being implemented through an Authority [Polavaram Project Authority (PPA)] constituted by this Ministry. The works of Rehabilitation and Resettlement (R & R) are being carried out by the State Govt. The State Government has set up district level grievance cell for sorting out grievances of displaced people, if any. Commissioner (R & R), Govt, of Andhra Pradesh is the Appellate Authority at State level to dispose off any appeal against the decision(s) of district level grievance cell.

There are 1, 05, 601 Project Displaced Families (PDFs) due to Polavaram Project and R & R works in respect of 3922 PDFs have been completed as reported by the State Government.

Piped water supply to rural households

1540. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government in consultation with States has evolved a roadmap for rolling out Jal Jeevan Mission aimed at providing piped water supply to more than 18 crore rural households while generating 12 lakh jobs;

(b) whether States have been asked to work on a three-pronged plan including retrofitting and identifying a surface water or underground source for ready connectivity and also working on long gestation projects like in Bundelkhand; and

(c) whether Government has proposed levying a nominal user charge, capped at 10 per cent of piping spend to inculcate a feeling of involvement of the user in a public-ownership project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Government of India in consultation with States, have launched Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM), which aims at providing potable drinking water to every rural household through Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC) by the year 2024. With the proposed outlay of ₹ 3.60 lakh Crore in five years, JJM will boost the rural economy and also generate employment opportunities.

(b) States have been asked to plan with bottom up approach *inter alia* which includes retrofitting of existing piped water schemes, ground water based schemes and multi-village schemes based on surface water sources to provide functional household tap connection.

(c) To instil 'sense of ownership' among village community, provision has been made for community contribution to the tune of 5% of the capital cost of in-village infrastructure in cash and/or kind and/or labour in hilly and forested areas/North Eastern and Himalayan States and villages having more than 50% Scheduled Castes and/ or Scheduled Tribes population, and 10% for other areas. Further, Gram Panchayats or its sub-committee i.e. user group like Village Water and Sanitation Committee or Pani Samiti is expected to manage, operate and maintain the in-village water supply system for which Government will provide 10% of the capital cost as incentive/ revolving fund and households to meet the expenditure on regular operation and maintenance.

Water scarcity in Tamil Nadu

1541. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States and districts that have faced water scarcity in the year 2018-19;
- (b) the efforts made by Government to ensure that water scarcity does not arise again in the State of Tamil Nadu post the scarcity in the city of Chennai in 2019; and
- (c) how the proposed amendment to the inter-State river water dispute for the year 2019, will resolve existing water sharing disputes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) Water is a State subject. The identification of water scarce/drought hit areas is done by States. After identification of such areas, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare is approached by States for financial assistance. The details of States and districts, which were affected by drought during the year 2018-19 and to whom financial assistance was provided from National Disaster Response Fund, is given in the Statement (See below). Further, the Government of Tamil Nadu also intimated that its 24 districts (Chennai, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Karur, Salem, Vellore, Tiruchirapalli, Perambalur, Tiruvallur, Namakkal, Virudhunagar, Kancheepuram, Madurai, Dindigul, Erode, Pudukottai, Sivagangai, Thanjavur, Viluppuram, Tiruvannamalai, Ariyalur, Nagapattinam, Cuddalore and Ramnathpuram) faced water scarcity and were declared as hydrological drought affected during the -year 2018-19.

(b) Government of India has launched Jal Shakti Abhiyan (JSA) in two phases, Phase-I from 1st July, 2019 to 30th September, 2019 and Phase-II from 1st October, 2019 to 30th November, 2019 in the Southern States which receive retreating monsoon. During the campaign, officers, groundwater experts and scientists from the Government of India have worked with State and District officials in 256 water-stressed districts of various States including Tamil Nadu to promote water conservation and water resource management by focusing on accelerated implementation of five target interventions, viz. water conservation & rainwater harvesting, renovation of traditional and other water bodies/tanks, reuse and recharge of bore wells, watershed development and intensive afforestation.

Government of India launched the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) on 25th June, 2015 in 500 cities across the country. The water supply component under AMRUT includes augmentation and rehabilitation of water

supply system, rejuvenation of water bodies for drinking water supply, special water supply arrangement for difficult areas, hills and coastal cities, etc. Similarly, sewerage component includes recycling of water for beneficial purposes and reuse of water. In Tamil Nadu, 33 cities including Chennai have been covered under AMRUT.

In the State of Tamil Nadu, various steps have been taken to recharge the aquifer and thereby augmenting the groundwater level by constructing ground water harvesting structures. Apart from this, dug well recharge scheme, roof top rainwater harvesting, etc., were also implemented to harvest the rainwater. Rain water harvesting structures is mandatory in all the domestic and commercial buildings. Under the Tamil Nadu Irrigated Agriculture Modernization and Water Bodies Restoration and Management (TN IAMWARM II) Project, aided by the World Bank, 45 numbers of artificial recharge wells in 45 tanks in 12 sub basins are being constructed.

(c) The Inter-State River Water Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 2019 seeks to streamline the adjudication of inter-State river water disputes and make the present legal and institutional architecture robust. The proposed Bill seeks to provide for a single standing Tribunal (with multiple Benches) instead of multiple Tribunals. Enactment of the amendments will facilitate faster adjudication of water disputes.

Statement

Details of States and Districts affected by drought

State	No. of Districts	Name of the affected districts
1	2	3
Karnataka (Kharif)	24	Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Ramangaram, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Tumkur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Chamarajanagar, Mandya, Bellary, Koppal, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgir, Bidar, Belgavi, Bagalkote, Vijayapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad, Hassan, Chikkamagalur
Karnataka (Rabi)	30	Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Ramangaram, Kolar, Chikkaballapura, Tumkur, Chitradurga, Davanagere, Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Mandya, Bellary, Koppal, Raichur, Kalaburgi, Yadgir, Bidar,

1	2	3
		Belgavi, Bagalkote, Vijayapura, Gadag, Haveri, Dharwad, Shivamogga, Hassan, Chikkamagalur, Kodagu, Dakshina Kannada, Udupi, Uttara Kannada
Andhra Pradesh	9	Kadapa, Ananthapuram, Chittoor, Kurnool, Prakasam, Nellore, Viziayanagaram, Krishna, Guntur
Rajasthan	9	Barmer, Hanumangarh, Jaisalmer, Jalore, Jodhpur, Pali, Bikaner, Churu, Nagaur
Jharkhand	18	Ranchi, Ramgarh, Latehar, Pakur, Giridih, Khunti, Garhwa, Deoghar, Dhanbad, Lohardaga, Koderma, Godda, Jamtara, Chatra, Bokaro, Palamu, Sahibganj, Dumka
Gujarat	11	Ahmedabad, Banaskatha, Bhavnagar, Devbhumi Dwarka, Jamnagar, Kutch, Mahesana, Morbi, Patan, Rajkot, Surendranagar
Maharashtra	26	Palghar, Nashik, Dhule, Nandurbar, Jalgaon, Ahmednagar, Pune, Solapur, Satara, Sangli, Aurangabad, Jalna, Beed, latur, Osmanabad, Naded, parbhani, Hingoli, Buldhana, Akola, Washim, Amravat, Yavatmal, Wardha, Nagpur, Chandrapur

Re-tendering for Polavaram project works

1542. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has taken up re-tendering for entire balance works of Polavaram National Project;

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

(c) whether Government considers it necessary to prepare Revised Cost Estimates for Polavaram Works consequent upon this re-tendering process;

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to curtail the delay in execution of project due to this re-tendering process; and

(e) the estimated date of completion of the project in its full shape?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) As per the Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No. F.No.1(2)/PF 1/2014 (Pt) dated 30.09.2016, the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is executing the Polavaram Irrigation Project (PIP) on behalf of the Government of India.

As informed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, an Expert Committee constituted by it in June, 2019 suggested to go for fresh tenders for balance works of Irrigation Project. Thereafter, tenders were called by the State for balance works of main dam package and left side connectivities of headworks in August, 2019.

(c) Advisory Committee of Ministry of Jal Shakti (erstwhile MoWR, RD & GR) in its 141st meeting held on 11.02.2019 accepted the Second Revised Cost Estimate at 2017-18 PL (Price Level) for an amount of ₹ 55, 548.87 Cr. Further, as per the State Government, retendering is not linked with Revised Cost Estimate (RCE).

(d) and (e) As reported by the State Government, an agreement has been concluded for construction of balance headworks of PIP with M/s Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited in November, 2019 for ₹ 1548.13 Cr by December, 2021. Also, an agreement has been concluded for the completion of balance work of Left Side Connectivities of Head Works with M/s MAX Infra (I) Limited in November, 2019 for ₹ 231.47 Cr. by end of May 2021.

National Mission for Clean Ganga

1543. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) status of the National Mission for Clean Ganga;
- (b) the percentage reduction in the pollution levels of the river Ganga; and
- (c) the details of the steps being taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) is supplementing the

efforts of the State Governments in addressing the challenges of pollution of river Ganga by providing financial and technical assistance.

So far, a Total of 305 projects have been sanctioned at an estimated cost of ₹ 28, 613.75 crore, out of which 109 projects have been completed and made operational; rest of the projects are at various stages of implementation.

For Ganga mainstem cities/town, projects have been taken up to create 3308 Million Litres per Day (MLD) sewage treatment capacity against the generation of 2953 MLD (Year 2016). The sewage treatment capacity in Ganga main stem towns have now increased from 1305 MLD (Year 2014) to 1954 MLD, excluding 410 MLD sewage treatment through East Kolkata Wetland. Cleaning of rivers is a continuous process; close monitoring and efforts are being made to complete all the sanctioned projects by March 2022, creating required sewage treatment capacity.

(b) Water quality in River Ganga gets affected due to discharge of sewage from drains, industrial effluents and to an extent by solid waste. The observed water quality indicates that Dissolved Oxygen which is an indicator of river health has been found to be within acceptable limits of notified primary bathing water quality criteria and satisfactory to support the ecosystem of river across all seasons and also for almost entire stretch of river Ganga.

Due to various pollution abatement initiatives taken by the Government under the Namami Gange Programme, the water quality assessment of river Ganga in 2019 has shown improved water quality trends as compared to 2014. The Dissolved Oxygen levels have improved at 32 locations, Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD) levels and Faecal coliforms have decreased at 39 and 18 locations, respectively.

This has also been elaborated by reduction in key parameters such as (a) Estimated effluent generation has been reduced from 433 MLD (Million litres per day) in 2017 to 301 MLD in 2018 (30% reduction) (b) Estimated pollution load has been reduced from 23 TPD (Tonnes per day) in 2017 to 19 TPD in 2018 (17 % reduction) (c) Compliance of industries with respect to effluent discharge norms has been increased *i.e.* from 39% in 2017 to 69% in 2018 (d) Zero discharge of spent wash/black liquor achieved from Distillery/Pulp and Paper Industries, (e) Six percent reduction in discharge from 148 drains in 2019 as compared to 151 drains in 2018.

(c) Following steps have been taken for reduction of pollution level in Ganga to ensure cleaning of the river at the earliest in a sustainable manner:

- (i) Scientific assessment of sewage treatment capacity along Ganga for projected population in 2035 and long term operation and maintenance for 15 years have been made part of the project cost for ensuring sustained performance.
- (ii) Effective interventions, under the basin-approach, have been made for pollution abatement efforts for various polluted stretches of the key tributaries of river Ganga such as Yamuna, Ramganga, Kali, Gomti, Saryu, Gandak, Ghaghara, etc.
- (iii) Inventorisation of Grossly Polluting Industries (GPI) along Ganga with 100% annual inspection thereof by independent institution and action on non-complying industries have led to improvement in compliance.
- (iv) 20 MLD Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) project for Jajmau tannery cluster at Kanpur has been taken up.
- (v) All 4465 Ganga villages have been made Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- (vi) River Surface cleaning activities through trash skimmers and projects for cleaning of ghats have been taken up.
- (vii) Environmental flows have been notified on October 9, 2018, mandating a minimum level of flow for Ganga in Uttarakhand and upto Unnao in Uttar Pradesh.

Rainwater harvesting in new constructions

1544. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the regulations requiring installation of rainwater harvesting plants in new constructions are not being followed;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the plans to ensure adherence to these regulations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (c) As per information received from Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, the Model Building Bye Laws, 2016, has been issued for guidance of the States/UTs which has a chapter on 'Rainwater Harvesting'. The provisions of this chapter are applicable to all the buildings having a plot size of 100 sq.m. or more. 33 States/UTs have adopted the rainwater harvesting provisions. The implementation of the rainwater

harvesting policy comes within the purview of the State Government/Urban Local Body / Urban Development Authority.

Further, installation of rainwater harvesting structures is one of the mandatory conditions for grant of No Objection Certificate (NOC) by Central Ground Water Authority (CGWA) for groundwater abstraction by industries/infrastructure/mining projects. Compliance of this condition is mandatory for renewal of NOC. CGWA has also appointed the District Magistrate/District Collector of each Revenue District and Regional Directors of CGWB as Authorized Officers, with power to enforce compliance of NOC conditions.

**Long-term loan to Maharashtra for
irrigation projects**

1545. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Maharashtra Government has sent any proposal to borrow a longterm loan of ₹ 15, 000 crore to complete 52 ongoing irrigation projects, which will create 28.70 lakh hectares of additional irrigation capacity;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of financial assistance provided to Maharashtra State by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) during the last three years under various schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) As informed by the Government of Maharashtra, the State Government had given approval on 9th September, 2019 to take loan of ₹ 15, 000 crore for completion of 52 ongoing projects with irrigation potential of 2.8 lac hectare. Further, the State Government has also informed that NABARD has been approached for loan facilitation of ₹ 15, 000 crore.

- (c) As informed by the NABARD, the State of Maharashtra has been provided financial assistance under the schemes namely Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF), Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF) and NABARD Infrastructure Development Assistance (NIDA). The details of amount disbursed by the NABARD to Maharashtra under these schemes during the last 3 years is as under:

(₹ in crore)

Scheme	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
RIDF	850.56	904.52	937.70
LTIF	1723.58	1959.26	3293.88
NIDA	-	-	568.00
TOTAL	2574.14	2863.78	4799.58

**Status of mahanadi tribunal on inter-State
water dispute**

1546. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the progress made by Mahanadi Tribunal in resolving the inter-State water dispute relating to Mahanadi river between Odisha and Chhattisgarh;
- (b) the role of Government in this matter and the views placed by it before the Tribunal;
- (c) the reasons for the delay in coming to a final decision for the resolution of this dispute by the Tribunal; and
- (d) whether the Central Government is providing full support to the Mahanadi Tribunal for facilitating its activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) to (d) The Central Government has constituted Mahanadi Water Disputes Tribunal on 12.03.2018 for adjudication of water dispute regarding inter-State river Mahanadi, and the reference of the water dispute requested by Government of Odisha has been made by the Central Government to the Tribunal in April, 2018. Hearing before the tribunal is going on.

Setting up NWM for water conservation

1547. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of JAL SHAKTI be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up National Water Mission towards water conservation, augmentation and preservation of water in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) present demand and supply of surface and ground water in the country and the future trend report and availability for next 50 years therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF JAL SHAKTI (SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA): (a) and (b) The Government of India has set up National Water Mission in 2011 under National Action Plan for Climate Change. The main objective of the National Water Mission is conservation of water, minimizing wastage and ensuring its more equitable distribution both across and within States through integrated water resources development.

(c) Demand and supply of surface and ground water in India and future trend and availability of water has been estimated as follows:

(All Figures in BCM)

Average Water Resource Potential	Utilizable Water	Water Requirement (High Demand) Scenario	
		Year 2025	Year 2050
1999.2	Surface Water: 690 Ground Water: 447	843	1180
	TOTAL: 1137		

Note : BCM-Billion Cubic Meter.

Manufacturing orders received by MSMEs

1548. SHRI K. T. S. TULSI: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state the details of average rate, in percentage and number, of manufacturing orders received by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) units in India during the last four years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): Under the Public Procurement Policy notified by the Ministry of MSME, the Central Ministries/Departments/Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) have to make at least 25% of annual procurement from Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs) including 4% from MSEs owned by SC/ST and 3% from MSEs owned by Women.

To monitor the progress of procurement made by the CPSEs and Government Departments, Ministry of MSME has launched "MSME Sambandh portal".

As per information uploaded on Sambandh portal during the years 2017-18 to 2019-20 (till 27.11.2019), the details of annual procurement of goods and services from MSEs by the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) are as under:

Year	Total Procurement (₹ In Crore)	Procurement From MSEs (₹ In Crore)	Percentage of Procurement from MSEs	No. of MSEs Benefitted
2017-18	114042.05	26357.46	23.11	89631
2018-19	153309.17	40434.08	26.31	127705
2019-20 (Till 27.11.2019)	61194.07	17720.27	28.96	65920

Schemes run by Government to encourage MSMEs

†1549. MS. SAROJ PANDEY: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state the details of schemes currently being run by Government to encourage Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and to make their products globally recognized and the number of entrepreneurs who would be benefitted by these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) implements various schemes to support MSMEs for enhancing competitiveness and marketability of products/services. These include Financial Support to MSMEs in ZED Certification Scheme, Marketing Assistance and Technology Upgradation Programme, Procurement and Marketing Support Scheme, Micro and Small Enterprises-Cluster Development Programme (MSE-CDP), Tool Rooms and Technology Centers, Entrepreneurship Skill Development Programme (ESDP), Credit Guarantee Scheme for Micro and Small Enterprises (MSEs), Building Awareness on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) and Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Upgradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS).

Amendments to MSME Development Act

1550. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to end difference between the manufacturing

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and services sector and amend the provisions of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development Act to do away with the current system of classifying units based on the capital deployed in plant and machinery and to make turnover of units as basis for classification; and

(b) if so, the reasons for replacement of investment based system and amendment of current system of classification and the details of the new proposed system of classification of units and provisions to end the difference between the manufacturing and the services sector?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) A bill to seek amendment to the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Act, 2006, for change in the criterion of classification of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises from 'investment in plant and machinery/equipments' to 'turnover' was introduced in the Parliament. The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (Amendment) Bill, 2018, is deemed to have lapsed on dissolution of the Sixteenth Lok Sabha on 25.05.2019.

Launching of Bharat craft

1551. SHRI SANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to launch Bharat Craft, an e-commerce portal, on the lines of Alibaba and Amazon, if so, details and objective thereof behind the move;

(b) whether this e-commerce portal will provide a platform for MSMEs to market and sell their products and boost sector, if so, details thereof;

(c) details regarding potential of this portal in terms of revenue generation in coming years;

(d) number of days likely to be cut down after usage of portal for orders to be delivered; and

(e) other steps proposed by Government to make this portal competitive with three big players?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) National Small Industries Corporation, a PSU under the

Ministry of MSME already has a B2B MSME Global Mart Portal and efforts have been made to further strengthen activities under it. The salient features of the portal include online registration, web store management, multiple payment options, customer support through Call Centre and enhanced security features.

(d) and (e) The revenue generation from the portal will depend on membership of the portal.

Competitive advantage of SMEs in global market

1552. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) engaged in developing countries, normally produce traditional items of inferior quality accompanied with low productivity and they mainly cater to the small local markets and that an accelerated technical change for making the SMEs to establish a competitive advantage in the global market is difficult; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) MSMEs contribute 29.7% of GDP and 49.66% of Indian Exports. Government has taken various initiatives to enhance the competitiveness of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) through schemes such as Credit Linked Capital Subsidy and Technology Upgradation Scheme (CLCS-TUS), Micro and Small Enterprises - Cluster Development Programme, Procurement and Marketing Support and support for MSMEs to participate in international exhibitions / trade fairs, conferences / summits/ workshops.

MSME units associated with auto industry

†1553. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) units associated with auto industry are going through a period of great crisis;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that a substantial number of labourers working in these industries are on the brink of starvation;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to help these labourers get over this crisis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI): (a) to (c) reports indicate cyclical slowdown in vehicle sales during April-September, 2019 as compared to the same period in last year. Ministry of MSME has not received any report on job loss in Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) units associated with auto sector.

(d) Some of the steps taken by the Government to counter automotive slowdown include reduction in Corporate Tax from 30% to 22%, linking of repo rate to interest charged for vehicle purchased, etc.

**Participation of the transgender community
in MSMEs**

1554. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government collects data separately on industries owned by transgenders;

(b) if not, whether Government proposes to take steps to collect the same;

(c) if so, the data for the years 2016-19 separately on the number of industries owned by transgenders; and

(d) whether Government proposes to make schemes aimed at an increased participation from the transgender community?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is implementing Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme (PMEGP), which is a major credit-linked subsidy programme aimed at generating self-employment opportunities through establishment of micro-enterprises in the non-farm sector by helping traditional artisans and rural/urban unemployed youth. Any individual, including transgender, above 18 years of age is eligible under PMEGP for setting up of projects upto ₹ 25 lakh in the manufacturing sector and ₹ 10 lakh in the service sector. General category beneficiaries can

avail margin money subsidy of 25 % of the project cost in rural areas and 15% in urban areas. For beneficiaries belonging to special categories such as Scheduled Caste/ Scheduled Tribe/OBC /minorities/women, ex-serviceman, physically handicapped, NER, Hill and Border areas etc., the margin money subsidy is 35% in rural areas and 25% in urban areas. The above benefit can be availed under PMEGP for setting up of new units only.

An additional component of Financial Assistance is also available under the programme for expansion/upgrading the existing PMEGP/MUDRA units, which are performing well in terms of turnover, profit making and loan repayment (for manufacturing unit upto ₹ 1.00 crore and for service/ trading unit upto ₹ 25.00 lakh with subsidy of 15% for non NER and 20% for NER and hilly state) from the year 2018-19.

Number of new units under PMEGP set up by transgender for FY 2018-19 and 2019-20 (up to 26.11.2019) is given below:—

Year	State	No. of projects	Margin Money (₹ in lakhs)	Employment (Numbers)
2018-19	Manipur	1	0.53	8
	Odisha	2	5.28	16
2019-20 (as on 26.11.2019)	Gujarat	1	8.62	8
	Tamilnadu	1	0.62	8

Closure of MSME units

†1555. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) have been closed due to the downfall in the demand of the small and medium parts;

(b) the details of the production from small and medium parts in the MSMEs during the last five years, year-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether people have lost their jobs due to closure of MSMEs on a large scale because of the downfall in the demand of the small and medium parts; and

(d) if so, the real status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) Closure of certain MSMEs on account of their being unviable and simultaneous registration/development of other units is a continuous process. As per National Statistical Office, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, All India MSME Gross Value Output (GVO) at current prices during 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 was ' 70, 84, 045 crore, ' 79, 21, 374 crore, ' 86, 31, 401 crore, ' 88, 99, 923 crore and ' 95, 99, 574 crore respectively.

As per 73rd round of National Sample Survey (NSS) (2015-16) by Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), the estimated number of workers in MSME Sector are 11.10 crore.

**Enhancement of rate of royalty of
mining in Odisha**

1556. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) by when Government will revise the rate of royalty on Iron ore, Chromite etc. for Odisha, which was last revised more than five years ago on 1st September, 2014;

(b) by when Government will agree to the demand of State Government of Odisha to enhance rate of royalty from present 15 per cent to 20 per cent; and

(c) the reasons as to why study group constituted by Government suggests reduction in the rate of royalty by 10 per cent in case of auctioned blocks, though the premiums offered by the bidders justify enhancement in rate of royalty?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) In terms of Section 9(1) of the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) (MMDR) Act 1957, every mining lease holder needs to pay royalty for major minerals removed or consumed at the royalty rates specified in the Second Schedule of the MMDR Act, 1957. Proviso to Section 9(3) of the MMDR Act, 1957 stipulates that the Central Government shall not enhance the rates of royalty more than once during any period of three years. The rate of royalty for major minerals was last revised in September, 2014. Further, the Ministry of Mines constituted a Study Group vide order no. 9/1/2018-M.V dated 09.02.2018 to revise the rates of royalty and dead rent.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Mines has received a number of representations from various stakeholders including the State of Odisha on the revision of royalty. All the representations have been/are being forwarded to the study group for their consideration.

**Detection of illegal mining using mining
surveillance system**

1557. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of illegal mining detected using the mining surveillance system, State-wise;

(b) the course of action adopted post detection of illegal mining in each case;

(c) whether Government is planning to take any steps to further curb illegal mining; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) State wise break of illegal mining detected using the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) as on 21.11.2019 in the case of major mineral is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). and in the case of minor mineral is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(b) In the initial phase(Phase-I) during the year 2016-17, Total 296 triggers for major minerals have been generated across the country and sent to the respective State Governments for the field verification of the these triggers. Out of the 296 triggers, the respective State Government verified 287 triggers. Out of these 287 triggers, in 47 cases, unauthorized mining has been detected/confirmed. In second phase of MSS, as on 21/11/2019, 52 triggers for major minerals have been generated out of which 45 triggers have been verified and in 5 cases unauthorized mining was detected.

The State Governments were also requested to extend the MSS for the mining leases of minor minerals. Some State Governments have mapped few mining leases of minor minerals on pilot basis. In Total 130 triggers were generated for minor minerals, out of which 104 triggers have been verified and in 09 cases unauthorized mining have been detected.

The MSS is used for facilitating the State Governments in the detection of the illegal mining. Through this system, the triggers are sent to the respective State Governments for verification in the field through their district level officials. Thereafter, the action lies with the State Government post verification in the field.

(c) and (d) As per Section 23C of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act 1957, the State Governments are empowered to frame rules to prevent illegal mining and the State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make such rules for preventing illegal mining, transportation and storage of minerals and for the purposes connected therewith in the state.

Statement-I

State-wise break of illegal mining detected using the Mining Surveillance System as on 21.11.2019 in the case of major mineral

State	Total Trigger	Total Inspection
Jharkhand	2	-
Himachal Pradesh	13	11
Odisha	22	22
Karnataka	39	39
Andhra Pradesh	37	37
Telangana	6	6
Maharashtra	11	10
Rajasthan	3.1	31
Goa	42	42
Madhya Pradesh	50	50
Tamil Nadu	36	33
Gujarat	39	39
Meghalaya	8	01
Chhattisgarh	10	9
Jammu and Kashmir	2	2
TOTAL	348	332

Statement-II

State-wise break of illegal mining detected using the Mining Surveillance System as on 21.11.2019 in the case of minor mineral

State	Total Trigger	Total Inspection
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	8	8

1	2	3
Chhattisgarh	4	-
Goa	3	3
Gujarat	27	27
Haryana	4	2
Jharkhand	11	4
Karnataka	12	12
Kerala	5	3
Maharashtra	2	
Rajasthan	37	34
Tamil Nadu	10	8
Telangana	3	3
Uttar Pradesh	4	
TOTAL	130	104

National Mineral Policy

1558. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

SHRI RAJMANI PATEL:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the key features of the newly implemented National Mineral Policy to ensure environmentally and socially responsible mining infrastructure across the country which also ensures 200 per cent increase in the production of major minerals in the country; and

(b) the progress made under this policy so far?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): (a) and (b) The key features of National Mineral Policy 2019 emphasizing environmentally and socially responsible mining infrastructure across the country are such as identification of critically fragile ecosystems and declare such areas as “no-go areas”/“inviolable areas”, ensuring welfare of mining affected people/community, an overarching inter-ministerial mechanism of sustainable mining.

District Mineral Foundation (DMFs) has been setup in the mining affected districts for benefit of persons and areas affected by mining related operations and its progress is reviewed. A “Star Rating” system has been instituted to recognize the efforts and initiatives taken for ensuring sustainable mining, which is based on self-assessment to be done by the lessees. Achieving at least three star rating has been made mandatory within a period of four years with effect from the 27th February, 2017 or four years from the date of commencement of mining operations, as the case may be.

Discrimination during renting of properties

1559. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is aware of several instances of discrimination and prejudice faced by the minority community members at the time of looking out for rental properties;
- (b) whether any investigation or survey has been ordered into the grievous matter;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, reasons therefor; and
- (e) measures undertaken to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI): (a) to (e) National Commission for Minorities (NCM), a statutory body constituted under the NCM Act, 1992, has taken cognizance of two such cases in the past—one in Maharashtra and the other in the NCT of Delhi, on the basis of media report/representation received. In the 2015 case of State of Maharashtra, NCM took it up with the Government of Maharashtra. On further inquiry into the matter it was revealed that there was no discrimination on the ground of one being Muslim, and the matter was closed. In the other case of NCT of Delhi in 2015, NCM sought a report from NCT of Delhi. The Government of NCT of Delhi informed that the complainant had not lodged any complaint to the Police Authorities and had also requested the Commission to close the matter.

Pending payments to co-terminus employees

1560. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases pending with the Ministry sent by National Commission for Minorities regarding payment to its co-terminus employees from 2009-2016;

(b) whether representations from some Members of Parliament have been received in this regard; and

(c) if so, the present status of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):

(a) As per information provided by the National Commission for Minorities, one case is pending for payment of benefits to co-terminus staff of the Commission since 2009.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A representation was received from Hon'ble Member of Parliament in this regard. The Ministry has instructed National Commission for Minorities to resolve the issue immediately.

Financial assistance to minority students

1561. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is providing any assistance to students of minority community under the 'Nai Udaan' Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government is providing any financial assistance to students of minority community who are preparing for examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission and other such organisations and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):

(a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Under the Nai Udaan Scheme, the Government provides financial assistance to the minority candidates clearing preliminary examination conducted by Union Public Service Commission, Staff Selection Commission and State Public Service Commissions. The rate of financial assistance is as under:-

Sl. No.	Exam	Rate of Financial Assistance
1	2	3
1.	UPSC (Civil Services, Indian Engineering Services & Indian Forest Services)	₹ 1, 00, 000/-

1	2	3
2.	State PSC (Gazetted)	₹ 50, 000/-
3.	SSC (CGL) and (CAPF-Group B)	₹ 25, 000/-
4.	State PSC (Graduate level) (Non-Gazetted)	₹ 25, 000/-

During the last three years, 3475 students of minority community benefitted from financial assistance under the Scheme.

The details of the Scheme are available on the website of this Ministry *i.e.* www.minorityaffai.gov.in.

Multi-sectoral Development Programme

1562. SHRI PRARHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) details of blocks and towns identified in Andhra Pradesh for implementation of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), district-wise;
- (b) programmes/schemes under MsDP which have been implemented, block and town-wise;
- (c) physical targets set and achieved under MsDP since its implementation, year-wise, block and town-wise;
- (d) whether it is a fact that physical targets have not been achieved during the last 3-4 years; and
- (e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):

(a) and (b) The Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) was restructured and implemented as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) with effect from May 2018 in the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission. Under the erstwhile MsDP the area covered were 710 Minority Concentration Blocks and 66 Minority Concentration Towns. In the restructured PMJVK the coverage of area has been extended to 1300 Minority Concentration Areas (MCAs) which include 870 Minority Concentration Blocks, 321 Minority Concentration Towns and 109 Minority Concentration Districts Headquarters.

In the State of Andhra Pradesh, the following Blocks and Towns have been identified as MCAs under the PMJVK:-

Administrative District	Identified Minority Concentration Blocks	Identified Minority Concentration Towns
Guntur	Phirahgipuram	Chilakaluripet (M)
Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore	Udayagiri	
Kurnool	Atmakur	Kurnool (M Corp. + OG)
	Velgode	Adoni (M + OG)
	Sin/el	Nandyal (M + OG)
Chittoor	Gurramkonda	Madanapalle (M + OG)
	Kalikiri	
Y.S.R.		Kadapa (M Corp. + OG)
		Proddatur (M + OG)
		Rayachoti (M)
Anantapur		Guntakal (M)
		Tadpatri (M)
		Kadiri (M)
		Hindupur (M)

(M) - Municipality

(OG) - Out Growth

(M Corp) - Municipal Corporation

The major projects sanctioned so far by the Ministry in the identified MCAs of Andhra Pradesh under PMJVK/erstwhile MsDP, include 11 Residential Schools, 15 School Buildings, 225 Additional Class Rooms (ACRs) 16 Hostels, 05 Industrial Training Institute(ITIs), 02 Polytechnics, 244 Anganwadi Centres, 07 Sadbhav Mandaps etc. Details of these projects are available on the website of the Ministry at <http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/empowered-committee-minutes>.

(c) to (e) The PMJVK is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) implemented in collaboration with the States/UTs etc., with the objective of improving socio-economic condition and basic amenities in identified MCA mainly through gap filling in various existing CSS and through innovative projects recommended by the State Governments/UTs as per the need of the identified areas. Proposals are formulated by the State Government/UT Administrations and sent to the Ministry for consideration of the Empowered Committee. The projects are also constructed and commissioned by the States/UTs. Since PMJVK is a demand driven scheme, physical targets have not been set.

The details of major projects sanctioned under the scheme since its inception till date include 123 Residential Schools, 2492 School Buildings, 43253 ACRs, 1264 Hostels, 198 ITIs, 55 Polytechnics, 7 Working Women Hostels, 5172 Health Projects, 41381 Anganwadi Centres, 502 Sadbhav Mandaps etc., Details of projects sanctioned under the PMJVK, State/UT-wise are available on the website of the Ministry at <http://www.minorityaffairs.gov.in/empowered-committee-minutes>.

Status of Bharatmala Project

1563. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Bharatmala Project is languishing since its implementation;
- (b) if not, the status of implementation of Bharatmala Project, with particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) the details of physical targets set and achieved so far, project-wise; and
- (d) the manner in which Ministry is going to achieve the targets by FY 2020-21?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government of India approved the implementation of Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-i in October, 2017 with an estimated outlay of ₹ 5,35,000 Crore for development of 34,800 km. length of National Highways (including 10,000 km residual NHDP road works). Under this program, 255 road projects with aggregate length of about 10,699 km. with an aggregate amount of ₹ 2,64,956 Crore have been approved. This includes 13 road projects with aggregate length of about 506 km. for a Total cost of ₹ 12,766 Crore in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(c) to (d) Out of 255 approved projects, 225 projects with an aggregate length of about 9,561 km have already been awarded for construction. As per Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approval, Bharatmala Pariyojana is targeted for completion by financial year 2021-22. All necessary efforts are being made to achieve the targets as approved by CCEA.

Challenges in improving NHs

1564. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the major challenge Government is facing in its attempt to improve National Highways;

(b) whether the cost for brace wall in hilly areas been included in Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of approved road project, to stabilise the highway, if so, since when and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the present approved period in the contract package for the contractors in India to be responsible for free maintenance of roads built by them?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) The major challenge Government is facing to improve National Highways are

- (i) Land acquisition,
- (ii) Shifting of utilities,
- (iii) Environment and Forest Clearance,
- (iv) Wild life clearance,
- (iv) Availability of less working season in Hilly region,
- (v) Non-availability of skill man power and local Agencies in hilly region.

(b) Based on existing site condition, breast wall, retaining wall, side drain, soil nailing etc. are generally included in Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) of road project in hill area to stabilize the road.

(c) 5 years maintenance period for road works and 10 years maintenance period for bridge works are kept in contract of Highway project.

Advisory for safety of heavy goods vehicles and trailers

†1565. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any advisory to the State Governments to overcome the shortcomings in connection with the safety of heavy goods vehicles and trailers across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any provision of monitoring has been made by Government to ensure the compliance of advisory issued to the States; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) As per the amendment made in the Rule 138 B of the Central Motor

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Vehicles Rules, 1989 vide GSR 1081(E) dated 2nd November, 2018 it was mandated that the goods carriage vehicles shall carry goods in a closed body or of the vehicle or container and that if it is necessary to carry goods in open bodies, goods shall be covered by using appropriate cover like tarpaulin or any other suitable material. An advisory was issued to the State/UT Governments dated 19th November, 2018 for the compliance of the rule 138B and for ensuring safety of the citizens.

(c) and (d) Implementation of the Rules under Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 comes under the purview of the State/UTs.

Status of road development projects in Chhattisgarh

†1566. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that many road development projects are running behind the schedule or have been abandoned in Chhattisgarh;
- (b) if so, the project-wise details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken for the speedy completion of these projects;
- (d) whether any lapse has come to the notice of Government on the part of Government agencies associated with the construction and development of road development projects; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and corrective measures taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, at present 13 ongoing works over different National Highways are delayed. Similarly, 19 ongoing works over State Roads sanctioned under Left Wing Extremism scheme are delayed. Primarily, these projects are delayed due to delay in acquisition of land, forest clearances, Shifting of Utilities, non-availability of security forces in naxal affected areas and poor planning and mobilization of resources by the contractors. The project wise details along with reasons and steps taken for speedy completion of these projects is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) and (e) Delays/lapse has been observed from different Government agencies like State Revenue department in the matter of Land Acquisition, Forest department in the matter of forest clearances, utilities owning departments like electrical department in timely shifting of electric line/transformers, JalSansthan in timely shifting of water pipeline etc. Such matters are periodically being monitored and reviewed at the level of Ministry itself. Respective State Governments are consistently requested to take adequate measures in order to expedite above mentioned clearance for timely completion of projects.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Project-wise details alongwith reasons and steps taken for speedy completion of these projects

Sl. No.	Name of work	Length (in Km.)	Sanctioned cost (₹ in Cr.)	Reason for delay	Steps taken for speedy completion of work
1	2	3	4	5	6
NH Projects through State PWD					
1.	Rehabilitation and up-gradation of NH-43 from Km. 130.000 to Km. 180.000 (Ranker to Bedma Section) to two lane with paved shoulder in the State of Chhattisgarh under NHDP -IV on Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Basis	53.258	572.66	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Regular review meetings with the Contractor/ Authority's Engineer by the State PWD. Regular review meetings at various levels in Ministry. Sub-contractor appointed to expedite the project.
2.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-216 from km 3.800 to 90.460 (Raigarh to Saraipalli Section) in the State of Chhattisgarh to two-lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV on EPC basis.	81.000	496.02		Regular review meetings at various levels in Ministry. Sub-contractor appointed to expedite the project.
3.	Rehabilitation and Up-gradation of NH-12A (New NH-30) from design chainage Km. 191.400 to 242.300 (Chilpi to Kawardha	50.878	291.05	Delay in land Acquisition, Forest clearance and Poor planning/ mobilization and lack of resources	Regular review meetings with the Contractor/ Authority's Engineer by the State PWD and Ministry for speedy completion of project.

	Section Package-I) in the State of Chhattisgarh to two lanes with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV onEPC basis			by Contractor	Continuous liaison with the State Government to remove bottlenecks.
4.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-111 from Km. 163.400 toKm. 215.800 (Shivnagar to Ambikapur Section) to two lane with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV onEPC basis	52.400	335.32	Delay in land Acquisition and Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Regular review meetings with the Contractor/ A.E. by the State PWD and Ministry for speedy completion of project. Continuous liaison with the State Government to remove bottlenecks.
5.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-200 from Km. 178.925 to 241.553 (Banarito Masaniyakala) to two lane with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV on EPC basis	55.647	543.73	Delay in land Acquisition and delay in utility shiftingt	
6.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-200 from Km. 241.553 to 312.600 (Masaniyakala to CG/Odisha Border) to two lane with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV on EPC basis	60.452	606.02		
7.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-78 from Km. 373.505 to 468.800 (Starting point of Ambikapur Bypass to End point of Patthalgaon Bypass) to two lane with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV on EPC basis	95.795	624.98	Delay in land Acquisition and Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Project reviewed at various levels in Ministry. Sub-contractor appointed to expedite the project.
8.	Rehabilitation and upgradation of NH-78 from Km. 469 to 531 (Patthalgaon to Kunkuri) to two lane with paved shoulder under NHDP-IV on EPC basis	60.475	452.94	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	

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1	2	3	4	5	6
9.	Work of construction of H.L. Bridges at km. 27/6, km. 28/10 and km. 30/8 on NH 343 (Ambikapur-Ramanujanj-Garwa Road) in the State of Chhattisgarh. (Job No. 343-CG-2015-16-335)	Bridge	14.13	Delay in Forest clearance	Continuous liaison with the State Government.
Left Wing Extremism Projects through State PWD					
1.	Construction of 2-lane Bridges including approaches at km. 6/8 on Chintavagu river, at km. 22/2 on Tarud river and at km. 22/8 on a Nalla of Bhopalpatnam-Warangal-Hyderabad road NH-163 (Old NH 202) in Chhattisgarh under LWE Scheme.	Bridge	57.76	Slow progress of work due to Naxal affected area and need of Security.	Regular review meetings with the Contractor by the State Government/State PWD. Continuous liaison by State PWD with the State Government/Security agencies to remove bottlenecks.
2.	Upgrading of Balrampur-Chando-Samri Road in Km. 36 to 61, (SH)	26.00	36.46		
3.	W/I of SLto2L of Koyelibeda- Pratappur (Km. 0 to 31.0) i/c 7 MBs and 26 CDs. (existing BT4KM, WBM 7.8 Km.), (MDR)	31.00	54.97	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Initial Agreement with contractor was terminated. Balance work awarded to another contractor.
4.	W/I of SL to 2L of PV-79 Chotebetia-Rengawahii/c 9 MB and 23 CDs (existing BT16 km, WBM 20 km.), (MDR)	36.00	36.44	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	
5.	W/I SL to 2L of Chitalnar-Marigudam Road km. 0 to 65.0 i/c 4MB and 87 CDs (existing 3 km. WBM), (SH)	65.00	78.11	Project work falls under Naxal area where civil work is executed under dedicated security	Regular review meetings with the Contractors by the State Government. Continuous liaison with the Security agencies.

				arrangement and available working hours are only 3-4hrs/day.	
6.	W/I SL to 2L of Antagarh-Bedma (Km. 0 to 35.0) i/c 1MB and 36 CDs (existing BT) (MDR)	35.00	52.38	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Regular review meetings with the Contractors by the State Government/State PWD. Continuous liaison with Security agencies to remove bottlenecks.
7.	Widening to two lane and improvement from km. 0.00 to 52.400 of Nelasnar-kodoli-gangaloor road	52.40	73.08	Project work falls under Naxal area where civil work is executed under dedicated security arrangement and available working hours are only 3-4hrs/day.	
8.	C/o 2L CC Pavement of Kalgaon-Koyelibeda (Km. 6.0 to 22.6) i/c 5 MB and 18 CDs, (MDR)	16.60	30.79	Delay in Forest clearances. Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor.	
9.	W/I SL to 2L of Bijapur-Modakpal-Laded-Tarlaguda Road km. 0 to 48.0 i/c 1 MB & 107 CDs (existing Pagdandi), (MDR)	48.00	78.24	Project work falls under Naxal area where civil work is executed under dedicated security arrangement and available working hours are only 3-4hrs/day.	
10.	W/I SL to 2L of Bijapur-Awapalli-Jagargunda Road km. 0 to 70.0 i/c 8 MB and 120 CDs (existing 21 km. BT), (SH)	70.00	166.51	Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor	Initial Agreement with contractor was terminated. Balance work awarded to another contractor
11.	W/I SL to 2L of Narayanpur-Palli-Barsur (Km. 176.6 to 219.6) i/c 16 MB and 45 CDs (existing BT), (SH)	43.00	111.56	Project work falls under Naxal area where civil work is executed under dedicated security arrangement and available working hours are only 3-4hrs/ day.	Regular review meetings with the Contractors by the State Government/State PWD. Continuous liaison by State PWD with the State Administration/State Security agencies to remove bottlenecks.

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1	2	3	4	5	6
12.	W/I SL to 2L of Dornapal-Chintalnar-Jagargunda Road Km. 0 to 56 (CC Pav.) i/c 9 MB & 101 CDs (existing 8 km. BT), (SH)	56.00	116.88		
13.	W/I SL to 2L of Chhotedongar-Orchha (Km.0 to 31.0)i/c4 MB and 66 CDs (existing 10 km. BT and 21 KMBM), (MDR)	31.00	83.46	Project work falls under Naxal area where civil work is executed under dedicated security arrangement and available working hours are only 3-4hrs/day	Regular review meetings with the Contractors by the State Government. Continuous liaison with the Security agencies to remove bottle necks.
14.	W/I SL to 2L of Narayanpur-Sonpur-Maroda (Km. 0 to 78.0) i/c 11 MB and 189 CDs (existing 7 KMBT and 20 KMWBM and balance forest), (SH) Part-1	78.00	123.82		
15.	W/ISL to 2L of Palli-Barsur Km. 219.6 to 258.0 i/c 17 MB and 80 CDs (existing 9 KMBT and 6 KMWBM), (SH)	38.40	54.25		
16.	W/I SLto2L of Km. 0 to 44.0 of Konta Golapalli road i/c 7 MB & 98 CDs (existing 34 km. pagdandi), (MDR)	44.00	74.17		
17.	W/ISL to 2L of Km. 20.0 to 47.8 of Bheji Chintaqupha road i/c 3 MB and 90 CDs (existing 15 Km. WBM), (MDR)	27.80	48.52		

18. Construction of 2 lane from km. 0.00 to km. 8.00 of Golapalli-Paidgudem road in the State of Chhattisgarh under LWE Scheme.

8.00 11.09

19. Construction of 2 lane from km. 0.00 to km 12.00 of Kistaram-Paidgudem road in the State of Chhattisgarh under LWE Scheme.

12.00 26.75

NH projects through NHAI

1. 4/6 laning of Raipur-Simga from Km. 0+000 to Km 48+580 of NH200

48.58 766.74

Delay in Land Acquisition, delay Forest clearance, utility Shifting and Poor planning/mobilization and lack of resources by Contractor

Regular review meetings Authority's Engineer andf Project Directors to remove bottlenecks in coordination with State Government Departments. Regular site visits by NHAI officials to monitor progress achieved by contractors.

2. 4 laning of Simga-Sargaon from Km. 48+580 to Km. 91+026 ofNH200

42.45 639.64

3. 4 laning of Raipur-Kodebod from Km. 10+200 to Km. 42+400 of NH43 (New NH30)

33.20 987.88

The work was delayed due to delay in land acquisition and tree cutting. The Contractor is facing financial crisis at present and lenders has taken the company in NCLT.

The efforts are being made for revival of projects to get the balance work completed through the Sub-Contracting.

4. 4 laning of Kodebod-Dhamtari from Km 42+400 to Km 82+209 ofNH43 (New NH30)

38.81 967.19

Highways/roadways construction projects

1567. SHRI K.G. KENYE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the highways/roadways construction projects undertaken by Government in the country in last five years, length-wise, lane-wise and expenditure-wise;

(b) whether Government is considering proposals for improving the condition of the roads and highways in the North Eastern Region, if so, the details of action taken in this regard including projects sanctioned and expenditure incurred; and

(c) whether Government is undertaking any cross-border projects in the North East of further integrate the region with neighbouring countries and boost trade and development and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) Government of India has undertaken massive road development programme under SARDP-NE Scheme in NER. Under SARDP-NE (Phase -A and Arunachal Pradesh) 6418 km. (5998 km. actual design length) has already been identified for development, out of which 3065 km. has been completed and 2209 km is under construction and expenditure incurred is ₹ 31, 563 Cr. Besides this, works in a length of 1286 km are in progress under other schemes.

(c) The details of ongoing cross- border projects are given in Statement-II.

Statement-I

Details of National Highways constructed, in last five years, year-wise, lane-wise and expenditure incurred thereon

Sl. No.	Description	Year				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
A. Lane-wise construction						
	(in Km.)	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1.	2-lane	2750	3970	5060	4868	6033

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2.	4-lane	733	1010	1655	2199	2517
3.	6/8-lane	278	279	167	316	587
4.	Strengthening	649	802	1349	2446	1718
Total Construction (in Km.)		4410	6061	8231	9829	10855
B. Expenditure incurred (₹ In Cr.)		27, 746	63, 743	73, 740	1, 00, 179	1, 27, 993

Statement-II*Details of cross-border projects being undertaken in the North East*

Sl. No.	Scheme	Name of project	Length (km.)	Sanctioned Cost/ TPC ' in cr.	Date of Award	Cumulative Physical progress %
1.	ADB	Construction of Mechi bridge across Indo-Nepal border on Asian Highway (AH-02) on EPC mode (West Bengal).	1.5	158.65	23.3.17	50.00
2.	NH(O)	Construction of Extra-dosed RCC Bridge including viaduct and approaches over river Feni at Sabroom on Indo-Bangladesh Border on NH-8 (old NH-44) in the state of Tripura on EPC mode	1.888	128.69	22.03.17	36.75

Promotion of non-motorised vehicle transport

1568. LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):
SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:
SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is taking any action to cut down vehicular emissions by

promoting the use of non-motorised vehicle transport like e-vehicles, bicycles, e-bikes, etc. all over the country particularly in metro cities at mass level; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) In order to boost the operation of electric vehicles, the Government, *vide* S.O. 5333(E) dated 18th October, 2018 has granted exemption to the Battery Operated Transport Vehicles from the requirements of permit. The Government has also notified that the registration mark for Battery Operated Vehicles to be on a Green background for their identification. Further, the Government *vide*, G.S.R. 1225(E), dated 20th December, 2018 had notified certain specifications for the grant of licence to the age group of 16-18 years to drive gearless electric two wheeler upto 4.0 KW. These measures will create a favorable ecosystem for growth of electric vehicles in public transport and shared mobility and boost the demand for environment friendly vehicles in the country. Ministry has issued an advisory dated 17th July, 2019 to all States and Union Territories to promote use of electric vehicles which is available on website of this Ministry (morth.nic.in).

The Department of Heavy Industry has notified Phase-II of the FAME India Scheme [Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Electric (& Hybrid) Vehicles in India], *vide* S.O. 1300 dated 8th March 2019, with the approval of Cabinet with an outlay of ₹ 10, 000 crore for a period of three years commencing from 1st April, 2019 for the promotion of electric vehicles.

Four lane road from Srinagar to Baramulla

1569. MIR MOHAMMAD FAYAZ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct a four lane road from Srinagar to Baramulla Kupwara in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the reason as to why the work has not yet started; and

(c) the details of funds allocated for the project?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) The road stretch from Srinagar to Baramulla (Km. 6.75 to Km. 57.80) of NH-1 is under jurisdiction of Border Roads Organization (BRO) and funded by Ministry of

Defence (MoD). The stretch from Km. 6.75 to Km. 14.20 of NH-I has already been developed to four lane specifications. The DPR preparation of remaining stretch from Km. 14.20 to Km. 57.80 is in process by BRO. Baramulla to Kupwara section of N11-70 i is already of two lane specifications and the traffic on this stretch does not warrant four laning. Funds for development are allocated by MoD after finalization of DPR and award of civil works.

Accident prone stretches on NHs

1570. SHRI AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has identified accident prone stretches on the National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether National Highways Ambulance Service has been introduced along with setting up of the Trauma Centres on those stretches for providing emergency medical facilities, including the accountability of toll plaza?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, 789 black spots have been identified and notified with unique ID numbers assigned to each of the spots. Guidelines have been prepared and notified for investigation and rectification of the road accident black spots on National highways. So far 395 black spots have been rectified. Out of these black spots, 510 black spots are under the jurisdiction of NHAI, 150 black spots are under the jurisdiction of State PWD (NH) and remaining 129 black spots are under State Government. Out of 510 black spots under NHAI, 276 have been rectified. Out of 150 black spots under the jurisdiction of PWD (NH), 119 have already been rectified.

- (c) National Highways Authority of India also deployed 466 ambulances at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways. Under National Highways Accidents Relief Service Scheme 509 ambulances were provided to States/UTs/NGOs. Besides, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways had procured 70 additional of Advance Life Support Ambulances (ALS) in 11th FY Plan. Funds have also been provided to three States namely Jammu and Kashmir, Sikkim and Mizoram for procurement of 172 Basic Life Support Ambulances (BLSA) (136, 31 and 5 respectively) for their deployment/operation on National Highways.

Pedestrian deaths in road accidents

1571. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of pedestrians killed in road accidents has increased in the country;
- (b) if so, the details/number thereof during each of the last three years, State wise and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken/being taken by Government to prevent such cases of pedestrian deaths on roads in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) As per information received from police departments of all States/UTs the Total number of Pedestrians killed under the category of road user during the last three calendar years and the current year i.e. 2015 to 2018 are shown in the table given below:

Years	Pedestrian killed under the category of road user in the country
2015	13894
2016	15746
2017	20457
2018	22656

The State-UT wise details in respect of number of Pedestrians killed under the category of road user during the last three calendar years and the current year *i.e.* 2015 to 2018 are given in the Statement.

- (c) The provisions of PUPs, CUPs, Footpath, Foot over Bridge and other pedestrian facilities and other grade separated structures etc. are integral part of the design of development projects keeping in view the site requirement and as per provisions given in IRC: SP-73:2018 “Manual of Specifications and Standards for two Lanning of Highways with Paved Shoulders”, IRC: SP-84-2014- “Manual for Specifications and Standards for Four Lanning of Highways Through Public Private Partnership” IRC:SP-87-2013- “Manual

of Specification and Standards for Six Lanning of Highways through Public Private Partnership”. Further IRC has also published the IRC: 103-2012 for “Guidelines for pedestrian facilities”.

With regard to Road Safety, the National Road Safety Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws. The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Further, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has constituted a Parliamentary Constituency Committee on Road Safety in each district of the country to promote awareness amongst road users under the chairmanship of Hon’ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha). In addition, the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for Road Safety Councils and Committees at National, State and District level to discharge function relating to Road Safety Programmes.

The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 focuses on road safety and includes, *inter alia*, stiff hike in penalties for traffic violations and electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, extending the scope of third party liability and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc.

In addition to the above, the initiatives of the Ministry to promote road safety are listed as below:

- (i) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic media and print media to create awareness.
- (ii) Issue of Guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans.
- (iii) Setting up of model driving training Institutes in States.
- (iv) Sanction of 24 Inspection and certification Centres for testing the fitness of the commercial vehicles through an automated system.
- (v) Launch of mobile app for highway users *i.e.* “Sukhad Yatra 1033” which enables highways users to report potholes and other safety hazards on National Highways including accidents.
- (vi) Observance of Road Safety Week every calendar year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.

- (vii) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (viii) The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15, 000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10, 000 PCUs.
- (ix) Safety standards for automobiles have been improved.
- (x) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- (xi) Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots for expediting the rectification process to ensure safety of road users.
- (xii) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States/UTs.
- (xiii) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- (xiv) Removal of Liquor Shops as per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* circular of F. No. RW/NH-33044/309/2016/S&R dated 06-04-2017 and 01-06-2017.

Statement

Details of Total number of pedestrian killed under the category of road user during the calendar years 2015 to 2018

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	691	1251	1379	1569
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	3	8
3.	Assam	36	24	538	515
4.	Bihar	184	200	769	756
5.	Chhattisgarh	42	49	467	438
6.	Goa	64	59	47	49
7.	Gujarat	719	697	985	1170

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	Haryana	228	1596	1071	1471
9.	Himachal Pradesh	0	214	171	182
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	28	58	62	103
11.	Jharkhand	34	10	262	345
12.	Karnataka	1207	599	1054	1519
13.	Kerala	1300	1246	1332	1250
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1962	1627	1280	1504
15.	Maharashtra	1162	2103	1831	2515
16.	Manipur	0	4	15	21
17.	Meghalaya	5	32	46	25
18.	Mizoram	10	4	18	9
19.	Nagaland	5	1	5	7
20.	Odisha	318	251	533	706
21.	Punjab	423	433	265	415
22.	Rajasthan	867	898	863	1448
23.	Sikkim	3	3	10	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	2618	2966	3507	768
25.	Telangana	598	619	972	1093
26.	Tripura	29	42	57	68
27.	Uttarakhand	106	18	127	146
28.	Uttar Pradesh	325	284	1192	1366
29.	West Bengal	109	72	1039	2618
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	12	5	9	6
31.	Chandigarh	47	38	32	35
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	17	9	2	22
33.	Daman and Diu	11	7	9	11
34.	Delhi	684	250	423	420
35.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	0
36.	Puducherry	50	76	82	75
TOTAL		13894	15746	20457	22656

**Ban on internal combustion engine
powered vehicles**

1572. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government did not intend to ban internal combustion engine powered vehicles;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that Government would promote the use of alternative fuels and electric vehicles to tackle issues of high crude oil import bill and pollution;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that earlier Government had advised car makers to move to electric vehicles; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a), (c) and (d) NITI Aayog, in its meeting held on 14n May, 2019 regarding National Mission for Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage has proposed that after 31 st March, 2023 only electric three wheelers (with Lithium Ion Or other advanced battery chemistry only) shall be sold under the category of three wheelers and after 31st March, 2025 all new sales under the category of two wheelers below 150cc shall be electric two wheelers (with Lithium Ion or other advanced battery chemistry only).

It has been decided by the Government that all the vehicles will continue to be registered as long they meet the requisite safety and emission standards.

(b) The Government has taken proactive steps to promote the use of alternative fuels and electric vehicles to tackle the issues of high crude oil import bill and pollution. Bharat Stage IV Fuel Norms have been applicable since the year 2010 in Delhi and NCR and certain cities. The said norms have been mandated in phase wise manners across the country. Further, this Ministry *vide* G.S.R. 889(E), dated 16.09.2016 has mandated mass emission standard for BS-VI throughout the country with effect from 1st April 2020 to bring down emission. The Government has also notified mass emission standards for Compressed Natural Gas, Biodiesel, flex-fuel and ethanol, Methanol, LNG, dual fuel with Compressed Natural Gas or Bio-Compressed Natural Gas or Liquefied Natural Gas engines.

Performance of FAME India scheme

1573. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of electric vehicles sold since the launch of Faster Adoption of Electric (and Hybrid) Vehicles in India (FAME India) Scheme in 2015 till the end of phase-I of the scheme in March 2017;
- (b) whether Government maintains a State-wise performance data of the scheme, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the number of electric vehicles purchased by Government during the years 2014-17 under the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) As per the information provided by Department of Heavy Industry (DHI), since Automobile Sector is a liberalized Sector, the Department of Heavy Industry is not required to maintain the data related to sale of vehicles including Electrical vehicles. However, since inception of the Phase-I of FAME-India Scheme, about 2.8 lakh hybrid and electric vehicles (xEVs) have been supported through Demand Incentives. As pilot project, about 425 electric/hybrid buses were sanctioned to various States (city transport undertaking) supported by Department of Heavy Industry (DHI) under FAME-India Scheme (Faster Adoption of Electric (and Hybrid) Vehicles in India).

Status of road projects by NHAI

1574. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is facing acute shortage of funds for ongoing/new road projects;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Prime Minister Office (PMO) has given any written advice to NHAI/Ministry as regards construction of new roads; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) utilizes funds

released by the Ministry and also raises funds as per Internal and External Budgetary Resources (IEBR) approved in the Union Budget. Details of funds released to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) during 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20 (upto October 2019) is as follows:

(₹ in crore)		
Sl. No.	Financial Year	Total
1.	2017-2018 RE	28900.89
2.	2018-19	36221.82
4.	2019-20 (upto 31.10.19)	20101

Details of IEBR raised by NHAI during the said period are as below:

2017-18	₹ 50, 533 crores
2018-19	₹ 61, 217 crores
2019-20 (upto 31.10.2019)	₹ 36, 526 crores

In so far as construction of new roads is concerned, these decisions are taken as per extant policies and taking into account inputs received from related Departments, Ministries, State Governments, etc.

Proposal for identifying road accident prone areas

1575. SHRI D. KUPENDRAREDDY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is identifying the road accident prone areas/black spots in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the present status of the proposal;
- (c) whether the World Bank funding is involved in this; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) 789 black spots have been identified based on accidents/fatality from year 2011 to 2014. A Total of 660 black spots are on the stretches of National Highways

(NHs) and 129 black spots are under State Government. 395 black spots have already been rectified and 215 black spots are at implementation stage on stretches of NHs.

(c) to (d) The Ministry has decided to take up a project *i.e.* “Integrated Road Accident Database (IRAD)” with funding from World Bank. The main objective of this project is on-site collection of accident data through app-based software and analyse data for identification of black spots and other accident prone areas.

**Measures taken to tackle road accidents under
the MV (Amendment) Act**

1576. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether fatal road accidents have increased in the previous three years;
- (b) if so, the measures taken to tackle this issue under the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act along with relevant data for the previous three years; and
- (c) if not, the hindrances that are coming in the way and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) The Total number of fatal road accidents in the country during the last three years *i.e.* 2016, 2017 and 2018 is given below:

Year	Fatal Road Accidents	Number of Fatalities
2016	1, 36, 071	1, 50, 785
2017	1, 34, 796	1, 47, 913
2018	1, 37, 726	1, 51, 417

(b) and (c) The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 focuses on road safety and includes, *inter alia*, stiff hike in penalties for traffic violations and electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, cashless treatment during the golden hour, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, extending the scope of third party liability and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc.

Construction of NHs under Bharatmala project

†1577. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the target of construction/upgradation of 35,000 kilometers of National Highways by 2022 has been fixed under the Bharatmala Project;
- (b) whether Government has completed the work of identification of those highways which would be included under this scheme; and
- (c) whether those States would be given priority under Bharatmala Project where the availability of highways is quite less than the national average in proportion to the population density?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) The Government of India had approved Bharatmala Pariyojana Phase-I in October, 2017 with an aggregate length of about 34,800 km. (including 10,000 km. residual NHDP stretches) at an estimated outlay of ₹ 5,35,000.00 crores for development of about 9,000 km. length of Economic corridors, about 6,000 km length of Inter-corridor and feeder roads, about 5,000 km. length of National Corridors Efficiency improvements, about 2,000 km. length of Border and International connectivity roads, about 2,000 km. length of Coastal and port connectivity roads, about 800 km. length of Expressways. Various road stretches have been identified for development under this scheme. Development of highway stretches is taken up post finalization of alignment, cost estimates, land acquisition requirement etc. based on outcome of Detailed Project Report (DPR)/ Feasibility Study, project viability, *inter-se*-priority and availability of funds. Under Bharatmala Pariyojana programme, it has been envisaged to provide connectivity to 550 districts in the country for improvement in National Highways density across the country.

Road accidents due to potholes

1578. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to potholes on National Highways (NHs), number of road accidents have increased and many lives were lost and many people were injured during the last one year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and year-wise;
- (c) whether Government has taken any immediate measures for repairing potholes;
- (d) details of budgetary allocation for repair and maintenance of National Highways during the last three years, State-wise and year-wise;
- (e) whether measures have been taken by Government to hold civic authorities accountable for faulty road design and engineering and poor maintenance of roads; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) As per information received from police department of all States/UTs, number of accidents, persons killed and injured under the category of potholes on all roads including National Highways in the country during the calendar year 2018 is shown below:—

Total number of accidents	Total number of persons killed	Total number of persons injured
4869	2015	4108

The State/UT-wise total number of road accidents, persons killed and injured under the category of potholes on all roads during the calendar year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) to (f) National Highways are being designed, constructed and maintained as per Indian Roads Congress (IRC) codes/guidelines and Ministry's specifications. Various safety measures are made as an integral part of the highway development projects depending upon the site requirement and availability of lands. The work of development and maintenance of National Highways are carried out by executing agencies *viz.* NHAI/NHIDCL/State PWDs. In the EPC document there is a provision that the contractor shall at all-time maintain the project highways in accordance with the provision of contract agreement in time-bound manner. In Public Private Partnership (PPP) Projects the Concessionaire are liable to maintain the roads (NHs) for the concession period/which may varies from 15-30 years in general. However, in EPC mode the contract is liable to maintain/repair the defect for 5-10 years (depending upon type of pavement) as per Ministry's guidelines. In case of any discrepancy during execution stage, concessionaire or contractor is penalised as per the conditions of contract.

Statement

Details of total number of road accidents, persons killed and injured under the category of potholes during the calendar years 2017 to 2018

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Road Accidents		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
		2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	288	3	108	1	16	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	12	0	7	0	31	0
3.	Assam	196	182	53	68	186	161
4.	Bihar	208	0	116	0	160	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	76	112	31	20	58	100
6.	Goa	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	552	1	228	1	545	0
8.	Haryana	465	473	522	222	490	489
9.	Himachal Pradesh	19	21	10	18	19	27
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	8	0	0	0	8
11.	Jharkhand	118	119	64	78	94	71
12.	Karnataka	178	38	47	10	223	68
13.	Kerala	522	63	52	11	779	66
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1012	182	141	59	1018	114
15.	Maharashtra	2370	552	726	166	2213	548
16.	Manipur	3	2	0	0	5	1
17.	Meghalaya	12	0	5	0	6	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	Nagaland	61	33	3	0	27	29
20.	Odisha	150	88	73	35	160	85
21.	Punjab	334	109	162	64	185	94
22.	Rajasthan	93	81	37	36	81	83
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
24. Tamil Nadu		627	526	173	102	668	460
25. Telangana		33	44	5	14	38	68
26. Tripura		0	0	0	0	0	0
27. Uttarakhand		48	10	27	9	15	6
28. Uttar Pradesh		1986	2015	987	1043	1419	1394
29. West Bengal		17	145	10	39	13	186
30. Andaman and Nicobar Islands		0	0	0	0	0	0
31. Chandigarh		4	0	2	0	4	0
32. Dadra and Nagar Haveli		0	0	0	0	0	0
33. Daman and Diu		0	0	0	0	0	0
34. Delhi		39	61	8	18	38	47
35. Lakshadweep		0	0	0	0	0	0
36. Puducherry		0	1	0	1	0	0
TOTAL		9423	4869	3597	2015	8791	4108

Four laning project of NH-45C

1579. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN:

SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four laning project of NH-45C from Sethiyahopu to Cholapuram section in Cuddalore district of Tamil Nadu including bypass for Pinnalur-cum Sethiyahopu from km. 66.000 to km. 74.650, passing through Pinnalur-II village is underway;

(b) whether it is a fact that supplementary award for multiplication factor varying from 1.25 to 2 for rural areas, pursuant to the Gazette Notification of Government of Tamil Nadu dated 21.09.2017, has not been paid to Pinnalur-II land owners; and

(c) whether Government has set a time-frame for paying this supplementary award to land owners with due interest?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) The alignment of Pinnalur-cum-Sethiyahopu bypass is envisaged through Pinnalur-II village, in Bhuvanagiri Taluk (old Chidambaram Taluk), Cuddalore District in the State of Tamil Nadu.

Award for the land acquired in Pinnalur-II village was passed by the Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA) on 30.11.2017 with multiplication factor as one (1). As per the guidelines issued by Government of Tamil Nadu *vide* Gazette No. 300, Revenue and Disaster Management Department, dated 21.09.2017, the applicable multiplication factor is 1.25. The matter of supplementary award in respect of balance amount towards the revised multiplication factor is with CALA. The compensation amount is payable to the land owner as per provisions of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013 post declaration of award by CALA.

Data on causes of road accidents

1580. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a data on accidents caused by potholes, dug roads, non-working signal lights, encroached footpaths, etc.

(b) if so, the details of such accidents for the last five years, year-wise;

(c) the details of deaths caused by such accidents for the last five years, year-wise; and

(d) if not, reasons for not collecting such data, especially when traffic violation fines are so high, and whether Government has ensured accountability?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Ministry does not collect the specific data on accidents caused by dug roads, non-working signal lights, encroached footpaths etc. As per information received from police department of all States/UTs, number of accidents and persons killed under the category of potholes on all roads in the country during the last five calendar years *i.e.* 2014 to 2018 is shown below:-

Year	Total number of accidents on roads with potholes	Total number of persons killed on roads with potholes
2014	11106	3039
2015	10876	3416
2016	6424	2324
2017	9423	3597
2018	4869	2015

The State/UT-wise details in respect of road accidents and persons killed under the category of potholes on all roads during the calendar years 2014 to 2018 are given in the Statement-I and II (*See below*).

(d) To review the road accident data collection/reporting format so as to make recording and reporting of road accident data more accurate, objective and ensuring coverage of all relevant information, a Committee was constituted consisting experts from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, IIT Kharagpur, World Health Organisation (WHO), senior officers from Police and Transport Departments of States, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and officers of the Ministry. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, a revised uniform road accident recording and reporting format has been adopted since calendar year 2017. These formats do not cover data on accidents caused by dug roads, non-working signal lights, encroached footpaths etc.

Statement-I

Details of Total number of road accidents under the category of potholes during the calendar years 2014 to 2018

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	282	279	280	288	3
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	28	34	0	12	0
3.	Assam	17	24	43	196	182
4.	Bihar	494	402	200	208	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	114	257	28	76	112

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Goa	17	17	1	0	0
7.	Gujarat	506	584	306	552	1
8.	Haryana	0	25	0	465	473
9.	Himachal Pradesh	8	0	0	19	21
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	45	48	8	0	8
11.	Jharkhand	62	49	200	118	119
12.	Karnataka	248	182	185	178	38
13.	Kerala	494	531	536	522	63
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2962	3070	609	1012	182
15.	Maharashtra	565	1867	1064	2370	552
16.	Manipur	1	31	20	3	2
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	12	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	1	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	61	33
20.	Odisha	79	69	226	150	88
21.	Punjab	161	246	22	334	109
22.	Rajasthan	318	319	282	93	81
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	1665	1112	621	627	526
25.	Telangana	282	138	4	33	44
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	28	48	10
28.	Uttar Pradesh	2406	1196	1436	1986	2015
29.	West Bengal	352	362	319	17	145
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	5	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	NR	0	4	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi	NR	14	0	39	61
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	20	0	0	1
TOTAL		11106	10876	6424	9423	4869

Statement-II

Details of Total number of persons killed under the category of potholes during the calendar years 2014 to 2018

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	82	103	131	108	1
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17	17	0	7	0
3.	Assam	3	12	8	53	68
4.	Bihar	248	228	119	116	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	40	97	6	31	20
6.	Goa	2	1	0	0	0
7.	Gujarat	134	167	120	228	1
8.	Haryana	0	9	0	522	222
9.	Himachal Pradesh	31	0	0	10	18
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	15	14	0	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	26	21	127	64	78
12.	Karnataka	76	38	37	47	10
13.	Kerala	49	53	54	52	11
14.	Madhya Pradesh	360	420	81	141	59
15.	Maharashtra	124	812	329	726	166

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
16.	Manipur	0	4	2	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	0	0	0	5	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0	1	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	3	0
20.	Odisha	22	24	208	73	35
21.	Punjab	90	177	11	162	64
22.	Rajasthan	105	108	106	37	36
23.	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	126	120	130	173	102
25.	Telangana	82	59	3	5	14
26.	Tripura	0	0	0	0	0
27.	Uttarakhand	0	0	13	27	9
28.	Uttar Pradesh	1275	679	714	987	1043
29.	West Bengal	130	251	122	10	39
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	NR	0	2	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	2	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0
34.	Delhi	2	2	0	8	18
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	1
TOTAL		3039	3416	2324	3597	2015

Samruddhi Mahamarg

1581. SHRI KUMAR KETKAR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the percentage of Total funds Government is spending for the construction of Samruddhi Mahamarg?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The question under consideration is concerned with Samruddhi Mahamarg which is not a National Highway and is currently developed/maintained by the State Government of Maharashtra.

Division of APSRTC consequent to A.P. reorganization

1582. DR. K. V. P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) was not divided even after six years of bifurcation of the State, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Central Government has its stake in APSRTC, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) was formed with the consent of Central Government; and
- (d) whether State Governments of Andhra Pradesh or Telangana can independently take a decision to wind up or merge the Road Transport Corporation (RTC) with their Government without the consent of Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has not received any scheme from the State Government for reconstitution/reorganisation of the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) under Section 47A of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950 for approval of the Central Government.

(b) Government of India has made 31% capital contribution in the Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (APSRTC) in 1958. The capital contribution of 31% in APSRTC amounts to ₹ 61.07 crore.

(c) No, Sir. Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC) has been established by the Government of the Telangana in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950.

(d) Under the Section 39 of the Road Transport Corporations Act, 1950, liquidation of a Corporation can be made by the order of the concerned State Government with prior approval of the Central Government.

Circle rate for land acquisition for the NHAI

1583. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high circle rates and varying norms for fixing the rate based on the size of land parcels have made it difficult for the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) to acquire land for expansion of existing highways in many States;

(b) whether Government has requested the concerned States to rationalise the circle rates and have one circle rate for one region; and

(c) if so, the response of the concerned States in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) States are forwarding responses.

Road accidents and changes under M.V. Act

1584. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of road accidents which occurred in the country;

(b) whether enhanced fines have radically changed the number of accidents; and

(c) whether Government is of the opinion that the infrastructure in the form of roads, traffic signals, signs for pedestrians and motorists meet the requirements according to Section 198(A) of Motor Vehicles Act?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) As per information received from Police Department of all States/UTs, the information regarding Total number of fatal road accidents on all roads during the last three calendar years and the current year *i.e.* 2015 to 2018, is given in the table below:—

Year	Total road accidents on all roads
2015	5,01,423
2016	4,80,652
2017	4,64,910
2018	4,67,044

(b) According to WHO study, stronger legislation strengthens Road Safety.

(c) The standards and specifications of Roads, traffic signals, signs etc. for National Highways are prescribed under Manuals of Indian Road Congress (IRC) and other relevant instructions, guidelines issued by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways from time to time.

Status of highway projects in West Bengal

1585. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of on-going road projects undertaken by Government in West Bengal at present;

(b) the status of each project;

(c) the status of other road projects in West Bengal, sanctioned and lying pending; and

(d) by when such projects are likely to be executed?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) 51 projects covering 1333 km .at an estimated cost of ₹ 18953 crore are going on in West Bengal. Details of ongoing projects are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) and (d) 13 projects amounting to ₹ 1 183 crore are sanctioned but lying pending in the State of West Bengal. Details of pending projects are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*Details of status of highway projects in West Bengal*

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	Name of Project	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)	Physical progress	Target date of completion
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	State PWD	Rehabilitation of landslide location with slope protection and drainage improvement at Tindharia on NH 55 (km. 50 + 155 to 50 + 182, km 52 + 650 to km. 52+ 800 and km. 53 +452 to km. 53+ 475).		137.53	50.00%	31-03-2020
2.	State PWD	Rehabilitation of landslide location along with slope protection and drainage improvement at Paglajhora on NH-55 (km. 43+500 to 43+950) in Phase-I.		44.66	6.50%	31-05-2020
3.	State PWD	Proposed development for road corridor component of AH-48 involving NH-717, NH-31, NH-31C, NH-317A on Sub-regional Road Connectivity among Bangladesh, Bhutan, Indian and Nepal under the loan assistance from ADB.	90.57	937.76	99.99%	30-11-2019
4.	State PWD	Construction of new road at the missing link portion of NH-81 along the approved alignment between Harishchandrapur and Easter approach of Kalindri-Bridge, in the district of Malda.	13.15	291.2	48.74%	11/30/2019
5.	State PWD	Estimate for 4-laning of NH-34 in the stretch from km. 25.7 to 31.0	5.3	64.62	61.01%	31-12-2019
6.	State PWD	Strengthening of road stretches along with provision for Retaining	18.4	40.13	25.00%	31-05-2020

		walls, Breast walls and hillside drains from 0.00 km to 4.40 km & from 14.0 km to 28.0 km of NH-10 in SBD mode.					
7.	State PWD	Rehabilitation & upgradation to 2-lane with paved shoulder configuration of Nandakumar-Contai-Chandeshwar road from km. 0-25.5 and km 41-64.70 of NH-116B.	49.2	396.86	50.05%	31-05-2020	
8.	State PWD	Development of alignment of Fulahar Bridge approach on newly declared NH-131A from Chainage 49+05 Km to 51+20 km. and from 53+81 Km to 55+19 km. in the district Malda.	3.53	109.36	50.00%	31-03-2020	
9.	State PWD	Upgradation of NH-31C with a minimum of 2-lane with paved shoulder configuration starting from km 105.000 to km. 145.632 (TOTAL length 40.632 km.) in Jalpaiguri on EPC mode.	40.5	202.69	82.31%	31-01-2020	
10.	State PWD	Upgradation of NH-81 with a minimum of 2-Lane with paved shoulder configuration starting from km 19.205 to km 46.550 in the District of Malda including cost of Land Acquisition, on EPC mode in the State of West Bengal under Annual Plan 2017-18. (Job No.- 081-WB-2017-18/421).	26.75	426.18	6.09%	03-09-2020	
11.	State PWD	Upgradation of NH-512 with a minimum 2-Lane with paved shoulder configuration starting from Ch 82.4 km to 99.5 km and minimum of 4-Lane configuration from Ch 104.2 km to Ch 106.607 km. along with cost of Land Acquisition, on EPC mode in the State of West Bengal under Annual Plan 2017-18.	19.49	218.7	29.58%	21-11-2020	

Written Answers to

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Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12.	State PWD	Development of 4-laning section of NH-31 from km. 551.36 (Ghoshpukur) to km. 563.26 (Bihar More, Bagdogra) in Darjeeling District, West Bengal on EPC Mode. (Project Length - 11.90 km.) under Annual Plan 2017-18.	11.9	254.3	36.26%	02-10-2020
13.	State PWD	Upgradation to 2-Lane with paved shoulder configuration and strengthening of NH-133A from Nimtita (Junction with NH-34) to Jharkhand Border in the district of Murshidabad, West Bengal, on EPC mode in the State of West Bengal under Annual Plan 2017-18.	4.35	36.14	30.15%	28-07-2020
14.	StatePWD	Strengthening of NH-60 from CH. 401.00 km. (Nalhati) to 422.450 Km (Moregram) along with Improvement of Shoulder in the districts of Birbhum and Murshidabad in the State of West Bengal under Annual Plan 2017-18.	21.45	28.17	81.00%	30-11-2019
15.	StatePWD	Strengthening of existing carriageway from km 126.00 to km 140.00 of NH-60 under Salboni NHSub-division of NH Division No. II, P.W (Roads) Directorate in the District of Paschim Medinipur, West Bengal during the year 2018-19.	14	23.93	0.00%	14-09-2020
16.	StatePWD	Improvement of NH-60 from km 330.00 to km. 355.00 and from 360.00 to km. 374.00 except the stretch from km 337.703 to km. 339.046 (for SuriROB) by way of strengthening of existing	44	61.23	0.00%	09-04-2020

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[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

		carraigeway and laying of wearing course from km. 355.00 to km. 360.00 in the District of Birbhum, West Bengal.					
17.	State PWD	Construction of PSC Girder bridge over river Sal in place of damaged vented causeway at km 314.330 on NH-60.	Bridge	54.04	80.95%	31-12-2019	
	State PWD	Construction of PSC Girder bridge over river Hinglow in place of damaged vented causeway at km. 309.800 on NH-60.	Bridge				
18.	State PWD	Construction of twins 2-lane ROB and its approaches in replacement of Level Crossing at km. 615.5 of NH-31 (Oodlabari).	ROB	102.67	45.90%	11-03-2020	
19.	State PWD	Construction of twins 2-lane ROB and its approached in lieu of Level Crossing at km. 652.6 of NH-31 (Lataguri).	ROB	74.06	28.52%	09-09-2020	
20.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing at km. 661.100 on NH-31 (Maynaguri).	ROB	108.91	NA	NA	
21.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of level Crossing No. KA-61 at km. 194.850 of NH-60 (Bishnupur).	ROB	78.83	56.30%	12-06-2019	
22.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 6/B/T at km. 284.170 on NH-60 (Topsi).	ROB	149.19	8.00%	09-10-2020	
23.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Unmanned Level Crossing at km. 303.9 on NH-60 (Pandabeshwar).	ROB	213.97	—	24 months from Appointed Date	

Written Answers to

[2 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions 309

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
24.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 10/B/T at km. 307.050 of NH-60 (Bhimgarh).	ROB	155.87	—	24 months from Appointed Date
25.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 21/SPL/E at km. 338.600 of NH-60 (Suri).	ROB	127.21	—	24 months from Appointed Date
26.	State PWD	Construction of Proposed Bridge over river Shali at Chainage 247.00 km on NH-60 in the District of Bankura.	Bridge	29.14	0.00%	08-04-2019
27.	State PWD	Reconstruction of new Bridge over river Tarapur between chainages km. 270.150 and km. 270.690 on NH-60 in the District of Bankura.	Bridge	14.62	63.00%	31-03-2020
28.	State PWD	Estimate for repairing, Renovation and Restoration works of Kunur Bridge (Gushkara) at 28.300 km. on NH-2B in the District of Purba Bardhaman.	Bridge	1.91	91.00%	11/19/2019
29.	State PWD	Rehabilitation of 9 (Nine) damaged Bridges/ROB along NH-60 during the year of 2018-19 in the district of Birbhum.	Bridge	7.68	0.00%	07-08-2020

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Unstarred Questions

30.	StatePWD	Construction of Twins 2-lane ROB and its approaches in replacement of existing level crossing Gate No. -KA-34 (Rly km. 160/25-160/27) between Mindapore and Bankura stations in Kubai at km. 154.617 of NH-60.	ROB	263.26	0.00%	06-09-2021
31.	State PWD	Construction of 5 nos. of minor bridges at km. 132.60, 144.89, 146.709, 165.556 and 174.25 of NH-60.	Bridge	43.82	97.00%	31-03-2020
32.	State PWD	Reconstruction of minor bridge at chainage 181.868 km. of NH-60 in the District Bankura, West Bengal.	Bridge	15.53	NA	12 months from Appointed Date
33.	State PWD	Rehabilitation and upgradation of Pundibari to Baxirhat (WB/Assam Border) section of NH-31 from km. 770-816 of NH-31 to two lanes with paved shoulders under NHDP-IV on EPC basis.	46	398.52	99.15%	30-11-2019
34.	State PWD	I.R.Q.P Work from km. 23.20 to km. 25.70 of N.H.-34 under N.H. Division No.V, P.W.(Roads) Directorate in the District of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal during the 2018-19 on SBD mode.	2.5	2.48	3.00%	31-03-2020
35.	NHIDCL	Construction of Mechi Bridge and Approaches on India-Nepal border linking Kakarvita in Nepal and Panitanki in India under Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) Mode.	1.50	158.65	47.00%	31/1/2021

Written Answers to

[2 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
36.	NHIDCL	Construction of Alternative Highways to Gangtok in Sikkim <i>via</i> Bagrakote-Chuikhim-Nimbong-Kafer from km. 0.00 to km. 13.00 (Package No.IVA) section of NH-717A in the State of West Bengal.	13.00	402.94	0.00%	03.04.2022
37.	NHAI	Four laning of Berhampore - Farakka Section of NH-34 from km. 191.416 to km. 294.684 in the State of West Bengal under NHDP Phase-III on DBFOT (Toll) basis.	100.63	998.79	87.99%	Mar, 2021
38.	NHAI	Four laning of Farakka - Raiganj Section of NH-34 from km 295.000 to Km 398.000 in the State of West Bengal under NHDP Phase-III on DBFOT (Toll) basis.	100.23	1078.84	93.00%	May, 2020
39.	NHAI	Six-laning of Dhankuni-Kharagpur Section of NH-6 from km. 17.600 to km. 129.00 in the State of West Bengal to be executed as BOT (Toll) project on DBFOT pattern under NHDP Phase V.	111.40	1396.18	86.74%	Dec, 2019
40.	NHAI	Construction of a ROB cum-Flyover at Ranichak for replacing existing level crossing at Ranichak, Haldia on NH-41.	1.39	127.8	89.16%	Feb, 2020
41.	NHAI	Four-Laning of Krishnagar-Baharampore Section of NH-34 from km.115.000 to km.193.000 under NHDP-III on DBFOT (Annuity) Basis	78.00	1154.5	87.56%	June, 2020
42.	NHAI	4-laning Ghoshpukur-Dhupguri section from km. 0.00-km. 83.785 of 31D (PKG-I)	83.79	1133.02	67.27%	June, 2020

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[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

43.	NHAI	Islampur Bypass of NH-31	10.31	277.00	69.13%	Jan' 2020	Written Answers to
44.	NHAI	Four-Laning of Chichira-Kharagpur Section of NH-6 from km. 185.150 to km. 134.400including rehabilitation of existing 4-lane from Km 134.400 to km 129.60 in the State of West Bengal under NHDP Phase - III on EPC mode.	55.55	613.08	96.15%	Mar' 2020	
45.	NHAI	Construction of balance work of Dalkhola bypass (length 5.5 km.) including ROB on NH-34 (on EPC mode) in the State of West Bengal.	5.50	104.95	72.29%	Mar' 2020	
46.	NHAI	4 lane bridge over River Ganga at downstream of Farakka Barrage (4L, NHDP-III, 5 km. EPC).	5.47	521.19	35.76%	19.12.2021	[2 December, 2019]
47.	NHAI	Rehabilitation and up-gradation to Four laning of NH-31D from km. 113.200 to km. 154.854 (Pkg-IIA) Ghoshpukur-Salsalabari Section in the State of West Bengal on EPC Basis.	41.65	1030.0	1.50%	18.07.2021	
48.	NHAI	4-laning of Raiganj Dalkhola section of NH-34.	50.29	1028.7	16.17%	Sept' 2021	
49.	NHAI	Rehabilitation and up-gradation of existing road to 2-lane with paved shoulder configuration in Purulia (JHR Border) - Chandil (Junction withNH-33) section of NH-32 [from km. 70.524(JH/WB Border) to km 84.400 (near Sainik School Purulia)] and from km 94.300 (near Simulia Junction, Purulia) to km. 153.705 (near Chandil Junction with NH-33 in the State of Jharkhand) in the State of West Bengal and Jharkhand.	73.28	708.3	LOA issued on 31.03.2018 Agreement signed on 05.03.2019 Appointed date will be declared soon.	Unstarred Questions	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
50.	NHAI	6-laning of Barwa-Adda-Panagarh Section of NH-2 from Km. 398.240 to km. 521.120 including Panagarh Bypass in the states of Jharkhand and West Bengal under NHDP Phase-V on Toll on DBFOT Pattern.	122.88	1665	79.41%	Due to financial crisis the work has been stopped
51.	NHAI	Balance work for construction of 4-laning of Barasat Krishnagar section of NH-34 from km. 48.533 to km. 115.272 on EPC mode.	66.72	1183		LOA issued to M/s KCC Buildcon Ltd 16.10.2019

Statement-II

Details of pending highway projects in West Bengal

Sl. No.	Implementing Agency	Name of Project	Length (Km.)	Cost (₹ in crore)	Construction Period
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	State PWD	Construction of 4-lane ROB (Twins 2-lanes) and its approaches in replacement of level crossing at km 3.950 of NH-2B (Railway km 226/0) at Talit.	ROB	145.89	24 months

2.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of existing RUB (Rly. km. 31/22-24) between Bhedia and Bolpur in Bhedia at km. 41.760 of NH-2B.	ROB	117.61	24 months
3.	State PWD	Construction of twins 2-lane ROB and its approaches in replacement of existing level crossing Gate No. -38 (Rly km 165/21-165/23) between Chondrakona Road and Garbeta Stations in Kadamadiha at km. 159.448 of NH-60.	ROB	101.76	24 months
4.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 1/T/SPL (at Barasat Kazipara) at km. 3.25 on NH-35.	ROB	123.62	24 months
5.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 26T-A (Near Ashok Nagar) at km. 20.578 of NH-35.	ROB	114.21	24 months
6.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 27T-A (Near Habra Gate-2) at km. 22.882 of NH-35.	ROB	113.67	24 months
7.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approaches in lieu of Level Crossing No. 27/t Habra Gate-1 at km. 23.969 of NH-35.	ROB	98.33	24 months
8.	State PWD	Construction of ROB and its approached in lieu of Level Crossing No. 23/SPL/T at km 52.712 of NH-35 (Bangaon).	ROB	81.84	24 months
9.	State PWD	Improvement of Riding Quality of Road surface in between km. 20.00 to km. 30.00 of N.H.55 under N.H.Division IX, in the district of Darjeeling during the year 2018-19.	10	10.17	8 months

Written Answers to

[2 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6
10.	State PWD	Improvement of Riding Quality of road surface in between km. 11.00 to km. 20.00 of NH-55 in the District of Darjeeling during the year 2018-19 on EPC mode.	9	9.75	8 months
11.	State PWD	IRQP work from km. 0.557 to km. 7.163 of N.H. 117 under N.H. Division No. I in the District of Howrah, West Bengal, during the year 2018-2019 on EPC mode.	6.61	8.28	7 months
12.	State PWD	Improvement of Riding Quality (IRQ) from km. 654.00 to km. 670.00 of NH-31 in the district of Jalpaiguri, West Bengal during the year 2018-19 on EPC mode.	16	14.47	9 months
13.	NHIDCL	Construction of Alternative Highways to Gangtok in Sikkim <i>via</i> Bagrakote-Chuikhim-Nimbong-Kafer- from km. 26.100 to km. 40.000 (Package No. IVD) Section of NH-717A in the State of West Bengal.	13.9	242.97	December, 2022

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[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Increase in number of seafarers

1586. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is focusing on increase in number of Indian seafarers;
- (b) if so, details of steps being taken; and
- (c) the number of Indian seafarers during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, the growth in the number of Indian seafarers has been possible due to a series of measures taken by the Government to improve the standards of maritime training, increase on-board training opportunities, improve the examination and certification system and facilitate ease of doing business.

The training curriculum for the officers and the ratings was revised in 2016 not only to meet the global standards but also to meet the expectations of the foreign employers. In order to regulate the training institutes working in the private sector, a system of 'Comprehensive Inspection Programme' (CIP) has been designed to assess the quality of the institute on various parameters such as infrastructure, quality of students intake, quality of faculty, pedagogy, performance in examination, on-board training. To standardise the course material of these institutes, an e-learning module has been prepared by the Directorate General of Shipping (DCS) and provided free of cost to all Indian seafarers to allow them to upgrade their knowledge and skills before appearing for examinations.

Maritime training requires compulsory training in the class room and on-board a ship, without which a cadet (trainee) cannot be certified by the Maritime Administration for obtaining a job in Merchant Navy. While India has created a large capacity in imparting class room training for Merchant Navy, there has been a major constraint in providing on-board ship training for the students enrolled for class room training. A policy shift was made by the regulator by holding the training institutes responsible for on-board ship training of the students also and not only for the class room training. Further, to release more on-board ship training slots, a decision was taken to allow on-board training of officers and ratings on tugs and offshore vessels also. These two initiatives have opened additional berth for nearly 4000 trainees.

The Government has also brought about major regulatory relaxation for obtaining Indian Continuous Discharge Certificate (CDC), which is a pre-requisite for boarding a vessel for the purposes of employment. A new liberalised CDC regime was introduced in 2017 which allowed 10th pass Indian citizens who had completed a 14 day basic maritime course to obtain Indian CDC. Earlier, they were required to complete at least 6 months training for obtaining CDC. Many seafarers having past experience in sailing have managed to procure Indian CDC. The DGS has so far issued more than 70, 000 CDCs under new CDC Rules, in the year 2018-19, itself.

The Government has also given a lot of emphasis on introducing e-Governance initiatives in the field of Maritime Administration and today the entire process of obtaining CDC, training, issue of Certificate of Competency, application for examination and interviews, obtaining of medical certificates, process of Recruitment and Placement Service and Immigration for boarding a foreign flag vessel etc. have been made on-line.

The constant increase in the number of Indian seafarers has been the result of cumulative impact of the decisions of the Government to improve the quality of maritime training, increase in the training capacity, increase in the number of training berths, standardisation of course curriculum and course material, improvement in the examination system and above all, by ease of doing business brought through simplified processes and e-governance modules.

(c) Total number of Indian seafarers during the last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of Seafare ^c
2016	1,43,940
2017	1,54,349
2018	2,08,799
2019 (as on 08.11.2019)	2,31,776

Indo-Bangladesh protocol route

1587. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:
DR. VIKAS MAHATME:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) names of ports and harbours under Indo-Bangladesh Protocol Route pertaining to India and Bangladesh;

(b) whether Port of Chittagong and Mongla are included in the said route; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to improve the inter-port trade connectivity between India and Bangladesh ports under the aforesaid route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Under the Protocol on Inland Water Transit and Trade (PIWT&T) between India and Bangladesh, the following are existing Ports of Call in the two countries on Indo-Bangladesh Protocol (IBP) route:—

India	Kolkata	Haldia	Pandu	Karimganj	Silghat	Dhubri
Bangladesh	Narayanganj	Khulna	Mongla	Sirajganj	Ashuganj	Pangaon

(b) The Port of Mongla is declared as Port of Call under PIWT&T, however Chattogram port is not part of PIWT&T.

Mongla and Chattogram are declared as Ports of Call under the “Coastal Shipping Agreement I” between India and Bangladesh.

A MoU, Agreement and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on the use of Chattogram Port and Mongla Ports for movement of goods to and from India have been signed by India and Bangladesh.

(c) To improve connectivity to North Eastern Region (NER), a project is being implemented for development of fairway in critical stretches of IBP route from Sirajganj to Daikhowa (175 km.) of Jamuna river and Ashuganj-Zakiganj (295 km.) of Kushiya river in Bangladesh at a cost of ₹ 305.84 crore on a cost of sharing ratio of 80:20 between India and Bangladesh. The project commenced in April, 2019.

Cargo transportation through inland waterways

1588. PROF. M. V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cargo transportation through inland waterways, specifically as a percentage of Total inland traffic during the last five years;

(b) the details of funds sanctioned and utilised for the development of inland waterways in the last five years;

(c) the details of capacity utilisation at major and non-major ports, including details of traffic handled, across India during the said period; and

(d) the fiscal and other incentives, if any, provided by Government to promote the usage of inland waterways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) The details of cargo transportation through inland waterways during the last five years is given below:—

(In million tonnes)

Cargo transported in NWs	Year				
	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
TOTAL	6.59	8.14	55.47	55.03	72.31

The overall inland water transport specifically as a percentage of Total inland traffic transportation is about 2% in terms of tonne-km.

(b) The details of funds sanctioned and utilised for the development of inland waterways in the last five years which comprises of allocation under Grants-in-aid to Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) and through Extra Budgetary Resources (EBRs) raised by IWAI are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Budget Estimate	Revised Estimate	Exp.
2015-16	323.19 (Grants)	321.91 (Grants)	321.91
2016-17	BE 391.01 (Grants)+ EBRs 340.00	RE 362.31 (Grants)+ EBRs 340.00	358.41 (Grants)+ 237.32 (EBRs)
2017-18	270.00 (Grants)+ 660.00 (EBRs)	426.0914 (Grants)+ 660.00 (EBRs)	426.0914 (Grants)+335.2686 (EBRs)
2018-19	480.00 (Grants)	862.49 (Grants)	862.49 (Grants)+ 111.94 (EBRs)
2019-20	750.36 (Grants)	N.A.	374.47 (up to 30.09.2019)

(c) The details of capacity utilisation at major and non-major ports, including details of traffic handled, across India during the last five years is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) A Scheme on “Financial support for IWT promotional activities” at cost of ₹2.50 crore for undertaking pilot movements, trial runs, short-term regular cargo movements to demonstrate the technical/commercial viability of IWT and coastal shipping was approved by IWAI Board during 2019-20.

Statement

*Cargo Capacity, Cargo Traffic Handled and Capacity Utilisation (%)
at Major and Non-Major Ports*

Financial Year	(in Million Tonnes)					
	Cargo Capacity at Major Ports	Cargo Traffic at Major Ports	Capacity Utilisation at Major Ports (%)	Cargo Capacity at Non- Major Ports	Cargo Traffic at Non- Major Ports	Capacity Utilisation at Non- Major Ports (%)
2014-15	871.52	581.34	66.7	689.00	470.89	68.3
2015-16	965.36	605.89	62.8	737.74	465.87	63.1
2016-17	1359.00	648.47	47.7	788.6	485.21	61.5
2017-18	1451.19	679.47	46.8	856.16	529.09	61.8
2018-19(P)	1514.09	699.10	46.2	910.32	581.23	63.8

Source: State Maritime Boards/State Directorates in respect of Capacity and Cargo Traffic Handled at Non-Major Ports. For Major Ports: Development Wing of Ministry of Shipping for Cargo Capacity and All Major Ports for Cargo Traffic Handled.

Accident mitigation at major ports

1589. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed a standard operating procedure for all ports in the country to deal with oil spills and other accidents that can damage the marine ecology surrounding the ports; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) delineates the role and responsibility of various authorities including ports during an oil spill. Annual calendar is published for conduct of different levels of exercises involving various stakeholders for exercising their capabilities in mitigating risk of oil spills in their area of jurisdiction. As per NOSDCP, ports are required to be capable of handling tier-I level of oil spill within their jurisdiction.

Central Government has formulated a scheme for providing assistance to major ports and oil handling non- major ports under State maritime Boards/State Government for combating oil pollution and for mitigation measures. Under the Scheme 10 Major Ports and 8 Non Major Ports have been provided financial assistance so far for procurement of Oil Spill Response (OSR) equipments as per specifications suggested in NOSDCP-2015.

Tariff authority for major ports

1590. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to bring private ports under the Tariff Authority for major ports;

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

(c) whether the major ports are losing business to private ports due to predatory pricing;

(d) if so, the steps taken to create a regulatory framework of pricing for private ports; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Tariff Authority for Major Ports (TAMPs) has been set up under the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963, to fix the Scale of Rates and conditionalities governing application of rates for the cargo, vessel and miscellaneous services provided by the Major Port Trusts and Private Terminals operating in these Major Port Trusts and for the Port estate. The private ports come under the jurisdiction of the respective State Government/Maritime Board.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. During the four year period 2014-15 to 2018-19, the traffic handled by the Major Ports has increased by 117.75 MT whereas at Non-Major Ports (including private

ports) it increased by 111.99 MT. The Tariff Guidelines, 2015 which were revised in 2018 by the Ministry of Shipping regarding fixation of tariff for services rendered by Major Ports, impart them flexibility to react to the market forces for determining tariff, based on their commercial judgement. Moreover, the tariff of Major Port Trusts approved by TAMP are ceiling rates and each Major Port has the flexibility of charging lower rates or offering discounts on the approved rates.

Development of ports in Andhra Pradesh

1591. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of the development of ports in the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government has proposed to develop specifically two ports in the State, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Ramayapatnam port in Nellore district is also included in the proposals, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the present status of the proposal and the reasons for the delay; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government for early implementation of the proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) Kakinada Deep water Port, Krishnapatnam Port and Gangavaram Port (Non-Major Ports) and Visakhapatnam Port Trust (Major Port) are operational ports in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) to (e) The project development of Port at Duggirajupatnam in Andhra Pradesh is listed in Schedule XIII of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014. However, the said Port has not been found feasible. This was shared with Government of Andhra Pradesh. Subsequently, Ministry of Shipping had constituted an Expert Committee to examine the proposal for Development of a Major Port in Andhra Pradesh and recommend further course of action in the matter. The Committee has submitted its draft report.

DPR for developing national waterway 5

1592. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for developing National Waterway-5 has been prepared;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

The Detailed Project Report (DPR) for development of National Waterway (NW)-5 was prepared by M/s WAPCOS during 2010 in the following stretches covering a Total length of 588 kms.:—

- (i) Stretch I: Talcher to Mangalgadi (237 km.).
- (ii) Stretch II: Dhamra to Paradip (95 km.).
- (iii) Stretch III: Dhamra to Geonkhali (256 km.).

Subsequently, during 2015, on the basis of priority assigned by Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) for development of Stretch-I and Stretch-II, DPR was updated.

Based on DPR recommendations:

- (i) A mathematical model study for Stretch-I was conducted. The study recommended construction of 07 nos. weirs/barrages/check dams with navigation lock to maintain desired Least Available Depth (LAD) for navigation/fairway development.
- (ii) Consequent to the model study, further consultancy for Front End Engineering Drawing (FEED) and Detailed Engineering Drawing (DER) to construct weir/barrage/check dam and reconstruct bridges having less navigation clearance, have been undertaken.
- (c) Does not arise.

**Vijayawada to Muktyala portion of National
Waterways No. 4**

1593. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has completed the dredging from Vijayawada to Muktyala portion of National Waterways No. 4 as per schedule;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has also completed the establishment of four floating terminals of National Waterways No. 4, including the one at Veadri and Amravati; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. 62% of dredging in the stretch of NW-4 from Vijayawada to Muktyala in Krishna River has been completed and the balance work, depending on the requirement, is scheduled to be completed by March, 2020.

(c) and (d) Fabrication of three floating pontoons out of four floating pontoons at Durga Ghat, Bhavani Island, Amaravati and Veadri for NW-4 has been completed and fabrication of fourth pontoon is in progress.

**Proposal for equity in Kerala Waterways
and Infrastructure Limited**

1594. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the proposal for taking up 49 per cent equity in the Kerala Waterways and Infrastructure Limited, is still under consideration;
- (b) if so, the details of the steps taken in this regard; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for delay in taking decision in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of IWT in Tamil Nadu

1595. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed to develop Inland Water Transport (IWT) in Tamiraparani river in the State of Tamil Nadu;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has allocated any fund for this;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) to (e) Tamiraparani River from Sulochana Mudalir Bridge, Tirunel Valley to confluence with Bay of Bengal near Punnaikayal for a length of 62 km. in Tamil Nadu, was declared as National Waterway (NW)-99 by the National Waterways Act, 2016. Techno-economic feasibility of NW-99 has indicated that the waterway is not technically and commercially viable for development for shipping and navigation.

Increasing tonnage capacity of shipping industry

1596. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of SHIPPING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to increase the tonnage capacity of Indian shipping industry;
- (b) if so, the details of steps being taken; and
- (c) the tonnage capacity of the shipping industry in the country during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING (SHRI MANSUKH MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) In order to increase tonnage capacity of Indian shipping industry, Government has taken a number of steps. These include (i) Providing Indian shipping industry cargo support through Right of First Refusal (ii) Reducing GST from 18% to 5% on bunker fuel used in Indian flag vessels (iii) Allowing carriage of coastal cargo from one Indian port to another Indian port *via* foreign ports in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh (iv) Removing licencing requirement for chartering of foreign registered ships by citizens of India, companies incorporated in India and Registered Societies to encourage coastal movement of agriculture and other commodities, fertilizer, EXIM Transshipment Containers and Empty containers (v) Bringing parity in the tax regime of Indian seafarers employed on Indian Hag ships *vis-a-vis* those on foreign flag ships (vi) Allowing shipping enterprises based in India to acquire ships abroad and flag them in the country of their convenience (vii) Allowing use of imported Containers for carrying of domestic cargo and allowing use

of locally manufactured or domesticated containers conforming to the specifications from the International Organisation (ISO), for transportation of EXIM cargo.

(c) The tonnage capacity in the country is as per details given below:—

(In million tonnes)			
Period	Number of Vessels	GT	DWT
As on 31.03.2017	1316	11,562	17,278
As on 31.03.2018	1,384	12,582	19,082
As on 31.03.2019	1,407	12,789	19,387

Grants to NGOs in Konkan region

†1597. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that grants are being given to the NGOs situated in the districts of Konkan region of Maharashtra for encouragement of sports and development of youth;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the districts where those NGOs were given grants in the Konkan region along with the amount of such grants given in the State of Maharashtra during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) No, Sir. No grants were given to the NGOs situated in the districts of Konkan region of Maharashtra for development of youth and sports.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Sports events for women

1598. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to promote sports events for women;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the Total funds allocated/released for this purpose during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) and (b) All sports promotional schemes and facilities of this Ministry are equally available and accessible to women athletes. Specific initiatives of this Ministry for promotion of sports women are as under:

1. Under the “Sports for Women” vertical of Khelo India Scheme, this Ministry has decided to launch “Khelo India Football Girls League” in Under-17 age group.
2. A support of ₹ 3 crores was given to the Boxing Federation of India for conducting the AIBA World Women Boxing Championship, 2018 held at New Delhi.
3. Under the “Talent Search and Development” vertical of Khelo India Scheme, 1344 women Khelo India Athletes have been supported out of the Total 2741 athletes.

(c) Funds are not allocated State-wise and Gender-wise. The information of expenditure incurred under different Schemes for promotion of sports, including for women athletes, in the last three years and the current year is as under:

(Amount ₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of Scheme	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (As on 31.10.2019)
1.	Khelo India	118.10	346.99	342.24	321.38
2.	Sports Authority of India	367.20	495.73	395.00	328.49
3.	National Sports Federations	359.42	277.68	245.13	245.00

Proposals from Chhattisgarh

†1599. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the number of proposals received by the Ministry from Chhattisgarh Government for development works during last three years along with details of funds and the actions taken thereon, scheme-wise;

(b) the reasons for pendency of proposals received from the State Government;

(c) whether any timeline has been fixed for the disposal of the said proposals;

(d) whether excessive delay in clearing proposals hampers the development work and the manner in which the cost overrun is adjusted; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) to (e) "Sports" being a State subject the primary responsibility for development and promotion of sports rests with the respective State/UT Government. Department of Sports supplements their efforts through its various schemes which are applicable equally to the whole country irrespective of any specific State/UT. Information relating to proposals received from Chhattisgarh Government for sports infrastructure projects is given in the Statement.

Statement

Details of project received from Chhattisgarh Government for sports infrastructure

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Name of the Proposals	Estimated Cost	Date of Sanction	Grant Sanct- ioned	Grant Released	Status of UC
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Laying of synthetic hockey turf ground, Jashpur Nagar, Jashpur District Under Khelo India/Scheme.	5.44	28.07.2017	5.44	2.50	The project was sanctioned at a Total estimated cost of ₹ 5.44 crore out of which ₹ 2.50 crore was released as an 1st installment vide dated 28.07.2017.
2.	Construction of multi-purpose	8.00	Available facilities suffice for meeting training needs of sports persons. Larger number of athletes could			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	indoor hall at Municipal Corporation Ambikapur					be provided good quality training in the sports infrastructure available in the State.
3.	Laying of synthetic track and field at Saptgiri Hills ground, Pandar-Dalli, Dalli-Rajhara (Balod	6.99				
4.	Construction of synthetic athletic track at Mahasamund	6.60				
5.	Construction of synthetic football ground at Jagadalpur, District Bastar.	5.00				
6.	Construction of synthetic athletic track at (Balance work) at 1st Battalion C.A.F. Bhilai	6.97				
7.	Construction of multi- purpose indoor hall of size 62 M x 41 M (Balance work) at 1st Battalion C.A.F, Bhilai	5.49				
8.	Construction of multi-purpose indoor hall at Main Stadium, Raigarh.	9.33				

Residential coaching programmes

1600. SHRI KAMAKHYA PRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government conducts residential coaching programmes for all categories of sports for players from age group of ten years and above;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the initiatives taken by Government;
- (c) the number of coaching programmes that have been conducted in North Eastern Region and the eligibility criteria thereof;
- (d) the procedure of training and study programmes for the residential players; and

(e) the vacancies in training centres, age-wise and category-wise and proposal of Government to search talented players for making them experts? v

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI KIREN RIJJU): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports provides for training to identified talented sportspersons in the age group of 8-25 years. At present 14669 sportspersons are getting training under various schemes of the Ministry, Out of these 8701 sportspersons are getting full-time residential training. Trainees are provided assistance in the form of coaching, sports equipment, boarding, lodging, sports kit, competition exposure, educational expenses, medical/ insurance and stipend as per the scheme norms.

(c) Running of coaching at training centres/academies is an ongoing activity. Presently, Total 2179 sportspersons (1432 Boys and 747 Girls) are being trained at 32 centres in the North Eastern Region. Eligibility criteria for selection of sportspersons for regular training under various schemes are in public domain and are available at <https://sportsauthorityofindia.nic.in> and <https://kheloindia.gov.in>.

(d) The residential trainee athletes undergo regular sports coaching/ training in the morning and evening sessions under the expert guidance of coaches. Trainee athletes are encouraged to continue their studies by seeking admission in nearby schools, colleges or distant education programmes, choice of which is left to the athlete.

(e) Number of athlete in residential training facilities depends upon merit-cum-choice of the identified potential talent. All identified talented potential under Talent Search and Development vertical of Khelo India Scheme have exercised their options for residential training or otherwise.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House is adjourned to meet at 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at fifty-five minutes past twelve of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at one minute past two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*.

POINT OF ORDER REGARDING FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Further discussion on the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Bill, 2019 will continue.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): माननीय उपसभापति जी, मैं एक व्यवस्था का प्रश्न उठाना चाहता हूँ। रूल 258 में व्यवस्था के प्रश्न उठाने पर आप ऑर्डर भी दे सकते हैं।

महोदय, मेरा यह कहना है कि हमारे देश के संविधान के अनुच्छेद 19 में सबको अभिव्यक्ति और स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार दिया गया है, लेकिन यह अभिव्यक्ति और स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार असीमित नहीं है। इसके reasonable restrictions हैं। अगर यह अभिव्यक्ति और स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार decency के खिलाफ हो, अगर यह अभिव्यक्ति और स्वतंत्रता का अधिकार ऐसा हो, जो देश के लिए शोभनीय न हो, तो उस पर reasonable restrictions हैं। मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि सामने के सदस्य जरूर कहेंगे, लेकिन यह कोई उस सदन या इस सदन का विषय नहीं है, यह विषय एक सांसद के रूप में और कम से कम एक दल के नेता के रूप में मर्यादा का विषय है। * वे दूसरे सदन के सदस्य हो सकते हैं, लेकिन ...**(व्यवधान)** ... उनके नाम को डिलीट कर दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... आप मेरी बात सुनिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री बी.के. हरिप्रसाद (कर्नाटक): डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, वे दूसरे सदन के सदस्य हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**... इसलिए आप उनका नाम मत लीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: हाँ, मैं खुद कह रहा हूँ कि उनका नाम डिलीट कर दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उनका नाम डिलीट कर लीजिए, लेकिन क्या किसी राजनीतिक दल के नेता को यह अधिकार है कि वह प्रधान मंत्री जी के लिए 'घुसपैठिए' जैसे शब्द का उपयोग करे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्या हम देश में संसदीय लोकतंत्र में इस प्रकार के ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री बी. के. हरिप्रसाद: आपके प्रधान मंत्री जी ऐसी ही भाषा बोलते हैं। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: क्या इस प्रकार के शब्दों का उपयोग करके हम देश के लोकतंत्र को अपमानित करने का काम नहीं करेंगे? ...**(व्यवधान)**... उपसभापति महोदय ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, मैं कोई point of order accept नहीं कर रहा हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**... हम अभी बहस कर रहे हैं: the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Bill, 2019 पर। जिस विषय पर बात हो रही है, उस पर ही point of order accept होगा। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़। ...**(व्यवधान)**... डा. विकास महात्मे। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

*Withdrawn by the Member.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: उपसभापति महोदय, मेरी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: डा. विकास महात्मे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: मेरी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए। ...(व्यवधान) आप मेरी पूरी बात सुन लीजिए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: डा. विकास महात्मे। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, I have a point of order.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैंने स्पष्ट किया। ...(व्यवधान) मैंने स्पष्ट किया। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, you cannot deny me my right to raise a point of order.
...(Interruptions) Sir, I want to raise a point of order. ...(Interruptions) Under which Rule
have you asked him to speak, Sir?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He is speaking under Rule 258.

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Sir, has he given any notice for that?

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्य, point of order के लिए नोटिस की जरूरत नहीं है, लेकिन
...(व्यवधान) प्लीज़। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Then we should also be heard. ...(Interruptions) Then
we should also be heard. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: मैं सभी सदस्यों से ...(व्यवधान) माननीय भूपेन्द्र जी, एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, that is not concerned with this House.
...(Interruptions) That is concerned with the other House. ...(Interruptions) He cannot
speak like this. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय बी. के. हरिप्रसाद जी, एक मिनट ...(व्यवधान) माननीय सदस्यगण,
point of order की बिल्कुल स्पष्ट स्थिति है कि जिस विषय पर हाउस के सामने बात हो, उसी विषय
पर point of order आप accept कर सकते हैं, इसलिए यह point of order नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)
डा. विकास महात्मे, आप अपनी बात शुरू करें। ...(व्यवधान) डा. विकास महात्मे। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, ऐसे नहीं चल सकता है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: मेरा माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह होगा, please take your seats.
...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: His remarks should be expunged. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: कांग्रेस वालों को संसदीय पद्धति और संसदीय परंपराओं की मर्यादाओं का पालन करना चाहिए। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री बी. के. हरिप्रसाद: प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने क्या बोला, होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने क्या बोला? ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: There is a procedure. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री उपसभापति: मेरा माननीय सदस्यों से आग्रह होगा कि कृपया वे अपनी-अपनी जगह जाएँ और सदन की कार्यवाही चलने दें। ...(*व्यवधान*)... कृपया अपनी-अपनी जगह जाएँ। माननीय भूपेन्द्र जी ने अपनी बात कह दी है। ...(*व्यवधान*)... भूपेन्द्र जी, आपने अपनी बात कह दी। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, आपने मुझे अपनी पूरी बात करने का अवसर नहीं दिया। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री उपसभापति: आपने अपनी बात कह दी। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: He should abide by the rules. ...(*Interruptions*)... He has raised a point of order on a subject which is not being discussed. ...(*Interruptions*)... The discussion is on e-cigarettes. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I have cleared the position. ...(*Interruptions*)... अभी कोई और बात रिकॉर्ड पर नहीं जा रही है। प्लीज़, अपनी-अपनी सीट पर बैठें और बहस को आगे चलने दें। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: *

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: आपने अपनी बात कह दी है। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री बी. के. हरिप्रसाद: *

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: आपकी जो भावना है, उसके अनुरूप सभी सदस्य उसका ध्यान रखेंगे। ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: संसदीय आचरण के मानक इसमें दिए गए हैं, मुझे उम्मीद है कि सारे पक्ष उसका पालन करेंगे। ...(*व्यवधान*)... मैं अब आग्रह करता हूँ ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: ...(*Interruptions*)... We will examine. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: भूपेन्द्र जी, हम इन precedents को examine करेंगे। ...(*व्यवधान*)... हम examine करेंगे, हम दिखवाएंगे ...(*व्यवधान*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: यह precedent है, हम इसको examine कराएंगे। I will come back to you on this. ...(*Interruptions*)...

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: *

श्री उपसभापति: मुरलीधरन जी, क्या आप माननीय मंत्री जी के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, today, the hon. Cabinet Minister, who has piloted the Bill, is with an official delegation, meeting the foreign dignitaries and His Excellency, the King of Sweden, under the leadership of the Prime Minister. So, he has requested that the Bill may be taken up today afternoon, that he will be here as soon as his official engagement is over in the Hyderabad House. Meanwhile, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Health Affairs is here to be present during the discussion. Once he is free from there, he will join us.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION

**\$Disapproving the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement)
Ordinance, 2019 (No. 14 of 2019)**

And

GOVERNMENT BILL

**\$The Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement)
Bill, 2019 - Contd.#**

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र): सर, गुरुवार के दिन मैं इस विषय पर चर्चा कर रहा था कि इस मामले में जो रिसर्च है, वह प्राइवेट कंपनी द्वारा sponsored होगा, जिसके लिए फंड प्राइवेट कंपनी

* Not recorded.

\$ Discussed together.

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

देती है या प्राइवेट कंपनी की तरफ से कोई कर रहा है। इसकी तरफ ज्यादा ध्यान नहीं देना चाहिए, क्योंकि मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि रिसर्च से जब यह सिद्ध हुआ कि सिगरेट स्मोकिंग से कैंसर होता है, तो प्राइवेट कंपनी वालों ने, जो सिगरेट manufacture करते हैं, उन्होंने कहा कि इसके ऊपर जो पेपर का कवर है, उससे कैंसर होता है, न कि उसके अंदर जो तम्बाकू है, उससे होता है। सर, इसमें दस साल चले गए। प्राइवेट कंपनियाँ, जो ई-सिगरेट का उत्पादन करती हैं, वे अपने फायदे के लिए इस तरह के confusion create करने का काम करती हैं। इसलिए हमें एक credible research paper चाहिए या हमें research की credibility देखनी चाहिए।

सर, मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि यह जो मैंने बताया, अगर इसमें पाँच-सात साल निकल गए, तो भी ई-सिगरेट की यह बीमारी पूरे भारत में फैल सकती है। मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बता रहा हूँ कि वर्ष 2011 में यू.एस.ए. में एक सर्वे हुआ था, उसमें यह देखा गया था कि 12 साल के ऊपर के जितने भी बच्चे हैं, उनमें ई-सिगरेट स्मोकिंग का कितना प्रमाण है। वर्ष 2011 में वह 1.5 परसेंट था, यानी डेढ़ परसेंट था। वर्ष 2018 में उसी सर्वे का रिजल्ट वर्ष 2011 के डेढ़ परसेंट से बढ़कर 20 प्रतिशत हो गया, यानी वह करीब 14-15 गुना बढ़ गया। यानी, confusion create करने की उनकी जो पद्धति है, उसे हमें समझना चाहिए। इस बिल की वजह से हम इस बीमारी को जड़ से ही दूर कर रहे हैं, यह बहुत ही अच्छा है। हमारे देश में जब वह 20 परसेंट तक बढ़ेगा, तब लोग कहेंगे कि अगर आप इसको अभी ban करेंगे, तो हमारी फैक्टरी में जो काम करने वाले 2,000-3,000 कर्मचारी हैं, वे कैसे जिएँगे? यानी, हर बार यह परेशानी वे बढ़ाते रहेंगे। इसीलिए मुझे लगता है कि यह एक अच्छा बिल आया है, जिससे हम भारत देश से ई-सिगरेट की इस बीमारी को जड़ से ही खत्म कर रहे हैं।

सर, वे कहते हैं कि इससे बीड़ी या सिगरेट स्मोकिंग का प्रभाव कम होता है, लेकिन USFDA, जो कि अमेरिका की Food and Drug Association है, उसके बारे में हमें पता है कि वह एक बहुत ही credible institute है, उन्होंने भी यह कहीं नहीं बताया है कि सिगरेट स्मोकिंग कम करने के लिए ई-सिगरेट का उपयोग किया जा सकता है। इसलिए मुझे लगता है कि हम इस बात पर विश्वास न रखें कि ई-सिगरेट से स्मोकिंग का प्रभाव कम हो रहा है। इसी प्रकार, WHO के वर्ष 2014 के convention में यह तय हुआ था कि ई-सिगरेट का प्रभाव सभी देशों को कम करना चाहिए और हमने उसके agreement पर signature भी किया हुआ है। वर्ष 2019 में Indian Council of Medical Research की जो सलाह सामने आयी है, उसमें उन्होंने भी यह कहा है कि ई-सिगरेट इंडिया में पूरी तरह से ban होना चाहिए। जब सभी का यह कहना है, तो जो इंस्टिट्यूट्स हेल्थ के लिए बहुत जागरूक हैं, उनका कहना हमें मानना चाहिए।

सर, दूसरी बात यह है कि ये कंपनी वाले सभी लोगों से मिलते हैं। वे मुझसे भी मिलने आए थे और कहा था कि आप ऐसा-ऐसा बताइए। मैंने उनसे कहा कि आप मुझे बताइए कि इसके पीछे रीजंस क्या हैं। लेकिन वे क्यों आते हैं? देश में सिगरेट स्मोकिंग कम करना चाहिए, इसके लिए वे मुझसे मिलने नहीं आए, बल्कि वे मुझसे मिलने इसलिए आए ताकि उनका प्रॉफिट चलता रहे और यह हमें समझना चाहिए। हम सबको यह समझना चाहिए कि वे खुद के लिए ही सारा कुछ सोच रहे हैं, देश के बारे में वे कोई चिन्ता नहीं कर रहे हैं। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

सर, मैं एक छोटी-सी बात बताऊँगा। उन्होंने यानि मान्यवर सांसद जी ने कहा कि इस पर पूरी तरह ban होने से माफिया राज बढ़ता है। यह बात सही है कि माफिया राज बढ़ता है, जैसा कि उन्होंने शराब का उदाहरण भी दिया, लेकिन मेरा कहना यह है कि अभी इसकी डिमांड नहीं है। आज ई-सिगरेट की इतनी ज्यादा माँग ही नहीं है, इसलिए इसमें माफिया राज हो ही नहीं सकता। रेत और शराब जैसी चीज़ें, जिनकी बहुत ज्यादा डिमांड है और अगर इन पर टोटल बैन लगता है, तो उनमें माफिया राज आएगा, लेकिन अभी ई-सिगरेट की इतनी ज्यादा डिमांड नहीं है और अगर इसे हम आज से ही बैन करते हैं, तो वे इसकी डिमांड जनरेट नहीं कर पाएँगे। इसलिए यह बहुत ही जरूरी है कि यह बिल आज ही पास हो।

सर, तीसरा यह है कि प्रो. एम. वी. राजीव गौडा जी ने कहा था कि इस कानून से रेवेन्यू नहीं बढ़ेगा, लेकिन मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि यहाँ हम सब लोग बैठे हैं, हम सब लोग खुद से यह पूछें कि अगर उनका बेटा या मेरा बेटा यह चाहता है कि वह ई-सिगरेट यूज़ करे और मैं भी कहूँ कि इससे सरकार का टैक्स या रेवेन्यू बढ़ रहा है, तो क्या यह चलेगा? सर, यह बात सही नहीं है, क्योंकि हम उसके ऊपर हेल्थ प्रॉब्लम्स के लिए ज्यादा खर्चा करते हैं, यानी रेवेन्यू कम मिलता है। यानी रेवेन्यू कम मिलता है। वे बाद में बोलेंगे कि हम CSR भी ज्यादा दे रहे हैं, 2-3 परसेंट से 5 परसेंट दे रहे हैं। इसलिए हमें रेवेन्यू में नहीं जाना चाहिए कि रेवेन्यू बढ़ रहा है, इसलिए ई-सिगरेट जारी रखो।

तीसरी एक महत्वपूर्ण बात बताकर मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करना चाहूँगा। एक 25 साल का लड़का था, उसको कैंसर हुआ और उसकी मृत्यु हो गई, लेकिन उसने अपनी मृत्यु से पहले अपनी माँ को एक खत लिखा था। उसने उस खत में लिखा कि मेरा एक सपना था कि मैं अपने देश के लिए काम करूँगा और देश का नाम ऊँचा करूँगा, और माँ, तुम्हारे मन में भी मेरे लिए गौरव हो, मैं ऐसा काम करना चाहता था। माँ, आपको भी पता है कि मैं 9वीं तक एक होशियार, होनहार लड़का था, मैं खेल-कूद में भी अच्छा था, लेकिन खेल-कूद में अपना स्टैमिना बढ़ाने के लिए मेरे सीनियर्स ने बोला कि आप अगर addictive substance लेंगे, तो आपका stamina बढ़ेगा। इस वजह से मैंने वह लिया और लेता रहा, कुछ दिनों के बाद मुझे पता चला कि दोस्त मुझे वह नहीं दे पाते, लेकिन मेरे लिए वह ज़रूरी है, इसलिए मैंने अपने पैसों से लिया, किंतु बाद में मेरे पास उतने पैसे नहीं थे इसलिए माँ, मैंने आपके पर्स से पैसे चुराए। उस दिन मैं बहुत रोया कि मुझे पैसे नहीं चुराने चाहिए, लेकिन मेरा शरीर वह substance मांग रहा था, मेरे शरीर को उसकी बहुत आवश्यकता थी इसलिए मैंने अपने मन के खिलाफ़ वह काम किया। बाद में चोरी को छिपाने के लिए मैंने झूठ बोलना शुरू किया। माँ, जब मैं अच्छे और बुरे में फ़र्क नहीं समझता था, उस वक्त यह बदलाव आया।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Conclude now.

डा. विकास महात्मे: उसने कहा कि मेरा यह कहना है कि यदि यह वातावरण अच्छा रहता तो मैं भी एक अच्छा और होनहार लड़का बनकर आगे बढ़ता। महोदय, यह वातावरण अच्छा हो, इसके लिए सभी माता-पिता को काम करना चाहिए, ऐसा मुझे लगता है। सरकार हमारे माँ-बाप की तरह है और उसने इस वातावरण को अच्छा बनाने के लिए इतनी मेहनत की है। मेरा कहना है कि देश में इस ग्रेड

[डा. विकास महात्मे]

का addiction न हो, इसलिए इस बिल को सब लोग दिल से सपोर्ट करें, दिमाग से तो सपोर्ट है ही ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, श्री रिपुन बोरा जी।

डा. विकास महात्मे: मैं ऐसी इच्छा व्यक्त करता हूँ।

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise, actually, not to oppose this Bill, I support the Bill, but, before supporting the Bill, I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to some of the serious consequences and shortcomings of the Bill as well as the ground reality.

Sir, I must appreciate the concern of the hon. Minister for introducing this Bill because this E-Cigarettes Bill wants to ban the sale and manufacture of e-cigarette which is one of the injurious things for our health. So, this concern of the hon. Minister is very much appreciable but, at the same time, not only e-cigarettes but there are so many other products in the market, which are also more injurious to health than e-cigarette. Therefore, I want to tell only the reality. Before the ban, there should be some more credible research to know whether it is more harmful for the health than tobacco.

Sir, now, our Government has taken so many steps to control the use of tobacco and already it is an established fact that most of the cancer diseases have occurred from the use of tobacco only. In spite of that, according to world survey, now there are 28.6 per cent people in our country who are still using tobacco and the more alarming thing is that this is the highest in the world. The tobacco consumption in India is the highest in the world. The same world survey has also said that out of tobacco consumption, ten people die in every second in India. It is a very serious matter that every second, ten people die in India out of tobacco-related diseases. E-cigarette is a very new concept. It is a very new invention. But on the contrary, according to researches, e-cigarette is 95 per cent less harmful than tobacco-made cigarette. I am not supporting e-cigarettes. I am only telling the fact. It does not mean that I am going to support this Bill. I am only comparing. In comparison to tobacco, e-cigarette is 95 per cent less harmful than tobacco. And it is not my finding; it is from the findings of the World Health Record and other credible research organisations of the world. In India, 145 million people, *i.e.*, 10.7 per cent of India's population consume *bidis*, cigarettes and chewing tobacco and 1.2 million people in India die every year out of tobacco. This is the most alarming situation of tobacco in India. If we go further, the Global Adult Tobacco Survey has done a survey on e-cigarette also. According to 2016 Report, the percentage of people smoking e-cigarette in India is only 0.02 per cent. These are not

my figures. These are the figures of the Global Adult Tobacco Survey. In India, only 0.02 per cent people consume e-cigarettes and less than 4 per cent people of India are aware of e-cigarettes. I have already said that because e-cigarette is a very new concept, it is a new invention, that is why it has not yet reached to the common people in every nook and corner of the country like cigarettes, bidis and other tobacco products. Therefore, so far, there is not a single instance of death due to inhaling e-cigarettes. Another thing is, what is our apprehension with regard to e-cigarettes? In the introductory speech, the hon. Minister has said that we have the apprehension that it will reach our younger generation, it will reach the children. Yes, I fully appreciate this apprehension. But we have to see how much justification does this apprehension have. Sir, the e-cigarettes are very costly and that is why only 4 per cent people are aware of it. It has reached only 0.02 per cent people because it is very costly. Its basic kit costs ₹ 3, 000 and its refilling cost is very high. Therefore, the common man does not have the capacity to afford this. Therefore, there is no apprehension of reaching it to minor or school-going children. Now, I come to the shortcomings of the Bill. Sir, this is a draconian Bill. In this Bill, how undemocratic it is that one sub-Inspector can enter the premises, seize and arrest without warrant the person who sells e-cigarette or who stocks e-cigarette. He can be searched; he can be arrested without any warrant and that too, by a very junior officer, *i.e.*, the sub-Inspector. My question is: Why such a stringent law is not promulgated in the case of mob-lynching? Mob-lynching is a very heinous crime nowadays in our country. And today, in Zero Hour, the whole House expressed its concern about the offence of rape. For the rape offenders, we have not made such a stringent rule. Therefore, this is a very harsh provision, and I do not agree with this provision. Now, my suggestion is this. At the beginning, Sir, I have said that I am not supporting the use of e-cigarettes. My suggestion is, let us first start with some regulatory approach. In the case of tobacco also, we have expressed our concerns for the health of the people. So, we should ban that product first which is more injurious. We have not banned tobacco and cigarettes. We have made airports 'no smoking zones', and we have made some places 'no smoking zones.' But, even then, there also, we have kept a provision for a smoking zone. There are a number of world organizations, world institutes, which have recommended for some regulatory approach for e-cigarettes. One alternative should be there. So, e-cigarette is an alternative for the regular smoker who wants to discontinue smoking. Some people are so much addicted to smoking, for them, in order to discontinue their habit of smoking, e-cigarette is the alternative. If they take e-cigarette this way also, they can minimize the use of cigarette-smoking, *beedi*-smoking or inhaling of tobacco. Now, 70 per cent countries in the world have established regulations for sale of e-cigarettes.

[Shri Ripun Bora]

Now, let us come to the United Kingdom. There, they have one Government organization, the National Health Service. Mr. Vikas Mahatme is also a doctor. He knows it very well. The National Health Service of the United Kingdom, they have started promoting such shops. Inside each hospital, e-cigarettes are being promoted as a safer alternative for the smokers. This is happening in the United Kingdom. Now, my suggestion to the hon. Minister is this. On the cigarette packet, we have got printed a statutory warning that cigarette smoking is injurious to health. Even then, people are purchasing cigarettes; they are consuming cigarettes. Now, if we see the reality, in Madhya Pradesh, opium is produced which is also injurious to health; liquor is also injurious to health; wine is also injurious to health, but, we have not banned them. Sir, opium is produced in two districts of Madhya Pradesh, one is Neemach and the other is Mandsaur. It is officially produced there, and it is sold throughout the country. Ban is the last step. Let one more credible research should be done and till then, we should make some regulatory provisions. Yes, sale of e-cigarettes should be restricted; sale of these e-cigarettes should be prohibited among the children, among the minors, and let it be sold only in pharmacies. It should only be sold in the medical shops. Let the tax on it be very high so that the cost is very high so that very less people can consume them. There should not be any advertisement as is the case with tobacco products. There are so many advertisements. There should not be any advertisement. So, if we take all these regulatory measures before banning e-cigarettes, it would be proper. I think, Sir, after the research, if it is found that it is equally harmful, just like tobacco, let us ban it. So, my point is, let us ban e-cigarettes. But, at the same, we must ban tobacco and all tobacco products. Thank you.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY) *in the Chair.*]

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for allowing me to speak on this very important topic.

“मैं जिंदगी का साथ निभाता चला गया, हर फिक्र को धुएँ में उड़ता चला गया।”

†
"میں زندگی کا ساتھ نبھاتا چلا گیا، ہر فکر کو دھوئیں میں اڑاتا چلا گیا"

All of us remember this popular Hindi song of yesteryears. But no more can a worry-free life and smoking be equated. Thus, we strongly support this proposed ban on the electronic cigarettes. However, before addressing the House on the issue, I must point out

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

that I am firmly against using Ordinances for legislation. Mr. Mavalankar who was the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha had rightly said, “If Ordinances were not limited by convention only to urgent and extreme cases, then the Government will go on issuing Ordinances and Parliament will become a rubber stamp.” As Parliamentarians, we should never allow that to happen.

Sir, electronic cigarettes, which can be nicotine or non-nicotine based, have serious health issues for those who consume them. The WHO has also observed that e-cigarettes use flavours. This has resulted in a rapid increase in the consumption of e-cigarettes among the youth. Therefore, we need to realise that India is a large market for tobacco products. Cigarette and beedi consumption is only eight per cent of the Total tobacco consumption in India. A large market is oral or chewable tobacco, like *khaini*, *gutkha* and *paan masala*. Many studies show the link between chewed tobacco and oral cancer. The WHO has also recommended a ban on chewed tobacco products in India.

In West Bengal, Sir, there is a Total ban on manufacture, storage, distribution and sale of *gutkha* and *paan masala* since 2013. We have extended the ban by another year this November. The ban is in accordance with the provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act of 2006, for public benefit.

Sir, smoking is like paying to cut your life shorter. Tobacco kills more than 10 lakh Indians every year. I recommend extending the mandate of this Bill to cover all tobacco products including *gutkha* and *paan masala*. Only banning e-cigarettes should not be seen as a solution to the problem of smoking, till the time we can implement an effective ban, we should consider the interests and livelihood of workers’ as well. Interests of 50 lakh people employed in the *beedi* industry of India should be considered. These workers, 90 per cent of them, being women, supplement their incomes through the very low wages they get from rolling *beedis*. We should remember to provide them with assistance as well. Here, I would like to talk about the flagship social security scheme of the Government of West Bengal, which is called Samajik Mukti Prakalpo, which has been a big success. A Total of 1.10 crore workers from various unorganised sectors, including *beedi* workers have registered themselves under the scheme. The Government has already spent ₹ 1, 530 crore on the scheme to provide benefits to workers. These include provident fund, health insurance under Swasthya Sathi Scheme, financial assistance for the education of children and training in safety and skill development. I urge the Centre to consider adopting a social security model for the vast number of informal tobacco industry workers In the country along the lines of the successful West Bengal model.

[Shri MD. Nadimul Haque]

Sir, the Bill prohibits and also penalises anyone who is stocking, advertising or trading e-cigarettes. The act of using e-cigarettes has not been banned, *per se*. So, smoking e-cigarettes has been discouraged but the actual consumption of e-cigarettes in so many words hasn't been banned.

Consumers of e-cigarettes will now be confused whether using e-cigarettes would make them offenders. The police have also been given powers to enter premises, search for and seize e-cigarettes without a warrant, which is a disproportionate intrusion into a person's privacy, as pointed out by my colleague, the previous speaker. Therefore, it is imperative to formulate clearly defined legislation to protect the interests of the people. We must ensure that the production and consumption of harmful tobacco and nicotine-based products is regulated and possibly prohibited. While the effects of smoking cigarettes takes upto 25 to 30 years to set in, often fatally, in the case of e-cigarettes the effect is much quicker and it can become fatal in just a couple of years in many cases. However, it is hypocritical that the Centre bans e-cigarettes, citing health issues on the one hand and holds stakes, directly and indirectly, in major tobacco companies of the country on the other. If the Centre cares about the health of Indians, why doesn't it ban cigarettes altogether? My final point is, to save the lives of all Indians; I would urge the Government to implement this ban effectively and immediately. Even if all tobacco products cannot be banned. Let us do the two right things and we will surely move towards the goal where we ban all tobacco products for a healthy and prosperous future.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): थैंक यू, लेकिन मेरा आपसे एक सवाल है कि आपने अपनी स्पीच की शुरुआत में 'हम दोनों' फिल्म के गाने की जो दो लाइनें, चैं जिंदगी का साथ निभाता चला गयाछ, गुनगुनाई हैं, उनका इसके साथ क्या मतलब है? ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री मो. नदीमुल हक: "मैं जिंदगी का साथ निभाता चला गया", "میں زندگی کا ساتھ"

I have said that no more can smoking and a worry-free life be equated.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस गाने के चक्कर में बहुत लोग बरबाद हुए हैं।

पर्यावरण, वन और जलवायु परिवर्तन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बाबुल सुप्रियो): सर, यह गाना obsolete है, पॉल्यूशन एकदम बढ़ गया है।

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): अभी आपका गाना ज्यादा मशहूर है।

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on the Prohibition of E-cigarettes Bill, 2019. I welcome this Bill. While welcoming this Bill I appreciate the hon. Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and the hon. Minister of State in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey who have piloted this Bill. The aim of this Bill is to protect the people, especially the youth from the harmful effects of e-cigarettes which produces aerosol by heating a solution containing nicotine and thereby e-cigarette increases the risk of cardio-vascular diseases among human beings, irrespective of age factor. The Bill seeks to prohibit the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, distribution, storage and advertisement of electronic cigarettes, including all forms of electronic nicotine delivery system, heat not burn products in e-hukka etc., as my predecessors spoke. Actually, nicotine content is more in the ordinary cigarettes than in the e-cigarettes. So, why ban e-cigarettes? Ban all the cigarettes from the country. That is my request to the Government. I express my congratulations on the recent action taken by our hon. Prime Minister of India for banning e-cigarettes in India.

As we are all aware, the use of tobacco is a prominent risk factor for six to eight leading causes of death and almost 40 per cent of the non-communicable diseases, including cancers, cardio-vascular disease and lung disorders are attributable to tobacco use. As such, the consequent burden of mortality and morbidity due to consumption of tobacco is very high in India. The number of deaths every year in India which is attributable to tobacco use is almost 13.5 lakhs and hon. Minister, your endeavour to improve public health and especially, on tobacco control by introducing 85 per cent graphic health warnings on tobacco product packages is highly commendable. I also congratulate you, the Minister and the Ministry, for bringing in an ordinance and banning e-cigarettes in India. As you are aware that the Central Tobacco Control Act, namely, the Cigarettes and other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement and Regulation of Trade and Commerce, Production, Supply and Distribution) Act, 2003, the COTPA Act, in many ways aligns with the international treaty, the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control of which India is a signatory, but there are some key gaps which need to be addressed. There are some lacunae which have to be addressed. The said Act was enacted with an objective to discourage the use or consumption of tobacco products and to improve public health in general. However, it has failed to achieve its objective, primarily due to glaring gaps in the Act. I wanted to mention the lacunae by drawing the attention of the hon. Minister.

[Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth]

Sir, the COTPA, 2003, presently allows smoking in certain public places, such as restaurant, hotel, airport and even in Parliament! We have designated place for smoking. We have created designated smoking areas. We have to, completely, disallow it. We have to stop this. It has to be mentioned in the Bill that public places and designated smoking places should be abandoned. Advertisement and display of tobacco products at the point of sale should be comprehensively banned. Sir, there are big posters before shops! They have to be comprehensively banned. The COTPA also has no provision to counter sale of single cigarette. Single cigarette is also being sold in small shops! And, Sir, there should not be a provision for counter sale of single cigarette or flavoring of tobacco products. The earlier speaker has mentioned about it. Sir, flavouring of tobacco products is the main reason for youth being attracted for tobacco use. They also come in small sachets. I don't know the names. There are many names. Flavoured tobacco products are sold in small sachets. So, youth are attracted. Drivers, to avoid sleeping, use flavoured products. So, they have to be banned. Further, penalty for offence under the Act is too inadequate to act as a deterrent. The penalty is very, very nominal. What the hon. Minister proposing even for e-cigarette is meagre. So, the hon. Minister has to enhance the fine amount. There is a need to enhance the legal age for consumption of tobacco products from current 18 years to 21 years. Thus, there is an urgent need to amend the COTPA, 2003, and remove lacunae under the Act, which are not only contrary to the global best practices but also international convention to which India is a signatory. Hence, in the interest of public health, I request the hon. Minister to consider the proposal of introducing a Bill for amending the COTPA, 2003, in Parliament as soon as possible. Sir, I come to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Once in every two years, WHO releases a Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic indicating details of cities and country-level compliance with key policy areas. We have to follow the best key policy decisions. According to this, the best practices and standards should be adopted and covered under the COTPA. Smoke-free environment and tobacco advertisements should be TOTALLY banned. And, the effective implementation of COTPA resulted in the key findings of GATS-2. These are: A relative reduction of 17 per cent in prevalence of current tobacco use since GATS-I, including a 24 per cent decline in smoking tobacco use. Because of the clear effectiveness of the 85 per cent warnings, which the Government imposed, there has been decline in tobacco uses, and 33 per cent decline in prevalence among young adults, aged 15 to 24. Then, I would also request that the smoking zones at the airports, hotels, restaurants, and even in Parliament, should completely be done away with. There must be comprehensive anti-smoking laws that must cover workplaces, restaurants, and bars. That will reduce the risk of heart

attack by 85 per cent. Especially in my area, there are so many *bidi* workers and most of them get respiratory problems because of *bidi* rolling. So, that must also be taken care of. In Trinelveli district alone, there are around one lakh *bidi* workers. They are all dependent on this work. So, while it is very important to take care of their health, an alternate means of livelihood for them must also be ensured. ...*(Time-Bell rings)*... Sir, a Total ban on *bidis* as well as cigarettes, we all know, will cause a major employment havoc in my State. So, the Government must consider alternative employment opportunities for them. The sale of e-cigarettes must also be prohibited.

A study-assessment data from 130 countries found that point of sale advertising bans are significantly associated with reduced smoking experimentation among youth. And, according to another study data from 77 countries, having a point of sale display ban reduced daily smoking prevalence by about 7 per cent. So, impose fines large enough to deter violations; establish a system for increasingly severe penalties for repeated violations; provide authority for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to revise penalties through Rules; and, ensure that all offences are cognizable.

With these words, Sir, I support this Bill.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): थैंक यू, सर। इस बिल के माध्यम से सरकार ने ई-सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के लिए कानून बनाने की बात रखी है और मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया।

सर, इस बिल का जो प्रयोजन है, वह मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा है। अभी हमारे पूर्ववक्ताओं ने भी इस बात का जिक्र किया है। तम्बाकू के सेवन से जो स्वास्थ्य समस्याएं पैदा होती हैं, अगर उनको निगाह में रखते हुए यह बिल लाया गया है, तब तो जितने भी tobacco products हैं, उन सबके ऊपर बैन लगना चाहिए था। लेकिन इसमें nicotine का जो electronic dispensation है, खाली उस पर सवाल उठाया गया है। हमारे कई पूर्ववक्ताओं ने इसका जिक्र भी किया है कि जो quantum of nicotine inhale की जाती है, इसमें वह थोड़ी reduce हो सकती है या regulate की जा सकती है। वस्तुतः इस चीज़ की ईजाद ही सिगरेट का नशा छुड़ाने के लिए की गई थी। जो लोग सिगरेट के एडिक्ट हो जाते हैं, उनके लिए यह एक device बनाई गई थी, ताकि वे लगातार नशे की मात्रा को कम करते रह सकें। यह device उनकी हेल्प करने के लिए बनाई गई थी, लेकिन अब इसका कारोबार बढ़ निकला है। सरकार की चिंता है कि नई उम्र के बच्चे, कॉलेजों के बच्चे भी इस vaping में involve होने लगे हैं। यह चिन्ता का विषय है। तम्बाकू कोई बढ़िया विषय नहीं है। हमारे पास जो आंकड़े रखे हैं कि तम्बाकू के निरंतर इस्तेमाल से जो बीमारियाँ पैदा होती हैं, उन बीमारियों का इलाज कराने पर सरकार पर जो burden पड़ता है, वह 1 लाख 4 हजार करोड़ रुपया है। यह चीज़ सामने आ चुकी है। सरकार को सिगरेट और तम्बाकू उत्पादों से करीब 30,000 करोड़ रुपये का राजस्व प्राप्त होता है। जब आमदनी कम है और खर्चा ज्यादा है, तो एक blanket ban क्यों नहीं, conditional बात क्यों?

[श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा]

सर, यहाँ कुछ बातें जो मैं बाद में कहूँगा, उनके पहले मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि तम्बाकू की, बीड़ी की या सिगरेट की जो लत है, इसके पीछे क्या है। यह एक मनोवैज्ञानिक स्थिति है। आप देखेंगे कि जो लोग ज्यादातर सिगरेट पीते हैं या तम्बाकू के प्रोडक्ट का इस्तेमाल करते हैं, उनकी *upbringing normal* नहीं रही है, कहीं न कहीं उनकी लाइफ में बचपन से ही कोई *trauma* रहा, कोई *set back* रहा, *under achieving syndroms* रहे। इस चीज़ ने उनको अंतर्मुखी बनाया। एकाग्रता बढ़ाने के लिए- अभी हमारे एक पूर्ववर्ती वक्ता कह रहे थे कि सोचो मत, सुखी रहो- मैं हर चीज़ को धुँएँ में उड़ाता चला गया, यह एक नजरिया है। इसके जड़ में जाने की जरूरत है। एक नॉर्मल पर्सनैलिटी लेकर, एक सामान्य व्यक्तित्व लेकर समस्याओं को फेस करना एक स्थिति है और पलायनवादी नजरिया लेकर चलना दूसरी स्थिति है, *escapism* है। सर, बचपन से जिन बच्चों को बढ़िया शिक्षा नहीं मिल पाती, बढ़िया पारिवारिक माहौल नहीं मिल पाते, वे पलायनवादी बनते हैं और अपने पलायन को, उस *escape* को *justify* करने के लिए सिगरेट बीच में आती है कि मैं हर ग़म को धुँएँ में उड़ाता चला गया। इस प्रकार समस्या कहीं और है और समाधान कहीं और निकाला जा रहा है।

सर, मैं इस बात की गुजारिश करना चाहूँगा कि जो मूल समस्या है, जो हमारी नयी पीढ़ी के बीच में है, वह एकाग्रता का अभाव है, *lack of concentration* है। जब बच्चे माध्यमिक शिक्षा में पढ़ते हैं, उच्च माध्यमिक में जाते हैं या ग्रेजुएशन में जाते हैं, तब तक उनके साथ यह चीज़ रहती है कि उनके व्यक्तित्व में विचलन है, उनका ध्यान एकाग्र नहीं हो पाता, लेकिन जब रिजल्ट देने की जरूरत पड़ती है, जब तनाव बढ़ता है, जब टेंशन बढ़ता है, तो यह तो सिर्फ *addiction* है। मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि कोटा, जहाँ कोचिंग होती है, वहाँ हर साल 300 से ज्यादा बच्चे फाँसी लगाकर मर जाते हैं। क्यों? क्योंकि वे पहले से तैयार नहीं थे कि जिन्दगी को फेस कैसे करना है। तो जो पलायनवाद है, जो *escapism* है, वह ऐसे *route* निकालता है और वह *addiction* के तौर पर सामने आता है।

सर, एक बड़ी मजेदार बात और भी थी। एक लड़की से मेरी बात हो रही थी। उसने मुझे बताया, मेरे सामने *confess* किया कि मुझे सिगरेट पीने वाले लोग अच्छे लगते हैं। मैंने पूछा कि क्यों, तुमको ऐसा कैसे अच्छा लगता है? वह बोली कि मैं बचपन से देखती आ रही हूँ, मेरे पापा सिगरेट पीते थे और जिस तरीके से वे सिगरेट को सुलगाते थे, वह मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगता था। अब किसी लड़की को अगर मर्दों का सिगरेट पीना अच्छा लगता है, तो मंत्री जी, आप कैसे बचा लेंगे? आप ज़रा हमें यह बताइए। ये सवाल हैं, जिन पर गौर करने की जरूरत है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... जवाब हैं। मैं जो बता रहा हूँ, वही जवाब है। *It has to come from education*. शुरुआत में शिक्षा से यह बात आनी चाहिए कि एक व्यक्तित्व कैसा बने? सर, सच्चाई तो यह है कि सिगरेट का जो कारोबार है, नशे का जो कारोबार है, वह एक बड़ा संगठित तंत्र है। आप *ban* लगा दीजिए- कई राज्यों ने अल्कोहल पर *ban* लगाया है, बिहार ने भी लगाया है, लेकिन क्या वहाँ मिलती नहीं है? मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ। गुजरात में लगाया गया था, तो क्या वहाँ नहीं मिलती थी? हर चीज़ मिलती है। आप जितना *ban* लगायेंगे, उतना ही उसका उद्योग ज्यादा चार्मिंग होता चला जायेगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि देश में 28 प्रतिशत लोग तम्बाकू के बिना जी नहीं सकते। सवाल यह है कि आखिर उनको तम्बाकू की जरूरत क्यों पड़ती है? यहाँ पर आदमी को, जो एक *happiness index* होता है- आपके पड़ोस में एक छोटा सा देश भूटान है। वहाँ पर *human*

development का जो measurement होता है, वह happiness index है। क्या बात है, क्या हमारे पास कोई कमी है या हम सोच नहीं सकते हैं, समझ नहीं सकते हैं कि हमारे देशवासियों का जो happiness index है, वह कैसे बढ़ेगा? वह डंडे और लाठी से नहीं बढ़ेगा। वह आपस में जितना सहयोग का भाव रखेंगे, एक-दूसरे के प्रति संवेदनशील होंगे, बढ़िया शिक्षा होगी, conducive atmosphere होंगे और सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि अर्थव्यवस्था की दर में काम भर का विकास होगा ताकि आदमी को crisis न फील हो, तभी यह होगा। जब हम happiness index की बात करते हैं, तब पता लगता है कि हमसे चूक कहाँ पर हुई। आज हम इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट को बैन करना चाहते हैं, लेकिन हमारी आपसे अपील है कि सिर्फ इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट ही नहीं, बल्कि आप Total tobacco consumption पर बैन करने की मेहरबानी करें - यह बहुत जरूरी है। इससे इस देश का नुकसान ज्यादा हो रहा है। इससे आपको एक तरफ तीस हजार करोड़ रुपए का रेवेन्यू मिलता है, लेकिन दूसरी तरफ सिर्फ ऐसे लोगों के ट्रीटमेंट के मद पर एक लाख चार हजार करोड़ रुपए खर्च करने पड़ते हैं। इसमें फायदा कहाँ है? इसमें यह बहुत बड़ी दिक्कत है। जो लोग एक पलायनवादी मानसिकता लेकर आगे बढ़ रहे हैं, वे देश के लिए libality बन रहे हैं। उनका नजरिया बदल रहा है, उनके पास सकारात्मक सोच नहीं है।

सर, चूंकि समय हो गया है, इसलिए मुझे सिर्फ इतना ही कहना है कि मेरा serious apprehension है कि हिन्दुस्तान में तम्बाकू की एक लॉबी है, बहुत बड़ी लॉबी है, business competition हो गया है। चूंकि ई-सिगरेट चीन से आती है, वह सस्ती है और उसके माध्यम से बहुत कम पैसे में स्मोकिंग हो सकती है, निकोटिन इंडक्शन हो सकता है। मुझे लगता है कि इस चीज को आप सोचिए, क्योंकि यह सिर्फ एक ही जगह नहीं है, बल्कि ये लगभग जितनी भी आपकी उत्पादन की प्रणाली थी, वहां घुस रहे हैं और आज की तारीख में जितनी भी डोमेस्टिक इंडस्ट्रीज़ टूट रही हैं, इसका कारण यही है। चीन से सारा माल इम्पोर्ट होकर रखा जा रहा है, बेचा जा रहा है और बाजार में इसका considerable share है - चिंता का विषय यह होना चाहिए, सिर्फ ई-सिगरेट नहीं। मैं ई-सिगरेट के पक्ष में नहीं हूँ। हम कानून के समर्थन में हैं, लेकिन इसका दायरा बढ़ाएँ और सही जगह पहुँचने का प्रयास कीजिए, आपको बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, I must thank the hon. Minister for bringing a much-needed Bill to ban e-cigarettes Totally for production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement.

E-cigarette, with its design and flavour, was already getting extremely popular in school-going children globally, and, in India, Government surveys through school authorities found that it was in school bags of children and looked innocuous like a pen drive. Also children were pooling in money to buy these and indulge in group smoking.

[Shri Prashanta Nanda]

3.00 P.M.

Sir, there is no domestic manufacturing. Therefore, the industry's favourite argument of loss of livelihood or employment would hold no ground.

I am happy to say that in my State, they have already banned it. And not only my State, including my State, eighteen States have banned it. There is no selling of e-cigarette.

Sir, studies have found that the percentage of students who initiate the use of e-cigarettes and hookah-smoking before ten years of age has increased from 26 per cent to 45 per cent in the last 15 years.

Sir, we have to nip in the bud. We cannot think how these types of things Totally concur the entire people, the mankind. इसका बैकग्राउंड क्या है?

The Finance Minister, hon. Nirmala Sitharaman, had announced a ban on e-cigarettes on September 18, which came into effect immediately after the announcement prohibiting production, manufacturing, import/export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertising at all ends, e-cigarettes and vapes. The Indian Government had been considering banning e-cigarettes for a long time. In August, 2019, India's Health Ministry had also asked States to ensure a ban on all nicotine devices. The blanket ban on e-cigarettes was challenged in the Kolkata High Court in September, 2019. In the first hearing, the Kolkata High Court temporarily relaxed the provision which required e-cigarette sellers to submit their stocks to authorities for disposal. In November, the Bombay High Court allowed e-cigarette manufacturers and distributors to resume the sale of the products stating that e-cigarettes were not drugs. The High Court also directed the Food and Drugs Administration to release the seized e-cigarettes. Again, in March, even the Delhi High Court had put a stay on e-cigarettes. Hence, an Ordinance was needed. And that is how it has come to us today.

Sir, the ICMR also recommended a complete ban on e-cigarettes and several Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS). Based on currently available scientific evidence, e-cigarette users constitute barely 10-15 per cent consumers as e-cigarettes are equally harmful. The vaping industry is promoting a new addiction when the country is already struggling with all forms of tobacco addictions. The Indian Council of Medical Research's recent paper says, "It was noted that e-cigarettes and other such devices contained not only Nicotine solutions, which was highly addictive, but also harmful

ingredients such as flavouring agents and vaporizers. Use of ENDS or e-cigarettes has documented adverse effects on humans, which include DNA damage, carcinogenic, cellular, molecular and immunological toxicity, respiratory, cardiovascular and neurological disorders and adverse impact on the fertile development and pregnancy.”

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Mr. Nanda, please conclude. You have another speaker from your Party. Please conclude now.

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Although the Ordinance has brought a ban on e-cigarettes and other ENDS, there is no restriction on the possession of the same. Going by the language of the Ordinance, this might be the only point where the Bill can be made stronger considering a similar legislation of Singapore.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Sir, just one more sentence and I would end.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. Sorry. I have called Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh; please. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please bear with me. Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): वाइस चेयरमैन साहब, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। जब यह बिल इंट्रोड्यूस किया जा रहा था, तो माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बहुत ही विस्तार से इसके बारे में चर्चा की थी। करीब-करीब सभी लोग इसका समर्थन कर रहे हैं और सिर्फ कुछ मुद्दों पर अपना-अपना विचार रख रहे हैं। उनमें से एक मुद्दा यह है कि जो टोबैको स्मोकिंग है, उसका यह एक ऑल्टरनेट और सेफ मोड है, ऐसा बताया जा रहा है। यह कहा गया कि as compared to tobacco, यह 95 per cent less harmful है, लेकिन इतना तो सही है कि यह भी harmful है, यह भी evil है। परसेंटेज में चाहे यह कितना भी हो, लेकिन अगर यह harmful है, यह evil है और इसका हमारे शरीर पर दुष्प्रभाव पड़ता है, तो निश्चित रूप से इसको रोकना चाहिए। इसीलिए मैं सरकार को बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूँ कि इन्होंने अभी ही इसको रोकने की व्यवस्था की।

अभी रिपुन बोरा साहब बता रहे थे कि 0.2 per cent लोगों के पास इसका access है, तो यही वह समय है क्योंकि अगर किसी को इसका उपयोग बन्द करना है, तो उसे शुरू में ही इसे बन्द कर देना चाहिए। ‘To nip in the bud’, इसके लिए सबसे अच्छा वर्ड है और यह जो किया जा रहा है, यह बहुत ही सराहनीय है। इसमें सबसे बड़ी बात क्या है? इसमें आप किसको टारगेट कर रहे हैं? जो यह बोल रहे हैं कि जिनको स्मोकिंग की आदत है, उनको हम इस ई-सिगरेट से एक ऑल्टरनेटिव दे रहे हैं, तो ऐसा नहीं है। हमारे जो school-going children हैं, जो कॉलेजेज में हैं, जो new-comers हैं, उनको आप एक और रास्ता दिखा रहे हैं कि वे इसको अपनाएँ। इसको बंद करने का यह बिल्कुल उपयुक्त

[श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह]

समय है। इसके बंद होने से कोई रोजगार की बहुत बड़ी समस्या नहीं आएगी, बेरोजगारी की बात नहीं आएगी, लेकिन निश्चित रूप से जिस प्रकार से इसका दुष्प्रभाव शुरू हुआ, अमेरिका में हुआ, अमेरिका के संबंध में हमारे मंत्री महोदय पूरा डेटा दे रहे थे। यह सबसे ज्यादा लंग्स को प्रभावित करता है। मैं पढ़ रहा था कि अमेरिका में एक 17 साल के बच्चे के lungs का transplant करना पड़ा। अब 17 साल के बच्चे का lungs का transplant करना पड़ रहा है। हम अपने बच्चों, विद्यार्थियों और अपने युवाओं को कोई ऐसी चीज़ क्यों दें, जिससे उनके lungs affected हों। हमारे हिन्दुस्तान को देखिए- लोग हंसेंगे, लेकिन हम लोग सही हैं, क्योंकि हम लोग योग करते हैं, प्राणायाम करते हैं जिससे lungs power बढ़ता है और हम अमेरिका से क्या ला रहे हैं, जो हमारे lungs को कमज़ोर करे। मैं मंत्री जी को बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूँ कि आपने इसको सही समय पर बंद किया। लेकिन इसमें एक और बात ध्यान में रखनी है, वह यह है कि हम लोग तो इसमें production, manufacturing, sale और market को बंद कर रहे हैं, लेकिन बहुत सारे लोग इसे ऑनलाइन मंगाते हैं, बहुत सारे लोग इंटरनेट के माध्यम से मंगाते हैं। इस प्रकार जो डार्कनेट है, इसमें जो ब्लैक मार्केट है, उस पर भी ध्यान रखने की ज़रूरत है। जहां-जहां known है, उसको आप बंद कर रहे हैं, लेकिन जो डार्कनेट है, यदि वहां से सप्लाई हो तो उसे भी बंद करने की ज़रूरत है।

रिपुन बोरा साहब एक बात कह रहे थे कि साहब इसमें बड़ा draconian है, बिल्कुल draconian नहीं है। वे तो सिविल सर्विसेज़ में रहे हैं। यदि हमारा कोई भी cognizable offence है, जो इसमें बनाया गया है, आप स्वयं वकील हैं, जितने भी क्राइम हैं, उनमें ज्यादातर सर्च करने की पावर सब-इंस्पेक्टर के पास होती है, जो थाने में रहता है। वह बात नहीं है, लेकिन सबसे ज़रूरी बात यह है कि इस पर कड़ी नज़र रखने की ज़रूरत है, जिससे कहीं भी, डार्कनेट और ब्लैक मार्केट में इसकी सेल न हो सके। इसके लिए ज़रूरी है कि हमारी जितनी शिक्षण संस्थाएं हैं, उनको इसके लिए ज़िम्मेवार बनाना बहुत ज़रूरी होगा। उनके ऊपर यह ज़िम्मेवारी दी जानी चाहिए कि अगर उनके किसी संस्थान में इस प्रकार की चीज़ें उपलब्ध होती हैं - वे ठीक कह रहे थे कि हम लोगों ने सब चीज़ पर रोक लगायी है, किंतु पज़ेशन के बारे में कहीं ज़िक्र नहीं किया है कि अगर किसी के पास ई-सिगरेट मिला तो उस पर क्या कार्रवाई होगी? इस पर भी ध्यान देना बहुत ज़रूरी है। हम लोग तो इस बात को जानते हैं, अभी वर्मा जी बता रहे थे कि जब बंद करते हैं तो उसका जो माफिया होता है, वह क्या करता है। आप सब जानते हैं कि मर्डर सबसे बड़ा हीनियस क्राइम है, उसके लिए पूरी व्यवस्था है, किंतु क्या मर्डर नहीं होता? यदि हम कानून न रखें तो और ज्यादा मर्डर होंगे। हमारे बिहार के बारे में वे चर्चा कर रहे थे कि हम लोगों ने शराबबंदी लागू की है, किंतु शराब बिक रही है, लेकिन पहले वहां जो स्थिति थी, आज वह नहीं है। हम लोग इस सिगरेट को बंद करने में सही दिशा की ओर बढ़ रहे हैं और मैं मंत्री जी से निश्चित रूप से अनुरोध करूंगा कि हम लोग महात्मा गांधी जी की 50वीं जयंती मना रहे हैं। जितनी तरह की चीज़ों से नशा होता है, उन चीज़ों को हमें बंद करना चाहिए, जिससे कि हम एक ऐसे समाज को जन्म दें, जहां नशे की कोई गुंजाइश न रहे। अंत में मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

DR. K. KESHAHA RAO (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, the agenda is that we have to further discuss the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri K.K. Ragesh against the Ordinance. You would understand better that Ordinance has become a regular parliamentary process of law making without any accountability as such. It is not law that prohibits Ordinance; it is our Constitution that prohibits Ordinance promulgation unless some conditions are fulfilled. Three conditions are there. I will not go into the history or hold a brief for it. In September, we brought this Ordinance. Now, it is December. It is the Government which is accountable and the hon. Minister must tell us, before moving this Bill, as to what is the loss that would have otherwise accrued if the Ordinance had not been brought. You must tell the urgency of law making. We know that we were not in Session and so you brought it. But what was the urgency? Whenever an Ordinance comes, we take it up for discussion and pass the Bill. But my submission to the House is that hereinafter whenever an Ordinance is brought, an explanatory note must go along with it explaining as to what would have otherwise happened if the Ordinance had not been brought at that particular time. This is so far as Ordinance is concerned. All of us in the House are against Ordinance route of making a law.

Sir, as far as this Bill is concerned, my blame is more on its omission rather than commission, what we have omitted, is as everybody said. That is what our concern is. Nobody is against a particular Bill over a threat, a minor threat or an impending threat or a perceived threat, that there is something which is going to become dangerous if it comes in. But it has not yet come in. According to the our own Minister, it is 0.02 per cent or 0.03 per cent, whatever it is. He has given it in a written reply. And, he said that hardly anybody knows about the e-cigarettes. But, all of us know it because you have brought in. My difficulty is, Dr. Harsh Vardharyji, because you are there, we can't even criticize and tell you what it is. Otherwise, Mr. Verma took up a very serious issue and asked, why it is coming in spite of all of us knowing that all of it is bad. There are two things before me. One is this cigarette, conventional cigarette and the another is e-cigarette, which I myself don't know. With all my initiatives to learn the technology, I don't know about e-cigarettes. But I know about the regular cigarette. Knowing these two, you are not worried about the conventional cigarette which is touching 28 per cent of people. You said in your own statement, 'my problem is essentially health, and nothing is more important to me than the health.' But, what this 28 per cent of tobacco is doing has not become your concern. But, what is going to happen to 0.02 percent through e-cigarette is now your concern. We still support you because let us catch it early. It is a particular threat, I understand and your worry is about market and social acceptability. Social acceptability, as far as e-cigarette is concerned, I differ with you, as it has not yet gained any social acceptability because it has not yet

[Dr. K. Keshava Rao]

come. When I am saying commission and omission, your commission is your Bill. Alright, we will fight with it. But, your omission is something which we are not able to understand. One thing, as I said, your own admission is that it is yet to come and you are trying to block it at early stage. But the research or whatever the studies — I don't know how serious the research is — be it the American Cancer Society or the U.K. Health Society or whether of the U.A.E, and these do suggest, and even the explanatory note suggests, that e-cigarette is 95 per cent safer than that of the regular cigarette. That means, there are two different notes, one says, it is 95 per cent less dangerous and other says it is a little dangerous. But, you are not bothered about it. I can understand Prasadji saying, थोड़ा तो है न 95 परसेंट नहीं होने का मतलब है कि 5 परसेंट तो है। चलिए, पहले 5 परसेंट को पकड़िए, 95 को तो खत्म कर देंगे, यह बात तो अपने दिल में नहीं है। मैं इस हाउस को कह रहा हूँ कि let us rise above the party lines for a minute. This is not any technical subject or a big Bill. This is about a Bill on which a perceived threat is there that it is going to harm our children tomorrow. सर, जब यह 95 परसेंट safer है, तो हम उसे क्यों न encourage करें। UK में तो हॉस्पिटल में vape shops encourage कर रहे हैं, promote कर रहे हैं। The Government is promoting and bringing it because they are keeping away the regular conventional burning of the tobacco, उससे यह अच्छा है, इसलिए वे ऐसा कह रहे हैं। I will not get into that. But, I will certainly get into one factor which we must look into because the Minister knows this better than most of us, whether it is alcohol or ganja. It is your own Ministry earlier which had brought regulations. Seventy countries, as another friend said, have regulations. We could also have brought these regulations. We have ourselves brought a regulation last time about the cigarettes, that is, the public places, you cannot smoke. Like that, regulations can be brought as far as e-cigarette is concerned. And, e-cigarette is not that popular because it costs about ₹5000 an e-cigarette. Unless, the boy is rich, nobody will be able to purchase it. So, it is easy to regulate such a thing. Another thing is, it is you, Mr. Minister, who said, tobacco is absolutely harmful because the other day when you were speaking, you admitted that tobacco amongst other things is very, very bad, very harmful, hazardous, and you brought in the regulations.

I will take only one minute. This Bill is based on the ICMR Report, as stated in the report itself. The ICMR Report itself is challenged by a lot of people. It is not backed by any original research. That is what the paper says. Now, our own doctor from AIIMS, Dr. Ambekar has challenged and written to your Director on this issue. All right, even the AIIMS psychiatrists have come out saying that e-cigarette is much better than the regular cigarette. All these facts are before you. So, I need not mention them again. The NHS

reports are with you; the American Cancer Society reports are with you; the reports on vaping shop promotion are with you; and, reports on regulatory systems in 70 countries are with you. So, what I am trying to say is that we seem to be worried only about stopping these rich boys getting into this addiction of e-cigarettes.

Sir, the last thing I want to say is that the Government has brought a Bill which is related to the Ministry of Health. But, they have also brought in the Home Ministry into this. A Sub-Inspector can walk into any house on the suspicion that a person is storing e-cigarettes. He is not walking into a house where someone is storing alcohol or ganja. They have not brought provisions for that.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude. This point has already been mentioned.

DR. K. KESHAVARAO: I will only point out as to what is sought to be banned in this Bill. This Bill seeks to ban production, manufacture, import, export, transportation, sale or distribution of e-cigarettes. Using is not banned. So, if I can somehow get an e-cigarette illegally, I can use it. Nobody will catch me. The person who has supplied me can be caught. A person who has stored it in his shop can be caught. Somebody who has imported it can be caught. But a user cannot be caught. A user is not penalised here and a user is still able to do it, for whose protection all this is being done.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Please conclude. Please wait and listen to the hon. Minister how he reacts.

DR. K. KESHAVARAO: Thank you, Sir.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, first of all, let me take this opportunity to congratulate the Government, especially the hon. Minister for bringing this Bill. During the last Session, I had made a submission on this issue in this august House and urged the Government to take necessary steps to ban e-cigarettes. Hence, I would like to support this Bill because e-cigarette is a public menace. It has to be banned. The use of e-cigarettes is spreading more and more every day.

Sir, there is an argument that the use of e-cigarettes would help to stop the use of regular cigarettes. But, there has been no scientifically-proven study in this matter. E-cigarette is not a safe alternative to the conventional regular cigarette. Studies have made it clear that vaping can be even more dangerous than regular smoking.

E-cigarettes come in different varieties, including vape modes, vape pens, etc. Some

[Shri K. Somaprasad]

contain high levels of nicotine and some others contain marijuana or just flavouring. Even different kinds of drugs can also be used in these electronic devices. While smoking, there is every possibility to develop different types of diseases, especially cancer. In regular smokers, it may develop after several decades of smoking. But, in contrast, it became clear from a study in 2019 that vaping would cause seizures and serious lung damages after just a year of consumption or possibly even less.

Even though the manufacturers claim that the e-cigarettes cartridges are tobacco-free, various studies by different groups and reliable health associations reveal that these types of cigarettes contain formaldehyde at a much higher level and even benzene, a well-known carcinogen. A preliminary study report presented at the 2018 Annual Meeting of the American Chemical Society found that vaping could damage DNA. A study on a mice found that e-cigarette smoke would cause mutations in DNA that would increase the risk of cancer. The nicotine and other chemicals found in e-cigarettes and juuls might harm brain development in the younger stage. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Most of the e-cigarette users say that they started e-cigarettes in order to stop regular cigarette smoking. But, the result is that they are using both of them. Certain studies reveal that 90 per cent e-cigarette users are regular smokers also. Sir, e-cigarettes also become the stepping stone to the regular smoking. Hence, it should be banned. I fully support this Bill.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice Chairman, Sir, this Bill is to replace an Ordinance which everyone has pointed out for the prohibition of e-cigarettes rather the ENDS, Electronic Nicotine Delivery System, production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement. Everyone has asked this question as to what is the need for the Ordinance; I would also ask this to emphasize on that. What is the urgency to bring this Bill through an Ordinance? Sir, before it is confirmed that the ENDS, that is, the e-cigarettes, are more harmful than the existing tobacco cigarettes, which the public is more used to, you are attempting to ban the production, manufacture, distribution, sale, and all, but nothing has been done on the other side of the tobacco, which are more harmful. So, it gives a feeling or rather it appears that it is not in the interest of the smokers or the people in general, but, it is in the interest of some who will be competed by the e-cigarette manufactures. Sir, this is very pathetic. The Government must be very concerned about the public health. What is the situation? Sir, the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) which was adopted in the year 2003 was signed by India in the year 2004. Has India performed its obligations assigned for that Framework Convention on Tobacco Control? No. As far as the Tobacco-users are

concerned, the statistics that are available are very shocking. Sir, more than nine lakh people in India die because of tobacco illness, and around 106 million adult smokers, only next to China, in this field also, like the population. In the year 2020, it is predicted that tobacco will be the main cause of almost 13 per cent of the Total deaths. Please bring a law for that, ban that. It has not yet been proved, there is no clear evidence that e-cigarettes are more harmful than the tobacco cigarettes. Sir, again, I would like to emphasise that I may not be misconstrued that I am pleading for e-cigarettes; no. But, when you are so haste in banning an e-cigarette which is not so familiar with our people, what have you done to ban the tobacco cigarettes which are in use? Sir, for example, the Government brought an Act, the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products (Prohibition of Advertisement And Regulation of Trade And Commerce, Production, Supply And Distribution) Act, 2003, that is all. It only regulates and prohibits the advertisement also. The Act very clearly says that it should not be advertised, but, the rules that have been subsequently framed pave the way for it. That is a strange thing. The Act places a complete ban on any sort of advertisement, but, at the same time, the rules provide for a partial allowance with regard to it. For example, the size of the board, where it should be displayed. So, the Act bans, but, the rules pave way for it. Also, under Section 21 of the Act, in case of smoking at prohibited places, there is a fine of only ₹ 200, what is the situation? Sir, we are very worried because these tobacco cigarette manufactures or sellers or e-cigarette sellers or anyone, they are targeting the younger generation. Once China suffered only because of opium. The younger generation Totally fell prey to that, and, here also, the youngsters are being targeted. These e-cigarettes come with flavours, and, that would tempt the younger generation more.

Some evidence has been given and it is very clear. There has an affidavit filed before the High Court of Madras by 40-year old, Carry Edwards, who said that he has been smoking for 24 years. But now he has switched over to e-cigarettes. He says that the nicotine impact on him has come down very much. This is not an abstract statement in a newspaper or something; it is filed before the High Court of Madras. He says that he is free from nicotine. Only four per cent of the people, who are passive smokers, are affected by e-cigarettes — only 5 per cent are smokers — whereas in case of tobacco smokers, it is not like that. Sir, the ENDS uses a specific amount of nicotine. Even the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill mentions, ‘the electronic devices that heat a substance with or without nicotine’. So, it is not burning, it is not spoiling the ambience. It is heating and not burning whereas the tobacco does everything and nothing is done for that. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... One minute, Sir. Sir, it is very important.

Of course, the study done by WHO also reveals the effects caused by Tobacco. It

[Shri Tiruchi Siva]

mentions tar and hard gases produced which are not present in ENDS. WHO itself says that. The impact that tobacco cigarettes create, as contents of tar and hard gases, are not present in the ENDS cigarette.

Sir, when the ENDS devices were tested to identify their effects on passive smokers, they turned out to be eight times less harmful than the tobacco cigarette. Sir, quitters of tobacco cigarettes are very less. Only five per cent maintain that and all others relapse, whereas when e-cigarette smokers quit, of course, they stick to it. Of course, it is less harmful. For quitters, it is easy to quit whereas tobacco users are not able to quit the same. It is more harmful and the impact caused on the smokers is much worse and hazardous than the harm caused by the e-cigarettes.

Sir, I just want to ask one question. When you are not banning the tobacco cigarettes and giving so much of leniency by way of framing of rules in the prohibition Act, why are you showing haste in banning the e-cigarettes? So, again, I emphasize that I am not pleading for e-cigarettes but please show your interest or intention, by way of an ordinance, or, at least, by way of bringing a Bill in the Parliament and passing an Act, to ban the tobacco cigarettes. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Thank you. Now, Dr. Narendra Jadhav.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV (Nominated): Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir. I wholeheartedly welcome the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Bill, 2019. Sir, this Bill is a major step towards improvement in public health. It changes the whole narrative that e-cigarettes are safe for consumption.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN) *in the Chair*]

Sir, a pressing issue with e-cigarettes is that it is perceived, and, many Members have argued here, that it is a safer alternative. It is not so. It is, in fact, encouraging more and more adolescents and young adults to try it because it is convenient and one does not know how much one has been smoking.

Several studies have shown that these devices have caused harmful exposure of nicotine leading to addiction and decline in brain development. Additionally, there are countless health hazards attached to the use of e-cigarettes, namely, respiratory diseases, cancer and so on. There are arguments touting, and, many Members have talked about it,

that e-cigarettes are important cessation tools which help in getting rid of the habit of smoking.

Sir, as a former smoker myself, I can tell you that the most important cessation tool is only the will power of the smoker. That is the one important thing. There are several other cessation tools which are readily available in the market, namely, nicotine patches and gums, and, therefore, allowing e-cigarettes is not desirable, and, unlike e-cigarettes, these devices have proved to be having far less severe effects on health. At present, e-cigarettes seem more like a gateway to the use of tobacco. Admittedly, while there is no international scientific consensus on the potential positive and negative impact of electronic nicotine delivery systems, nevertheless it is advisable to ban the use of e-cigarettes, especially because the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control of which India is a party had suggested Member countries to consider measures to prohibit and restrict the use of electronic nicotine delivery systems. Therefore, the ban on e-cigarettes is needed for saving our future generations.

Sir, while the Bill addresses contemporary issues of great relevance, there are a few things need to be highlighted. One, the Bill does not prohibit the possession and consumption of e-cigarette and the devices similarly. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... This is the loophole. Sir, I will take thirty seconds more. Those individuals who are already in the possession of such devices will continue to make use of the same freely. Two, there is a need to have more education, communication, training and public awareness about the negative consequences of e-cigarettes.

Sir, with these remarks, I commend the Bill for passing.

श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल के पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। हिन्दुस्तान में पहले ही शराब, सिगरेट, तम्बाकू, चरस, अफीम, भाँग जैसे परंपरागत नशों से छुटकारा पाना मुश्किल है और यह एक नए तरीके का नशा introduce हो रहा है, कम से कम इसको न introduce होने दें। E-cigarette company झूठा प्रचार करती है कि e-cigarette का नुकसान नहीं होता, यह परंपरागत सिगरेट से कम हानिकारक है, यह सिगरेट की लत छुड़ाने में मदद करती है। ऐसी बातें इनकी तरफ से कही जाती हैं। ज्यादातर युवक और युवतियाँ e-cigarette को कम नुकसानदेह समझ कर इसको पीती हैं। WHO के अनुसार e-cigarette और परंपरागत सिगरेट में बराबर का नुकसान है। E-cigarette में निकोटिन व खुशबूदार केमिकल भरा होता है, जो साँस के साथ फेफड़ों में जाता है और इससे कैंसर की आशंका बढ़ती है। इससे दिल की बीमारियों का खतरा 56 परसेंट तक बढ़ता है। गर्भवती महिला एवं गर्भस्थ शिशुओं पर इसका बुरा असर पड़ता है और depression का खतरा बढ़ता है।

[श्री सुशील कुमार गुप्ता]

आज देश के अन्दर जगह-जगह हुक्का बार खुल चुके हैं। विशेष restaurants में आम आदमी का प्रवेश रोक कर तमाम तरह के नशे व rave parties का आयोजन किया जाता है। मैं West Delhi के अन्दर रहता हूँ। पंजाबी बाग के अन्दर जो क्लब रोड है, वहाँ पर पिछले 7-8 साल के अन्दर residential area पूरी तरह से commercial हो चुका है। वहाँ बार व massage parlours खुले हैं। जब दिल्ली सरकार उल्टे-सीधे हुक्का बार को प्रतिबंधित करती है, उसके बाद भी रात को 11 बजे के बाद महफिल सजनी शुरू होती है, सुबह 2-3 बजे तक पूरे young बच्चे वहाँ पर आते हैं और पूरे पंजाबी बाग का atmosphere खराब होने को आ रहा है। ऐसा दिल्ली में बहुत जगह हो रहा है। पुलिस इसको रोक नहीं पा रही है। हुक्के की आड़ में हर प्रकार के नशे होते हैं। वहाँ पर रात को बाहर निकल कर झगड़े होते हैं। पिछले सप्ताह भी वहाँ पर गोली चली थी। Guest list को advance में देकर आम व्यक्ति का उन restaurants के अन्दर जाना प्रतिबंधित कर दिया जाता है। पूरी रात high volume में music बजता है और कानून-व्यवस्था धीरे-धीरे जर्जर होती जा रही है। इससे आने वाली पीढ़ी खराब हो रही है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी के इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ। इस तरीके के हुक्का बार और इस तरीके के e-cigarettes के इस नशे को पाने के लिए पूरी रात युवकों का वहाँ पर restaurants और बार के अन्दर रहना हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर एक नया फैशन बन गया है। मैं इस हाउस के माध्यम से यह निवेदन भी करना चाहूँगा कि आप एक ऐसा सिस्टम बनाएं कि क्लब रोड, पंजाबी बाग के अंदर एक महीने में कम से कम एक बार डीसीपी लैवल का ऑफिसर और 15 दिन में कम से कम एक बार एसीपी लैवल का ऑफिसर सर्च करे और देखे कि दिल्ली के अंदर किस प्रकार कानून-व्यवस्था खराब हो रही है और हमारी आने वाली जनरेशन पतन की तरफ चल पड़ी है।

माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह निवेदन भी करना चाहूँगा कि आज की तारीख में दिल्ली पुलिस के अंदर 50,000 भर्तियों की कमी है और 40% पीसीआर वैन्स खाली पड़ी हैं, बलात्कार के केस 20% बढ़ चुके हैं। इस बिल के माध्यम से जब हम इस प्रकार के नशे को रोकने का काम करेंगे, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे ऑटोमेटिकली दिल्ली में इन चीजों पर भी लगाम लगेगी।

महोदय, ई-सिगरेट का कारोबार लगभग 90,000 करोड़ रुपये का है। 42 देश ई-सिगरेट को बंद कर चुके हैं। जुलाई तक हिन्दुस्तान के अंदर ई-सिगरेट के लगभग 400 से ज्यादा ब्रांड उपलब्ध थे। महोदय, मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि हिन्दुस्तान तम्बाकू का सबसे बड़ा उपभोक्ता देश है, इसलिए शायद तम्बाकू की लत को कम कर पाना तो अब थोड़ा मुश्किल होगा, परन्तु ऑस्ट्रेलिया ने अपने यहां यह कानून बनाया है कि किसी भी प्रकार की छत के नीचे तम्बाकू, सिगरेट का सेवन करना प्रतिबंधित है। अगर आप हिन्दुस्तान के अंदर भी यह कानून बना दें कि किसी भी प्रकार की छत के नीचे तम्बाकू, सिगरेट का सेवन प्रतिबंधित है और अगर किसी को तम्बाकू का सेवन करना है, सिगरेट पीनी है, तो बाहर जाकर, आसमान के नीचे पीए। ऐसा करने से शायद इससे होने वाले नुकसान में कुछ कमी आ सकेगी। पुनः इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

श्री आर.के. सिन्हा (बिहार): माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी ने ई-सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाने का जो बिल प्रस्तुत किया है, मैं उनके इस विधेयक का तहेदिल से समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। बहुत देर से मैं अपने माननीय विद्वान सांसदों की बात सुन रहा था। एक माननीय सांसद

का तो समझ में ही नहीं आया कि वे इसका समर्थन कर रहे हैं या विरोध कर रहे हैं। वे कह रहे थे कि अभी तो यह नशा नया है, इसलिए इसको कुछ दिन देखा जाए कि क्या होता है, तब इस पर विचार करना चाहिए, लेकिन अभी इस पर कोई हल्का-फुल्का नियम ही बना देना चाहिए। मुझे उनकी यह बात समझ में नहीं आई। नशा किसी भी प्रकार हो, जब आपको पता है कि यह नशा है और हानिकारक है, तो उसको शुरुआत में ही रोकने में किसी को क्या परेशानी है? नशा तो सबके लिए हानिकारक ही होता है। फिर एक माननीय सदस्य ने कहा कि जब यह प्रतिबंधित नहीं है, वह प्रतिबंधित नहीं है, तो इसको प्रतिबंधित क्यों किया जाए? नशा किसी भी प्रकार का हो, हर प्रकार के नशे का प्रतिबंध होना चाहिए, क्योंकि इससे समाज का भारी नुकसान होता है। जहां तक ई-सिगरेट का सवाल है, इसके बारे में मैं यह बताना चाहूंगा कि तम्बाकू की तरह ई-सिगरेट के इस्तेमाल को रोकने से कोई रोजगार का संकट पैदा नहीं होगा। हमारे देश में तम्बाकू का उत्पादन होता है। हमारे यहां बीड़ी का एक बहुत बड़ा उद्योग है, जिसमें कई गरीब कामगार लगे हुए हैं, इसलिए इसको प्रतिबंधित करने में थोड़ा सोचने की जरूरत है कि ऐसे में हम उनको वैकल्पिक रोजगार क्या देंगे? लेकिन ई-सिगरेट का फायदा किसको हो रहा है?

महोदय, हमारे दो पड़ोसी देश हैं। एक आतंकवादी देश है और एक अफीमची देश है। अफीमचियों ने अपने देश में तो अफीम पीना बंद कर दिया, लेकिन अब ई-सिगरेट बनाकर आपके यहां भेज रहे हैं। यह घोर षडयंत्र है, इस बात को समझने की जरूरत है। पहले भी मैंने इस प्रश्न को इसी सदन में उठाया था कि बच्चों में नशाखोरी की लत डाली जा रही है। इसी दिल्ली नगर निगम के बच्चों का एक सर्वे हुआ, 8, 9 और 10 वर्ष के बच्चों का, उनमें से 16.5 परसेंट बच्चों को नशे की लत लग चुकी थी। कहा जा रहा है कि ई-सिगरेट महंगी है। पहले जब नशे की लत लगानी होती है, तो फ्री बाँटा जाता है, उसके बाद उसकी रिफिल के लिए चाहे वे चोरी करें, डकैती करें या बलात्कार करें। अभी माननीय डा. महात्मे बता रहे थे, एक कहानी सुना रहे थे कि किस तरह एक कैंसर के पेशेंट ने मरने के पहले अपनी व्यथा अपनी माँ को चिट्ठी में लिखी थी। यह बात बाद में समझ में आती है। ऐसे नशों पर प्रतिबंध इतना आवश्यक है, जितना और कोई काम जरूरी नहीं है। यह देश को खोखला करने, आने वाली पीढ़ी को बरबाद करने और अपराध को बढ़ाने का षडयंत्र है। इस काम को हमारे दुश्मन देश कर रहे हैं, इस बात को ध्यान में रखा जाना चाहिए।

यहाँ पर मैं यह कहना चाहूंगा कि ई-सिगरेट सिर्फ निकोटिन नहीं है। कहते हैं कि ई-सिगरेट के रिफिल में निकोटिन की मात्रा कम होती है, लेकिन यह सिर्फ निकोटिन नहीं है। ई-सिगरेट 500 से ज्यादा ब्रांडों में आ रहा है और इसके 8,000 से ज्यादा फ्लेवर्स हैं। अब आप समझ लें कि किस-किस प्रकार के केमिकल्स इसमें डाले जाते होंगे और ये सारे केमिकल्स बच्चों के फेफड़े में जाते हैं। अभी किसी ने बताया कि अमेरिका में एक 17 साल के बच्चे के फेफड़े का ट्रांसप्लांट करवाना पड़ा। ये सारे रिपोर्ट्स केसेज़ हैं। अतः महोदय, ई-सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध अति आवश्यक है। मान लीजिए अगर कोई हानिकारक काम प्रारम्भ हो रहा है, उसको अगर हम शुरुआती दौर में पकड़ लेते हैं, तो हम उस हानि से बच सकते हैं। बाकी जो हानिकारक नशे हैं, ड्रग्स हैं, उन पर कैसे नियंत्रण करेंगे, यह अलग विषय है और जरूरी विषय है, लेकिन अभी तो तत्काल ई-सिगरेट पर पूर्णतः प्रतिबंध लगाना ही चाहिए।

मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि आपने इसमें जो सजा का प्रावधान दिया है,

[श्री आर.के. सिन्हा]

वह बहुत ही कम है, इसको और बढ़ाया जाए। मान लीजिए अगर आपने first time offenders के लिए 1 लाख रुपया और एक साल के जेल का प्रावधान किया, तो जो स्टोरेज करने वाला है, उससे सिर्फ 50,000 रुपये का जुर्माना क्यों ले रहे हैं? वह तो 50 करोड़ का स्टॉक रखे हुए है, लेकिन उससे आप 50,000 का जुर्माना ले रहे हैं और 6 महीने की जेल दे रहे हैं। तो जो स्टॉकिस्ट्स हैं या जो सोर्स हैं, उसको सबसे ज्यादा सजा होनी चाहिए और पजेशन पर भी सजा होनी चाहिए। अगर कोई इसमें किसी भी तरह से पकड़ा जाए, चाहे वह किसी भी तरह के ट्रेड में संलिप्त हो या वितरण में संलिप्त हो- यह सारा स्मगल होकर वहाँ से आ रहा है। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह सारा पड़ोसी देशों से स्मगल होकर आ रहा है। यह हमारे यहाँ नहीं बनता है। हर तरह के ड्रग्स इसमें डाले जा रहे हैं, सिर्फ निकोटिन की बात नहीं है और यह तरह-तरह के शेप्स में आ रहा है। यह फाउंटेन पेन में भी बन जाता है, पेन ड्राइव में भी बन जाता है, पेंसिल में भी आप बना सकते हैं, नेल कटर में भी बना सकते हैं। उसको बैटरी से एक्टिवेट करके आप बटन दबाइए और उसकी स्टीम आपके अन्दर चली जाती है। यह बहुत ही खतरनाक है। ऐसी खतरनाक लत को शुरुआती दौर में ही रोकना हम सबका कर्तव्य है। अभी तो यह शुरुआती दौर में है, लेकिन फिर भी इसके ट्रेड को तीन बिलियन डॉलर का आँका गया है। इसके साथ ही यह online available है। इसके पीछे एक पूरा गैंग काम कर रहा है। आप इसको online बुक कर दीजिए, यह आपके घर पहुँच जाएगा। इसके माध्यम से इस समाज को खोखला करने की बहुत बड़ी साजिश हो रही है। इसको मात्र एक हेल्थ इश्यू के रूप में या स्वास्थ्य के खतरे के रूप में नहीं लेना चाहिए, बल्कि यह महाविध्वंसक आतंकवादी गतिविधि है, जिसमें विदेशी षडयंत्रकारी शामिल हैं। इसमें आतंकवादियों का देश और अफीमचियों का देश आगे बढ़ कर काम कर रहा है। अतः मैं इस बिल का तहेदिल से समर्थन करता हूँ। मैं आपको बता रहा हूँ कि कोई भी, जो संगीन अपराध होता है, उसमें अधिकतर यह पाया गया है कि वह नशे के प्रभाव में होता है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

महोदय, हम लोग आज ही सुबह हैदराबाद की घटना के बारे में बात कर रहे थे, उसमें यह प्रमाणित हुआ है कि इसमें जो चार लोग पकड़े गए हैं, उन्होंने पहले नशे का प्रयोग किया और फिर जघन्य अपराध किया। ऐसे अपराध नशे की लत के कारण ही होते हैं, इसलिए नशे की जो लत है, उसको शुरुआती दौर में ही रोकने की जरूरत है। महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी को बधाई देता हूँ कि वे बहुत ही बढ़िया विधेयक लेकर आए हैं। मैं आपके माध्यम से पूरे सदन से आग्रह करता हूँ कि इसको सर्वसम्मति से पास करना चाहिए, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Now, Shri B.K. Hariprasad. You have six minutes to speak.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, before I speak on the Bill, let me make it very clear that we don't support e-cigarettes. We oppose the way hon. Minister has brought this Ordinance. This Bill, which we are discussing, is on the basis of an Ordinance promulgated in September. What was the urgency? Within two months, we were to meet here and he could have brought the Bill. The hon. Minister, when he gives a speech, he gives an elaborate speech with a lot of statistics. According to his own speech,

in every ten seconds, people die because of cigarette's effects. This Ordinance should have been brought to ban the cigarette instead of the e-cigarette. The e-cigarette was invented as an alternative to the cigarettes. How far it is proved or not proved, it is for the scientists or the doctors to prove that. Mr. Minister, you are a doctor yourself. AIIMS supposed to be one of the best hospitals in the northern part of the country. There are eight psychiatrists, I think; majority of them said that e-cigarette is not as hazardous as the conventional cigarette is. This Bill was brought in haste. Shrimati Vijila is not here, she was talking about bidi workers. I come from the land where women roll *bidis*. More than smoking *bidi*, the woman who rolls *bidi*, she dies before 40 years of age because at the age of 15 years, small girls were made to roll *bidis*. They will be infected by TB, by the time they attain the age of 20-22 years, and you are not banning that! The cigarette lobby, the tobacco lobby, as some of our colleagues have said, is a huge, powerful lobby in this country. There are apprehensions. People are smelling rat, the way, hastily, this Bill was brought in. There is no dearth of laws. Normally, people speak what we have done for seventy years. There is no dearth of law and there is no dearth of people who bypass these laws. I will not mention the State because there will be a furore. Liquor is banned in that State. It is supposed to be one of the role models in the country. Mistryji knows it pretty well. It is a role model for the country. Sir, the people who invented 'online', they are too very late. Those people had invented 'online' way back in 80s. Ring them up, whatever the liquor brand you want, you get it there. That is the role model of the State and the turnover is almost about ₹ 7,000 crores. What is the point? Seventy countries in the world are regulating e-cigarettes. And some of our speakers have said that thirty countries have banned. To one of the questions, our MoS had replied in the Lok Sabha that 0.02 per cent of the people use e-cigarettes. Ram Chandra Prasadji was saying that at the bud itself, we have to kill that, but there are narcotic substances which are killing every child. Our doctor sahib is a strong man of Delhi. If he goes to Connaught Place around 8.30 or 9 o'clock, small children, kids, they puff, they vape the white liquid. Nobody bothers about them. I feel the urgency in bringing this Ordinance is only to protect those rich kids who can afford to buy e-cigarettes at the cost of ₹ 5, 000 per cigarette, and the refilling also costs equally the same amount. The whole country is concerned about the kids. You can go to the railway station or the railway tracks. You will see the kids puffing or vaping the white liquid. Nobody bothers about them. If at all, if doctor *sahib* or their Government is serious about banning this narcotic substance, they should have banned tobacco. We have regulated tobacco way back in 1975. According to the Minister, who once said, drastically, the smoking population has come down. No! In 2018, it went up to 120 million people. It has increased. The concern that you have to show

[Shri B.K. Hariprasad]

is, to regulate and to educate, instead of just imposing some ban. Ban is not a solution at all. The latest report shows that the consumption of cigarette has gone up to 12 million despite *gutkha* ban. ...(*Time-Bell*)... Sir, just one minute; I will finish. There is a ban on *gutkha*. Is there any place where we don't get *gutkha*? One of my colleagues was mentioning about *afeem* which is produced in Neemuch and Mandsaur of Madhya Pradesh, officially regulated and sold. *Sinhaji* was saying that these narcotic substances are the root cause for the Hyderabad rape. But majority of the rapes which have taken place in some of the States, that is only because of the effects of this *afeem*. Why don't you control them? Why don't you ban them? Because it has got a religious sanction, you don't want to touch it. Doctor *sahib*, you are a doctor and you know the problems pretty well. Don't succumb to these tobacco lobbies and don't try to bring this Ordinance in haste. If at all, if there is anything that has to be banned, it is tobacco that has to be banned, not the e-cigarette. My only submission is, you have to regulate the e-cigarettes before banning, or else, as Chairman *sahib* normally takes initiative in discussing issues with Parliament Members or with the people who are concerned, you should talk to the NGOs and other parliamentarians and come with some good suggestions so that we can regulate, control or ban these narcotic substances.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIT.K. RANGARAJAN): Dr. Santanu Sen.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Bill. In the capacity of a Member of this august House and as a National President of the Indian Medical Association, I rise to support this Bill placed before the House by our hon. Minister, with a little heavy heart because, of course, by this Bill, we are preventing a person from committing suicide by jumping from fifth floor, but, we are keeping the more affordable and more accessible tenth floor wide open to jump from. Sir, I don't have any other way than to harp on the same string by saying that this Bill remains silent about the consumers. If, somehow, I can manage in e-cigarettes, and if I smoke, what will happen to me, I don't know, and I think, none of you knows what will happen to me.

Sir, let me put forward certain data and certain points before the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister has nicely depicted the constituents of e-cigarette. Let me tell you the constituents of normal cigarette. A normal cigarette usually contains nearly 700 chemicals, out of which 250 are very much harmful. And out of those 250, 60 chemicals are important to create cancer. All of them are carcinogenic agents, like nicotine, tar, carbon monoxide, arsenic, ammonia, acetone, toluene, pesticide, methanol, and methylamine. Sir, what is their consequence? Sir, smoking increases coronary heart disease by two to four times; it

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increases stroke by two to four times; it increases lung cancer by 25 times; and it increases the probability of COPD, that is, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease by 13 times, and there is hardly any organ in our body which does not get affected by smoking. For the pregnant woman, there are incidence of still-birth and low-birth rate baby. Sir, the percentage of male for tobacco-related cancer is like this. Forty-two per cent of Total male death is due to tobacco, and for the female, it is 18 per cent. Sir, you will be surprised to know that the Total global load of smokers is lying with India, which is 12 per cent, and even more. Sir, 267 million tobacco users are there, and out of them, 184 millions are smokers. Above 15 years, 28.6 per cent of the population is tobacco-users. Out of them, males are, 42 per cent; females are, 14 per cent, and out of this, smokeless tobacco is used by 21 per cent, out of which males are 29 per cent and females are 12 per cent. And on the other side, males are 19 per cent, and females are 2 per cent; Beedi-users are 7.7 per cent. Sir, youth below the age of 15 years, 14.6 per cent of the entire population is addicted, out of which if you consider the boys, it is 19 per cent, and if you consider the girls, it comes to around 8 per cent. And, out of them, 4.4 per cent, go for smokeless, and for the rest, it is 12 per cent.

Sir, so far as the passive smoking is concerned, 30 per cent of the entire population get affected by the passive smoking in the Indoor work place; 7.4 per cent get affected in the restaurants; and 13.3 per cent get affected in the public transport. So far as the youths are concerned, 36.6 per cent get affected in public place, and 22 per cent at home. Sir, every year, nearly one million people die out of this tobacco usage, and out of which, smoking and secondary, nine lakhs; and smokeless, one lakhs. Sir, as rightly said by the hon. Minister, I would like to differ with him slightly, it is not one in 10 seconds; one person is dying in every sixth second because of this tobacco usage.

If this process continues, I am sure that by 2020, thirteen per cent of the Total deaths of the country will be due to this tobacco usage. Sir, can you imagine how many cigarettes were sold in the year 2016? It is not less than 85 billion cigarettes that were sold in the particular year! Somebody was discussing about the tobacco industry. Yes, ITC constitutes 77 per cent; Godfrey Phillips is nine per cent; VST is eight per cent; Phillips Morris International is three per cent; one company from Japan is two per cent.

Sir, as we know, there is an existing COTPA Act of 2003—Cigarette and Other Tobacco Products Act. India was a party to WHO Convention in 2005. What does it provide? Smoke-free places. There is a provision in COTPA. There is a provision to have a smoking

[Dr. Santanu Sen]

room in a hotel having more than thirty rooms. This must be re-considered and amended. Sir, on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship, there is a provision in Clause 5(1) of COTPA. That should be followed properly. Sir, tobacco packaging, as you know, 85 per cent of the front and back side...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIT.K. RANGARAJAN): Please conclude.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, I will take one minute. Cigarette contents and disclosure, there must be State restrictions; any educational and health institution should be absolutely tobacco-free zone, which is hardly maintained in most parts of the country.

Sir, there is a provision to take action against the companies, according to Section 26 of COTPA. It is not properly done. My suggestion is, as has been done in our State of West Bengal by our hon. Chief Minister, Madam Mamata Bannerjee, in November this year, it should be done all over the country. According to the Food Safety and Standards (Regulation & Prohibition) Act, 2011, we can allow any harmful product to be burnt. As it has been done in our State of West Bengal, *gutkha* products too should be banned. Let us take a pledge that in the coming days, we will make India absolutely tobacco-free, because the amount spent by the Government to treat tobacco-affected patients is much more than the amount earned by it as revenue from the sale of tobacco. Thank you.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I strongly support the Bill. I have just two quarrels with it. The first one is, as many Members have spoken about, 'possession and use of e-cigarettes' is missing. In Singapore or in many countries, the possession and use of the drug is itself taken care of. They don't use so many other adjectives over there. It is just the use of that phrase. That you could consider. The second aspect is about the complete ban. Let us see what happens to *gutkha*. The *gutkha* was banned by FSSAI in 2011. There were strong directions from the Supreme Court. But, to circumvent the ban, the *gutkha* making companies started selling *pan masala* separately with pure tobacco; then you can mix and chew it. They are one step ahead. The National Tobacco Testing Laboratory also found nicotine in many *pan masala* products contrary to what the packaging claims. I only wish that the same thing does not happen here. Many speakers have spoken about it.

The second point is more important. Why not ban regular cigarettes? Why not ban tobacco? Many speakers have spoken about it. The logic that was used in the statement of the Bill says, "Nicotine can harm developing adolescent brains, the development of which continues till the age of twenty-five, it harms parts of the brain that controls attention, learning, mood, impulse control, may also increase the risks of addiction to other drugs."

The point is, all these are true for normal tobacco users as well. If you look at Clause 2, it says, 'expedient in the public interest'. Is not banning normal regular cigarettes or the entire tobacco products also expedient in the public interest? The objective of the Bill states, 'in the interests of public health to protect the people from harm.' The same thing applies to cigarettes or all tobacco products. The Government refers to the ICMR White Paper on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems recommending a complete ban. But, the evidence is not clear.

Now, the World Health Organisation, in its statistics on tobacco use says, "Around 80 per cent of the world's 1.1 billion smokers live in low and middle income countries. There is no safe level of exposure to second hand tobacco smokers. Fourteen per cent of Indian adults are current tobacco smokers and 34.6 per cent, very high, consume tobacco in any form." So, through the Chair, I would urge hon. Minister to kindly consider that if 1.16 per cent of the GDP is spent, directly or indirectly, on addressing the issue of use of tobacco in some form or the other and the revenue from that is only a quarter of that, why not consider banning entire tobacco in this country and set an example for everybody? Maybe, we would have the pressures, but I think, — I just gave you the example — regulation has not taken us too far. Thank you.

श्री राजाराम (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट (उत्पादन, विनिर्माण, आयात, निर्यात, परिवहन, विक्रय, वितरण, भंडारण और विज्ञापन) प्रतिषेध विधेयक, 2019 पर बहुजन समाज पार्टी की ओर से बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसमें कोई संदेह नहीं कि हमारे देश में धूम्रपान के कारण गंभीर बीमारियाँ महामारी की तरह बढ़ रही हैं और जिसके कारण मौतों का आंकड़ा भी बहुत तेजी से बढ़ रहा है। इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट को प्रतिबंधित करने के लिए जो विधेयक सरकार लाई है, जिसमें 'सेवन करना व बेचना' को अपराध की श्रेणी में रखा है तथा इसमें तीन वर्ष या पांच लाख रुपये तक सजा का भी प्रावधान है, बहुजन समाज पार्टी इस बिल का समर्थन करती है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक सांसद जी ने 21 जून को सवाल किया था, जिसका माननीय मंत्री जी ने रिप्लाई दिया था, उसमें बताया था कि लगभग तीन परसेंट जो इस देश के युवा हैं, वयस्क हैं, उन्हीं को इसकी जानकारी है। हम लोग तो मेम्बर हैं, हमें तो पूरी तरह से पता ही नहीं है। हम लोग सेंट्रल हॉल में बैठे थे, कई लोग पूछ रहे थे, हम भी पूछ रहे थे कि यह ई-सिगरेट कैसी होती है, हमने इसको देखा ही नहीं है, हमें इसकी जानकारी ही नहीं है, जो 5 साल से ऊपर के युवा हैं, ये तीन परसेंट लोग ही इसको जानते हैं और उस सवाल के जवाब में बताया गया है कि 0.02 परसेंट लोग इसका यूज करते हैं। यह आपका ही आंकड़ा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, इसके साथ ही मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बाद जो तम्बाकू है या सिगरेट है, अगर इसका दुनिया में कहीं सबसे ज्यादा यूज होता है, तो वह भारत में होता है। इसका

[श्री राजाराम]

लगभग 28-29 परसेंट भारत में यूज होता है और इसके कारण कई गंभीर बीमारियां भी होती हैं। इसके कारण हमारे देश में मौतों का भी आंकड़ा हर वर्ष 12 लाख के लगभग है। मैं तो इस बिल का समर्थन करने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ, लेकिन मैं एक सवाल पूछना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तो ई-सिगरेट को 0.02 परसेंट ही लोग यूज करते हैं या जानते हैं - जो 130 करोड़ भारतीय हैं, अगर आप उनकी सेहत को ध्यान में रखकर इस तरह का प्रतिबंध लगा रहे हैं, तो सबसे ज्यादा मौतें तो सिगरेट पीने से होती हैं, सबसे ज्यादा मौतें तो तम्बाकू के उपयोग से होती हैं, तो इस पर प्रतिबंध क्यों नहीं? इसलिए यह कहीं न कहीं सरकार की मंशा पर सवाल खड़ा करता है। अगर आपकी मंशा 130 करोड़ भारतीयों की सेहत को लेकर है, तो इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट पर ही प्रतिबंध क्यों? आज तम्बाकू और सिगरेट ने विकराल रूप ले लिया है, इन पर प्रतिबंध क्यों नहीं? इसलिए सरकार को 130 करोड़ लोगों की सेहत का ध्यान नहीं है, बल्कि इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध दबाव में लगता है या प्रलोभन में लगता है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ, लेकिन मैं सरकार से यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से इस पर प्रतिबंध लग रहा है, इसमें सजा का प्रावधान है, इसमें जुर्माना लगाने का प्रावधान है, उसी तरह से सिगरेट और तम्बाकू पर भी प्रतिबंध लगना चाहिए, धन्यवाद।

श्री अजय प्रताप सिंह (मध्य प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सदन में प्रस्तुत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट (उत्पादन, विनिर्माण, आयात, निर्यात, परिवहन, विक्रय, वितरण, भंडारण और विज्ञापन) प्रतिषेध विधेयक, 2019 के पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं इस विधेयक के पक्ष में इसलिए बोल रहा हूँ, क्योंकि यह विधेयक भारत के भविष्य के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है, भारत की उन्नति के साथ जुड़ा हुआ है और भारत के नौनिहालों के जीवन से जुड़ा हुआ है। मेरा अभी तक के जीवन का जो तज़ुर्बा रहा है, उसके आधार पर मैं कह सकता हूँ कि नशे से किसी की उन्नति नहीं हुई है, नशे से कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है, नशा हमेशा ही नाश की जड़ रहा है।

महोदय, हम सब इस वर्ष महात्मा गांधी की 150वीं जयंती मना रहे हैं। महात्मा गांधी जी के जीवन का एक प्रसंग है, जिसका उन्होंने अपनी आत्मकथा में भी उल्लेख किया है। किशोर अवस्था में उन्हें भी नशे की लत लग गई थी। उनके एक मित्र थे, जिन्होंने उन्हें बीड़ी पीने की लत लगा दी थी। पहले तो वे पैसे से खरीद कर बीड़ी पिया करते थे। बाद में जब पैसे का अभाव हुआ, तो जो कुट्टी बच जाती थी, उसे पीने लगे और जब वह भी जब मुश्किल हो गया, तो उन्होंने अपने चाचा की जेब से पैसे चुराने प्रारम्भ कर दिए। उनके जीवन में यह सिलसिला लगभग दो वर्ष चला। दो वर्ष के पश्चात् उन्हें आत्मग्लानि हुई और उन्हें लगा कि यह गलत रास्ता है। उन्होंने अपनी गलती अपने पिता जी के समक्ष स्वीकार की और शपथ ली कि भविष्य में मैं किसी प्रकार का नशा नहीं करूंगा और जीवन भर उन्होंने उसका पालन किया।

महोदय, महात्मा गांधी जी को राजनीतिक जीवन में जो सफलता प्राप्त हुई, उस सफलता के पीछे उनकी अद्भुत संकल्प शक्ति का स्थान था और मैं समझता हूँ कि अद्भुत संकल्प शक्ति, जो महात्मा गांधी के अंदर पैदा हुई, वह इसी प्रसंग के कारण ही पैदा हुई, जो उन्होंने नशे के विरुद्ध लड़ने का संकल्प लिया था। इसलिए यह विधेयक आज सदन में प्रस्तुत हुआ है, महात्मा गांधी जी की 150वीं जयन्ती के वर्ष में प्रस्तुत हुआ है। अगर हम सब इस विधेयक को सर्वसम्मति से पारित करें, तो न केवल हम

भारत के भविष्य के प्रति न्याय करेंगे और भारत के नौनिहालों की चिन्ता करेंगे, बल्कि महात्मा गांधी के प्रति भी हम सब की सच्ची श्रद्धांजलि होगी।

महोदय, इस विधेयक की चर्चा करते हुए हमारे कई विद्वान मित्रों ने अनेक तरीके से तर्क दिए। जब विधेयक की चर्चा प्रारम्भ हुई, तो हमारे कांग्रेस के मित्रों ने इस चर्चा के प्रारम्भ में बड़ा अजीब सा तर्क दिया। उस तर्क को सुनने के बाद मेरे जैसे लोग बड़े असमंजस में पड़ गए कि एक शिक्षक भी क्या ऐसी बात कर सकता है और क्या नशे की वकालत कर सकता है? क्योंकि इस संसार में माता-पिता के पश्चात् बच्चों के भविष्य की चिन्ता करने की जिम्मेदारी अगर किसी के कंधों पर है, तो वह शिक्षक के ऊपर है। शिक्षा जगत से जुड़े हुए लोग अगर नशे की वकालत करते हैं, नशे की हिमायत करते हैं, तो भगवान ही मालिक है, इस देश के बच्चों का और यह देश किस दिशा में जाएगा। मैं समझता हूँ कि उनका तर्क नहीं, बल्कि कुतर्क था। इस कुतर्क के माध्यम से हम तात्कालिक रूप से भले ही कुछ को प्रभावित कर लें, लेकिन दीर्घकाल में देश के साथ अन्याय करेंगे।

महोदय, जैसी कि आप सभी को जानकारी है जो इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट है, यह स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है। इसके माध्यम से अनेक प्रकार की बीमारियाँ पैदा होती हैं। सबसे बड़ी बात तो यह है कि हमारे कुछ साम्यवादी मित्रों ने इस विधेयक के निरनुमोदन का भी प्रस्ताव रखा है। मैं सोच रहा था कि ऐसी क्या आवश्यकता पड़ गई कि इस विधेयक के निरनुमोदन का प्रस्ताव रखा गया, लेकिन जब आप सबकी चर्चा मैंने सुनी और थोड़ी बहुत खोजबीन की, तो मेरे ध्यान में यह बात आई कि इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट का एकमात्र उत्पादन जो देश करता है, वह चीन है। आज पूरी दुनिया में चीन का इसके बाजार पर कब्जा है। इससे मेरी समझ में आ गया कि हमारे साम्यवादी मित्र आखिर इस विधेयक का निरनुमोदन क्यों करना चाहते हैं। आप समझ सकते हैं कि उनकी आस्था और उनका जो दिल है, वह कहाँ पर जुड़ा हुआ है। आज हमारे आर.के. सिन्हा जी ने बताया कि इसका 3 अरब डॉलर का बाजार है और यह जो 3 अरब डॉलर का पूरा बाजार है, यह चीन की मुट्ठी में है। इस 3 अरब डॉलर के बाजार में जो सबसे बड़ा बाजार है, वह भारत में धीरे-धीरे उभर सकता है। भारत इसका सबसे बड़ा बाजार बन सकता है, इसलिए यहाँ पर हमारे कुछ मित्र इस बात की विशेष रूप से चर्चा कर रहे हैं कि इसको यहाँ पर प्रतिबंधित नहीं करना चाहिए, बल्कि आवश्यकता पड़े, यदि बहुत ही जरूरी है, तो इसके कुछ रेग्युलेशन तय कर देने चाहिए।

सर, वर्ल्ड हेल्थ ऑर्गनाइजेशन की रिपोर्ट है कि यह स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है। हमारे इंडियन मेडिकल कौंसिल की भी रिपोर्ट है कि यह स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है। जब स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है, तो इसके रेग्युलेशन की क्या आवश्यकता है, बल्कि इसको पूरी तरह से क्यों न प्रतिबंधित करें? हमारे कई मित्र कहते हैं कि बहुत कम लोग इसके बारे में जानते हैं, बहुत कम लोग इसका उपयोग करते हैं, अगर हम इसको शुरुआत में ही, जड़ पकड़ने से पहले ही कुचल देंगे, तो हम भारत के भविष्य को भी बचा पाएंगे और भारत को नशे के एक बहुत बड़े चंगुल में फँसने से भी बचा पाएंगे। इसलिए हमारे मंत्री जी और हमारी सरकार आज जो इस विधेयक को लाई है कि सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाया जाए, यह बहुत मौजू है। इस विधेयक की सबसे विशेष बात यह है कि इस विधेयक में उन्होंने जो कानूनी प्रावधान किए हैं, सजा का जो प्रावधान किया है, वह बहुत उत्तम तरीके से किया है। केवल एक

[श्री अजय प्रताप सिंह]

संशोधन की तरफ, जिस तरफ आदरणीय आर.के. सिन्हा साहब ने ध्यान दिलाया था, उसके लिए मैं भी मंत्री जी से आग्रह करूंगा कि आपने उपयोगकर्ताओं पर तो प्रतिबंध लगाया है कि प्रथम बार उपयोग करने पर उनके लिए 4 साल की सजा और लाख रुपये जुर्माने का प्रावधान है, दूसरी बार पकड़े जाने पर 3 साल की सजा और 5 लाख रुपये जुर्माने का प्रावधान किया है, लेकिन जो इसका परिवहन करते हैं, जो इसका भंडारण करते हैं, आपने उनको तो छह महीने की सजा और पचास हजार रुपये का जुर्माना देकर बहुत सस्ते में छोड़ दिया है। सर, छह महीने की सजा और पचास हजार रुपये का जुर्माना पर्याप्त नहीं है। आखिर जड़ की शुरुआत वहीं से हो रही है, इसलिए आपको इस विधेयक में उनके लिए भी काफी हैवी पैनल्टी प्राविधानिक करनी चाहिए। आपने बहुत अच्छी बात की है कि इसके लिए जो प्रभारी अधिकारी बनाया है, वह उपनिरीक्षक स्तर के अधिकारी को बनाया है। कई लोगों ने इसकी आलोचना की है कि इसके उपनिरीक्षक को इतने अधिकार दिए गए हैं कि वह कहीं पर भी छापा मार सकता है, कहीं पर भी तलाशी ले सकता है। कुछ लोगों ने तो इसकी तुलना इमरजेंसी के दिनों से की है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आपने उपनिरीक्षक स्तर के अधिकारी को यह जो ताकत दी है, यह इस बात का संकेत है कि सरकार इस बुराई के प्रति कितनी गंभीर है और इस बुराई को समाप्त करने के लिए कितने कड़े कदम उठा सकती है। विभिन्न कानूनी पचड़ों में न पड़ते हुए तात्कालिक रूप से कार्यवाही हो, इसकी रोकथाम हो, इसके लिए यह प्रावधान किया गया है। मैं इस विधेयक के समर्थन में हूँ और पूरे सदन से आग्रह करता हूँ कि नौजवानों के भविष्य के लिए, भारत के भविष्य के लिए आप इस विधेयक का समर्थन कीजिए। आपने मुझे इस विषय पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री अमर शंकर साबले (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सिगरेट पर प्रतिबंध लगाने के साथ-साथ पार्लियामेंट में जो स्मोकिंग जोन है, उस पर भी प्रतिबंध लगाइए।

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I, on behalf of my party, rise to support this Bill. It is very heartening to know that almost all the Members of this august House have, in one voice, echoed their views against the consumption of e-cigarettes. In fact, it is the policy of my State Government, that is, the Government of Andhra Pradesh, and also the wish of our hon. Chief Minister, that not only e-cigarettes, but also other substances, like tobacco cigarettes and other narcotic substances, and even liquor, and also the games, like, the playing cards, and other such evils which are plaguing humanity and humans, should be banned. At the same time, care should be taken to ensure that not a single farmer should be put to loss and not a single worker loses his or her employment. When e-cigarettes were introduced, they were originally considered as the only solution for smoking problems. Instead of smoking a tobacco cigarette, e-cigarettes were considered to be a better solution. However, the researchers, the health practitioners and the Governments world over have begun to realise the ill effects of e-cigarettes for

quite some time now. Instead of reducing the use of tobacco, e-cigarettes are being used as a first step to get into smoking of tobacco cigarettes. Particularly, youth are getting attracted towards that. Therefore, e-cigarettes are proving to be an add-on to smoking and thus becoming totally counter-productive. The adverse effects of nicotine are already well known. Continuous use of nicotine affects the development of foetus during pregnancy, causes cardiovascular diseases and involved in the biology of malignant diseases, hence is termed tumor promoter. Therefore, banning of e-cigarettes is totally justified. To make matters worse, electronic nicotine delivery systems are much more attractive than cigarettes. It comes in various flavours thereby reducing the initial inhibitions that arise due to bad taste of cigarettes. E-cigarettes do not fall within the scope of existing national legislation on tobacco production, distribution and use of it. A legislative vacuum is clearly visible which has become a breeding ground for overuse, without due research on implications being undertaken.

The last point which I would like to highlight is, the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control invited all the signatories to consider prohibiting or regulating the e-cigarettes in order to minimise the potential health risks associated with them. While India has prohibited the manufacture, trade and advertisements of e-cigarettes now with this Ordinance, there is a wide variation in the approach taken by the different countries for regulating the e-cigarettes. At present, over about 30 countries including Brazil, Mexico and Thailand have banned the manufacture, trade and advertisements of e-cigarettes. Therefore, we fully support the Government in this regard. Banning e-cigarettes is totally justified in this regard. Thank you very much, Sir.

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (Retd.) (Haryana): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for having permitted me to speak on such an important issue. India is the 'Disease capital' of the world and e-cigarettes are entering the market disguised as de-addictor. Basically, tobacco has been labelled as a bad terrorist, and e-cigarette as a good terrorist. But, it is still a terrorist. Now, I would like to draw the attention of the House to the quoted scientific research and studies. A double-blind randomized scientific research has to be smokers and e-cigarette smokers. That also, at least, till the age of 50, and you have to ensure that smokers, means cigarette-smokers, don't change-over to e-cigarette smokers. Means, error has not to be there. It is not possible in so short a time. Yes, a study has been carried out in the US on mice, and within 54 weeks when mice were exposed to it, they developed lung cancer. Therefore, this disguised commercial activity, aiming three billion dollar commerce, is basically thrown into Indian market to have an anecdotal study also because there were

[LT. Gen. (Dr.) D.P. Vats Retd.]

so many medicines approved by FDA. They were given to third world countries and they proved disastrous. Even Thalidomide at some stage was approved by Europe but when landed up into disasters, it was banned. So was Indomethacin. Indomethacin has been withdrawn from market. So we don't have to bank upon that a study with a western stamp is an authentic study. In fact, they throw the medicines, they throw the commerce in India just to have anecdotal studies and we Indians fall prey to that. I will say, tobacco is the biggest health hazard and it has been pointed out by various speakers that in India, the deaths are one million or even more. I will put it this way, again brought out by various speakers, that man-hours consumed, their look-after, their treatment, their prevention, it outweighs the money that we earn from tobacco in the form of employment or in the form of revenue. Now some of the hon. speakers brought it out why not to ban tobacco. Tobacco, in fact, is a very big industry. For the time being, it involves the employment of lakhs of labours also. But we don't advocate for it. It is a step. This is preventing the evil in the bud because it is starting as a fashion, it is starting as a de-addictor. But once it overtakes the market, then market or fashion cannot be prevented just by statutory warnings. Therefore, it is better to nip the evil in the bud. Secondly, the flavours in it — polyene, glycol, glycerol and so many flavours — are not health-conducive flavours. They are also harmful flavours. Therefore, I will say, as has been mentioned, tobacco is like:

सतसङ्ग्या के दोहरे ज्यों नाविक के तीर ।

देखन में छोटे लगें घाव करें गंभीर ।।

भेधें सकल शरीर ।

The whole of the body has been labelled whether it is respiratory system, the biggest killer; whether it is oral cavity; whether it is GI-tract; whether it is CNS or whether it is eye. Tobacco induces Amblyopia. You don't see anything abnormal with the eye. But the patient doesn't see. That is called Amblyopia. And it is such a big killer, such a big morbidity and mortality-inducer. Even its part, we cannot permit in our society because it causes social problems, it increases criminality. Therefore, I will say that if the world is so particular about it, why thirty countries have banned it and why our eighteen States have banned it. In the US also, California has banned it. Many countries have banned it and if our Government, taking cue from them, bans it right in the beginning that would be pre-emptive action. We cannot wait for it to remain in the market for 50 years, wait for results and then ponder whether to take action and ban it or not. That is why we have not been able to ban tobacco

as yet even though we have banned public smoking and put so many other restrictions on tobacco use. Once it makes a place in the society, in the country, it would be very difficult to ban it. Therefore, I wholeheartedly support this law.

Sir, I congratulate the hon. Minister that this Session has been, more or less, a health session and such a comprehensive law has been brought to prevent further morbidity and to prevent commercialization. It is not made in India as yet. Its rates have been fixed at ₹ 500 to ₹ 3, 000 and China, our rival on all fronts, wants to invade our economy and invade our markets. Why should we fall prey to that design? The people who support it may say, ‘You advocate tobacco smoking. Why not ban that? Why ban only this?’ I would put it this way. If we advocate graduated smoking, it is something like “क्यों न हँसी आये हमको, हज़रत-ए-इन्सान पर। फैल-ए-बद तो खुद करे, लानत धरे शैतान पर।।” We should not start smoking and then blame God saying कि हममें कैसर कर दिया। It is not so.

Most of the things have already been brought out. I just want to forewarn all hon. Members that one cigarette reduces life by ten minutes in a cigarette smoker, as compared to a non-smoker. But there are very many factors in the longevity of a person and genetics is still the most important factor. We, in Delhi, in Kolkata, are smoking 25 cigarettes in a day because of the polluted environment. In addition to that, if we start smoking e-cigarettes, that would bring things from bad to worse. Therefore, I would say that banning e-cigarettes is the right thing to do. I would, of course, advocate harsher punishment for the offenders. That would be very much conducive for the economy of the country, for the health of the country and help in achieving Prime Minister’s goal of ‘physically fit, mentally alert and morally upright’ youth capable of defending the nation, defending the society, so that rapes are not repeated and rapes combined with murders are not repeated. Therefore, I agree with the speakers who talk about health education and social education. I would say, in addition to health education, social education and a good dose of exercise for the youth. We must have a deterrent punishment also. Sir, I support this Bill wholeheartedly. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Shri P.L. Punia; five minutes.

श्री हुसैन दलवाई (महाराष्ट्र): धन्यवाद, सर। मैं ऐस बिल के ऊपर बोल रहा हूँ और हाउस में इस पर चर्चा हो रही है, यह अच्छी बात है। 3 घंटे से भी ज्यादा इसके ऊपर चर्चा होने वाली है। ...*(व्यवधान)*... चार घंटे। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): I called the name of Shri Punia, not Shri Dalwai. You were given time and your name was called. You were not present when I called you. Please sit down. Let him speak first.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Okay, Sir.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, let him also speak.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Shri Punia; five minutes.

श्री पी. एल. पुनिया (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह विषय बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है, इसलिए इस पर चर्चा के लिए चार घंटे का समय भी आवंटित किया गया है। इसी से यह अंदाजा लगाया जा सकता है कि यह सरकार की priority में काफी ऊपर है, इसलिए इस पर डिबेट के लिए चार घंटे का समय दिया गया और जब आर्थिक मंदी पर चर्चा हुई, तो उसके लिए ढाई घंटे का समय दिया गया। जो Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Bill, 2019 पेश किया गया है, इससे पहले सितम्बर, 2019 को इस पर ऑर्डिनेंस जारी किया गया था। इस पर ऑर्डिनेंस जारी किया गया, इसलिए यह अंदाजा लगाया जा सकता है कि यह सरकार की priority में है और यह बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। सदन आहुत होने तक इंतजार नहीं हो सकता था, इसलिए इस पर ऑर्डिनेंस लाया गया। उसी के बदले में आज हम लोग इस बिल पर डिस्कस कर रहे हैं। यह गंभीर विषय है। 8 सितम्बर, 2018 यानी अऑर्डिनेंस जारी होने के एक साल पहले ई-सिगरेट के बारे में सभी स्टेट्स और Union Territories को advisory जारी की गई और इस बीच में 2018 में यूपी, पंजाब, कर्नाटक, मिज़ोरम, केरल, बिहार आदि में ई-सिगरेट को बैन किया गया था और बाद में दिल्ली में इसको बैन किया गया, जिसे कोर्ट ने फिर सटे दिया। मई, 2019 में इस पर आईसीएमआर से एक स्टडी करवाई गई। उन्होंने इस पर white paper जारी किया और recommend किया कि इसको बैन किया जाए। इस पर कोई बेसिक रिसर्च वर्क नहीं किया गया, लेकिन उन्होंने स्टडी करके इस पर बैन करने की बात कही।

इस बिल में व्यापक प्रावधान किए गए हैं, जैसा कि इसके title से ही जाहिर है - 'Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement', जब कि मैं समझता हूँ कि जो मुख्यतः अपराध है, वह इसका इस्तेमाल है, वरना कोई आपत्तिजनक वस्तु है, वह पड़ी रहे, इस्तेमाल न हो, तो उसके कोई मायने नहीं हैं। अगर उसका इस्तेमाल हो रहा है, तो वह इसमें नहीं लिखा है। इसी तरह से possession के संबंध में है। अगर मेरी जेब में ऐसी कोई वस्तु है, मैं possession नहीं कर रहा हूँ, production नहीं कर रहा हूँ, import नहीं कर रहा हूँ, export नहीं कर रहा हूँ, transport नहीं कर रहा हूँ, sale नहीं कर रहा हूँ, export नहीं कर रहा हूँ, transport नहीं कर रहा हूँ, लेकिन वह मेरे पास है, तो वह अपराध नहीं है। मैं चाहूँगा कि माननीय मंत्री जी इसके बारे में विस्तार से अवश्य बताएँ कि यूज करने वाले को किस तरह से दंड दिया जाएगा और अगर किसी के possession में यह आपत्तिजनक वस्तु मिलती है, तो फिर उसके लिए किस प्रकार का दंड का प्रावधान है?

महोदय, यह बिल बहुत व्यापक बनाया गया है, इसमें एक साल की सजा का प्रावधान है, एक लाख रुपए फाइन का प्रावधान है और अगर repeated offence है, तो तीन साल तक की सजा और पांच लाख रुपए फाइन करने का भी प्रावधान है। महोदय, शहरों में अक्सर देखा होगा कि पॉश लोकेलिटीज़ में 'हुक्का बार या हुक्का पार्लर' लिखा होता है। मैंने जिन्दगी में कभी सिगरेट नहीं पी, ई-सिगरेट की भी जानकारी बहुत कम है, हमें लगता है कि सिगरेट हो, गुटखा हो, पान मसाला हो, वे सब हानिकारक हैं, ई-सिगरेट हानिकारक है। यह नौजवानों के लिए, बच्चों के लिए, अगर वे इस्तेमाल करते हैं, तो हानिकारक है, स्वास्थ्य के लिए हानिकारक है। यदि महिलाएँ भी पीती हैं, तो यह महिलाओं के लिए भी हानिकारक है। अगर कोई प्रेगनेंट महिला है और वह इसका इस्तेमाल करती हैं, तो इससे उसके शिशु को नुकसान पहुँचता है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... इसको जरा भी माफ नहीं किया जा सकता है, किसी भी तरह का हो, जैसे बीड़ी हो, सिगरेट हो, तम्बाकू हो, गुटखा हो, किसी को माफ नहीं किया जा सकता है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Sir, I am on a point of order. ...**(Interruptions)**... No Cabinet Minister is here. ...**(Interruptions)**... We are discussing such a serious issue, but no Cabinet Minister is here. ...**(Interruptions)**..

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, there is no Cabinet Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**... There is no Cabinet Minister. ...**(Interruptions)**..

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): The Cabinet Ministers have arrived. You should conclude.

SHRI P.L. PUNIA: I am concluding, Sir. ये सभी चीज़ें हानिकारक हैं, लेकिन बहुत आश्चर्य की बात है कि बैन केवल ई-सिगरेट किया जा रहा है। तम्बाकू, सिगरेट, बीड़ी, इनके ऊपर कोई बैन नहीं हो रहा है। यह बिल लाने से पहले या ऑर्डिनेंस लाने से पहले कोई रिसर्च नहीं किया गया, इसको स्टैंडिंग कमिटी को नहीं भेजा गया। आखिर क्या वजह है कि तम्बाकू, सिगरेट पर बैन नहीं है? हिन्दुस्तान में साढ़े चौदह करोड़ लोग हैं जो सिगरेट का सेवन करते हैं, जो कि टोटल पॉपुलेशन का लगभग 11 परसेंट हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Your time is over. Please conclude.

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया: ई-सिगरेट का उपयोग करने वाले लोग लगभग 0.2 प्रतिशत हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Please conclude.

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया: सर, अब मैं कन्क्लूड कर रहा हूँ। मैं condemn नहीं कर रहा हूँ। बैन उस पर भी लगाना चाहिए और इस पर भी लगाना चाहिए, लेकिन सरकार की तरफ से यह अवश्य आना चाहिए कि सिगरेट, बीड़ी और तम्बाकू के ऊपर बैन क्यों नहीं है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Please conclude.

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया: सर, मैं कन्क्लूड कर रहा हूँ। ऐसा आरोप है कि सिगरेट-तम्बाकू लॉबी के प्रभाव में आकर ई-सिगरेट को बैन किया जा रहा है और उनको रहने दिया जा रहा है। इसलिए मेरा आपसे अनुरोध है रेगुलेटरी एप्रोच के ...(व्यवधान)... इन सब पर बैन होना चाहिए। ...(समय की घंटी)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Please conclude.

श्री पी.एल. पुनिया: सर, मैं इस बिल के समर्थन के लिए खड़ा हूँ, लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ मैं अवश्य कहूँगा कि ये यह आश्वासन भी दे दें कि सिगरेट, तम्बाकू आदि पर बैन कब लगेगा? धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN): Shri Binoy Viswam; not present.

Now, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): ऑनरेबल वाइस चेयरमैन सर, हमारे मसले और फैसले भी कितने अजीब हैं कि कुछ दिनों पहले हमने अर्थव्यवस्था पर बात की, तो ढाई घंटे का वक्त मुकर्रर था, आज जब हम ई-सिगरेट को बैन करने पर बात कर रहे हैं, तो चार घंटे का समय मुकर्रर है। यह हमारी प्राथमिकता है! सर, एक और भी चीज़ है, जो कई सदस्यों ने कही। माननीय मंत्री जी, आपकी मंशा पर कोई संदेह नहीं, लेकिन...

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अश्विनी कुमार चौबे): यह स्वास्थ्य का विषय है। यह आपके अच्छे स्वास्थ्य के लिए है। ...(व्यवधान)...

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: सर, बिल्कुल। मैं वह भी बताऊँगा। ...(व्यवधान)... नहीं, बोलने दीजिए। कोई बात नहीं है। सर, आपकी मंशा पर कोई शक नहीं, लेकिन हमारे तमाम साथियों ने जो बातें रखीं, उनसे इतना तो स्पष्ट है कि यह हड़बड़ाहट बताती है कि 'बेखुदी बेसबब नहीं गालिब, कुछ तो है जिसकी पर्दादारी है' और मैं उसको बेपर्दा करने की चेष्टा नहीं करूँगा।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

मंत्री महोदय, मैं कुछ सवाल आपके समक्ष रखता हूँ इसका पैरा वन कहता है, 'In the interest of public health and to protect people from harm.' It could be true. Morally, it is very correct. But, when you proposed the Bill, after a hasty Ordinance, it should be backed by substantial data. Any legislation has to be backed by substantial data, bereft of which, we actually realize from where it has fallen! That is most worrisome issue. Please take this into account because so far we have not seen any substantial study which proves it.

ऑनरेबल डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट के बारे में नहीं जानता था। बॉलिवुड के एक मशहूर हीरो हैं, अदाकार हैं, उन्होंने कभी बताया कि मैं सिगरेट छोड़ने के लिए इलेक्ट्रॉनिक

सिगरेट पर आया, तो मैं अपनी मासूमियत में यह मान गया कि सिगरेट छोड़ने के लिए लोग इलेक्ट्रॉनिक सिगरेट पर जाते हैं। मेरे पास इस बात का कोई वैज्ञानिक आधार नहीं है, लेकिन मैंने यह मान लिया। माननीय मंत्री महोदय, मैं आप दोनों के समक्ष एक चीज़ लाना चाहता हूँ। सर, यह मेरी अपनी व्यक्तिगत confession भी है। मैं मैट्रिकुलेशन के बाद बिहार के एक छोटे से जिले से रांची के सेंट जेवियर्स कॉलेज पहुंचा। रांची बहुत बड़ा शहर था, मुझे cultural shock की तरह लगा था, मैं बहुत छोटे शहर से गया था, जिसका नाम सहरसा है। एक लड़का मेरा बैचमेट था, उसने मुझसे अंग्रेज़ी में पूछा- मेरी अंग्रेज़ी उस समय तंग हुआ करती थी, अब से भी ज्यादा, उसने मुझसे पूछा, “Do you smoke?” मैंने कहा, “I don’t.” मैं हकला कर बोला, “I don’t.” उसके बाद उसने मुझे जिस हिकारत के भाव से देखा, मैं अगले दिन ही दो डिब्बे खरीद कर ले आया। मैं यह इसलिए कह रहा हूँ कि इस तरह के किसी भी कैम्पेन में mere legislation will not work. You have to work at the grassroot level for education. In case of drugs, it has paid some dividends to us. In the case of electronic cigarettes also, and for other tobacco products, you could have easily gone for that rather than simply going for this kind of legislation. Even in the Conference of Parties on prohibiting e-cigarettes, they also first advocated for basically cautionary approach or, what some of my friends said, regulatory mechanism. In para 5, it also talks about, while quoting Article 47, “concerns largely with health damage and harms”. Moralistic stand should not be the backbone of legislation; it should be backed by real health reasons, and there, many of my colleagues have spoken about it. Please also understand that banning results in myriad kind of activities. I know a State where liquor was banned way back, and I know a State where liquor has been banned recently. In both the States, you get liquor faster than you get in Delhi or Mumbai.

Sir, I will not take much of your time. Last but not the least, माननीय मंत्री जी, मैं आपकी तवज्जो चाहता हूँ। Clause 3(d) of the proposed Bill is the unkindest cut of all. This states, “device that heats a substance”. अब आप पूरा ज़िम्मा किसी सब-इंस्पेक्टर को दे रहे हैं। सर, अगर मैं साँस लेने के लिए Carvol डाल कर inhale करना चाहता हूँ, तो वह सब-इंस्पेक्टर मुझको पकड़ लेगा, in all probability. फिर मैं बेल के लिए कहां-कहां भटकता रहूंगा? So, it should be very specific.

Finally, Sir, I would like to say that all these points are not points of criticism or opposition to the Bill. We are very much for it, but then the larger issue is: why not cigarettes; why not other tobacco products; why only an instrument — I would call it an instrument — which is actually used by only 0.2 per cent of the people, if I am not wrong? That’s all, Sir. वैसे भी यह प्रोडक्टिविटी के ज़िम्मे जाएगा। कल अखबारों में छपेगा कि राज्य सभा ने एक और बिल पास कर दिया। उसका आंकड़ा बढ़ेगा, लेकिन हेल्थ को लेकर एक समग्र चिंतन हो, जय हिन्द।

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, first of all, I would like to thank you for giving me this opportunity to participate in the debate. One of my dreams is going to become true by getting an opportunity to support the Prohibition of E-Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Bill, 2019. I would request the hon. Minister to also add 'consumption' or 'use' of e-cigarettes in the title of this Bill.

Presently, a variety of devices is being sold in the international market which deliver the nicotine and other chemicals with flavours by electronically-heating materials containing nicotine, that is, the so-called e-cigarettes. The devices are marketed as substitutes for cigarette cessation tools for chronic cigarette smokers. The e-cigarette, through tobacco, will cause many diseases like cancer of lungs, oral cavity, cardio vascular diseases, and heart attack, etc.

Recently, in Delhi, 150 devices of e-cigarettes were found in school bags of children during a surprise check in a school.

This shows the increase of this epidemic disease. At present, 42 countries have banned e-cigarettes because it has highly addictive nature of nicotine and has the risk of misuse by youth by adding other psychoactive substances with regular liquids. The e-cigarettes may be seen as substitutes to traditional cigarettes but, young people may use the more harmful forms of nicotine or other forms of harmful substances. Many studies in the US have proved it beyond any doubt, the habit of e-cigarette is increasing fast and well adopted by youth world-wide. India is a signatory to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. Several countries such as Brazil, Mexico, Singapore and Thailand have banned the production, manufacture, storage and sale of e-cigarettes. There is no warning printed on e-cigarettes, though, it causes a number of health problems. Prevention is always better than cure, taking into consideration, e-cigarettes ban is a welcome step by our Government. Keeping the above spirit from our Constitution, Tobacco items should be banned. The Government is also publicizing on cigarette packets that Tobacco causes painful death: It is printed on cigarette packets. Then, why do we allow the sale of tobacco products in the country? Let us ban the sale of such tobacco products in the country. But, e-cigarette banning is taken up because it is not spread in the society yet. So, at the very beginning itself, e-cigarette has to be banned, it is a welcome step. Now, smoking of tobacco items should also be banned. Our beloved Minister, Dr. Harsh Vardhanji, does not smoke, he does not take e-cigarette, he does not take alcohol. Some opposition leaders are saying that tobacco products should also be banned, definitely, they will also be banned,

but, they will be banned one by one. That situation will surely come. It is our dream also. Tobacco is universally regarded as one of the major public health hazards. Around ₹ 13, 500 crores are annually being spent for the treatment of tobacco-related diseases, and around eight lakh deaths are recorded annually in the country due to that, and around 50 lakh people are dying across the globe. So, we should also ban tobacco as early as possible. The Government should make some law in this regard. Sir, in my group of companies, 15 years ago, I introduced non-smoking and non-alcoholic allowance. So, every employee whosoever gives a declaration that he will not smoke, he is given ₹ 1500 monthly. I am spending around ₹ 30 lakhs per month for the last fifteen years on this account. That is why I am saying that this is my dream project. Sir, I have implemented this system by “Nayana, Bhayana”, Nayana means that I am giving the incentive and Bhayana means that if they smoke, if they are caught, they will lose the job. So, we should introduce this kind of system for the Government employees also. Whenever we give appointment to the Government employees, they should abide by the rules. When we are saying that “Tobacco causes painful death”, we are making a law on this...(Time-bell)..., and when we are making the law, and we are printing the warnings on the packets, we, the lawmakers, the Parliamentarians, also should be disqualified, if we are not following the laws which we are making. Similarly, the Government official should also lose the job when they do not abide by the rules. They are the implementing authorities; if they will not follow, they will also lose their jobs. So, both of these aspects should be taken into account. While concluding my speech, Sir, I once again support the Prohibition of E-cigarettes (production, manufacture, import, transport, sale, distribution storage and advertisement) Bill, 2019. Thank you Sir.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, I really wonder why the Government is so anxious to ban the e-cigarettes. There are so many wrongs in the country. No doubt the e-cigarettes are vices, but, bigger faults are there, bigger wrongs are there. This Government sometimes closes their eyes on such kind of vices. Suddenly, they come with an Ordinance saying that the immediate necessity is to ban the e-cigarettes. That approach is not at all understandable. Sir, all the figures are telling us something else. There are more and more health hazards of other activities like alcoholism or the conventional cigarettes. In spite of banning all of them, suddenly, our Government came out saying that the number one enemy to be done away with is the e-cigarettes. There are some researches. At the moment, I do not know what the reason is but there are people saying that the bigger lobbies, the tobacco lobbies are there in the country and they want to do this. This can be seen in the urgency which the Government has shown in banning the e-cigarettes. What campaign did you launch? What surveys did you make? What studies did you make? Nothing was there.

[Shri Binoy Viswam]

Without any survey, without any study, without any preparation, all of a sudden, the Government came out and said that they are going to ban it. That is why, the people, howsoever innocent they are, now believe that there are some compulsions for the Government. What were the compulsions? That compulsion came from lobbies, which are known to everybody, which are financially very strong, which are politically influential and very much close to you. They can be called as political cousins, and, that is why, even when this move may be regarded as a good move by somebody but still there is a big 'but' and that 'but' should be answered.

Mr. Minister, I respect you, I respect our goodwill, I respect your bonafide intentions not only in this case, it has been so earlier also, I request you to please clarify this issue while you give reply to this debate. Thank you.

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR (Rajasthan): Sir, on the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes Ordinance, first of all, I would like to elaborate on the punishment clauses. Any person who contravenes the provisions shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year or with fine which may extend to one lakh rupees, or, with both, and, for the second or subsequent offence, with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and with fine which may extend to five lakh rupees.

Additionally, storage of e-cigarettes will be punishable with an imprisonment of six months or a fine of ₹ 50, 000 or both. Once Ordinance comes into force, the owners of existing stock of e-cigarettes will have to declare and deposit the stocks in the nearest office of the authorised officer. Who is going to be the authorised officer is a point to be answered as it is very important. Further it mentions, an authorised police officer, at least, at the level of a sub-inspector. Sir, the e-cigarettes are very expensive items. Each e-cigarette costs around ₹ 5, 000, and, if they are deposited with the lower level officers, it may lead to corruption. Why is e-cigarette so dangerous? As per the Report of WHO, Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), also known as e-cigarettes, heat a solution to create an aerosol, that is the dangerous part, which frequently contains flavourants, usually dissolved into Propylene Glycol and Glycerin. ENDS aerosol contains nicotine, the addictive component of tobacco products. In addition to dependence, nicotine can have adverse effects on the development of the foetus during pregnancy and may contribute to cardiovascular disease.

The WHO Report further says that although nicotine itself is not a carcinogen, it may function as a tumour promoter and seems to be involved in the biology of malignant

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disease as well as of neuro-degeneration. Foetal and adolescent nicotine exposure may have long-term consequences for brain development, potentially leading to learning and anxiety disorders.

The evidence is sufficient to warn children and adolescents, pregnant women and women of reproductive age against ENDS use and nicotine.

Sir, as my colleague, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, mentioned, initially when e-cigarette was introduced, it was known as a safer alternative. Still a lot of people, even educated people, believe that this is a very safe alternative which is the most dangerous part of it.

Sir, another important thing is that e-cigarettes can be used for delivery of psychoactive substances. E-cigarettes are available in many different flavou' This has increased exponentially and has acquired epidemic proportions in the developed countries, especially among the youth and the children. It is very easy to carry it in schools. It has become very fashionable, especially among the younger generation and even school children, to carry it. It can easily be carried as a pen or a USB memory stick or in any other form. Like a cigarette, you light it and there is a smoke and there is a smell or aroma. But e-cigarette has very little of it. It is very easy to use it. What is more dangerous is that today it has become a fashion statement. A study conducted in the U.S. has stated that a mysterious lung injury in e-cigarette users started in April, when 53 victims with a median age of 19 years in Illinois and Wisconsin were hospitalized. Now studies are coming out with results how dangerous'it is. E-cigarette makers have been following time-tested machinations of big tobacco companies to a tee. Like the case of cigarettes, e-cigarette makers are also using advertisements depicting e-cigarettes as glamorous, cool, attractive, liked by celebrities and as a symbol of freedom together with celebrity endorsements. There was a famous ad of Malboro, "Come to where the flavor is. Come to Marlboro Country."

Sir, our respected Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi*ji*, has been very proactive on the ban of e-cigarettes. He expressed concerns in the United Nations and also in his Mann ki Baat every Sunday. He also warned that e-cigarette is fast becoming a fashion statement and it should be banned.

Sir, lastly, I would like to appeal to smokers to really resolve to quit completely rather than being nicotine dependent through unapproved alternatives. Nicotine replacement therapies through nicotine gums, lozenges and patches that are safe and duly approved are available.

Sir, with this, I support the Bill.

श्री उपसभापति: हुसैन दलवई जी, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि आपकी पार्टी का समय समाप्त हो चुका है, फिर भी आप दो मिनट बोल लीजिए।

श्री हुसैन दलवई (महाराष्ट्र): माननीय उपसभापति जी, यह जो बिल आया है, एक तो इसके लिए ऑर्डिनेंस निकाला गया है। इसके लिए ऑर्डिनेंस निकालने की क्या जरूरत थी, मालूम नहीं, लेकिन सरकार कई तरह की बातें करती है। इसमें यह व्यवस्था है कि “power to search without warrant” यह सबसे ज्यादा objectionable बात है। इस तरह की व्यवस्था से कहीं भी किसी के घर भी पुलिस जा सकती है।

महोदय, इस बिल के जरिए दो बातें हो रही हैं- जो सिगरेट मैन्युफैक्चरर तीन कंपनियां हैं, जिनकी इसमें मोनोपॉली है- आईटीसी, गोल्ड फ्लेक और फिलिप इंडिया-गोल्डन टोबैको को फायदा पहुंचाना है। इस बिल के बाद, मंत्री महोदय को मालूम होगा, जरा मेरी बात की ओर ध्यान दीजिए ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: दलवई जी, आप मेरी ओर देखकर बोलिए। Please address the Chair. मंत्री जी भी आपकी बात को सुन रहे हैं।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: महोदय, मैं आपके जरिए उनका ध्यान अपनी बात की ओर खींचना चाहता हूँ कि बिल होने के बाद, एक घंटे में ही सिगरेटों की कीमतें बढ़ गईं। यह सब किस के लिए हो रहा है? यह साफ जाहिर है और मैं इसका निषेध करता हूँ।

महोदय, गुटके के ऊपर बिल है, लेकिन हर जगह गुटखा मिलता है। सहस्रबुद्धे जी, मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब हम कॉलेज में थे, तब बड़े पैमाने पर सिगरेट पी जाती थी, लेकिन अब सिगरेट पीना हर जगह बहुत कम हो गया है। तादाद बहुत कम हो गई है, क्योंकि जिस तरह से प्रचार हुआ है, उससे यह मानना पड़ेगा कि उसके काम का अच्छा नक्शा सामने आ गया है, असर हो गया है। आप इस तरह से कीजिए कि इस पर बड़े पैमाने पर टैक्स बढ़ाए। आप जीएसटी वगैरह से भी पैसे ले रहे हैं, ऐसा करने पर आपको यहाँ से भी बड़े पैमाने पर पैसे मिलेंगे, इसलिए वह कीजिए। अगर कोई इस तरह की सिगरेट पीता पकड़ा जाएगा, तो उसको एक साल अंदर रखने की सजा दी गई है। एक लाख रुपये भी ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मुझे एक मिनट बोलने दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आपके तीन मिनट हो गए हैं।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: 1 लाख रुपये का जुर्माना और 1 साल अंदर रखने भी का प्रावधान रखा गया है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में जो माँब लिंगिंग हो रही है, ऐसे लोग प्री हैं, मजे से रहते हैं, हीरो बनते हैं। गाँधी जी का खून करने वाले ...**(समय की घंटी)**... जरा मुझे बोलने दीजिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... गाँधी जी का खून करने वाले ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: हुसैन दलवई जी, आपका समय समाप्त हो गया है। आप कृपया वाइंड अप कीजिए।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: गाँधी जी का खून करने वाले ...(व्यवधान)... आज भी गाँधी जी का पुतला खड़ा करके गोलियाँ मारते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप कृपया वाइंड अप कीजिए। आपके पास समय नहीं है, आपके तीन मिनट हो चुके हैं।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: मेरा यह कहना है कि यह सब जो हो रहा है, यह मोनोपॉली सिगरेट कंपनियों की मदद करने के लिए हो रहा है। मेरा यह कहना है कि इस तरह से करने की बजाय आपको अच्छे-अच्छे कानून लाने की जरूरत है। मैं तो यह भी कहूंगा कि आप वह नहीं करते हैं।

सर, यह सही बात है कि आज लोग बेकार हो गए हैं। ...(समय की घंटी)... बेकारी बड़े पैमाने पर बढ़ गई है। ...(समय की घंटी)... हमारे किसानों के हालात बहुत खराब हो गए हैं। ...(समय की घंटी)...

श्री उपसभापति: आप समाप्त कीजिए, नहीं तो मैं दूसरे स्पीकर को बुलाऊंगा।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: आप उसके बारे में कुछ नहीं करते हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... आप वह कीजिए। इससे आपकी सरकार पॉप्युलर होगी। अभी लोगों के ध्यान में आया है, महाराष्ट्र में लोगों ने दिखाया है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: हुसैन दलवई जी, प्लीज़ कंक्लूड कीजिए।

श्री हुसैन दलवई: आप किस तरह की राजनीति कर रहे हैं। ...(व्यवधान)... वह राजनीति ...(व्यवधान)... कैपिटल की राजनीति है। ...(समय की घंटी)... आप 2024 का सपना भी मत देखिए। ...(समय की घंटी)... मैं आपको इतना बता रहा हूँ। आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: अब मैं मूवर को बुलाऊंगा। श्री के.के. रागेश। नॉट प्रेजेंट। The House will not wait for him. Okay, he has come. Shri K.K. Ragesh, you are the Mover. आप ब्रीफली एक दो प्वाइंट्स कहें। नाम पुकारने पर आपको हाउस में ही रहना है। Be very brief.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): I am sorry, Sir.

While moving the Bill, the hon. Minister expressed surprise as I had moved a Statutory Resolution opposing the Ordinance. At the very beginning itself, I had said that I am not opposed to the banning of e-cigarettes. Not only e-cigarettes but also cigarettes or any other contaminant, I am really in favour of banning those things. But, here, the basic issue is that we are not living in an Ordinance-raj. We are living in a democracy. Sir, when can an Ordinance be used? Ordinances are being used only to meet urgent demands of extraordinary situations. What is the extraordinary situation? If extraordinary situation is prevailing, it is applicable to liquor, it is applicable to cigarettes, it is applicable to *beedis* and various

[Shri K.K. Ragesh]

other objects and it is applicable to all such objects. Then, why, all of a sudden, did the Government ban e-cigarettes through an Ordinance? That is the basic issue. This House had time and again discussed the way in which the Government is promulgating Ordinances. In 2014, the Government had promulgated an Ordinance to overturn certain significant benefits guaranteed by Land Acquisition law. This House must take note of that. It was again re-promulgated not only once but it was re-promulgated four times. The Government could not make it as a law.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Rageshji, be brief.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Why is there such kind of a move on the part of the Government to depend on Ordinances? An Ordinance is a tool which can be used during the extraordinary situations but, unfortunately, the Government is making it a regular practice. It is, in fact, undermining the importance of this august House. Also, the Government is not taking the august House into confidence. I would request the Government not to bring Ordinances in future. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I would call the hon. Minister. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH (Madhya Pradesh): Sir, with your permission, I would like to only make two points. I would just take one minute. मंत्री जी, आप हमें इतना भर बता दीजिए, I am a non-smoker, कि अगर सिगरेट पिऊँ, तो वह ज्यादा harmful नहीं है, पी सकते हैं; जर्दा खाएँ, तो खा सकते हैं; गुटरखा खाएँ, तो खा सकते हैं, लेकिन electronic cigarette में ऐसी कौन सी बात है, जिसकी वजह से आपको इतना बड़ा कानून बनाना पड़ रहा है? जैसा कि मेरे पूर्व वक्ता ने कहा है, इसमें कहीं न कहीं कोई रहस्य छुपा हुआ है। जो छुपा हुआ रहस्य है, आप उसको उजागर कर दें, हम इतना ही कहना चाहते हैं। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसा कौन सा रहस्य छुपा हुआ है? इसलिए मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ। धन्यवाद।

DR. K. KESHAVARAO: Sir, I have just one point. The question is, we are discussing two issues. One is Statutory Resolution, then, the Bill. So the Minister must first answer the Statutory Resolution and then take the Bill.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): Sir, first of all, I wish to thank all the hon. Members. As per my information, about 28 Members spoke on this Bill. Prof. M. V. Rajeev Gowda, Dr. Vikas Mahatme, Shri Ripun Bora, Shri Md. Nadimul Haque, Shrimati Vijila Sathyananth, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, Shri Prashanta Nanda, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Dr. K. Keshava Rao, Shri K.

Somaprasad, Shri Tiruchi Siva, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Shri Sushil Kumar Gupta, Shri R. K. Sinha, Shri B. K. Hariprasad, Dr. Santanu Sen, Dr. Amar Patnaik, Shri Rajaram, Shri Ajay Pratap Singh, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.), Shri P. L. Punia, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, Shri T. G. Venkatesh, Shri Binoy Viswam, Shri Harshvardhan Singh Dungarpur, Shri Husain Dalwai and, finally, Shri K. K. Ragesh. Sir, I have to thank all of them for two reasons. By and large, all of them have supported the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SOME HON. MEMBERS: No, no.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Okay, you have objections to a couple of things. That, I would also mention. Do not worry. Not all of you have supported the Bill. Some people have not supported but the general feeling has been that e-cigarettes are harmful and they must be banned. The complaint has been that why we are banning e-cigarettes and not banning the regular cigarettes, the tobacco, the *pan masala*, *zarda* and all those things. Then, the objection has been as to why we have brought an Ordinance to it. I think, when I spoke during the introduction of the Bill, before the debate had started, I apprised this House why we brought this Ordinance. I had described all the facts of the last one year in a chronological order.

Since the Members have raised that issue again today that why this Ordinance, I have to start with again repeating even at the cost of repetition, the same facts why we were, in fact, forced to bring an Ordinance. Regarding the other aspects, we have to again go back to the history of all these tobacco legislations and tobacco-control activities in the country, which I will have to again talk in detail because I had said that in a country as vast as India, you see once a particular product has a very big consumer base and social acceptance, it is, in fact, very, very difficult to ban it. I remember that in 2014 itself, I had reminded this House that I was the first one who brought an anti-tobacco, anti-smoking legislation in this country in 1996-97 when I was the Health Minister in Delhi for which the Supreme Court had, at that time said that similar legislation should be enacted by all the assemblies in the country. You know that it was all followed with the FCTC activity at WHO level where almost in the initial stages, 170 countries signed an agreement to fight tobacco menace together. COTPA was enacted, from time to time, amendments have been done in COTPA and, then also, it is the efforts that have been made by various Governments in the past on anti-tobacco measures by introducing these warnings and educating people, strengthening the 'Quitline', etc., where we have right now on the Quitline itself, we have 2.5 lakh calls per month. In 2014 itself, I remember that I wrote a letter to the Agriculture Minister of our own Cabinet that together we should work to ensure that we do some good

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scientific research and also we work to develop some alternate mechanisms for those farmers who are involved in tobacco farming. This letter, I don't know how it got into the media and as soon as it got into the media, I remember, I got so many delegations of our own Parliament Members accompanied by farmers from various States where they are growing tobacco. Then, when I did the 85 per cent warning on the cigarette packets on October 15, 2014, again, I received so many representations. So, I have to tell this House that honestly. I will be the happiest man in this country when we will see the day when every tobacco product or cigarette will be banned totally. You all have been in Government. You have been in Government for ten years. I think before Shri Digvijaya Singh asked me or my dear respected friend Shri Jairam Ramesh asked me, they also have to tell us what they are asking us to do right now; banning everything! On one hand, you are saying that once you do a ban, it is difficult to enforce it and why are you banning it? On the other hand, you are asking us to ban everything possible with tobacco, tobacco products and smokeless tobacco, things and all. And, you also have to tell us why did you not ban everything in totality when you were in power from 2004 to 2014. And, then also, in the last 70 years, you have been in power for almost 60 years. ...*(Interruptions)*... We have been in power just for ten years and in these ten years also, I will tell you that Shri Atalji was the first one who got this COTPA thing, and he got the FCTC signed. I mentioned on that day also that I was part of that function in 2002 in New Delhi when the late Ram Jethmalaniji was the Law Minister. And, he says that he was in Geneva at that time. Dr. Brundtland herself came. She was the DG, WHO. She was the former Prime Minister of Norway and we initiated this effort. Right now, in all strategies on handling or fighting the tobacco menace and the tobacco lobby, they are being discussed at the international level. It is like international human rights. People are fighting it together. The whole world is fighting it together and in that fight against tobacco, India ranks amongst the top-most countries, which are following what is decided in FCTC or what is supposed to be implemented. This is also one of the recommendations of the FCTC to ensure that we ban e-cigarettes. As I said that day, once you have a very huge consumer base, we are not able to do it for alcohol, we are not able to do it for tobacco, we are not able to do it for cigarettes, for so many things because 28 per cent of the people are involved with that. There are so many issues about so many people employed with that system. There are the tobacco farming issues. Scientifically, the joint fight at the world-level is being opposed tooth and nail by the tobacco lobby itself in various courts. But, still, the whole country and the whole world is fighting it together. It is not so easy and I will enumerate what we have done about handling this tobacco menace in the whole country. People are attributing all sorts of motives like we are being governed by the

tobacco lobby. All my life, I have fought against the tobacco lobby. I told the House the other day that I got the highest international award of WHO in 1998 for that. So you should not have any suspicion about our intentions. Our intentions are absolutely pious and very clear that we want to nip this problem in the bud itself, since the very fact that only 0.02 per cent of the children are involved. And the other day I apprised this House that there was an epidemic in America itself where 49 out of the 50 States were involved. Over 2, 000 children got lung disease and 42 of them died. In Delhi itself, in a surprise raid, we found, in one school, 150 vaping devices in the bags of the students. So many other statistics I had enumerated that day. But then I come back to the fact why we were forced to bring this Ordinance. You again have to have a look at these facts. In August, 2018, a PIL was filed in the Delhi High Court in the matter of Seema Sehgal *versus* Union of India and the Court had directed the Ministry to state its policy regarding measures about the emerging threats of e-cigarettes. On 28th August, 2018, the Ministry issued an advisory advising States and UTs to ban e-cigarettes except as may be approved under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. Hence, no sale unless approved in the wake of therapeutic claims being made by the e-cigarette companies. In March, 2019, this year itself, the Delhi High Court ruled that e-cigarettes are not drugs and it stayed further action. On 31st May, 2019, ICMR issued a White Paper on e-cigarettes suggesting a complete ban on e-cigarettes in view of their adverse public health impact. The matter was listed on 22nd August again, but got deferred to 18th November. In August itself, there were instances of vaping-related deaths in America about which I mentioned just now and they were on an epidemic scale. On 11th September, the US Government itself decided to take flavoured e-cigarettes off the shelf and imposed many restrictions. Simultaneously, the other day I had told you that the Ministry was also cognisant of the announced entry of Juul from end of December, 2019 in this country. This is a global giant, which would have taken up the Indian market by storm. The need of the hour was an immediate preventive action and that is why on 18th September, we promulgated this Ordinance. This was decided since regulation had not succeeded in checking the scare in other countries such as U.S., and India has a large young population. I told the other day that amongst these young people, over 96 per cent of them are non-smokers from age 15 to 23.

And this is the four per cent young population. This is the young population which would have been targeted by the e-cigarette companies. People are saying that cigarette companies are going to be benefitted; tobacco lobby is going to be benefitted; I don't know. But, I have to tell you on record the names of the companies. You see, these are the same tobacco companies. Now, with a different name, the same tobacco companies, with

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same people, they now, in fact, are promoting e-cigarettes. They are saying 'that to quit smoking, we are propagating e-cigarettes.' That is the logic that is being given, and all types of electronic devices with nicotine and non-nicotine products, with all types of fragrances, and all those things which nobody can detect, and it is very likely an easier way for children to get addicted to because their parents will not know about it; no one in the society can really judge if they have smoked. Otherwise, if you smoke, within a second, others can diagnose that he is a smoker. So, I must put on record that globally, smoking levels are on a decline due to the sustained tobacco control efforts of the whole world. Of course, India also is included. And then, tobacco companies are facing a strict regulation in respect of combustible tobacco products. They are now venturing into the e-cigarettes to regain the market. First company is the Philip Morris International which produces the cigarette, Marlboro. Industry jargons are now saying, these are 'Reduced-Risk Products.' This is what they have named them. And the ENDS is named like, Nicocigs and Juul companies and HTPs is IQOS. Then, there is the British American Tobacco Company which produces Dunhill cigarette. They are saying that we are giving next generation products, NGPs, and ENDS was with a new company. HTPs is an imperial tobacco. Smokers may be more familiar with these names. Industry jargon is NGPs again. The ENDS is BLU, JAI, Puritane and HTPs is Pulse. Then, the Japan Tobacco International, Benson and Hedges and Camel is the cigarette brand, and again, they are saying 'Reduced Risk Products', logic cig, e-lites and Plum.

PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA (Karnataka): Sir, the Minister has already stated these things when he moved the Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)...

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I am putting this on record because I want to apprise this House that these are same tobacco companies which are producing the cigarettes. It is not just coming from China, what some hon. Member said here in the debate. They are being produced by the big tobacco companies. Now, because of the joint fight of the whole world, there is a decline in the tobacco incidence, use of cigarettes and other things. Our hon. Member on the other side also said that because of all these efforts, there is a decline. Now, because of that decline, they are resorting to these newer means. They started with the tobacco thing also in a similar manner. They tried to induce this habit amongst young people saying that it is a sign of modernity; it is a sign of fashion; it is a sign of smartness and all that, and they used the film industry also at that time, some two, three, four decades back. So, I think, we are absolutely sure that there is no intention of the Government; there is no vested interest; there is no ulterior motive, and we are not guided by the tobacco

companies. If somebody for the sake of political debate says anything, well, he can say whatever he wants to say. But, we have done it with the most sincere and most pious intention. And as I said on that day, for us, I think, it is very important to take care of the health of the children in particular. I had mentioned that day also that because Rajeev Gowda had said that there is a British study and all. About the British study also, I will say what does the world feel about that. Even if it is 95 per cent safe, even if I agree that the British studies are correct, less harmful does not mean harmless. Anything that is causing an epidemic of the type which can take forty-two lives in a country like America means something. I will not wait for the next Rajya Sabha or Lok Sabha Session. I will do my best to nip the thing in the bud itself. All the cardio-vascular systems, strokes, respiratory systems, affecting adolescent brains, seizures, cancers, pregnancy related ones, oral tissues, etc., there is a huge list of adverse health effects that happen because of this. As I said that day also, it is not that we are fond of bringing Ordinances. Bringing Ordinances does not give us pleasure, as the people think. The Ordinance was the need of the hour and that is why we did it. We followed it up with concrete actions immediately. We issued letters immediately on the 19th, the very next day, and on 24th of the same month and requested all the State and U.T. Governments, the DGs of Police of all the States and U.Ts and the stakeholder Ministries/Departments of Electronics and Information Technology, Revenue, Commerce and Industry, Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Home Affairs, Shipping, Road and Transport, Information and Broadcasting, Civil Aviation, Consumer Affairs, Fertilizers, Chemicals and Petrochemicals, Human Resource Development and others to take necessary steps for the implementation of the provisions of the Ordinance. We started doing that from the very next day. That itself shows our sincerity and commitment for it. We were not promulgating the Ordinance for the sake of any tobacco company.

A video conference was held within four days. It was on 23rd September, by the Secretary, with all the Chief Secretaries, DGPs, Principal Secretaries of Health. The Sub-Inspector of Police is the authorized officer to conduct search and seizure. Hence, DGPs were requested for implementation of the Ordinance. Some Members raised concerns about some Clauses. Everything is according to CPC and other laws of the country. Again, stakeholders' meetings was held on 26th September and 29th September with the Ministries/Departments. The Ministry of Commerce issued a notification banning import of e-cigarettes on 26th September, within seven days. The Ministry of Commerce issued another notification on 30th September. The Ministry of Home Affairs also issued letters dated 7th October and 19th of November to the Chief Secretaries of all State Governments. It was requested that confidence building and sensitization of enforcement personnel may be

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done for effective implementation of the Ordinance. This is the level at which we acted. It was not just the Health Ministry. The whole Government was behind this move. We wanted to implement it because we knew that big companies had planned everything. They had appointed the people here, in India. They were just going to start their manufacture and related things in the country.

The Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development issued a letter to the regulatory authorities—like UGC, CBSE and AICTE—to create awareness on the Ordinance. We were, simultaneously, trying to handle students and professional colleges. You know that already over sixteen States and Union Territories have banned the whole thing. The State Governments have requested the DGs of Police to take necessary action for implementation of the Ordinance. The first offence was reported from Goa police station after the promulgation of the Ordinance. The police team seized 166 e-cigarettes, e-Hookahs, chargers, batteries and other accessories. The shop owner was arrested but subsequently released on bail on production of surety. I have to apprise this House about one thing. We are not talking about the ultimate.

But we have not been sitting silent. We have done so many things. E-cigarettes are not tobacco products. We must appreciate that. These are a distinct and new product class and therefore, any comparison between e-cigarettes and conventional cigarettes is thoroughly misplaced and misconceived. Such narrative generally is propounded by industry to portray these products as safer or much harmless options for conventional smoking. We have to be careful not to fall in this trap. Nevertheless, some of the colleagues have alleged that the Government is not doing enough for tobacco control. I must remove all such misplaced apprehensions. I told this august House that we started with legislation in Delhi in 1997. This was followed by the Government of Goa at that time and there was an intervention by the Supreme Court. In 2003, India had its first comprehensive Tobacco Control Law, the COTPA. It was one of the most comprehensive tobacco control laws consistent with the best international practices in tobacco control. That was under Atal Behari Vajpayee, our dear former Prime Minister. In 2004, India became a party to WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control. One hundred eighty one countries were members. The COTPA provided for ban on sale to minors, ban on sale within hundred yards of an educational institution, ban on smoking in a public place, ban on advertising and display of pictorial warnings which we increased up to 85 per cent in 2014. India is one of the world leaders right now acknowledged by everyone, in tobacco control efforts. Taking a decisive measure against e-cigarettes is just another example of our willingness to anticipate challenges

and making timely interventions. I will also be talking about some recent steps since Narendra Modi ji took over. We increased the size of pictorial warnings from 40 per cent to 85 per cent and from 136th position in the whole world, we rose to number one position amongst the whole world on 15th of October, 2014. The pictorial and warnings have graphic images, the text messages and the national tobacco quitline number. The capacity of the quitline got expanded in September, 2018. The quitline services are now available in 16 languages and other local dialects from four centres. The number of calls on quitline before expansion was 20, 500 per month, which has increased to, as I said earlier, 2.50 lakh calls per month after the expansion. We have also regulated the depiction of tobacco use in films and television programmes and you would all appreciate that India is a global leader in this initiative now. The Ministry has issued revised guidelines for tobacco free educational institutions and is also working towards making all institutions tobacco-free. The Nirman Bhawan is now a tobacco-free building and similar efforts are on to convert all office buildings too into tobacco-free buildings. India acceded to the protocol for checking illicit trade in tobacco products under Article 15 of the WHO FCTC. Under the protocol we are committed to set up a track and trace mechanism for tobacco products in the country. Special drives are undertaken for enforcement of COTPA on a periodic basis. In 2017-18 itself, there were 3, 54, 907 cases under COTPA and in 2018-19, there were 3, 24, 609 cases. The National Health Policy 2017 which was drafted and notified under our Government in the last five years has many ambitious goals. For example, the goal of ending Tuberculosis by 2025, five years ahead of the SDG targets. For tobacco control too, we have set an ambitious target of reducing tobacco use by 30 per cent by 2025. Sir, I may also inform you that before this, we did public consultations also by inviting comments of the general public. Out of 12, 504 representations that we had received, 10, 566 people strongly favoured the ban. I had, the other day, mentioned about 42 countries which have already banned.

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO: Sir, the hon. Minister must know. The hon. Minister of State for Health said, in a reply to a question, that they don't know the e-cigarette.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: But, those who don't know, I still offer. You can come to Nirman Bhavan, I will show it to you. Rules do not permit them to be shown here.

DR. K. KDSHAVA RAO: Sir, the written reply of your Minister says, 'hardly anybody knows about electronic cigarette.'

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, if someone has not seen an e-cigarette is not a big crime.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, आपने introduction में बहुत चीज़ें बताई थीं, अब आप brief में बताएं।

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, a number of hon. Members have raised the issue as to why are we not banning the use or possession of e-cigarettes. I have a couple of explanations for that. The intent of the legislation is not to criminalize citizens who themselves are sufferers at the hands of such products. This is number one. The intent of the legislation is to ban any kind of trade in e-cigarettes in the interest of public health with a comprehensive ban on production, manufacture, export, import, transport, sale and distribution of e-cigarettes. They would simply not be available for use by consumers. The existing *bona fide* users, as on date of Ordinance, needed to be given protection from prosecution. With no refills, cartridges of e-liquid being available, the users will not be able to use e-cigarettes any further.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, kindly be brief now.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I will stop the moment you ask me to stop.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, no. Please, be brief now and sum up. ...(*Interruptions*)... Please conclude now. My request is, please conclude now.

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, we have raised specific questions. Let the hon. Minister reply to them. He had given a good speech on that day.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I have a reply to every question raised by the hon. Member. If all the 27 hon. Members want specific reply on what they have raised, I can start with that. But, if the sense of the House is that I must stop, I will stop.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, even at the cost of repetition, I may say that there is enough evidence available now that e-cigarettes are very, very harmful. They can become a bigger menace than tobacco one day. So, the intention of the Government has been to nip the problem in the bud itself. We have had enough international experience on this issue. It is a fact that we have been grappling with tobacco menace for so many years. This country waited almost for fifty years to start doing something concrete about it. We should not, with such experience and with that much of suffering because of tobacco menace, leave it like that. Sir, I myself is an ENT surgeon and practiced actively for many years. I have operated upon so many patients who came to me with oral cancer, because of use of

tobacco and all such things. I know how big is this, how troublesome it is for the family and how much misery it is for the family. So, anything which is not in the larger interest of health of nation and people, particularly children, I think, there should not be any delay in taking action on that. I am very happy that all the hon. Members are saying why are we not banning tobacco totally. I am saying it again on record that I will be the happiest man in this country the day it will be done. I don't know when it will be done, when it will be possible, when it will be successful, when the country and society will accept it. But, ultimately, we are unanimous about the fact that we are concerned about the health of society. I could, at least, have this much sense from the House.

With these few words, I would appeal to this House to please pass this Bill in the larger interest of health of children unanimously.

DR. K. KESHAVARAO: What you have said is that production is banned, manufacturing is banned, distribution is banned, export is banned, transportation is banned. If somebody throws it somewhere and I pick it up and smoke it, then, it is not banned! ...*(Interruptions)*... It is there. I am only quoting it from the Bill. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Keshava Rao ji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K. KESHAVARAO: If I use e-cigarette, I am not prohibited. What's the answer to that? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall, now, first put the Resolution, moved by Shri K.K. Ragesh, to vote. The question is:

“That this House disapproves the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarettes (Production, Manufacture, Import, Export, Transport, Sale, Distribution, Storage and Advertisement) Ordinance, 2019 (No.14 of 2019) promulgated by the President of India on 18th September, 2019.”

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall, now, put the motion, moved by Dr. Harsh Vardhan to vote. The question is:

“That the Bill to prohibit the production, manufacture, import, export, transport, sale, distribution, storage and advertisement of electronic cigarettes in the interest of public health to protect the people from harm and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we shall take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 3, there are two Amendments; Amendments (Nos. 1 and 2) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, in the definition of 'advertisement', I suggest, apart from print or electronic media, 'body sign' should also be included in the visual publicity. I am not moving it.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there is one Amendment (No. 3) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, in clause 4, my Amendment is to include the word 'display' apart from transport or selling of the electronic cigarettes. I am not moving it.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clause 5 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 6, there is one Amendment (No. 4) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY : Sir, in Clause 6, my Amendment is that search and seizure should be done only after obtaining a search warrant from the First Class Magistrate of the area. This would ensure that over-action or high-handedness of the police authorities do not take place. This point may be kept in mind by the hon. Minister. I am not moving it.

Clause 6 was added to the Bill.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 8, there is one Amendment (No. 5) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, in Clause 8, my amendment is to increase the fine to rupees one lakh instead of rupees fifty thousand, which is not a strong deterrent for the offenders. I am not moving it.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 9 to 18 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now Special Mentions. Shri P. Wilson; not present. Shri CM. Ramesh; not present. Dr. Ashok Bajpai.

Demand to encourage zero budget natural farming

डा. अशोक बाजपेयी (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, हरित क्रान्ति के साथ ही कृषि भूमि के अधिकाधिक दोहन के उद्देश्य को पूरा करने के लिए बिना किसी मृदा जांच आदि के रासायनिक उर्वरकों एवं कीटनाशकों के उपयोग से हमारी मृदा संरचना को विकृत और कृषि उपज का प्रदूषित होना शुरू हो गया था, जिसे सुधारने के लिए कृषि विश्वविद्यालयों द्वारा गैर रासायनिक कृषि की ओर कोई ठोस पहल नहीं की गई। मिस्टर पालेकर के अनुसार जीरो बजट नेचुरल फार्मिंग एक ऐसी प्राकृतिक विधा है जो हमारी कृषि भूमि की मृदा संरचना एवं उर्वरता को बढ़ाते हुए कृषि उपज को रासायनिक रूप से प्रदूषित होने से भी बचाता है। जिस प्रकार मानव जीवन के लिए आयुर्वेद एवं प्राकृतिक चिकित्सा आदिकाल से ही बिना किसी साइड इफेक्ट के लाभकारी सिद्ध हो रही है, उसी प्रकार जीरो बजट नेचुरल फार्मिंग फसलों एवं पौधों के लिए पूर्णतया सुरक्षित विधा है, जिसमें गोमूत्र, गोमल, नीमखली घोल, नीम पत्ती घोल, गुड़ और छाछ आदि के उपयोग से बीज शोधन से लेकर पौध संरक्षण तक किया जा सकता है। एक गाय के गोमूत्र एवं गोमल से कई एकड़ फसल को संरक्षित किया जा सकता है। इसके उपयोग के अलावा मल्टिंग, मिक्स क्रापिंग, ड्रिप इर्रिगेशन आदि से भूमि की उर्वरा शक्ति बढ़ाने के साथ ही भूमिगत जल के उपयोग को भी घटाया जा सकता है। चूंकि सरकार ने किसानों को सॉयल हेल्थ कार्ड उपलब्ध कराया है, अतः मृदा उर्वरा आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप जीरो बजट नेचुरल फार्मिंग का उपयोग किया जा सकता है। इस प्रकार से उत्पादित कृषि उपज का भाव साधारण उत्पाद की अपेक्षा काफी अधिक होता है, जिससे किसान की आय भी बढ़ेगी।

Demand to accord assent to the Dunlop India Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2016, and the Jessop and Company Limited (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Bill 2016

MS. DOLA SEN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the Jessop and Co. Ltd., a closed and sick company, was engaged in production of railway wagons, EMU coaches, etc. The Government of India had disinvested 74 per cent stake in the company in favour of Ruia Group in 2003. The hon. High Court, Kolkata, issued an order dated 6.3.17 for winding up of the company, and the company is now under the possession of the official liquidator. The issue of Dunlop India Ltd., is also likewise. In order to ameliorate the sufferings of its workmen and employees, and to address the public interest by reviving the company, the Government of West Bengal passed the Jessop & Co. Ltd. (Acquisition & Transfer of Undertaking) Bill, 2016. The Governor of West Bengal forwarded the Bill to the Government of India in March, 2016, for assent of the hon. President of India.

In order to save the employees from going into destitution and starvation of their families, the Government of West Bengal decided to pay a special ex-gratia and the ESI contribution to the employees since February, 2016. The Government of India has been seeking an array of clarifications from the State Government over the last three-and-a-half years, and the State Government has been providing all such clarifications. Unfortunately and unexpectedly, even after three years of discussion with the Government of India, the President's assent has not been granted for Jessop & Co. till date and has refused grant for Dunlop India Ltd.

The Government of India must reconsider for Dunlop India Ltd. and also open dialogue with the State Government of West Bengal for revival of Dunlop India Ltd. The Government of India must facilitate hon. President's assent for the sake of huge number of workers and revival of Jessop Co. Ltd. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Chhaya Verma; absent. Then, Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena.

Demand to refer the matter relating to share asked by Rajasthan and Haryana in power generation to the Supreme Court

डा. किरोड़ी लाल मीणा (राजस्थान): महोदय, राजस्थान एवं हरियाणा के मुख्यमंत्री तथा पंजाब के राज्यपाल के मध्य दिनांक 10-05-1984 को रोपड़ थर्मल पावर स्टेशन को कूलिंग जल आपूर्ति एवं आनन्दपुर साहिब हाईडल परियोजना शुरू करने के बारे में एक अनुबंध हुआ, जिसके अनुसार

आनन्दपुर साहिब हाईडल परियोजना, मुकेरियन हाईडल परियोजना, थीन बांध परियोजना, यूबीडीसी स्टेज-द्वितीय एवं शाहपुर कांडी हाईडल परियोजना से हरियाणा एवं राजस्थान राज्य द्वारा विद्युत उत्पादन में हिस्सा मांगने के संदर्भ में यह स्वीकार किया गया कि भारत सरकार इस प्रकरण को उच्चतम न्यायालय में राय हेतु प्रस्तुत करेगी एवं उच्चतम न्यायालय से प्राप्त राय सभी राज्य, जिनके मध्य अनुबंध हुआ है, को प्रेषित की जायेगी जो कि उन्हें मान्य होगी।

भारत सरकार द्वारा माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय को उसकी राय जानने हेतु दावा अभी तक नहीं भेजा गया है और न ही राजस्थान को केन्द्रीय विद्युत उपक्रमों के अनावंटित कोटे में से समझौते के अनुसार अतिरिक्त विद्युत आवंटित की गई है।

भारत सरकार से निवेदन है कि विद्युत उत्पादन में राजस्थान व हरियाणा द्वारा मांगे गये हिस्से के संबंध में प्रकरण को दिनांक 10-05-1984 के समझौते के अनुसार उच्चतम न्यायालय को रेफर किया जाये व न्यायालय से प्राप्त राय को सभी पक्षकार राज्यों को भेजा जाये।

भारत सरकार से निवेदन है कि शाहपुर कांडी बैराज का निष्पादन एवं कंट्रोल बीबीएमबी या भारत सरकार की किसी स्वतंत्र संस्था द्वारा किया जाये।

उच्चतम न्यायालय से प्राप्त राय के लंबित होने की स्थिति में, भारत सरकार द्वारा राजस्थान और हरियाणा को केन्द्रीय संयंत्रों के अनावंटित हिस्से से भी आवंटित किये गये हिस्सों से अतिरिक्त विद्युत आवंटित की जाये।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. Santanu Sen; not present. Shri Rajmani Patel.

Demand to include caste details of OBCs in Census 2021

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, भारत में ओ.बी.सी. की आबादी 52 प्रतिशत है। यह अलग-अलग प्रदेशों में अलग-अलग प्रतिशत है। भारत में अंतिम जातिगत जनगणना 1931 में हुई थी। 1996-97 में भी जातिगत जनगणना का निर्णय लिया गया था, लेकिन अमल नहीं हो पाया। 2010 में भी सभी पार्टी के सांसदों की मांग पर आश्वासन मिला था, जिसके तहत आंकड़े भी जुटाए गए, लेकिन जातिगत आंकड़े ग्रामीण विकास विभाग द्वारा जुटाए गए थे, जिसे उच्च स्तरीय समिति ने औचित्यहीन मानकर अमान्य कर दिया, उसे प्रकाशित ही नहीं किया गया।

सही आंकड़ों के अभाव में ओ.बी.सी. समुदाय के लोगों को जनसंख्या के अनुपात में संविधान की भावना और प्रावधानों के तहत शिक्षा नौकरी तथा अन्य क्षेत्रों में आरक्षण तथा अन्य लाभ नहीं मिल पाता तथा राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में भी पर्याप्त प्रतिनिधित्व देने में अनेक कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है।

जातिगत जनगणना से सरकार को आर्थिक, सामाजिक, शैक्षणिक तथा राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में ओ.बी.सी. की भागीदारी सुनिश्चित करने के लिए मदद मिलेगी तथा सभी वर्गों को निष्पक्षता, न्यायप्रियता और देश के सामन्जस्यपूर्ण विकास का अवसर प्राप्त होगा।

6.00 P.M.

[श्री राजमणि पटेल]

मैं भारत सरकार, विशेषकर प्रधान मंत्री जी एवं गृह मंत्री जी से अनुरोध करना चाहता हूँ कि जातिगत जनगणना एडिशनल कॉलम आफ कास्ट को, सेन्सस फार्मेट में जोड़ा जाए तथा जनगणना का कार्य रजिस्ट्रार जनरल और भारत के जनगणना आयुक्त, गृह मंत्रालय द्वारा कराया जाए।

SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD (Karnataka): Sir, I would like to associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

श्री उपसभापति: राजमणि पटेल जी, धन्यवाद। मैं माननीय राम नाथ ठाकुर जी को आमंत्रित करूँ, इसके पहले मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि 6 बज चुके हैं। मैं मानता हूँ कि इस पर हाउस की सहमति है कि हम स्पेशल मेंशंस होने तक बैठें।

कुछ माननीय सदस्य: जी हाँ।

**Demand for modifications in the Ayushman
Bharat Scheme**

श्री राम नाथ ठाकुर (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, 'आयुष्मान भारत योजना' भारत सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी योजना है, जिसका लक्ष्य दुर्बल आय वर्ग के लोगों को गम्भीर बीमारियों के उपचार के लिए पाँच लाख तक वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करना है। इस योजना के लागू होने के बाद गरीबी रेखा से नीचे वाले लोगों को यह उम्मीद हुई कि अब उन्हें गम्भीर बीमारियों के इलाज के लिए अपना घर-बार नहीं बेचना पड़ेगा और सरकार उनके इलाज का बोझ वहन करेगी। इस योजना का फायदा भी हुआ है। सरकारी आँकड़े यह बताते हैं कि करोड़ों लोगों ने इस योजना का लाभ लिया है तथा गम्भीर बीमारियों का इलाज कराया है। लेकिन इसमें एक कमी है, जो गम्भीर है और सरकार को उसे दूर करना चाहिए। यदि किसी बीमारी में इलाज के खर्च की सीमा पाँच लाख तक है, तब तो रोगी इस योजना के तहत इलाज करा सकता है, लेकिन यदि डॉक्टर या अस्पताल ने पाँच लाख रुपये से अधिक का प्राक्कलन बना दिया, तो रोगी इस योजना के तहत इलाज नहीं करा सकता है। उसे सरकार की दूसरी योजना, 'राष्ट्रीय आरोग्य निधि' के तहत भी लाभ नहीं मिल सकता है, क्योंकि उसके पास आयुष्मान भारत कार्ड है। हम सभी जानते हैं कि कैंसर जैसी कई अन्य बीमारियों में इलाज का खर्च काफी ज्यादा होता है। अतः इसका इलाज 'आयुष्मान भारत योजना' में तकनीकी कारणों से नहीं हो सकता है।

मैं लोक हित में सरकार से यह माँग करता हूँ कि कृपया इस विसंगति को दूर किया जाए तथा यदि इलाज का खर्च पाँच लाख से अधिक आता है, तो 'राष्ट्रीय आरोग्य निधि' से शेष राशि उपलब्ध कराई जाए।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri P.L. Punia; not present. Shri Husain Dalwai.

***Shortcomings in the Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan
(PM-SYM) Scheme**

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI (Maharashtra): Sir, the Periodic Labour Force Survey 2017-2018, released by MoSPI showcased that 68.4 per cent of all the workers in the relevant sectors were engaged in the informal sector, with the male informal workers accounting for 71.1 per cent, and, female informal workers accounted for 54.8 per cent of the workforce.

Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maan-dhan (PM-SYM) Scheme which is meant to provide social security for unorganized workers, fails to provide relief to all informal sector/unorganized workers. Workers above the age of 40 are not able to benefit from monthly pension, since there is a strict upper limit of the entry age into the scheme which is between the ages of 18 and 40.

Existing social protection policies in India, such as the EPF and ESIC, too fail to protect the informal sector due to the requirement for an organization to have a certain number of employees in order for the employer to provide benefits, thereby reducing their reach to formal workers with long-term prospects.

The Government should also maintain data at the Central level about how many citizens are employed as unorganized employees as categorized by occupation or nature of employment so that better national policies can be devised for them.

I urge the Government to consider the inclusion of specially distressed category such as scavengers in PM-SYM. The Government should also include the unorganized workers above the age of 40 so that they may benefit from social security at old age.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ram Shakal; not present.

The House stands adjourned till 1100 hours on Tuesday, the 3rd December, 2019.

*The House then adjourned at three minutes past
six of the clock till eleven of the clock on
Tuesday, the 3rd December, 2019.*