

Vol. 250

No. 14



सत्यमेव जयते

Thursday,

5 December, 2019

14 Agrahayana, 1941 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT

(FLOOR VERSION)

CONTENTS

Papers laid on the Table (pages 1-5)

Message from Lok Sabha -

The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 2019 – *Laid on the Table* (page 6)

Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers – *Laid on the Table* (page 6)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development – *Laid on the Table* (pages 6-7)

Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources – *Laid on the Table* (page 7)

Observations by the Chair (pages 7-9)—

Regarding a suggestion made by a Member for taking up a Short Duration Discussion or a Calling Attention Motion (pages 9-12)

Oral Answers to Questions (pages 12-95)

Written Answers to Starred Questions (pages 96-106)

Written Answers to Unstarred Questions (pages 106-402)

Regarding a matter related to the other House (pages 402-406)

Submission by Members (pages 406-409)

©

RAJYA SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

PRICE : ₹ 100.00

Statutory Resolution —

Regarding Disapproving the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 – *Negatived*
(pages 410-462)

Government Bill —

The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 – *Returned* (pages 410-462)

Special Mentions —

Demand to include Nepali language as a subject at Senior Secondary level
(pages 462-463)

Demand to give relaxation in taxation to Cooperative Societies (page 463)

Demand to implement Old Pension Scheme in place of New Pension Scheme for
Government employees (pages 463-464)

Demand for higher contribution of centre towards capacity building of Civil Defence
in the State of Odisha (pages 464-465)

Demand to take measures for conservation of Konark Sun Temple (pages 465-466)

Need for reforms against forceful acquisition of agricultural land (page 466)

Demand to settle service matters pertaining to the Central Institute for Buddhist
Studies, Leh-Ladakh (pages 466-467)

Concern over omission of tourism sites in Odisha from the list of 17 iconic tourism
sites (page 467)

Need to increase efficiency of Indian Judicial System (page 468)

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

RAJYA SABHA

Thursday, the 5th December, 2019/14 Agrahayana 1941 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of various organisations and related papers

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT; AND THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Central Wool Development Board (CWDB), Jodhpur, Rajasthan, 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. 1127/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Wool & Woollens Export Promotion Council (W&WEPC), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1126/17/19]

- (iii) (a) Fifty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Wool Research Association (WRA), Thane, Maharashtra, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1125/17/19]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Wool Industry Export Promotion Council (WOOLTEXPRO), Mumbai, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1128/17/19]

- (v) (a) Thirty-sixth Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council (ISEPC), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1124/17/19]

MR. CHAIRMAN: In one line, you just say what that is.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: I beg your pardon, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: in one line, you just say what is it about, the papers you are laying.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Would you like me to describe it, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: In only one line, if you can.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Just a minute, Sir.

श्री सभापति: उसका हृदय क्या है? ...(*Interruptions*)... No comments.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I am laying papers on behalf of the Ministry of Textiles, which is what is listed under the Papers to be laid on the Table today. Sir, I am grateful if Shri Jairam Ramesh can also look at the papers supplied to him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Rao Inderjit Singh.

Report and Accounts (2018-19) of ISI, Kolkata and related papers

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Eighty-seventh Annual Report of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19.
- (b) Eighty-seventh Annual Accounts of the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19 and the Audit Report thereon.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 174/17/19]

MR. CHAIRMAN: On what? अभी तक यह पद्धति थी। कल से जो भी यहां कागज या पत्र रखने हैं, उसके बारे में एक लाइन में उसका हृदय क्या है, उसका विषय क्या है, यह बताना है। डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह। डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह जी को मौका दिया है, तो वे उसका पूरा हृदय, उसके bottom में और अंदर क्या है, सब बताएंगे।

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

II. Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of various Companies, Institutes and the SCL, SAS Nagar, Punjab and related Papers

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

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (Department of Personnel and Training), Notification No. G.S.R. 519 (E), dated the 23rd July, 2019, publishing the All India Services (Performance Appraisal Report) (Amendment) Rules, 2019, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1084/17/19]

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

- (i) (a) Fifty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL), Hyderabad, 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. 1078/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Fifty-second Annual Report and Accounts of the Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL), Singhbhum, Jharkhand, 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. 1077/17/19]

- (iii) (a) Sixty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the IREL (India) Limited, 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 Company.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1079/17/19]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Institute for Plasma Research (IPR), Gandhi Nagar, 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. 1081/17/19]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Harish-Chandra Research Institute (HRI), Allahabad, 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. 1080/17/19]

- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), SAS Nagar, Punjab, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. L.T. 1083/17/19]

Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of RIS, New Delhi and related Papers

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

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Organization.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1086/17/19]

Reports and Accounts (2018-19) of NSTFDC, New Delhi and TRIFED, New Delhi and related papers

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती रेणुका सिंह सरुता): महोदय, मैं निम्नलिखित पत्र सभा पटल पर रखती हूँ:-

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

- (a) Eighteenth Annual Report and Accounts of the National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC), New Delhi, 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. 999/17/19]

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

- (a) Thirty-first Annual Report and Accounts of the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Federation.

[Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 1000/17/19]

MESSAGE FROM LOK SABHA**The Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2019**

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

“In accordance with the provisions of rule 96 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I am directed to enclose the Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 4th December, 2019.

2. The Speaker has certified that this Bill is a Money Bill within the meaning of article 110 of the Constitution of India.”

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

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS**

SHRI G. C. CHANDRASHEKHAR (Karnataka): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the First Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers on the Action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifty-fourth Report of the Committee (2018-19) on ‘Pricing of Drugs with Special Reference to Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013’ of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers (Department of Pharmaceuticals).

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

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा (गुजरात): महोदय, मैं विभाग संबंधित ग्रामीण विकास संबंधी संसदीय स्थायी समिति के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेज़ी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ:-

- (i) First Report on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development);
- (ii) Second Report on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj; and

- (iii) Third Report on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Land Resources).

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON WATER RESOURCES**

SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR (Rajasthan): Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water Resources:—

- (i) First Report on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation); and
- (ii) Second Report on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation).

OBSERVATIONS BY THE CHAIR

श्री सभापति: मित्रों, आप लोगों को याद होगा कि कुछ दिन पहले मैंने सदन में एक विषय के बारे में थोड़ी informal चर्चा करने के लिए एक ग्रुप के बारे में ऐलान किया था और कहा भी था और जयराम रमेश जी को उसको coordinate करने के लिए कहा था। मैंने थोड़ी मात्रा में विषय के बारे में अध्ययन करने के बाद और सदस्यों से मिलने के बाद यह तय किया है कि इसको एक informal group के रूप में, एक महीने का समय दिया जाए। इसमें सदस्यों की इच्छा और सुझाव को ध्यान में रखकर, इस informal ग्रुप में डा. अमर पटनायक, डा. अमी याज्ञिक, श्री देरेक ओब्राईन, श्री जयराम रमेश, श्रीमती जया बच्चन, श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन, श्री राजीव चंद्रशेखर, प्रो. एम.वी. राजीव गौडा, श्रीमती रूपा गांगुली, श्री संजय सिंह, श्री तिरुची शिवा, श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण, श्रीमती विजिला सत्यानंत और डा. विनय पी. सहस्त्रबुद्धे, सदस्य होंगे। अगर और किसी को रुचि है, तो उनसे बातचीत कर सकते हैं।

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, on what subject?

MR. CHAIRMAN: On WhatsApp and Pornography. सिविल सोसायटी ग्रुप से, कम्यूटर इमरजेंसी रिस्पांस टीम वगैरह से, सोशल मीडिया कम्पनीज़ से, बाकी लोगों से आपस में बातचीत करके, ये लोग एक महीने में एक informal group बनायेंगे। बाद में उसके बारे में कैसे करना है, क्या करना है, आगे हम चर्चा करेंगे।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, today, I have convened a meeting of the Chairmen of the Standing Committees and also Standing Committees of this House and had discussions with them about the need to improve further the functioning of these two important bodies.

As the Chairman of this august House empowered with nominating the hon. Members of this House on various Committees of Parliament including the Department-Related Standing Committees, I would like to share my concerns on the functioning of these Committees.

This morning, I have held a meeting with Chairmen, eight Chairmen of the Standing Committees and also with Chairmen of the Standing Committees of this House; one is Standing Committees of both the Houses, the other is of this House. All these Committees have been reconstituted recently. With statistical evidence, I have highlighted low attendance of Members of both the Houses in the meetings of the eight Department-related Standing Committees that are with this House. Standing Committees are no different in this regard.

The Department-related Standing Committees have been conceived as an effective instrument of enabling detailed scrutiny of legislative proposals besides focused and detailed examination of various issues chosen by these Committees for reporting in a bipartisan manner which may not always be possible in both the Houses of Parliament.

The eight Department-related Standing Committees of Rajya Sabha have been reconstituted in September this year and have held a Total of 41 meetings since then. As you are aware, each Committee has 10 members, including the Chairman from this House and 21 from Lok Sabha. An analysis of attendance in all these 41 meetings revealed a very disturbing trend which I shared with the Committees' Chairmen today in the meeting.

On these eight Committees, a Total of 80 Members of Rajya Sabha are represented. Out of these 80 Members, 18 Members have attended all the meetings of respective Committees since September this year; 18 out of 80. Eighteen of the Total 168 Lok Sabha Members represented on these eight Committees have also attended all these meetings; 18 out of 168. I thought that it would be appropriate to mention the names of the Members of this House who attended all the meetings of the Department-related Committees in the august House as a token of appreciation for them and also to motivate others to do so.

The 18 Members of this august House with 100 per cent attendance are: Shri T.G. Venkatesh, Shri Prasanna Acharya and Shri Vinay Dinu Tendulkar of the Committee on

Transport and Tourism; Dr. Satyanarayan Jatiya, Shri Vishambhar Prasad Nishad, Dr. Sasmit Patra, Shri Akhilesh Prasad Singh of the Committee on HRD; Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah and Shri K. Somaprasad of the Committee on Health and Family Welfare; Shri Jairam Ramesh and Shri Ravi Prakash Verma of the Committee on Science and Technology; Shri Anand Sharma and Shri Rakesh Sinha of the Committee on Home Affairs; Dr. K. Keshava Rao and Dr. Amee Yajnik of the Committee on Industry; Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy of the Committee on Commerce; Shri P. Wilson of the Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice.

I expect the Members of this House to be fully present in the meetings of the Committees.

Each Member of the Department-related Standing Committee represents 25 Members of Parliament while deliberating in the Committee. If one Member is absent, the voice of 25 Members would not be heard.

I hence appeal to leaders of all the political parties inside the House, outside also, to ensure quantitative and qualitative functioning of these Committees in whom the Parliament has vested an important responsibility of functioning on its behalf.

I also heard some suggestions given by the Chairmen. I have taken note of it and after consulting the Secretariat, we will be moving ahead. ...*(Interruptions)*...

DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO (Telangana): Sir, most of the names you have mentioned are Chairmen. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes. Agreed. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have noticed it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have also noticed. I have noticed, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI MADHUSUDAN MISTRY (Gujarat): Sir, the Chairmen should not keep the meeting when the House is in session. They keep it either at 10 o'clock or 3 o'clock in the evening. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are not discussing it now. I have informed you. I will keep your suggestions in mind. You can come and give me suggestions also. Yes, Shri Derek O'Brien.

**REGARDING A SUGGESTION MADE BY A MEMBER FOR TAKING UP A SHORT
DURATION DISCUSSION ON A CALLING ATTENTION MOTION**

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): Sir, I seek your indulgence on a double point of order. I would make the first one under Rule 29.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There can be only one point of order; it cannot be double.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, first, Rule 29(1) says, "A List of Business for the day shall be prepared by the Secretary General and a copy thereof shall be made available for the use of every Member." Sir, at the Business Advisory Committee meetings and all the meetings that we have had with you so far, it was decided that on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, besides Legislative Business there would be one day for a Short Duration Discussion or a Calling Attention Motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is known. That is not a point of order. You are making a suggestion or observation.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, the List of Business does not have a Short Duration Discussion this week nor does it have a Calling Attention Motion, and today is the last day of the week. So, when do we get an opportunity...

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have taken note of what you are saying, but there is no point of order in this.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, the point of order is about the List of Business.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already admitted a Calling Attention Motion. I am told the Minister is not well. That is why it has been taken for the next week.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, this week there is no Calling Attention Motion and there is no Short Duration Discussion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Zero Hour. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, now Rule 267. There is one more point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. You cannot shout like that. Please... *...(Interruptions)...* You can't raise two points of order simultaneously.

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, I am raising it under Rule 267. There has been another rape in Uttar Pradesh. *...(Interruptions)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have seen. *...(Interruptions)...* You can't raise two points of order simultaneously. The Leader of the Opposition.

THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): Sir, I Totally support Mr. Derek.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no. We are not discussing the issue.

SHRI GHULAM NABIAZAD: Sir, I Totally support this point. This was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee and also in the all-party meeting that there would be a Short Duration Discussion and also a Calling Attention Motion. In the last Session, it did not happen. In this Session also it is not happening. My submission, on behalf of the Opposition, would be that next week we must have at least two Short Duration Discussions and one Calling Attention Motion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Actually, I have already admitted a Calling Attention Motion for today, but the Minister concerned spoke to me and conveyed to me in writing also that he is not well and he requested for it to be deferred to the next week. Accordingly, I have put it for Tuesday. I would keep the suggestion made by the Leader of the Opposition and also the point made by Shri Derek O' Brien in mind while taking up Business for the next week. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, ...(व्यवधान)... उत्तर प्रदेश के उन्नाव जिले के चित्रकूट में एक महिला का रेप करके उसे जलाकर मार दिया गया। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please, Ram Gopal ji, you are a senior Member. ...(Interruptions)... No, no. If I allow you, then everybody would say आप मुझे भी allow कीजिए। We have to ...(Interruptions)... Only what has been admitted would be taken up. Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya. ...(Interruptions)...

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: सभापति महोदय, ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shrimati Jharna Das Baidya. ...(Interruptions)... If you don't want Zero Hour, then I would. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सभापति जी, इस विषय को सुनना चाहिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: नहीं, मैं किसी को नहीं सुनूंगा। जो सदस्य मुझसे मिलकर मेरी permission ले चुके हैं या लैटर के द्वारा मुझे convey कर दिया गया है और जिसे मैंने admit किया है, मैं उसी माननीय सदस्य को सुनूंगा। आनन्द शर्मा जी, please बैठिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, the Unnao victim. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Sir, the news came just now. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री सभापति: श्रीमती झरना दास बैद्य ...(व्यवधान)... आनन्द शर्मा जी, this will not go on record. ...(Interruptions)... This will not go on record. ...(Interruptions).. Do you not want Zero Hour?. ...(Interruptions)... Do you want Zero Hour or not? I want to take the sense of the House. ...(Interruptions)... If you want Zero Hour, then I would continue with Zero Hour and go through the Agenda. If you don't want it, I would go to Question Hour after adjourning it. ...(Interruptions)... आप लोग बताइए ...(व्यवधान)... No. This will not go on record. ...(Interruptions)...

The House is adjourned to meet at 1200 hours.

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

The House reassembled at twelve of the clock,

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY) *in the Chair:*

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Hon. Members, for the first time, I am presiding over the proceedings during the Question Hour. So, I request for kind cooperation from all of you.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, हमें उन्नाव वाले मामले को दो बजे उठाने की अनुमति दी जाए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Question No.181.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Suspension of postal services in Kashmir

*181. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the Total number of post offices in Kashmir and the number of post offices that are currently functional;

(b) whether the postal services in Kashmir have been suspended or were suspended any time post 5th August, 2019;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the number of days for which postal services were suspended and the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to address the disruption to routine functioning of Courts and other institutions that may have been affected by the suspension of postal services?

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

Statement

(a) Sir, the Total number of post offices in Kashmir is 698 and all 698 post offices are currently functional.

(b) and (c) No Sir. There was no suspension of postal services in Kashmir post 5th August, 2019. However, to regulate the inward mail traffic and electronic money orders, the Department of Posts temporarily suspended booking and transmission of Speed Post, Registered Post and Parcels from 5th to 18th August, 2019 and booking of electronic money orders to Kashmir from 13th to 27th August, 2019, on account of operational reasons. Department of Posts resumed inward mail services to Kashmir from the rest of country from 19.08.19 and electronic money orders from 28.08.19.

(d) The Government took various steps for functioning of the Post Offices to service courts and other institutions as detailed in the Annexure (*See below*). Both wings of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir i.e. Jammu wing and Srinagar Wing and all the District Courts in Jammu, Kashmir regions have been functioning normally before and after 5th August, 2019.

Annexure

Details of steps taken by the Government to address the disruption of routine functioning of courts and other institutions, that may have been affected by the suspension of postal services

1. Mail vehicle schedules of Kashmir have been rescheduled to forward mail bags to all the post offices during wee hours of the day to avoid any damage/loss to mail vehicles, mail bags and staff. This enabled delivery of mail in all delivery areas.
2. Concerned authorities have been requested to activate Mobile/Landline numbers of Post offices and Postmasters to provide basic postal services.
3. Special mail arrangements have been made with Jammu & Kashmir State Road Transport Corporation, to carry mail bags from 18.08.2019 onwards from Jammu to Srinagar.

4. Monitoring of daily operations of post offices through daily reports from all the postal divisions was made and basic postal operations have been ensured for public.
5. Pay and allowances to staff of Kashmir working in the Department of Posts are being paid regularly.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Sir, part (b) of my question is, “Whether the postal services in Kashmir have been suspended or were suspended any time post-5th August, 2019.” The hon. Minister has replied, “No, Sir. There was no suspension of postal services in Kashmir post-5th August, 2019.” The screenshot of Twitter account of one Hyderabad-based activist, Srinivas Kodali, who asked the question on 11th August, 2019 to the India Post Office handle, says, “Quick question@indiapostoffice. Are your services available in Kashmir?” This was on 11th August. The reply from the India Post is, “No. Until further orders.” Is the reply of India Post Office correct or is the Ministry’s reply correct?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I will look into the matter of Twitter reply of Hyderabad resident. I only want to gently inform the learned hon. Member that we have 1,694 Post Offices in J&K. Sir, 698 Post Offices are in Kashmir and 649 Post Offices are in rural areas. 2,948 articles were booked and 7,052 were delivered in August, 2019; 16,082 banking transactions with a value of ₹22.98 crore were done in August, 2019 and subsequently ₹94 crore and then 1...(Interruptions)... ₹121 worth of crore transactions were done. Therefore, I want to place on record my appreciation of the Postal Department people who, in spite of difficult circumstances, delivered the goods. They also delivered nearly 4,000 passports in the valley issued since August 5. Even the Kashmir newspapers have done their job. I would only request Vandanaji that if there is a difficulty, we appreciate that. Despite those difficulties, the Postal Department has done a good job. It is very important for me to place it on record.

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Sir, even I congratulate the Postal Department. It is only the discrepancy in the answers given by the Ministry and the India Post Twitter handle. Further, in the reply, it is said, “However, to regulate the inward mail traffic and electronic money orders, the Department of Posts temporarily suspended bookings and transmission, etc., etc., on account of operational reasons.” Under what provision of law or under what order, was this done?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, again, I would like to rely upon the experience of the hon. Member. Of late, many of these services are internet based and for reasons of security, etc., they were suspended. But we have alternative means of delivery of those articles because of other digital channels available to us which we sought to rely upon. Many times even the personal delivery was made.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): The question is different. She asked, "Under what provisions of law?"

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I think when the Postal Department has got the authority, they have also got. ...*(Interruptions)*...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): It must be by an executive order.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: There are executive orders and these flow from the larger power of administrative Postal Department.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): So, it is by an executive order.

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं माननीय कम्युनिकेशन मिनिस्टर साहब से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आज के जमाने में जितना खाना-पीना और ऑक्सीजन जरूरी है, उतना ही कम्युनिकेशन भी जरूरी है। कम्युनिकेशन के लिए इंटरनेट, एसएमएस और व्हाट्स ऐप जरूरी है। 5 अगस्त से ये तीनों चीज़ें जम्मू-कश्मीर में बंद हैं। वहा इंटरनेट नहीं है, व्हाट्स ऐप नहीं है, एसएमएस नहीं है और pre-paid mobile की सुविधा भी नहीं है। क्या सरकार को इसकी जानकारी है कि इसको बंद करने की वजह से हजारों बीमार लोगों का इलाज नहीं हो पाया; लाखों बच्चे शिक्षा, जो इंटरनेट पर निर्भर है, वह प्राप्त नहीं कर सके और इंटरनेट के द्वारा जो बिजनेस होता है, करोड़ों रुपयों का बिजनेस खत्म हुआ? क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार इसके लिए अपनी जिम्मेदारी मानती है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार की वजह से यह सब कुछ हुआ?

† جناب غلام نبی آزاد : آپ سبھا دھیکش مہودے، میں مانینیے کمیونی کیشن منسٹر صاحب سے پوچھنا چاہتا ہوں کہ آج کے زمانے میں جتنا کھانا پینا اور آکسیجن ضروری ہے، اتنا ہی کمیونی کیشن بھی ضروری ہے۔ کمیونی کیشن کے لیے انٹرنیٹ، ایس ایم ایس اور وہاٹس ایپ ضروری ہے۔ پانچ اگست سے یہ تینوں چیزیں جموں و کشمیر میں بند

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

*182. श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: क्या विधि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दांडिक न्याय प्रणाली के अधीन आपराधिक मामलों में निर्णय होने में विलम्ब हो रहा है जिसके कारण अपराधों की संख्या बढ़ रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) सरकार ने आपराधिक मामलों के त्वरित निपटान हेतु क्या-क्या प्रयास किए हैं?

विधि और न्याय मंत्री (श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद): (क) से (ग) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) लंबित मामलों का निपटान, जिसमें दांडिक मामले भी सम्मिलित हैं, विशेषतया गंभीर और जघन्य अपराधों के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार हेतु महत्व और प्राथमिकता का मामला है। तथापि, मामलों का निपटान और विनिश्चय प्राथमिक रूप से न्यायपालिका के अधिकार क्षेत्र में है। निश्चित रूप से, सरकार अवसंरचना, विशेष न्यायालयों के सृजन संबंधी न्यायालय के कार्यों में सहायता करने के लिए और सामाजिक आवश्यकताओं तथा अपराधों की गंभीरता पर निर्भर करने वाली विधियों में संशोधन करने के लिए भी मध्यक्षेप करती है। न्यायालयों में मामलों का समय से निपटान बहुत से कारकों पर निर्भर करता है, जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ, न्यायाधीशों की पर्याप्त संख्या, सहायक न्यायालय कर्मचारीवृंद और भौतिक अवसंरचना की उपलब्धता, अंतर्वर्तित तथ्यों की जटिलता, साक्ष्य की प्रकृति, पणधारियों अर्थात् बार, अन्वेषण अभिकरणों, गवाहों और वादकारियों का समन्वय तथा मॉनीटर करने के लिए नियमों और प्रक्रियाओं को समुचित रूप से लागू किया जाना और सुनवाई के लिए समूह मामले भी सम्मिलित हैं। राष्ट्रीय अपराध अभिलेख ब्यूरो की बेवसाइट पर उपलब्ध डाटा के अनुसार, महिलाओं के विरुद्ध अपराधों से संबंधित कुल 1,52,372 दांडिक मामलों का निपटान वर्ष 2017 के दौरान किया गया है।

विधि और व्यवस्था के संबंध में, पुलिस और लोक व्यवस्था राज्य के विषय हैं तथा अपराध का निवारण, पता लगाना, अन्वेषण करना राज्यों की प्राथमिक जिम्मेदारी है। राज्य सरकारें, विधि के वर्तमान उपबंधों के अधीन ऐसे अपराधों से निपटने के लिए सक्षम हैं।

(ख) दांडिक विधि (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2018, को 12 वर्ष से कम उम्र की लड़की के बलात्संग के लिए मृत्यु दंड को सम्मिलित करके बलात्संग जैसे अपराधों में दंड को और कड़ा बनाने के लिए अधिनियमित किया गया है। अधिनियम, अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ, प्रत्येक दो मास के भीतर अन्वेषण और विचारण पूर्ण करने का आदेश भी देता है। इसके अतिरिक्त, यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए कि विधि में संशोधन जमीनी स्तर पर प्रभावी रूप से स्पष्ट है और देश में महिलाओं की सुरक्षा में वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार ने इसके कार्यान्वयन के लिए बहुत से उपाय किए हैं। इसमें दांडिक विधि (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2018 के अनुसार, लैंगिक हमला के मामलों में समयबद्ध अन्वेषण को मानीटर और खोज करने के लिए

19 फरवरी, 2019 को पुलिस के लिए “लैंगिक अपराधों के लिए अन्वेषण खोज प्रणाली” नामक ऑनलाइन विश्लेषण यंत्र का शुभारंभ; विधि प्रवर्तन अभिकरणों द्वारा सम्पूर्ण देश में लैंगिक अपराधियों के अन्वेषण और खोज को सुकर बनाने के लिए तारीख 20 सितम्बर, 2018 को लैंगिक अपराधियों पर राष्ट्रीय डाटाबेस (एनडीएसओ) को प्रारंभ करना ; विभिन्न राज्यों में साइबर अपराध न्यायिक प्रयोगशाला की स्थापना ; स्मार्ट पुलिस व्यवस्था और सुरक्षित प्रबंधन की सहायता के लिए प्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग करने हेतु निर्भया निधि के अधीन 8 शहरों (अहमदाबाद, बेंगलुरु, चैन्नई, दिल्ली, हैदराबाद, कोलकाता, लखनऊ और मुम्बई) में चरण-1 में सुरक्षित शहर परियोजनाओं की मंजूरी और केंद्रीय तथा राज्य न्यायिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशालाओं में डीएनए विश्लेषण को सुदृढ़ करके अन्वेषण में सुधार के लिए उठाये गये कदम, जिसमें केंद्रीय न्यायिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला, चंडीगढ़ में अत्याधुनिक डीएनए विश्लेषण इकाई की स्थापना भी है, सम्मिलित हैं। लैंगिक हमलों के मामलों में न्यायिक साक्ष्यों के संग्रहण के लिए और लैंगिक हमला साक्ष्य संग्रह किट में मानक संघटन के लिए दिशानिर्देश अधिसूचित किए गए हैं। अन्वेषण अधिकारियों, अभियोजन अधिकारियों और चिकित्सा अधिकारियों के लिए जनशक्ति में पर्याप्त क्षमता को सुकर बनाने के लिए प्रशिक्षण, कौशल निर्माण कार्यक्रम शुरू किया गया है।

सितम्बर, 2016 में, केन्द्रीय विधि और न्याय मंत्री ने राज्यों के मुख्यमंत्रियों और उच्च न्यायालयों के मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों को लिखा था कि वे जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों की काडर पद संख्या में वृद्धि करें और राज्य न्यायपालिका को भौतिक अवसंरचना उपलब्ध कराएं। मई, 2017 में दोहराया गया था। अगस्त, 2018 में, लंबित मामलों की बढ़ती हुई संख्या के संदर्भ में, केन्द्रीय विधि और न्याय मंत्री ने उच्च न्यायालयों के सभी मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों को लिखा है कि वे रिक्तियों की प्रास्थिति को नियमित रूप से मॉनीटर करें और मलिक मजहर सुल्तान मामले में माननीय उच्चतम न्यायालय द्वारा विहित समय अनुसूची के अनुसार रिक्त पदों को भरने के लिए राज्य लोक सेवा आयोग के साथ उचित समन्वय सुनिश्चित करें। केन्द्रीय विधि और न्याय मंत्री ने तारीख 3 फरवरी, 2017 को एक पत्र द्वारा दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता की धारा 436क के प्रभावी कार्यान्वयन को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए और विचारण पुनर्विलोकन समिति तंत्र के अधीन संबद्ध के कालिक मानीटर को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए जिला न्यायपालिका को सलाह देने हेतु सभी 24 उच्च न्यायालयों के मुख्य न्यायामूर्तियों से अनुरोध किया है।

सरकार ने धन शोधन निवारण अधिनियम, 2002 और स्वापक औषधि और मनःप्रभावी पदार्थ अधिनियम, 1985 के अधीन कारित अपराधों के लिए महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाए हैं। केन्द्रीय सरकार ने वित्तीय अधिनियम, 2019 में संदेहास्पद संव्यवहारों को पता लगाने के लिए सख्त और बेहतर आयुधिक विद्यमान उपबंधों को बनाने के लिए धन शोधन निवारण अधिनियम, 2002 के विद्यमान उपबंधों के अंतर को कम करने के लिए कदम उठाए हैं।

(ग) संघ सरकार, दांडिक मामलों सहित मामलों के त्वरित निपटान और मामलों के लंबन में कमी के लिए प्रतिबद्ध है। राष्ट्रीय न्यायिक परिदान और विधिक सुधार मिशन ने कई रणनीतिक पहल की हैं,

जिसके अंतर्गत जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों के न्यायिक अधिकारियों के लिए अवसंरचना (न्यायालय हॉल और आवासीय इकाइयाँ) में सुधार करना, बेहतर न्याय के परिदान के लिए सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (आईसीटी) का प्रभावन, उच्च न्यायालयों तथा उच्चतम न्यायालय में रिक्त पदों को भरना, बकाया समिति द्वारा अनुवर्ती कार्रवाई के माध्यम से जिला, उच्च न्यायालय और उच्चतम न्यायालय के स्तर पर लंबित मामलों में कमी, अनुकल्पी विवाद समाधान (एडीआर) पर जोर तथा विशेष प्रकार के मामलों को तेजी से निपटाने के लिए पहल शामिल हैं। दांडिक मामलों के शीघ्र निपटान के संदर्भ में विशेषतया पिछले पांच वर्ष के दौरान संघ सरकार द्वारा उठाए गए मुख्य कदम निम्नानुसार हैं:-

- (i) **दांडिक मामलों के शीघ्र निपटान के लिए विधायी संशोधन:** 11 अगस्त, 2018 को दांडिक विधि (संशोधन) अधिनियम, 2018 को अधिनियमित किया गया था, जो प्रत्येक 2 मास के भीतर अन्वेषण और विचारण पूर्ण करने का आदेश देता है।
- (ii) **विशेष प्रकार के दांडिक मामलों के त्वरित निपटान के लिए पहल:** 14वें वित्त आयोग ने राज्यों में न्यायिक तंत्र को सुदृढ़ बनाने के लिए सरकार के प्रस्ताव का समर्थन किया है, जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ, जघन्य अपराधों के मामले, जिसमें वरिष्ठ नागरिकों, महिलाओं, बालकों, आदि और राज्य सरकारों को ऐसी अपेक्षाओं को पूरा करने के लिए बढ़े हुए कर न्यागमन 32% से 42 % के रूप में उपबंधित अतिरिक्त वित्तीय व्यवस्था का उपयोग करने के लिए कहा गया था। तारीख 30.09.2019 की स्थिति के अनुसार, 704 त्वरित निपटान न्यायालय जघन्य अपराधों, महिलाओं और बच्चों के विरुद्ध अपराधों, कुटुम्ब और वैवाहिक विवाद, आदि के लिए कार्य कर रहे हैं। निर्वाचित लोक सभा सदस्यों /विधान सभा सदस्यों के अंतर्बलित आपराधिक मामलों के त्वरित निपटान के लिए दस (10) विशेष न्यायालय नौ (9) राज्यों में (जिसमें प्रत्येक राज्य मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, तमिलनाडु, कर्नाटक, आंध्र प्रदेश, तेलंगाना, उत्तर प्रदेश, पश्चिमी बंगाल में एक और राष्ट्रीय राजधानी राज्य क्षेत्र दिल्ली में दो) कार्य कर रहे हैं और सरकार द्वारा इन राज्यों के लिए अनुपातिक निधि जारी की गई है। इसके अतिरिक्त, सरकार ने भारतीय दंड संहिता के अधीन बलात्संग और पॉक्सों अधिनियम के अधीन अपराधों के लंबित मामलों के शीघ्र निपटान के लिए संपूर्ण देश में 1,023 त्वरित निपटान विशेष न्यायालयों की स्थापना के लिए एक योजना का अनुमोदन किया है। आज की तारीख तक, 15 राज्य 420 त्वरित निपटान न्यायालयों और 203 अनन्य पॉक्सों न्यायालय स्थापित करने के लिए स्कीम में सम्मिलित हुए हैं। 15 राज्यों को पहली किस्त के रूप में 89.1 करोड़ रुपए (कुल आवंटित 100 करोड़ रुपए में से) पहले ही जारी किए जा चुके हैं।
- (iii) **बेहतर न्याय के परिदान के लिए सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (आईसीटी) का प्रभावन:** सरकार, जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों को सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी में समर्थकारी बनाने के लिए संपूर्ण देश में ई-न्यायालय मिशन मोड परियोजना का कार्यान्वयन कर रही है। वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग सुविधा ने 3,240 न्यायालय परिसरों और 1,272 तत्संबंधी जेलों को समर्थकारी बनाया है। सभी पणधारी, जिनके अंतर्गत न्यायिक अधिकारी भी हैं, राष्ट्रीय

न्यायिक डाटा ग्रीड (एनजेडीजी) पर कंप्यूटरीकृत जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों और उच्च न्यायालयों की न्यायिक कार्यवाहियों/ विनिश्चयों से संबंधित सूचना प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। वर्तमान में, एनजेडीजी पर 12.23 करोड़ लंबित और निपटाए गए मामलों और 10.26 करोड़ से अधिक आदेशों/निर्णयों के बारे में सूचना उपलब्ध है।

इसके अतिरिक्त न्याय तंत्र को मजबूत करने के लिए सामान्यतः निम्नलिखित उपाय किए गए हैं:

- (i) **जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों के न्यायिक अधिकारियों के लिए अवसंरचना में सुधार:** वर्ष 1993-94 में न्यायपालिका के लिए अवसंरचनात्मक सुविधाओं के विकास के लिए केंद्रीय रूप से प्रायोजित स्कीम (सीएसएस) के प्रारंभ से आज की तारीख तक 7453.10 करोड़ रु. जारी किए जा चुके हैं। जिसमें से 4008.80 करोड़ रु. (जो आज की तारीख तक जारी कुल रकम का 53.79% है) अप्रैल, 2014 से राज्यों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को जारी किए गए हैं। इस स्कीम के अधीन न्यायालय हॉलों की संख्या तारीख 30.06.2014 को 15,818 से आज की तारीख तक बढ़कर 19,414 हो चुकी है और तारीख 30.06.2014 को आवासीय इकाइयों की संख्या 10,211 से बढ़कर आज की तारीख तक 17,103 हो चुकी है। इसके अतिरिक्त 2,822 न्यायालय हॉल और 1,843 आवासीय इकाइयां निर्माणाधीन हैं।
- (ii) **उच्चतम न्यायालय, उच्च न्यायालयों में तथा जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों में रिक्त पदों को भरना:** तारीख 01.05.2014 से तारीख 02.12.2019 के दौरान, उच्चतम न्यायालय में 35 न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति हुई। उच्च न्यायालयों में 489 नए न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किए गए और 427 अतिरिक्त न्यायाधीश स्थायी किए गए। मई 2014 में, उच्च न्यायालयों की स्वीकृत संख्या 906 से वर्तमान में बढ़कर 1079 हो गई है। जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों में न्यायिक अधिकारियों की स्वीकृत और कार्यरत संख्या निम्नानुसार बढ़ाई गई है:

तारीख	स्वीकृत संख्या	कार्यरत संख्या
31.12.2013 को	19,518	15,115
02.11.2019 को	23,567	18,120

- (iii) **बेहतर न्याय परिदान के लिए सूचना और संचार प्रौद्योगिकी (आईसीटी) का प्रभाव:** ई-न्यायालय मिशन मोड परियोजना के भाग के रूप में, वर्ष 2014 से आज की तारीख तक कम्प्यूटरीकृत जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों की संख्या 3,173 की वृद्धि दर्ज करते हुए 13,672 से बढ़कर 16,845 हो चुकी है। सभी कम्प्यूटरीकृत जिला और अधीनस्थ न्यायालयों में नया और उपयोक्ता अनुकूल मामला सूचना सॉफ्टवेयर विकसित करके लगाया गया है। वादकारियों और अधिवक्ताओं को ई-न्यायालय सेवाएँ जैसे मामला रजिस्टर करने, मामला सूची, मामले की प्रास्थिति, दैनिक आदेशों और अंतिम निर्णयों के ब्यौरे सभी कम्प्यूटरीकृत न्यायालयों में ई-न्यायालय बेव पोर्टल, न्यायिक सेवा केन्द्रों (जेएससी), ई-न्यायालय मोबाइल एप, ईमेल सेवा, एसएमएस पुश एण्ड पुल सेवा के माध्यम से उपलब्ध हैं।

- (iv) **बकाया मामला समिति द्वारा /अनुवर्ती कार्यवाही के माध्यम से लंबित मामलों में कमी:** अप्रैल, 2015 में आयोजित मुख्य न्यायमूर्तियों के सम्मेलन में पारित संकल्प के अनुसरण में, पांच वर्ष से अधिक समय से लंबित मामलों को निपटाने के लिए उच्च न्यायालयों में बकाया मामला समितियां स्थापित की गई हैं। जिला न्यायाधीशों के अधीन भी बकाया मामला समितियों की स्थापना की गई है। उच्चतम न्यायालय ने उच्च न्यायालयों और जिला न्यायालयों में लंबित मामलों को कम करने के लिए उपायों को प्रतिपादित करने हेतु एक बकाया मामला समिति का गठन किया है।

Delay in criminal justice system

†*182. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the criminal justice system is delaying in deciding the criminal cases due to which crimes are increasing;
- (b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and
- (c) the efforts made by Government to expedite the disposal of criminal cases?

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

Statement

- (a) Disposal of pending cases, including criminal cases, is a matter of concern and priority for Central Government, particularly for serious and heinous offences. However, the disposal and decision of cases is primarily within the domain of judiciary. Surely, the Government intervenes to support the courts functioning with infrastructure, creation of special courts and also amend the laws depending upon societal needs and gravity of offences. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, *inter-alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. As per the data available on the National Crime Records Bureau website, a TOTAL of 1,52,372 criminal cases relating to crimes against women have been disposed during 2017.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

As regards law and order, Police and Public order are State subjects and prevention, detection, investigation of crime are primarily the responsibility of States. The State Governments are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws.

- (b) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 has been enacted making the punishment for offences like rape more stringent by including death penalty for rape of a girl below the age of 12 years. The Act also, *inter-alia*, mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each. Further, in order to ensure that the amendments in law effectively translate at ground level, and to enhance women safety in the country, the Government has undertaken a number of measures for implementation. These include an online analytic tool for police launched on 19th February 2019 called “Investigation Tracking System for Sexual Offences” to monitor and track time-bound investigation in sexual assault cases in accordance with Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2018; launch of National Database on Sexual Offenders (NDSO) on 20th September, 2018 to facilitate investigation and tracking of sexual offenders across the country by law enforcement agencies; setting up of Cyber Crime Forensic Labs in several States; sanction of Safe City Projects in phase-I in 8 cities (Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow and Mumbai) under Nirbhaya Fund for using technology to aid smart policing and safety management; and steps taken to improve investigation by strengthening DNA analysis units in Central and State Forensic Science Laboratories, which includes setting up of a State-of-the-Art DNA Analysis Unit in Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Chandigarh. Guidelines have been notified for collection of forensic evidence in sexual assault cases and the standard composition in a sexual assault evidence collection kit. To facilitate adequate capacity in manpower, training and skill building programs for Investigation Officers, Prosecution Officers and Medical Officers have commenced.

In September, 2016, Union Minister of Law & Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law & Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the Status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service

Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. Union Minister of Law & Justice, *vide* a letter dated 3rd February, 2017, had requested the Chief Justices of all 24 High Courts to advise the district judiciary to ensure effective implementation of section 436A Cr.P.C. and ensure periodic monitoring of the associated Under Trial Review Committee Mechanism.

Government has taken significant steps on the offences committed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 and Narcotics, Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985. The Central Government in the Finance Act, 2019 has taken steps to tighten the gaps in the existing provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 in order to make the existing provisions stricter and better armoured to detect suspicious transactions.

- (c) The Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases, including criminal cases. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has adopted many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure [court halls and residential units] for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court level, emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases. The major steps taken by the Union Government during the last five years specifically with reference to expeditious disposal of criminal cases are as under:
- (i) Legislative Amendments to expedite disposal of criminal cases: The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, enacted on 11th August, 2018, mandates completion of investigation and trials within 2 months each.
 - (ii) Initiatives to fast track special type of criminal cases: The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter-alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. As on 30.09.2019, 704 Fast Track Courts are

functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women and children, family and matrimonial disputes, etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs/ML As, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States (one each in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and two in NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. Further, Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 15 States have joined the scheme for setting up of 420 FTSCs and 203 exclusive POCSO courts. ₹ 89.1 crore (out of the Total allocation of ₹100 crore) has already been released as the first instalment to these 15 States.

- (iii) Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery: Government has been implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. All stakeholders including Judicial Officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerized District & Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). Currently, case status information in respect of over 12.23 crore pending and disposed cases and more than 10.26 crore orders/judgments pertaining to these computerized courts is available on NJDG.

In addition, the following measures have been taken to strengthen the justice system, in general:

- (i) Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts: As on date, ₹ 7,453.10 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 4,008.80 crores (which is 53.79% of the Total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 19,423 as on 02.12.2019 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 17,151 as on 02.12.2019 under this scheme. In addition,

2,826 court halls and 1,843 residential units are under construction.

- (ii) Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts: From 01.05.2014 to 02.12.2019, 35 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 489 new Judges were appointed and 427 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased as follows:

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
02.12.2019	23,567	18,120

- (iii) Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery: As part of the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, number of computerized District & Subordinate courts has increased from 13,672 to 16,845 registering an increase of 3,173 during 2014 till date. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District & Subordinate Courts. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders & final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerized courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push & pull services.
- (iv) Reduction in Pendency through/follow up by Arrears Committees: In pursuance of resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, पुलिस विभाग द्वारा अपराध की रोकथाम करने के लिए ई-शासन आधारित प्रणाली और अपराधी निगरानी तंत्र की शुरुआत की गई है। देश की कुल जनसंख्या 130 करोड़ के आसपास है। मेरी जानकारी के हिसाब से टोटल मामले 3 करोड़ 10 लाख

[श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा]

58 हजार के आसपास हैं, जिनमें से 2 करोड़ 22 लाख 65 हजार आपराधिक मामले हैं। जेलों में अपराधियों की संख्या बढ़ने से जेलों में कैदियों को रखना मुश्किल हो रहा है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप क्वेश्चन कीजिए।

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि क्या कानून मंत्री देश के विभिन्न न्यायालयों में आपराधिक मामलों के विवाद निपटाने हेतु कोई समय सीमा निर्धारित करने के बारे में सोच रहे हैं?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपराधिक मामलों का निष्पादन जल्दी हो, यह हम सबों की चिन्ता भी है और प्राथमिकता भी है। मैंने कानून मंत्री के रूप में कई बार देश के हाई कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस जे.ए. कृष्णा के पत्र लिखा है कि *undertrial prisoners*, जिन्होंने सेक्शन 436(A) के अन्तर्गत अपने *detention* के दौरान *sentence* का 50 परसेंट से अधिक पूरा कर लिया है, उनको छोड़ना चाहिए। उसकी एक *Review Committee* है, आपको इस बात का अनुभव है। लेकिन हम माननीय सदस्य को विनम्रता से एक बात बताना चाहेंगे कि निर्णय करने का काम कोर्ट का है, सरकार का काम है उसके लिए *infrastructure* देना। हमारी सरकार ने पिछले पांच वर्षों में *Centrally-sponsored scheme* में 50% दिया है, जो पिछली सरकार का था। यदि आप मेरे पूरे उत्तर को देखेंगे, तो बहुत विस्तार से मैंने इस बात का जिक्र किया है कि कितने *court hall* बने हैं, कितनी बाकी चीजें बनी हैं, फिर *digitisation* हुआ है, *computerisation* हुआ है, उसके बाद हम लोग उपलब्ध हैं। यहां मैं एक बात अवश्य कहना चाहूंगा कि विमेन के बारे में जो अपराध होते हैं, वह भी हम लोगों की प्राथमिकता में हैं। सर, मैं आपकी अनुमति से एक मिनट में इस सदन को बताना चाहूंगा कि अभी तक *...(व्यवधान)...* सर, क्या मैं उत्तर दूं? अभी तक *heinous offences* के लिए 704 *Fast Track Courts* establish हो चुके हैं, जो काम कर रहे हैं। उसके बाद *rape, women-related violence and POSCO Act* के लिए हम लोगों ने 1,023 *Fast Track Courts* के लिए *propose* किया है, जिसको 16 राज्यों ने स्वीकार कर लिया है, and 420 *Courts* have already been agreed to be established and 161 *Courts* have started functioning.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, second supplementary. आप सिर्फ सवाल कीजिएगा, भूमिका मत बनाइएगा।

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, सभी सांसदों ने सदन में न्यायाधीशों की कम संख्या की वजह से हमेशा चिंता जताई है, लेकिन सरकार अपने दुलमुल रवैये के कारण इस समस्या का निदान करने में सफल नहीं रही है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप भूमिका मत बनाइए, प्रश्न पूछिए।

श्री नारणभाई जे. राठवा: सर, मेरा सीधा क्वेश्चन यह है कि अभी तक न्यायाधीशों के स्वीकृत पदों को नहीं भरने का क्या कारण है? इन पदों को सरकार कब तक भरेगी?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, जहां तक हाई कोर्ट का सवाल है, हमने पिछले साढ़े पांच वर्षों में लगभग 469 *appointments* की हैं और बाकी प्रक्रिया में चल रहे हैं। महोदय, इनके प्रश्न के उत्तर में मैं एक बात स्पष्ट रूप से कहना चाहूंगा कि *Subordinate Judiciary* के लगभग 5,000 पद खाली हैं

और माननीय सदस्य को ज्ञात होगा कि Subordinate Judiciary के पदों को भरने में न तो केन्द्र सरकार की भूमिका है और न ही प्रदेश सरकारों की भूमिका है। हाई कोर्ट या तो स्वयं इसके exams करवाता है या फिर उनके निर्देश पर Public Service Commission exams करवाता है। मैंने बार-बार भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश और हाई कोर्ट के मुख्य न्यायाधीश को भी लिखा है कि अपने प्रदेश में Subordinate Judiciary की vacant positions को भरने के लिए त्वरित कार्रवाई करें।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: श्रीमन्, मेरा छोटा सा सवाल है, लेकिन सवाल पूछने से पहले मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को इस बात के लिए धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा कि उन्होंने जो जवाब दिया है, वह इतना विस्तार से दिया है कि इतना लम्बा जवाब मैंने कभी नहीं देखा था।

श्रीमन्, मेरा सवाल यह है कि उत्तर प्रदेश एक बहुत बड़ा राज्य है और वहां बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर वर्तमान एवं भूतपूर्व एमपीज़/एमएलएज़ या जन-प्रतिनिधियों के खिलाफ मुकदमे लम्बित हैं। इन मुकदमों में बहुत सारे झूठे भी हो सकते हैं और बहुत सारे सही भी हो सकते हैं, लेकिन इतने बड़े राज्य के लिए केवल एक स्पेशल कोर्ट से अगर आप मुकदमे निर्णीत करवाएंगे, तो इसमें बहुत ज्यादा विलम्ब हो जाएगा। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि क्या आप उत्तर प्रदेश के 17 Division Headquarters पर एक-एक स्पेशल जज मुहैया कराने की व्यवस्था करेंगे, ताकि जजमेंट आने में जल्दी हो सके?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, हमारे माननीय वरिष्ठ सदस्य, प्रो. राम गोपाल जी की यह चिंता बहुत सही है। हम चाहते हैं कि राजनीतिक नेताओं के खिलाफ जो आपराधिक मुकदमे हैं, उनका निष्पादन जल्द से जल्द होना चाहिए, ताकि कोई भी केस लम्बित न हो और चर्चा का विषय बन कर न रह जाए।

सर, जहां तक उत्तर प्रदेश का सवाल है, यह चिंता पहले भी मेरे सामने लाई गई थी और मैंने इलाहाबाद हाई कोर्ट के चीफ जस्टिस से स्वयं आग्रह किया था कि वे इस बात की चिंता करें। पहले सिर्फ इलाहाबाद में कोर्ट था, इसलिए मेरठ, बुलन्दशहर या गाज़ियाबाद वगैरह के लोगों को भी वहीं जाना पड़ता था। मैंने उनसे कहा था कि चूंकि उत्तर प्रदेश बहुत बड़ा प्रदेश है, इसलिए इसकी चिंता होनी चाहिए। मैं आपसे विनम्रता से आग्रह करूंगा कि मैं उनसे पुनः जानकारी प्राप्त करूंगा, हालांकि उन्होंने सार्थक उत्तर दिया था कि मैं इसे देखूंगा। जहां तक मैंने सुना है कि अब वहां काफी व्यवस्था हो गई है, लेकिन फिर भी इसका exact number मालूम करके मैं माननीय सदस्य को बता दूंगा।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: धन्यवाद, उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, यह बात सही है कि माननीय मंत्री जी ने बहुत ही विस्तार से अपने जवाब में सारी शंकाओं को दूर करने का प्रयास किया है, लेकिन मेरे मन में एक शंका है, जिसका मैं समाधान चाहूंगा। महोदय, विवादों को सुलझाने का एक वैकल्पिक तरीका है - लोक अदालत, जिसमें न केवल सिविल मामले निपटाए जाते हैं, बल्कि छोटे आपराधिक मामले भी निपटाए जाते हैं, जैसे cheque bounce आदि के मामले। ...(व्यवधान)...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री नारायण लाल पंचारिया: सर, मैं सवाल पर ही आ रहा हूँ। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह तरीका आपराधिक मामलों को निपटाने में कितना कारगर सिद्ध हो रहा है?

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, जहाँ तक लोक अदालत का सवाल है, हमें एक बात समझनी पड़ेगी कि भारत के कानून के अन्तर्गत प्योर आपराधिक मामले जो हैं, वे judicial process से ही settle होते हैं। Sir, this is the law of the land. We need to understand that only a proper constituted court based upon evidence has to convict or acquit. लेकिन छोटे अपराधों के मामले में उनका जो specific सवाल है, उसका exact number मैं मालूम करूँगा, लेकिन लोक अदालत का movement — मेरे पास अभी आंकड़े नहीं हैं, लाखों की संख्या में चीज़ें देश भर में dispose off हो रही हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप बाद में जानकारी दे दीजिएगा।

श्री रवि शंकर प्रसाद: सर, मैं वह जानकारी लेकर इनको बता दूँगा।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Sir, there is an old saying which is correct in our case that 'justice delayed is justice denied'. The hon. Minister has given a comprehensive reply. My question is that we have a situation where at least four crore people, accused of various crimes are languishing in Indian jails. Most of them are poor people वे गरीब लोग हैं और जिस अपराध का आरोप है, अगर उसमें उनको सजा भी हो जाती, तब भी शायद वे इतने लम्बे समय तक, वर्षों तक जेल में न रहते। परन्तु अगर convict हुए बिना, उससे 4 गुना ज्यादा समय, 10-10 साल - क्योंकि न तो उनके पास वकील करने का पैसा है..

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप सवाल कीजिए।

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: सर, मेरा एक सवाल है कि Legal Assistance System, Legal Aid System सीधा इनके मंत्रालय के नीचे आता है। वह कमजोर है। उसको पुख्ता करें, ताकि हिन्दुस्तान की जेलों में जो गरीब लोग बन्द हैं, उनके लिए वकील पैरवी कर सकें और जिनके पास जमानत का पैसा नहीं है, उस पर थोड़ा गौर करें, ताकि वे लोग बाहर आ सकें। वे बहुत बड़ी संख्या में हैं।

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): So, it is a suggestion and not a question. You need not reply to that.

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: No, no. उस पर इनका Legal Aid System का कितना allocation है? What is the allocation?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, should I reply?

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Yes, that is from the Central Budget.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): He is asking as to what the allocation is.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: I can only tell you that the detail given in answer also provides that 50 per cent of the Centrally-sponsored scheme were spent in the last five years. I have also given you the exact number as to how many court halls have been constructed and how many residences of judges have been constructed. Kindly go through it. But, Sir, I take on board that we need to reinforce the legal aid system. The NALSA is doing a good job. My department has also come with a lot of legal aid schemes. I have put in CACs at the ground level for pre-litigation advice. I would like to only gently convey to this House that from the year 2015 to the year 2019, up to 3.12.2019, 1,01,72,630 criminal cases have been disposed off. I repeat, Sir, from the year 2015 to 2019 up to 3.12.2019, 1,01,72,630 criminal cases have been disposed off. I can only say that we need to expedite it.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): The question was as to what was the allocation for legal aid?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: As regards allocation, I will get the information and convey it to the hon. Member.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Question No. 183.

Safety of citizen data

*183. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether according to a study by UK-based research firm Cmparitech India ranks behind only Russia and China when it comes to surveilling citizens (rated-2.4/5);

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to ensure the safety of data when reportedly ten Government agencies have access to citizen's data, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the measures taken by Government to protect Aadhaar identification system which has been breached several times and in what manner Government recommends protecting data breaches?

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

Statement

(a) and (b) There are media reports about UK-based research firm Comparitech, highlighting that India ranks behind only Russia and China when it comes to surveilling citizens. From the media reports, the basis on which such a conclusion is drawn, appears flimsy and questionable. Absence of data protection bill and a data protection authority as regulator has been cited but there are suitable provisions under the IT Act and work is in progress to bring in a law for data protection. Another factor cited is that, “The Aadhaar Identification Scheme gives citizens a unique ID number and is also home to the largest biometric database, which contains 1.23 billion people”. Further, there is a baseless assumption that the Aadhaar database includes information such as purchases, bank accounts, insurance etc. The Government’s request to WhatsApp regarding traceability without compromising on encryption has been wrongly projected as a possible privacy intrusion. Therefore, even while the report recognises that the laws and courts in India are working to protect data privacy, it seems to have jumped to a conclusion without looking at the legal regime in India and the checks and balances available.

These attempts to malign the Government of India for reportedly surveilling citizens are completely misleading. The Government is committed to protect the fundamental rights of citizens, including the right to privacy. The Government operates strictly as per provisions of law and laid down protocols. There are adequate safeguards to ensure that no innocent citizen is harassed or his privacy breached. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology is working on the Personal Data Protection Bill to safeguard the privacy of citizens, and it is proposed to table it in Parliament.

(c) There has never been any instance of data breach from Aadhaar database (Central Identities Data Repository). For security of Aadhaar data centres, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has a well-designed, multi-layer robust security system in place and the same is being constantly upgraded to maintain the highest level of data security and integrity. The architecture of Aadhaar ecosystem has been designed to ensure security and privacy which is an integral part of the system from the initial design to the final stage.

Various policies and procedures have been defined and are reviewed and updated continually thereby appropriately controlling and monitoring any movement of people, material and data in and out of UIDAI premises, particularly the data centres. UIDAI data is fully secured/encrypted at all times *i.e.* at rest, in transit and in storage. For further strengthening of security, security audits are conducted on regular basis.

Additionally, there are multiple layers of security at physical level in UIDAI Data Centres and is being managed by armed CISF personnel round the clock.

The security assurance of Aadhaar ecosystem has been strengthened with enactment of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 and subsequently the Aadhaar and Other Laws (Amendment) Act, 2019 which has stringent penalties/punishments for offenders.

UIDAI has been declared ISO 27001:2013 certified with respect to information security which has added another layer of IT security assurance. In pursuance of sub-section (1) of Section 70 of the IT Act 2000, UIDAI has also been declared as a Protected System by National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, Pegasus spyware sold by Israel's NSO group and Q Cyber Technologies believed to have broken through encrypted communication system such as WhatsApp and can concurrently monitor about 50 smart phones. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has bought the Pegasus software from NSO.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I seek your kind protection. Hardly, three- four days ago, a Short Duration Discussion was held in this House elaborately on the issue of Pegasus and NSO. All the Members also participated, and I had given a very elaborate reply, including the written reply. We have already denied that and we have said that we are committed to safety and security of Indian people. But, Sir, I would like to give one information to the House because the main question is about a particular company which has done that. He has not raised any question with regard to that. I can only say that I have got the profile of this company with me. It is very painful to see the kind of biased report it is. Sir, it is giving a low criteria of surveillance to India only because we have not brought the data protection law. They have already done that. Sir, Aadhaar Act is there. Aadhaar has been validated by the Supreme Court also, with due regard to privacy. Therefore, these companies have a bias against India and are giving these judgements in the most flimsy way and without any homework. This is something which I thought, I must share with the House.

SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Sir, in the Monsoon Session, I asked a question in response to which the Government replied that 87 companies have participated in purchase of Government data of vehicles and DL of non-personal nature. Why is the Government involved in such sale of data when it still does not have the data governance framework?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, as I said, yesterday only, the Cabinet has passed the Data Protection Law. When it will come to the House, we will have enough time to discuss the same. But since my good friend, Dalwai ji has asked this question, I would like to gently reply to him that this is the age of data and availability of data helps you in framing the policies. Suppose in a particular area, illness is there, we must have the data as to why that illness is there but that data must be anonymised. Therefore, anonymity of the data is equally important to facilitate good policy and delivery of services. That is how we need to understand this issue.

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: Sir, the hon. Minister has given a detailed reply. He has said that the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is working on a Personal Data Protection Bill to safeguard the privacy of citizens and it is proposed to be tabled in the Parliament. It is good enough. At the same time, do you not think that the Aadhaar Identification Scheme Bill also needs to be changed when you want to change the Data Protection Bill?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I would like to humbly inform the hon. Member that in the Aadhaar judgment, the Supreme Court, as also the earlier nine-Judge Bench decision on privacy, has gone into the details of all this, and, the Supreme Court has clearly stated in the judgement that privacy is a fundamental right and we need to respect that. We also respect that but a terrorist, a corrupt person or a criminal does not have the right to privacy. This is also there. In Aadhaar case, it is stated that the Government must come with a robust personal data protection law. The Cabinet has cleared that and it will come here. On the specific query on Aadhaar, I would like to specifically say...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): You have already replied to it. Next supplementary, Md. Nadimul Haque.

SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Sir, a lot of illegal call centres are sprouting up all over the country and they are illegally buying the citizens' data and using phishing methods. These people, with no means of income, have suddenly enriched themselves. They are now roaming around in big cars, buying flats and everything. What is the Government doing to check this specific menace?

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, the hon. Member must have seen in newspapers that fake call centres have been busted. Yesterday, it was done in Gurgaon itself. We are alive to the problem. I can share one thing with the hon. Member that the current data protection law regime clearly postulates, what is a critical data, what is a sensitive data and

what is beyond this. Sir, very strong measures have been put in place whereby without consent this data cannot be taken or processed. He will surely hear a lot about it when the Bill comes up for discussion.

SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, as the hon. Minister has brought up the issue of Data Protection Bill, my question is about that. As he is aware, the definition of the fundamental right is absolute except that it is subject to some restrictions under exceptional circumstances. Would the Minister assure the House that the legislation which is being brought to this House will not dilute the fundamental right of privacy even by the Government and its agencies? I am asking this question in the context that when the matter that privacy was a fundamental right was there in the Supreme Court, his Department opposed this.

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD: Sir, I can only convey to the hon. Member who is known to have good exposure of technology that when he will see the fine print of the data protection law, a lot of his apprehensions will be allayed. Yes, we had only submitted before the Supreme Court that there has to be a balance between privacy and the need for security and the Supreme Court had upheld our contention.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Question No.184. The questioner is absent. Any supplementary question?

*184. [प्रश्नकर्ता अनुपस्थित थे।]

**छत्तीसगढ़ की जातियों को अनुसूचित जनजातियों की
सूची में शामिल किया जाना**

*184. श्री राम विचार नेताम: क्या जनजातीय कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य सरकार और स्थानीय जन-प्रतिनिधियों ने भूइया, भूईयां, भूयां और किसान कोड़ाकू सहित अन्य जातियों को अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में शामिल किए जाने का अनुरोध किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्राप्त प्रस्तावों का तिथि-वार ब्योरा क्या है;

(ग) क्या सरकार द्वारा इन प्रस्तावों पर कोई कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्योरा क्या है और उक्त प्रस्ताव को कब तक संस्वीकृत कर दिया जाएगा और इन समुदायों को सूची में शामिल कर लिया जाएगा?

जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती रेणुका सिंह सरुता): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) और (ख) छत्तीसगढ़ की अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में अन्य समुदायों के साथ भूइयाँ, भूयाँ, भूय्या, किसान, कोड़ाकू जैसे समुदायों को शामिल करने के प्रस्ताव छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य सरकार से प्राप्त हुए थे। हालाँकि, जनजातीय कार्य मंत्रालय के रिकॉर्ड के अनुसार, भूइया और किसान कोड़ाकू को शामिल करने के प्रस्ताव राज्य सरकार से नहीं मिले हैं। छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार से प्राप्त प्रस्तावों का तिथि-वार ब्योरा उपाबंध में है। (नीचे देखिए)

(ग) तथा (घ) भारत सरकार ने दिनांक 15.06.1999 को (दिनांक 25.06.2002 को पुनः संशोधित) अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची को विनिर्दिष्ट करने वाले आदेशों में समावेशन, से अपवर्जन हेतु दावे तय करने तथा अन्य संशोधनों के लिए प्रविधियां निर्धारित की हैं। इन प्रविधियों के अनुसार केवल उन प्रस्तावों पर विधान के संशोधन के लिए विचार किया जाता है जिन्हें संबंधित राज्य सरकार/संघ राज्यक्षेत्र प्रशासन द्वारा न्यायोचित माना गया हो एवं इसकी सिफारिश की गई हो तथा जिन पर भारत के महापंजीयक (आरजीआई) तथा राष्ट्रीय अनुसूचित जनजाति आयोग (एनसीएसटी) द्वारा सहमति प्राप्त हो। अनुसूचित जनजातियों के दर्ज की मांग करने वाले समुदायों के लिए राज्य/संघ राज्य-क्षेत्रों के प्रस्तावों के संदर्भ में सभी कार्यवाहियां इन प्रविधियों के अनुसार की जाती हैं।

उपाबंध

छत्तीसगढ़ की अनुसूचित जनजातियों की सूची में समावेशन/संशोधन हेतु
छत्तीसगढ़ सरकार से प्राप्त प्रस्तावों का ब्योरा

क्र.सं.	समुदायों के नाम जिन पर छत्तीसगढ़ के अजजा की सूची में समावेशन / संशोधन के लिए प्रस्ताव प्राप्त हुए हैं	राज्य सरकार से प्राप्त प्रस्तावों के लिए पत्रों की तिथि
1	2	3
1.	सावर, सवरा के पर्यायवाची के रूप में, सौरा, संवरा	05.09.2013
2.	भारिया भूमिया के पर्यायवाची के रूप में भूइया, भूइयाँ, भूयाँ	8.02.2010
3.	धनुवार के पर्याय के रूप में धनुहार, धनवार,	07.01.2012
4.	नगेसिया, नागासिया के पर्याय के रूप में किसान	10.02.2012
5.	धांगड़ (हिंदी संस्करण में सुधार)	30.09.2014
6.	बिंझिया	17.02.2011

1	2	3
7.	गाडबा (हिंदी संस्करण में परिवर्तन / संशोधन)	30.04.2014
8.	कोड़ाकू	27.05.2014
9.	कौद (कौंध का हिंदी संस्करण)	27.05.2014
10.	पंडो, पण्डो/ पण्डो(देवनागरी संस्करण का समावेश)	30.04.2014
11.	भारिया (हिंदी संस्करण में सुधार	30.04.2014
12.	गोंड़ (विभिन्न देवनागरी संस्करण का समावेश)	30.04.2014
13.	सवर, सवरा के पर्याय के रूप में सौरा, सहारा, साओरा, सौवरा	05.09.2013
14.	“भारिया भूमिया” के पर्याय के रूप में भुड्या, भीयन समुदाय	18.02.2010
15.	सबरिया	13.09.2011
16.	रौतिया	14.08.2003
17.	परगनिहा, परधान	29.04.2013
18.	धुरी, धूरी	12.12.2013
19.	बंजारा, नायक	13.12.2013
20.	भट्टारा की उप-जाति के रूप में अमनित, अमनीत	25.07.2014
21.	नागवंशी (हिंदी संस्करण में परिवर्तन/संशोधन)	30.04.2014
22.	क्र.सं. 21 पर खारवार के साथ खेरवार, खैरवार	27.05.2014
23.	मझवार (विभिन्न देवनागरी संस्करण का समावेश)	27.05.2014
24.	तंवरछत्री (तंवर और छत्री, के बीच अल्पविराम को हटाकर) और तंवरछत्री, तंवरक्षत्री, तवरछत्री, तंवर के साथ तनवर को हटाना	27.05.2014

1	2	3
25.	परहिया	26.07.2014
26.	धीमर, केवट, कहार और मल्लाह	08.05.2008
27.	भुइंहार (देवनागरी संस्करण का समावेश)	09.09.2015
28.	अजजा की सूची में क्रम संख्या 33 पर ओरान, धानका, धानगाड के पर्याय के रूप में कोडा	09.01.2019

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

Inclusion in STs list from Chhattisgarh

†*184. SHRI RAM VICHAR NETAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Chhattisgarh and local people's representatives have requested for inclusion of other castes including Bhuiya, Bhuiyan, Bhuyan and Kisan Kodaku in the list of Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal received, date-wise;

(c) whether any action has been taken by Government on these proposals; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and by when the said proposal would be approved and those communities would be included in the list?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Proposals for inclusion of communities like Bhuiyan, Bhuyan, Bhuyya, Kisan, Kodaku along with other communities in the ST list of Chhattisgarh were received from the State Government of Chhattisgarh. However, as per Ministry of Tribal Affairs' record, proposals for inclusion of Bhuiya and Kisan Kodaku have not been received from the State Government. Date-wise details of the proposals received from the Government of Chhattisgarh are given in the Annexure (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) The Government of India on 15.6.1999 (further amended on 25.6.2002), has laid down the modalities for determining the claims for inclusion in, exclusion from and other modifications in the orders specifying list of Scheduled Tribes. According to these modalities, only those proposals which have been recommended and justified by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration and concurred with by the Registrar General of India (RGI) and the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes are to be considered for amendment of legislation. All actions are taken with respect to proposals of State/UT Governments for the communities demanding Scheduled Tribes status as per these modalities.

Annexure

Details of the proposals received from the Govt. of Chhattisgarh for inclusion/ modification in the list of STs of Chhattisgarh

Sl. No.	Name of community on which proposals are received for inclusion/ modification in the list of STs of Chhattisgarh	Date of letters for proposals received from State Government
1	2	3
1.	Saunra, Saonra, as synonyms of Sawar, Sawara	05.09.2013
2.	Bhuinya, Bhuiyan, Bhuyan as synonyms of "Bharia Bhumia"	18.02.2010
3.	Dhanuhar, Dhanuwar as a synonym of Dhanwar	07.01.2012
4.	Kisan as synonym of Nagesia, Nagasia	10.02.2012
5.	Dhangad (rectification in Hindi version)	30.09.2014
6.	Binjhia	17.02.2011
7.	Gadba (change/modification in Hindi version)	30.04.2014
8.	Kodaku	27.05.2014
9.	Kond (Hindi variant of Kondh)	27.05.2014
10.	Pando (inclusion of Devanagari variants)	30.04.2014
11.	Bharia (rectification in Hindi Version)	30.04.2014
12.	Gond (inclusion of variant Devanagari version)	30.04.2014

1	2	3
13.	Saura, Sahara, Saora, Soura as synonyms of Sawar, Sawara	05.09.2013
14.	Bhuyya, Bhiyan communities as synonyms of Bharia, Bhumia	18.02.2010
15.	Sabria	13.09.2011
16.	Rautia	14.08.2003
17.	Parganiha, Pardhan	29.04.2013
18.	Dhuri, Dhoori	12.12.2013
19.	Banjara, Nayak	13.12.2013
20.	Amnit, Amneet as sub-caste of Bhattara	25.07.2014
21.	Nagawanshi (change/modification in Hindi version)	30.04.2014
22.	Kherwar, Khairwar along with Kharwar at Sl. No. 21	27.05.2014
23.	Majhwar (inclusion of variant Devnagari version)	27.05.2014
24.	Tanwar Chhatri (removal of comma between Tanwar and Chhatri) and replacing तनवर with तंवरछत्री, तंवरक्षत्री, तवरछत्री, तंवर	27.05.2014
25.	Parhia	26.07.2014
26.	Dhimar, Kewat, Kahar and Mallah	08.05.2008
27.	Bhuinhar (inclusion of Devanagari variant)	19.09.2015
28.	KODA as synonyms of Oraon, Dhanka, Dhangad at Sl. No. 33 in ST list	09.01.2019

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Sir, the Minister replied that to include any community in the list of Scheduled Tribes, recommendation of the State Government is necessary. The Government of Assam...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no. This is not related to Assam. This question is related to Chhattisgarh. It is not permissible under the Rule. Sorry. Question No.185. The questioner is absent. Any supplementary question?

*185 [प्रश्नकर्ता अनुपस्थित थे।]

स्कूली बस्तों के बोझ को कम किया जाना

* 185. **श्री मोतीलाल वोरा:** क्या मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बच्चों के बस्तों में कॉपी-किताबों आदि के बढ़ते बोझ के कारण बच्चों के स्वास्थ्य पर पड़ने वाले कुप्रभाव को देखते हुए केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) ने कुछ सुझाव दिए थे;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार द्वारा इस बात का पता लगाने के लिए कि स्कूलों ने केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड के सुझावों पर कितना अमल किया है, कोई कदम उठाए गए हैं;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) सरकार ने छात्रों को उच्च शिक्षा और उत्तम स्वास्थ्य उपलब्ध कराने की दिशा में क्या-क्या कदम उठाए हैं?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक'): (क) से (घ) एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

(क) जी हां। केन्द्रीय माध्यमिक शिक्षा बोर्ड (सीबीएसई) ने विद्यार्थियों के स्कूली बस्तों के भार को कम करने तथा इसकी निगरानी हेतु दिनांक 12.09.2016 के परिपत्र के माध्यम से स्कूलों, शिक्षकों और अभिभावकों के लिए विभिन्न सुझाव साझा किए हैं।

(ख) और (ग) मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने स्कूली बस्तों के भार को कम करने के लिए एक नीति तैयार करने हेतु दिनांक 05.10.2018 के पत्र संख्या 1-4/2018-आईएस-3 के माध्यम से सभी राज्यों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को एक पत्र जारी किया है। साथ ही इस मंत्रालय ने बच्चों के स्कूली बैग से संबंधित नीति तैयार करने के लिए एक विशेषज्ञ समूह का भी गठन किया है और उन्होंने इस मामले में एक मसौदा नीति प्रस्तुत की है।

महाराष्ट्र, मध्य प्रदेश, पंजाब, तेलंगाना, नागालैंड, पश्चिम बंगाल, कर्नाटक, उत्तराखंड, असम, उत्तर प्रदेश, गोवा, केरल, ओडिशा, मेघालय, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, गुजरात, हरियाणा, मिजोरम, त्रिपुरा राज्यों और संघ राज्यक्षेत्र दिल्ली, दादरा नगर हवेली, चंडीगढ़ एवं लक्षद्वीप प्रशासन से प्राप्त सूचना के आधार पर, उन्होंने स्कूल बैग के भार को कम करने के लिए निर्देश/दिशा-निर्देश जारी किए हैं।

(घ) स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग ने 1 अप्रैल, 2018 से स्कूल शिक्षा की एक एकीकृत योजना - समग्र शिक्षा की शुरुआत की है, जो प्री-स्कूल से वरिष्ठ माध्यमिक स्तर तक निर्बाध स्कूली शिक्षा की परिकल्पना करती है और जिसका उद्देश्य सभी स्तरों पर समावेशी और समान गुणवत्तायुक्त शिक्षा सुनिश्चित करना है। बच्चों के समग्र विकास को ध्यान में रखते हुए खेल, शारीरिक गतिविधियों, योग, पाठ्येत्तर गतिविधियों को बढ़ावा देने हेतु खेल और शारीरिक शिक्षा घटक की शुरुआत की गई है।

उपरोक्त के अतिरिक्त, राज्यों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को उनके स्कूलों की प्रार्थना सभाओं में विटामिन-डी की कमी के बारे में जागरूकता व्याख्यान आयोजित करने के लिए आवश्यक निर्देश जारी करने हेतु एडवायजरी जारी की गई है। फ्री/एक्स्ट्रा पीरियडों में आउट-डोर कार्यक्रम आयोजित करने, मध्यावकाश में मैदान/खुले क्षेत्र में खेल और शारीरिक गतिविधियां आयोजित करने की भी सलाह दी गई है ताकि विद्यार्थियों को सूर्य की रोशनी का लाभ मिल सके। खेल विभाग के सहयोग से स्कूल शिक्षा और साक्षरता विभाग ने स्कूलों में फिट इंडिया स्कूल रैंकिंग और फिट इंडिया वीक के संबंध में राज्यों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों को अनुदेश परिचालित किए हैं।

सीबीएसई ने कक्षा I-XII तक की सभी कक्षाओं के लिए स्वास्थ्य और शारीरिक शिक्षा को अनिवार्य बना दिया है। स्कूल के सभी विद्यार्थियों को उनकी रुचि और क्षमता के अनुसार कम से कम दो खेल गतिविधियों में सहभागिता करना अनिवार्य है और इसे X और XII कक्षाओं की बोर्ड परीक्षाओं में उपस्थित होने हेतु पात्रता मानदंडों में शामिल किया गया है।

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

Reduction in weight of school bags

†*185. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) had submitted suggestions in view of the health of the children being adversely affected by the increasing weight of school bags carrying notebooks and text books etc.;

(b) whether any steps have been taken by Government to find out the extent to which schools have implemented the suggestions given by CBSE;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government towards providing higher education and good health to the students?

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

Statement

(a) Yes, Sir. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has shared various suggestions for schools, teachers and parents to reduce and monitor the weight of school bags carried by students *vide* a circular dated 12.09. 2016.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Human Resource Development has issued a communication to all States and UTs *vide* letter no. 1-4/2018-IS-3, dated 05.10.2018, to formulate the policy for reducing weight of school bags. This Ministry has also constituted an expert group to formulate a policy on children school bag and they have submitted a draft policy in this matter.

The States of Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana, Nagaland, West Bengal, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Kerala, Odisha, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Mizoram, Tripura and Union territories of Delhi, Dadra Nagar Haveli, Chandigarh and Lakshadweep have issued instructions/guidelines to reduce the weight of school bags, as per the information received from them.

(d) Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha with effect from 1st April, 2018 which envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels. Realizing the need for holistic development of children, Sports and Physical Education component has been introduced for encouragement of Sports, Physical activities, Yoga, Co-curricular activities etc.

In addition of the above, advisory has been issued to States and UTs for issuing necessary instructions to their schools for conducting awareness lectures on deficiency of Vitamin-D in school assemblies. It has also been advised to conduct outdoor activities in free/extra periods, play and conduct physical activities in field/open area during the intervals so that students are benefitted from sun exposure. Department of School Education and Literacy in co-ordination with Department of Sports, has circulated instructions on Fit India School Ranking and Fit India week in schools to States and UTs.

CBSE has made Health and Physical Education compulsory in all classes from I-XII. All students in school are compulsorily required to participate in at least two sports activities as per their interest and capability and this has been included in the eligibility criteria to appear in Board Exams of classes X and XII.

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्लास एक से लेकर क्लास पाँचवीं तक - जैसा सीबीएसई ने बैग के बोझ को कम करने का एक निर्देश दिया है और यह एक बहुत अच्छा निर्देश आया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्लास एक से पाँच तक के बच्चों पर जो सिलेबस का burden डाला जा रहा है, क्या उसके लिए एक बड़ा सर्वे करवाया जाएगा, जिसमें छोटे बच्चों को इन्वॉल्व किया जाए, parents को इन्वॉल्व किया जाए, टीचर्स को इन्वॉल्व किया जाए और एक फ्यूचर कमीशन का गठन किया जाए, जो देखे कि आगे आने वाले समय में बच्चों को क्या

[श्री राकेश सिन्हा]

एजुकेशन चाहिए, किस प्रकार का सिलेबस चाहिए, खासकर एक से पाँचवीं कक्षा के छात्रों के लिए यह आवश्यक है। जब तक हम ऐसा नहीं करते हैं, तो निजी स्कूलों में यह **burden** बढ़ता ही रहेगा, बोझ बढ़ता ही रहेगा। क्या मंत्री जी इस तरह का कोई फ्यूचर कमीशन गठन करने का आश्वासन देंगे?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, सीबीएसई बोर्ड ने बस्ते के बोझ को कम करने के लिए समय-समय पर निर्देश दिए हैं और साथ-साथ मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय ने भी स्कूली बस्तों का भार कम करने की दृष्टि से पाँच अक्टूबर, 2018 को एक सामान्य निर्देश जारी किया था और फिर उसी के तहत मंत्रालय ने एक कमिटी भी गठित की, जो विशेषज्ञों का समूह है। उस विशेषज्ञों के समूह ने भी अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दी और श्रीमन्, मंत्रालय ने जो निर्देश जारी किए थे, वे संबंधित राज्यों में, जिसमें महाराष्ट्र है, मध्य प्रदेश है, पंजाब है, तेलंगाना है, नागालैंड, पश्चिमी बंगाल है, कर्णाटक, उत्तराखंड, असम, उत्तर प्रदेश, गोवा, केरल, ओडिशा, मेघालय, अरुणाचल प्रदेश, गुजरात, हरियाणा, मिजोरम, त्रिपुरा और संघ राज्य क्षेत्र के दादरा एवं नागर हवेली, चंडीगढ़ और लक्षद्वीप हैं, इन सभी प्रदेशों ने उनको अधिसूचित कर दिया है। साथ ही पाठ्यक्रम कितना कम होना चाहिए, इस पर जो भारत सरकार के निर्देश हैं, वे सब लागू कर देंगे।

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Sir, my supplementary question arises from part (d) of the Question No.185. When we talk about higher education, we find that there is a big anomaly. The anomaly is that in the appointments of TGT, the students of Political Science (Honours) and Economics (Honours) are not taken into consideration. I think this anomaly should be immediately taken care of. That's all, Sir.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): It is a suggestion. The Minister need not reply because it is a suggestion.

महंत शम्भुप्रसादजी तुंदिया: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे बोलने का अवसर दिया। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि एनसीईआरटी और सीबीएसई ने बच्चों के स्कूल बैग के वजन को कम करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए हैं? यह मेरा मूलतः प्रश्न है, क्योंकि माननीय मंत्री जी ने जो जवाब दिया, उसमें कहा है कि परिपत्र के माध्यम से स्कूली बच्चे, शिक्षकों और अभिभावकों के लिए विभिन्न सुझाव साझा किए हैं। सर, मेरा प्रश्न है कि सुझाव साझा करने के अलावा आपके माध्यम से क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं, मैं यह माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ।

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, जैसा कि मैंने पहले भी कहा कि हमने जो कमिटी गठित की थी, उस कमिटी की जो अनुशंसाएँ हैं, उनके 15-20 बिन्दु हैं, जिनको मैं बताना चाहता हूँ। उनमें विशेषज्ञों ने बस्ते के बोझ को कम करने के लिए कुछ सुझाव दिए थे, चाहे वह पढ़ाई के लिए डिजिटल व्यवस्था के संबंध में हो, बस्ते में नियमित पाठ्यक्रम की पुस्तकों को ही रखने के संबंध में हो, लंच बॉक्स और पानी से संबंधित हो, शारीरिक शिक्षा तथा कला-शिल्प से संबंधित पाठ्यक्रमों के विषय में हो तथा किस दिन कौन-सा विषय हो, उसके लिए बाकायदा एक रोस्टर हो। यह लम्बा-चौड़ा है। सीबीएसई और गवर्नमेंट ने पूरी ताकत के साथ इसके लिए प्रयास किया है, ताकि राज्य सरकारें अनिवार्य रूप से इसको

लागू करें। सीबीएसई बोर्ड के जितने भी स्कूल्स हैं, वे इसको अनिवार्य रूप में सुनिश्चित करें, इसके लिए निर्देश जारी कर दिए गए हैं और हम उसकी रेगुलर समीक्षा भी करते हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Question no. 186.

Self defence training to girls

*186. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is imparting any self defence training to girls of classes VI to XII studying in Government schools under any scheme across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is also imparting any self defence training to girls who do not come under purview of any formal education; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

Statement

(a) to (d) Yes Sir. Self defence training for girls is an activity under Samagra Shiksha. Keeping in view safety and security of girls, Self defence training is imparted to girls of class VI to XII belonging to Government Schools. Fund for this purpose is provided for three months @ ' 3000/- per school per month for inculcating self-defence skills including life skill for self-protection and self-development among the girls. Self defence training is also being given in Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (KGBVs) which are residential schools meant for girls of Class VI to XII and belonging to disadvantaged groups.

Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) vide its circular dated 07.09.2015 has issued an advisory to the schools affiliated to it on the need for imparting self-defence training to girls in classes I-X of one week duration, twice a year.

Self defence training is regularly provided to girls students in KVs, JNVs and Schools run by Central Tibetan Schools Administration, where girls are trained in Judo, Taekwondo and Boxing etc. In KVs, inter-house competitions and tournaments of these games are conducted at Regional and National levels.

Different State Governments and organisations are organising self defence trainings for girls and women with a view to enhance safety and security of women in the country.

DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: As per the NITI Aayog Report, 101 areas are considered to be backward regions. It creates social problems for the country. Education is one of the best solutions to remove backwardness. On this backdrop, I just want to ask our hon. Education Minister, what all steps has the Education Ministry taken to remove backwardness in these areas?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, माननीय सदस्य की चिन्ता है कि पिछड़े क्षेत्र में विशेषकर बालिकाओं की शिक्षा में गवर्नमेंट क्या कर रही है। मुझे यह कहते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि पिछड़े क्षेत्र में कस्तूरबा गाँधी बालिका विद्यालयों की दृष्टि से भारत सरकार ने समग्र शिक्षा के अंतर्गत जो एक अभियान चलाया है, उसमें जो वंचित एवं दूरस्थ क्षेत्र हैं, उनमें हम लोगों ने एससी, एसटी, ओबीसी, अल्पसंख्यक और गरीबी-रेखा से नीचे के वर्ग की बालिकाओं को प्राथमिकता दी है। मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि 5,930 कस्तूरबा गाँधी स्कूल्स हैं, जिनमें 6,18,000 बालिकाओं को शिक्षा दी जा रही है। उनमें से 4,000 बीपीएल के हैं, 27,000 छात्राएँ मुस्लिम वर्ग से हैं, 29,000 छात्राएँ ओबीसी की हैं, 1,56,000 छात्राएँ एसटी की हैं, जबकि एससी की 1,75,000 छात्राएँ हैं। इनको सभी प्रकार की सुविधाएँ दी जाती हैं। उनको प्री ड्रेस दी जाती है। श्रीमन्, उनकी सुरक्षा से लेकर हर चीज़ की व्यवस्था भारत सरकार करती है।

DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Girls' education is a very big challenge today.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Question, please.

DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Girl's education is a very big challenge today. So, the Ministry also has the challenge of bringing it up now. Under the new education policy, what are the measures that the Government has taken to promote girl child education?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, वैसे तो बालिकाओं की शिक्षा के प्रोत्साहन के लिए, चाहे वह प्रारंभिक शिक्षा हो, माध्यमिक शिक्षा हो या उच्च शिक्षा हो, हर क्षेत्र में बहुत महत्वपूर्ण कार्य किया जा रहा है और सबके लिए शिक्षा अधिकार अधिनियम के तहत तो सिर्फ बालिकाओं को ही प्राथमिकता दी जाती है। माननीय सदस्य ने जो पूछा है, उसके संबंध में मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि नई शिक्षा नीति अभी प्रक्रिया में है और उस नई शिक्षा नीति के मसौदे में अगर इनका भी ऐसा कोई सुझाव होगा, तो उसको भी हम आमंत्रित करना चाहेंगे, लेकिन उस नई शिक्षा नीति में बहुत सारे बिन्दु ऐसे हैं, जो बालिकाओं की शिक्षा को सुदृढ़ करेंगे।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: सर, मेरा सवाल बहुत ही सत्कार योग्य एवं मान योग्य मंत्री जी से है और यह सवाल थोड़ा-सा हटकर है। यह सवाल बच्चियों के सेल्फ डिफेंस से संबंधित है। मैं सत्कार योग्य मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि लगातार 70 साल से हम अपने नौजवान बच्चों एवं बच्चियों के लिए एनसीसी के कैम्प ऑर्गनाइज़ करवाते थे और उसके लिए सारा खर्चा सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट देती थी, मगर आप

ही की सरकार ने पता नहीं किस कारण से, एकाध साल हुआ...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: सर, मेरा सवाल यह है कि एनसीसी सभी को सेल्फ डिफेंस सिखाता है और लीडरशिप भी सिखाता है, जिसके बाद वे बच्चे आर्म्ड फोर्सिज़ तथा पैरा मिलिट्री फोर्सिज़ में जाते हैं। आपने अब केवल गवर्नमेंट स्कूल्स के लिए allow किया है। क्या आप प्राइवेट स्कूल्स और aided स्कूल्स को भी reconsider करेंगे? अब स्थिति यह है कि उसके लिए बच्चों को खुद फीस देनी पड़ती है और एनसीसी के सारे कैम्पस ही हट गए हैं। सर, मेरी गुजारिश यह है कि यह खर्चा आप वापस कीजिए, so that नौजवान बच्चे व बच्चियाँ अपनी आमर्ड फोर्सिज़ के लिए और सेल्फ डिफेंस के लिए फिर से तैयार हों। यह अब केवल गवर्नमेंट स्कूल्स तक ही मौजूद रह गया है और इसको आपने प्राइवेट स्कूल्स और aided स्कूल्स में बन्द कर दिया है।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): ठीक है, यह सजेशन है, सवाल नहीं है।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: कृपा करके आप बताइए कि उनको आप reconsider करेंगे या नहीं?

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन ।

श्री प्रताप सिंह बाजवा: महोदय ,आप मेरे सवाल का जवाब देने दीजिए।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): मैंने आपको दो बार बोला कि आप सवाल पूछिए। आप सुझाव देने लगे।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है, जो लड़कियों, बालिकाओं की आत्मरक्षा से जुड़ा हुआ है। लड़कियों की सुरक्षा उनके स्वाभिमान पर निर्भर करती है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि वर्ष 2012-13 की एक रिपोर्ट आयी थी, जिसमें यह बताया गया था कि 40 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा, जिन लड़कियों का रेप होता है, वह खुले में शौच करने वाली लड़कियों का होता है। उसके बाद इस देश में सरकार ने स्कूलों में 11 करोड़ टॉयलेट्स बनाने का काम किया है। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहती हूँ। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

محترمہ کہکشاں پروین : آپ سبھا ادھیکش مہودے، یہ بہت ہی اہم موضوع ہے، جو لڑکیوں، بالیکاؤں کی آتم-رکشا سے جڑا ہوا ہے۔ لڑکیوں کی سرکشا ان کے سوابھیمان پر نربہر کرتی ہے۔ میں مائنے منتری جی سے یہ بتانا چاہتی ہوں کہ سال 2012-13 کی ایک رپورٹ آئی تھی، جس میں یہ بتایا گیا تھا کہ چالیس فیصد سے زیادہ، جن لڑکیوں کا ریپ ہوتا ہے، وہ کھلے میں شوچ کرنے والی لڑکیوں کا ہوتا ہے۔ اس کے بعد اس دیش میں سرکار نے اسکولوں میں گیارہ کروڑ ٹائلیٹس بنانے کا کام کیا ہے۔ میں مائنے منتری جی سے یہ کہنا چاہتی ہوں۔

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: महोदय, आप लड़कियों के स्वास्थ्य पर भी खर्चा कर रहे हैं और जहां तक आत्मरक्षा की बात है तो मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि जो माहवारी किट मिलती है, क्या उसे आप 8वीं क्लास से लेकर 12वीं क्लास तक की लड़कियों को उपलब्ध कराएंगे? चूंकि बिहार सरकार वहां छात्राओं को उपलब्ध करा रही है। दूसरा यह कि आपके औषधि केन्द्र में यह एक रुपया प्रति पीस मिल रही है, चूंकि यह विषय लड़कियों के स्वास्थ्य से संबंधित है और इस विषय को मैं बहुत अच्छी तरह समझती हूँ।

† محترمہ کہکشاں پروین : مہودے، آپ لڑکیوں کے سواستھ پر بھی خرچہ کر رہے ہیں اور جہاں تک آتم-رکشا کی بات ہے تو میں آپ کے مادھیم سے مائٹے منتری جہ سے یہ جاننا چاہتی ہوں کہ جو ماہواری-کٹ ملتی ہے، کیا آپ آٹھویں کلاس سے لے کر بارہویں کلاس تک کی لڑکیوں کو مہیا کرانیں گے؟ چونکہ بہار سرکار وہاں لوگوں کو مہیا کر رہی ہے۔ دوسرا یہ کہ آپ کے اوشدھی کارپالے میں یہ ایک روپیہ ایک پیس پر مل رہی ہے، چونکہ یہ وشنے لڑکیوں کے سواستھ سے سمبندھت ہے اور اس وشنے کو میں بہت اچھی طرح سمجھتی ہوں۔

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): One second. Hon. Members, as you know, I need not repeat that supplementary questions should be pointed questions; no preface or prelude. Please, Mr. Minister.

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, मैं जितना समझ पाया हूँ कि बालिकाओं की सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से गवर्नमेंट जो काम कर रही है, मैं माननीय सदस्य को आपके माध्यम से यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि स्वयं सुरक्षा, आत्मरक्षा प्रशिक्षण के लिए भारत सरकार ने एक योजना बनायी है और संबंधित राज्यों को बालिकाओं की सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से...

श्रीमती कहकशां परवीन: महोदय, मेरा सवाल सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य, दोनों से ही जुड़ा हुआ है।

† محترمہ کہکشاں پروین : مہودے، میرا سوال سرکشا اور سواستھ، دونوں سے ہی جڑا ہوا ہے۔

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, मैं सुरक्षा और स्वास्थ्य दोनों की बात कर रहा हूँ। पहले मैं सुरक्षा की बात कर लूँ। महोदय, बालिकाओं की सुरक्षा के लिए गवर्नमेंट बहुत चौकस है और संवेदनशील है। महोदय, मुझे खुशी है लगभग 36 राज्यों में प्रति माह 3,000 रुपये लगातार तीन माह तक और प्रशिक्षण दिया जाएगा। इस समय 2 लाख, 61 हजार, 960 छात्राओं को आत्मरक्षा का विशेष प्रशिक्षण दिया जा रहा है। 36 राज्यों को इस वर्ष 220 करोड़ रुपये जारी हुए हैं। श्रीमन्, मैं अभी देख रहा था कि माननीय सदस्या जिस प्रदेश से आती हैं, चाहे तमिलनाडु हो और विभिन्न प्रदेशों में...

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): वे तमिलनाडु से नहीं आती हैं, बिहार से आती हैं।

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, तमिलनाडु से मूल प्रश्न था, लेकिन तमिलनाडु सहित देश के विभिन्न राज्यों ने अपने यहां पाठ्यक्रम में भी उसको सुनिश्चित किया है और जहां तक माननीय सदस्य का प्रश्न है, सर्वशिक्षा अभियान के तहत सबके लिए वे सब चीजें समाहित होती हैं, जो उनकी शंका है।

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम: महोदय, मेरा प्रश्न कस्तूरबा गांधी पब्लिक विद्यालय से संबंधित है। ऐसे कई विद्यालय हैं, जिनके बारे में मैं जानती हूं। वहां जो बच्चे शिक्षा प्राप्त करने के लिए आते हैं और स्कूल्स से बहुत उम्मीद रखते हैं, वहां कई ऐसे देती स्कूल्स भी हैं, जिनमें बालिकाओं का शोषण हो रहा है। टीचर्स ज्यादा ध्यान नहीं देती हैं। अगर आप पूछेंगे, तो मैं उस जगह का नाम भी बता दूंगी।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): आप सवाल पूछिए।

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम: महोदय, मेरा सवाल यह है कि बालिकाओं की सुरक्षा और उनकी शिक्षा पर ध्यान दिया जाए, इसके लिए सरकार ने ऐसे क्या इंतजाम कर रखे हैं? मंत्री जी से मेरा सवाल है कि क्या स्कूल्स में कोई निरीक्षण करने के लिए जाता है?

श्री रमेश पोखरियाल 'निशंक': श्रीमन्, लगातार निरीक्षण भी होता है और माननीय सदस्य ने जो चिंता व्यक्त की है, उसे देखा भी जाता है। इसलिए 'निष्ठा' जो एक बहुत बड़ा कार्यक्रम है, जिसमें 42 लाख अध्यापकों को प्रशिक्षित करने का अभियान है, उसमें निष्ठा कार्यक्रम के तहत इस बात को विशेष कर रखा गया है कि अध्यापकों में उस संवेदनशीलता को जगाया जाए और उस अनुशासन को हर कीमत पर बनाए रखा जाए। जहां तक सुरक्षा का सवाल है। श्रीमन्, विद्यालय स्तर पर जूडो, बॉक्सिंग और तमाम प्रकार के राष्ट्रीय खेल हैं। और आत्मरक्षा से संबंधित बहुत सारे खेलों को हमने पाठ्यक्रम का हिस्सा बनाया है और हम इसे ताकत के साथ लागू भी कर रहे हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Question No. 187.

Reasons for change of GDP base year

*187. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) the specific reasons as to why the base year of GDP is being changed once again;
- (b) a detailed analysis of the fall in consumer expenditure, year-wise, during the past three years; and
- (c) the details of steps being taken to revive it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) As per the United Nations System of National Accounts (UN SNA)-2008, base year of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) series is revised from time to time to better capture structural changes in the economy. The choice of an appropriate base year depends on several factors like the global and national economic situation as also the data availability which in some cases is through quinquennial surveys. In India the base year of the GDP series has been revised seven times, the last two revisions being in 2004-05 and 2011-12.

(b) As per the released National Accounts Statistics (NAS) estimates, the Private Final Consumption Expenditure (PFCE) during the last three years is given below:

Item	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (PE)
PFCE at Current Prices (₹ crore)	91,15,769	1,00,83,121	1,12,90,029
PFCE at Constant (2011-12) Prices (₹ crore)	69,04,085	74,17,489	80,16,674

PE- Provisional Estimates.

The PFCE during the last three years is showing increasing trend.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b).

DR. SANTANU SEN: Sir, my first supplementary is regarding the change in base year of GDP. We know that Shri Arvind Subramanian, former Chief Economic Adviser, has said that the process of GDP calculation has been changed in our country. My question is: Is it a fact that as the economic level of our country has been brought down by this Government to a level of dismal, this process is being changed repeatedly? What are the changes that have been brought in during the last five years? I want to know this from the hon. Minister.

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, the apprehensions of the hon. Member are, according to me, unfounded. This is not the first time that the base year for computing statistics including GDP has been changed. Over the past 70 years in India, the base year has been changed seven times, namely, in 1967, 1978, 1988, 1999, 2006, 2010, and thereafter, in 2015, when 2011-12 was computed as the base year. Even in my answer to the question, I have stated that the United Nations System of National Accounts has said that the base year should be periodically changed so as to get the full rainbow of colours of the economy into the mapping and you can get a proper estimate as to what is going on in the country's GDP. And the reasons for change in this particular case, if I may just state, are that the socio-

economic environment has changed; entry of smartphones has come in whereas, earlier, there were tele-printers and typewriters; business models have changed; like Ola, Uber, etc., have come into service since 2011-12. Then there is the price dynamics. The cost of computers has decreased; there is change in consumption pattern, people have started eating fast food and started using internet. So, the structural changes in the economy over various periods needed to be factored in and this could only be done by changing the base year. This is one such time and I don't think there is need for any apprehension.

DR. SANTANU SEN: As per National Statistics Office Report 2017-18, a sharp fall in household consumption expenditure has taken place in India in the last 40 years. In 2011-12, the monthly expenditure was ₹ 1,501. Now, in 2017-18, it has become ₹ 1,446. So there is a sharp fall by 3.7 per cent.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): What is the question?

DR. SANTANU SEN: Is it the real fact? I want to know the exact fact.

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member has asked whether consumption expenditure has decreased over the past three years. I have given in the written reply that it has not decreased. That is a misconception. It has increased. Even for 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, I have written in my answer itself that it has increased; it has not decreased.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I have no problem about changing the base year for GDP. But I think the Minister's answer to part (b) of this question is *. The data for consumption expenditure was in public domain. It showed lowest consumption in rural areas and in urban areas in the last 48 years. The Government then decided to discontinue that data. My question to the hon. Minister is: What did the Government discover in this data that forced it to withdraw the publication of this data? The fact that it has been withdrawn is incontrovertible.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): One second. * will not be part of the record.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Sir, what is the answer?

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, any data that is computed, comes to the Ministry, and then, in the Ministry itself, there is a rigorous procedure to ensure that the data is correct, according to different standards. Here, we have not accepted it so far. It is not

*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

[Shri Rao Inderjit Singh]

rejected. It has not been accepted. There is a difference between the two. And why has it not been accepted, Sir? There was much divergence that was observed between the CES Report and other administrative data sources, like, actual production of goods and services. Concerns were also raised about the ability and the sensitivity of the survey instrument to capture consumption of social services by households, specially on health, education, etc... As you know, Sir, Ayushman Bharat is a scheme that has been proposed by the Government of India. Ten crore households get five lakhs of rupees of medical aid freely per year. Apart from this, there is a right to free education which has now been taken up by the Government. So, people don't spend on health either, as they used to; they don't spend on education because now, it is free, and then, there was this PDS system जिसमें अनेक loopholes थे, वे सारे के सारे आज के दिन बंद कर दिए गए हैं, तो उनके ऊपर खर्चा नहीं हो रहा है। I stand by my statement, as I said earlier, that the consumption has not decreased.

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Sir, through you, I want to ask the hon. Minister one question. The GDP of our country, at this moment, is low, low to the bottom level, and the hon. Member of this august House, Dr. Subramanian Swamy, has also categorically came out in a public statement. ...(*Interruptions*)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): No, no; put your question, please.

SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: My question is that it is not 4.5 per cent. It is really 1.25 per cent. What is the exact GDP of our country at this moment?

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, concerns have been raised about the GDP, which according to us, the Statistical Ministry, has come down to 4.5 per cent in the second quarter. But, this is something which is not unprecedented. If I may just point out, in 2008-09, the GDP as per 2004-05 base year, had come down to 3.9 per cent. Immediately thereafter, in the next year, the GDP went up to 8.5 per cent. So, our country, as such, has the resilience to overtake this 4.5 per cent GDP that has come up in the second quarter. And even per year, quarter-wise, there have been precedents where in one quarter, it was low, and in the next quarter, the GDP had bounced back and jumped up to a high level. I will quote, Sir. In 2014-15, in the second quarter, the GDP was 8.7 per cent; in third quarter, it came down to 5.9 per cent; and in the fourth quarter, again, jumped up to 7.1 per cent. Similarly, in 2016-17, in the first quarter, it was 9.4 per cent; then, it came down to 7 per cent in fourth quarter and then, it went again up to 8.1 per cent in fourth quarter of 2017-18. So, it is not something that we need to be worried about. Sir, 4.5 per cent is the present second quarter's assessment. In the

next quarter, one hopes, it will go up again.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Thank you, Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, for giving me an opportunity to speak finally. Sir, there has been a major structural change in India post demonetisation, squeezing the cash-based sectors like real estate and construction. Sir, my question to the hon. Minister is this. Has this major structural change been taken on board in revising the estimation of GDP? Thank you.

SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH: Sir, all factors that affect the economy are taken on board in revising the GDP estimates and the way that we have computed it.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Now, Question No.188.

Anganwadis in the country

*188. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total number of Anganwadis in the country over the past three years in a year-wise format, in a State-wise and district-wise manner;
- (b) the Total number of ASHA workers and helpers over the past three years in a year-wise format, in a State-wise and district-wise manner;
- (c) how many Anganwadis have their own pucca building, toilets, drinking water, electricity supply, playground and cooking facilities, the State-wise details thereof; and
- (d) how many Anganwadis do not have their own pucca building, toilets, drinking water, electricity supply, playground and cooking facilities, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Government has approved 14 lakh Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and sanctioned 13,99,697 AWCs across the country. Out of 13,99,697 sanctioned AWCs, 13,77,595 AWCs are operational. Year-wise and State-wise number of sanctioned and operational AWCs in the country during the last three years is given in the Annexure-I (*See below*). District-wise data is captured in Integrated Child Development Services-Rapid Reporting System (ICDS-RRS) portal. As on 31st March, 2019, 9,13,422 AWCs have reported data on ICDS-RRS

portal. District-wise number of AWCs reporting on RRS portal is given in the Annexure-II (*See below*).

(b) As per information received from the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, there were 1,04,030 ASHA Workers across the country as on 31st March, 2019. Moreover, there were 11,82,201 Anganwadi Helpers as on 31st March, 2019 deployed at AWCs. Year-wise and State-wise number of ASHA Workers and Anganwadi Helpers in the country for the last three years is given in the Annexure-III (*See below*).

(c) As per reports received from States/UTs, as on 30th June, 2019 there were 5,40,515 AWCs having their own pucca buildings, 10,14,655 AWCs having toilets and 12,18,027 AWCs having drinking water facilities across the country. State-wise detail of AWCs having own pucca buildings, toilets and drinking water facilities is given in the Annexure-IV (*See below*). As per Section 5(1) of National Food Security Act, 2013, every anganwadi centre is to have facilities for cooking meals, drinking water and sanitation. Government of India releases funds @ ₹ 10,000/- per AWC once in 5 years for equipments including cooker/utensils. Further, as per norms, every anganwadi centre should have a space of 600 square feet having cooking facility, toilets and drinking water facility etc.

(d) Out of 13,69,194 Total AWCs for which data is available, 28,550 AWCs are running in Government owned kuchha premises, 3,77,712 AWCs are running in rented premises whereas 4,22,417 AWCs are running from community buildings including schools. State-wise number of AWCs which do not have their own pucca buildings, toilets and drinking water facilities is given in the Annexure-V.

Annexure-I

State-wise sanctioned and operational number of Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) during the last three years

Sl. No.	State/UTs	No. of Anganwadi Centres					
		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Sanct- ioned	Opera- tional	Sanct- ioned	Opera- tional	Sanct- ioned	Opera- tional
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	55,607	55,605	55,607	55,606	55,607	55,607

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2	Arunachal Pradesh	6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	6,225	6225
3	Assam	62,153	62,153	62,153	62,153	62,153	62,153
4	Bihar	1,15,009	91,677	1,15,009	91,677	1,15,009	1,04,090
5	Chhattisgarh	52,474	49,947	52,474	50,448	52,474	51,301
6	Goa	1,262	1,255	1,262	1,258	1,262	1,262
7	Gujarat	53,029	53,029	53,029	53,029	53,029	53,029
8	Haryana	25,962	25,962	25,962	25,962	25,962	25,962
9	Himachal Pradesh	18,925	18,925	18,925	18,925	18,925	18,925
10	Jammu and Kashmir	31,938	29,599	31,938	29,599	31,938	29,599
11	Jharkhand	38,432	38,432	38,432	38,432	38,432	38,432
12	Karnataka	65,911	64,558	65,911	65,911	65,911	65,911
13	Kerala	33,318	33,115	33,318	33,244	33,318	33,244
14	Madhya Pradesh	97,135	94,398	97,135	97,132	97,135	97,135
15	Maharashtra	1,10,486	1,09,779	1,10,486	1,09,779	1,10,486	1,10,219
16	Manipur	11,510	9,883	11,510	11,510	11,510	11,510
17	Meghalaya	5,896	5,894	5,896	5,896	5,896	5,896
18	Mizoram	2,244	2,244	2,244	2,244	2,244	2,244
19	Nagaland	3,980	3,455	3,980	3,980	3,980	3,980
20	Odisha	74,154	72,195	74,154	72,587	74,154	72,587
21	Punjab	27,314	26,711	27,314	26,988	27,314	27,289
22	Rajasthan	62,010	61,974	62,010	61,974	62,010	61,974
23	Sikkim	1,308	1,290	1,308	1,308	1,308	1,308

1	2	3
2	North and Middle Andaman	265
3	South Andamans	370
Andhra Pradesh		
1	Anantapur	496
2	Chittoor	840
3	East Godavari	3058
4	Guntur	964
5	Krishna	3417
6	Kurnool	762
7	Prakasam	1137
8	Spsr Nellore	2973
9	Srikakulam	331
10	Visakhapatanam	204
11	Vizianagaram	1099
12	West Godavari	1207
13	Y.S.R.	659
Assam		
1	Baksa	0
2	Barpeta	0
3	Biswanath	0
4	Bongaigaon	394
5	Cachar	0
6	Charaideo	87
7	Chirang	420
8	Darrang	0
9	Dhemaji	0

1	2	3
10	Dhubri	582
11	Dibrugarh	0
12	Dima Hasao	0
13	Goalpara	0
14	Golaghat	0
15	Hailakandi	151
16	Hojai	0
17	Jorhat	0
18	Kamrup	17
19	Kamrup Metro	0
20	Karbi Anglong	17
21	Karimganj	0
22	Kokrajhar	1009
23	Lakhimpur	791
24	Majuli	205
25	Marigaon	0
26	Nagaon	187
27	Nalbari	0
28	Sivasagar	89
29	Sonitpur	38
30	South Salmara Mancachar	0
31	Tinsukia	0
32	Udalguri	518
33	West Karbi Anglong	0
Chandigarh		
1	Chandigarh	450

1	2	3
Chhattisgarh		
1	Balod	1517
2	Baloda Bazar	1943
3	Balrampur	2287
4	Bastar	1722
5	Bemetara	1028
6	Bijapur	1010
7	Bilaspur	2741
8	Dantewada	1052
9	Dhamtari	1101
10	Durg	1486
11	Gariyaband	1346
12	Janjgir-Champa	2238
13	Jashpur	3783
14	Kabirdham	1313
15	Kanker	2100
16	Kondagaon	1762
17	Korba	2495
18	Korea	1792
19	Mahasamund	1769
20	Mungeli	1062
21	Narayanpur	536
22	Raigarh	3405
23	Raipur	1860
24	Rajnandgaon	2794
25	Sukma	813

1	2	3
26	Surajpur	1964
27	Surguja	2338
Goa		
1	North Goa	708
2	South Goa	551
Haryana		
1	Ambala	1107
2	Bhiwani	1266
3	Charki Dadri	633
4	Faridabad	1277
5	Fatehabad	1049
6	Gurugram	1025
7	Hisar	1673
8	Jhajjar	1095
9	Jind	1357
10	Kaithal	1147
11	Karnal	1469
12	Kurukshetra	1075
13	Mahendragarh	880
14	Mewat	579
15	Palwal	626
16	Panchkula	524
17	Panipat	958
18	Rewari	1098
19	Rohtak	1004
20	Sirsa	1157
21	Sonipat	1433

1	2	3
22	Yamunanagar	1278
Himachal Pradesh		
1	Bilaspur	1102
2	Chamba	1131
3	Hamirpur	1317
4	Kangra	4201
5	Kinnaur	235
6	Kullu	1088
7	Lahul and Spiti	1
8	Mandi	3004
9	Shimla	2121
10	Sirmaur	1485
11	Solan	1258
12	Una	1364
Ladakh		
1	Kargil	0
2	Leh Ladakh	441
Jharkhand		
1	Bokaro	1880
2	Chatra	1082
3	Deoghar	1447
4	Dhanbad	1967
5	Dumka	2060
6	East Singhbhum	1680
7	Garhwa	1174
8	Giridih	1904
9	Godda	1791

1	2	3
10	Gumla	1352
11	Hazaribagh	1744
12	Jamtara	1005
13	Khunti	839
14	Koderma	595
15	Latehar	935
16	Lohardaga	743
17	Pakur	891
18	Palamu	2556
19	Ramgarh	1041
20	Ranchi	2791
21	Sahebganj	1684
22	Saraikela Kharsawan	1249
23	Simdega	926
24	West Singhbhum	2037
Lakshadweep		
1	Lakshadweep District	0
Kerala		
1	Alappuzha	2147
2	Ernakulam	2792
3	Idukki	1522
4	Kannur	2486
5	Kasaragod	1346
6	Kollam	2718
7	Kottayam	2045
8	Kozhikode	2936
9	Malappuram	3795

1	2	3
10	Palakkad	2825
11	Pathanamthitta	1325
12	Thiruvananthapuram	3051
13	Thrissur	3008
14	Wayanad	869
Madhya Pradesh		
1	Agar Malwa	0
2	Alirajpur	2216
3	Anuppur	1147
4	Ashoknagar	1089
5	Balaghat	2555
6	Barwani	1784
7	Betul	2347
8	Bhind	2401
9	Bhopal	1871
10	Burhanpur	814
11	Chhatarpur	2057
12	Chhindwara	2700
13	Damoh	1742
14	Datia	900
15	Dewas	1860
16	Dhar	2721
17	Dindori	1913
18	East Nimar	1680
19	Guna	1660
20	Gwalior	1458
21	Harda	699

1	2	3
22	Hoshangabad	1769
23	Indore	1825
24	Jabalpur	2483
25	Jhabua	2706
26	Katni	1712
27	Khargone	2293
28	Mandla	2304
29	Mandsaur	1735
30	Morena	2598
31	Narsinghpur	1191
32	Neemuch	1112
33	Panna	1492
34	Raisen	1858
35	Rajgarh	2456
36	Ratlam	2124
37	Rewa	2699
38	Sagar	2629
39	Satna	2702
40	Sehore	1415
41	Seoni	2134
42	Shahdol	1599
43	Shajapur	1807
44	Sheopur	1122
45	Shivpuri	2408
46	Sidhi	1902
47	Singrauli	1550
48	Tikamgarh	1778

1	2	3
49	Ujjain	2127
50	Umaria	760
51	Vidisha	2371
Meghalaya		
1	East Garo Hills	0
2	East Jaintia Hills	37
3	East Khasi Hills	415
4	North Garo Hills	0
5	Ri Bhoi	240
6	South Garo Hills	62
7	South West Garo Hills	319
8	South West Khasi Hills	9
9	West Garo Hills	690
10	West Jaintia Hills	0
11	West Khasi Hills	0
Nagaland		
1	Dimapur	0
2	Kiphire	0
3	Kohima	0
4	Longleng	0
5	Mokokchung	0
6	Mon	0
7	Peren	0
8	Phek	0
9	Tuensang	0
10	Wokha	0
11	Zunheboto	0

1	2	3
Puducherry		
1	Karaikal	167
2	Mahe	181
3	Pondicherry	243
4	Yanam	151
Punjab		
1	Amritsar	1691
2	Barnala	671
3	Bathinda	1021
4	Faridkot	545
5	Fatehgarh Sahib	637
6	Fazilka	1032
7	Firozpur	1230
8	Gurdaspur	2052
9	Hoshiarpur	1909
10	Jalandhar	1654
11	Kapurthala	911
12	Ludhiana	2282
13	Mansa	806
14	Moga	962
15	Nawanshahr	793
16	Pathankot	709
17	Patiala	1775
18	Rupnagar	860
19	S.A.S Nagar	627
20	Sangrur	1908
21	Sri Muktsar Sahib	890

1	2	3
22	Tarn Taran	1107
Sikkim		
1	East District	470
2	North District	190
3	South District	330
4	West District	316
Tamil Nadu		
1	Ariyalur	615
2	Chennai	1281
3	Coimbatore	1697
4	Cuddalore	2023
5	Dharmapuri	1333
6	Dindigul	1678
7	Erode	1525
8	Kanchipuram	2207
9	Kanniyakumari	1401
10	Karur	1000
11	Krishnagiri	588
12	Madurai	1745
13	Nagapattinam	1115
14	Namakkal	1579
15	Perambalur	489
16	Pudukkottai	1371
17	Ramanathapuram	1447
18	Salem	2696
19	Sivaganga	1357
20	Thanjavur	1749

1	2	3
21	The Nilgiris	481
22	Theni	906
23	Thiruvallur	1994
24	Thiruvavarur	1246
25	Tiruchirappalli	1842
26	Tirunelveli	2562
27	Tiruppur	1501
28	Tiruvannamalai	2124
29	Tuticorin	1505
30	Vellore	2510
31	Villupuram	2939
32	Virudhunagar	1504
Tripura		
1	Dhalai	987
2	Gomati	387
3	Khowai	992
4	North Tripura	1178
5	Sepahijala	1135
6	South Tripura	1152
7	Unakoti	334
8	West Tripura	1349
Uttar Pradesh		
1	Agra	2810
2	Aligarh	1713
3	Allahabad	4499
4	Ambedkar Nagar	2526
5	Amethi	1526

1	2	3
6	Amroha	426
7	Auraiya	202
8	Azamgarh	2071
9	Baghpat	926
10	Bahraich	3054
11	Ballia	2074
12	Balrampur	1789
13	Banda	357
14	Barabanki	2841
15	Bareilly	1901
16	Basti	2633
17	Bhadohi	0
18	Bijnor	2471
19	Budaun	32
20	Bulandshahr	460
21	Chandauli	911
22	Chitrakoot	520
23	Deoria	3055
24	Etah	1303
25	Etawah	1564
26	Faizabad	1381
27	Farrukhabad	1530
28	Fatehpur	2417
29	Firozabad	676
30	Gautam Buddha Nagar	101
31	Ghaziabad	1124
32	Ghazipur	241

1	2	3
33	Gonda	2151
34	Gorakhpur	1302
35	Hamirpur	1270
36	Hapur	222
37	Hardoi	1796
38	Hathras	596
39	Jalaun	1648
40	Jaunpur	5244
41	Jhansi	857
42	Kannauj	799
43	Kanpur Dehat	1
44	Kanpur Nagar	2098
45	Kasganj	340
46	Kaushambi	1728
47	Kheri	3076
48	Kushi Nagar	1037
49	Lalitpur	1088
50	Lucknow	2694
51	Maharajganj	552
52	Mahoba	823
53	Mainpuri	473
54	Mathura	904
55	Mau	539
56	Meerut	2036
57	Mirzapur	2159
58	Moradabad	2522
59	Muzaffarnagar	1164

1	2	3
60	Pilibhit	1359
61	Pratapgarh	3180
62	Rae Bareli	36
63	Rampur	2145
64	Saharanpur	1501
65	Sambhal	1182
66	Sant Kabeer Nagar	498
67	Shahjahanpur	221
68	Shamli	727
69	Shravasti	816
70	Siddharth Nagar	1727
71	Sitapur	2991
72	Sonbhadra	1726
73	Sultanpur	702
74	Unnao	3154
75	Varanasi	2934
Arunachal Pradesh		
1	Anjaw	2
2	Changlang	221
3	Dibang Valley	23
4	East Siang	206
5	Kra Daadi	69
6	Kurung Kumey	0
7	Lohit	19
8	Longding	0
9	Lower Dibang Valley	114
10	Lower Subansiri	0

1	2	3
11	Namsai	317
12	Papum Pare	376
13	Siang	56
14	Tawang	16
15	Tirap	0
16	Upper Siang	0
17	Upper Subansiri	74
18	West Kameng	127
Bihar		
1	Araria	2337
2	Arwal	564
3	Aurangabad	1835
4	Banka	1762
5	Begusarai	2528
6	Bhagalpur	2067
7	Bhojpur	2151
8	Buxar	532
9	Darbhanga	3536
10	Gaya	3705
11	Gopalganj	2264
12	Jamui	1667
13	Jehanabad	1046
14	Kaimur (Bhabua)	1319
15	Katihar	2514
16	Khagaria	1381
17	Kishanganj	1895
18	Lakhisarai	998

1	2	3
19	Madhepura	1809
20	Madhubani	2600
21	Munger	989
22	Muzaffarpur	3167
23	Nalanda	2879
24	Nawada	1780
25	Pashchim Champaran	1963
26	Patna	3822
27	Purbi Champaran	2979
28	Purnia	2497
29	Rohtas	3081
30	Saharsa	1643
31	Samastipur	3963
32	Saran	3249
33	Sheikhpura	508
34	Sheohar	34
35	Sitamarhi	2031
36	Siwan	2072
37	Supaul	1875
38	Vaishali	2821
Dadra Nagar Haveli		
1	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	301
Daman and Diu		
1	Daman	56
2	Diu	0
Delhi		
1	Central	466

1	2	3
2	East	606
3	New Delhi	0
4	North	530
5	North East	1803
6	North West	3066
7	Shahdara	0
8	South	2016
9	South East	0
10	South West	579
11	West	1689
Gujarat		
1	Ahmedabad	3628
2	Amreli	1616
3	Anand	1993
4	Arvalli	1448
5	Banas Kantha	3365
6	Bharuch	1374
7	Bhavnagar	1906
8	Botad	569
9	Chhotaudepur	1182
10	Dang	441
11	Devbhumi Dwarka	691
12	Dohad	3056
13	Gandhinagar	1068
14	Gir Somnath	1166
15	Jamnagar	1196
16	Junagadh	1428

1	2	3
17	Kachchh	2116
18	Kheda	1979
19	Mahesana	1919
20	Mahisagar	1316
21	Morbi	761
22	Narmada	952
23	Navsari	1330
24	Panch Mahals	2000
25	Patan	1427
26	Porbandar	489
27	Rajkot	1717
28	Sabar Kantha	1919
29	Surat	2825
30	Surendranagar	1355
31	Tapi	1049
32	Vadodara	1847
33	Valsad	1899
Jammu and Kashmir		
1	Anantnag	1099
2	Badgam	1317
3	Bandipora	316
4	Baramulla	2023
5	Doda	891
6	Ganderbal	539
7	Jammu	2250
8	Kathua	1467
9	Kishtwar	2

1	2	3
10	Kulgam	1012
11	Kupwara	2202
12	Poonch	1278
13	Pulwama	1056
14	Rajauri	259
15	Ramban	692
16	Reasi	379
17	Samba	991
18	Shopian	520
19	Srinagar	986
20	Udhampur	1415
Karnataka		
1	Bagalkot	105
2	Ballari	284
3	Belagavi	549
4	Bengaluru Rural	766
5	Bengaluru Urban	508
6	Bidar	0
7	Chamarajanagar	0
8	Chikballapur	873
9	Chikkamagaluru	0
10	Chitradurga	593
11	Dakshin Kannad	710
12	Davangere	20
13	Dharwad	852
14	Gadag	0
15	Hassan	126

1	2	3
16	Haveri	672
17	Kalaburagi	713
18	Kodagu	762
19	Kolar	0
20	Koppal	31
21	Mandya	349
22	Mysuru	0
23	Raichur	108
24	Ramanagara	0
25	Shivamogga	368
26	Tumakuru	0
27	Udupi	0
28	Uttar Kannad	131
29	Vijayapura	0
30	Yadgir	517

Maharashtra

1	Ahmednagar	0
2	Akola	0
3	Amravati	0
4	Aurangabad	0
5	Beed	0
6	Bhandara	0
7	Buldhana	0
8	Chandrapur	0
9	Dhule	0
10	Gadchiroli	0

1	2	3
11	Gondia	0
12	Hingoli	0
13	Jalgaon	0
14	Jalna	0
15	Kolhapur	0
16	Latur	0
17	Mumbai	0
18	Mumbai Suburban	0
19	Nagpur	0
20	Nanded	0
21	Nandurbar	0
22	Nashik	0
23	Osmanabad	0
24	Palghar	0
25	Parbhani	0
26	Pune	0
27	Raigad	0
28	Ratnagiri	0
29	Sangli	0
30	Satara	0
31	Sindhudurg	0
32	Solapur	0
33	Thane	0
34	Wardha	0
35	Washim	0
36	Yavatmal	0

1	2	3
Manipur		
1	Bishnupur	318
2	Chandel	75
3	Churachandpur	157
4	Imphal East	1531
5	Imphal West	706
6	Jirbam	0
7	Kakching	0
8	Kamjong	0
9	Kangpokpi	0
10	Noney	0
11	Pherzawl	0
12	Senapati	40
13	Tamenglong	0
14	Tengnoupal	0
15	Thoubal	710
16	Ukhrul	629
Mizoram		
1	Aizawl	544
2	Champhai	264
3	Kolasib	137
4	Lawngtlai	275
5	Lunglei	418
6	Mamit	281
7	Saiha	126
8	Serchhip	156

1	2	3
Odisha		
1	Anugul	1578
2	Balangir	2630
3	Baleshwar	4063
4	Bargarh	2898
5	Bhadrak	2265
6	Boudh	420
7	Cuttack	2861
8	Deogarh	102
9	Dhenkanal	483
10	Gajapati	1602
11	Ganjam	3896
12	Jagatsinghapur	848
13	Jajapur	540
14	Jharsuguda	892
15	Kalahandi	725
16	Kandhamal	2097
17	Kendrapara	1722
18	Kendujhar	2369
19	Khordha	1076
20	Koraput	1235
21	Malkangiri	530
22	Mayurbhanj	2547
23	Nabarangpur	1446
24	Nayagarh	649
25	Nuapada	1168
26	Puri	1162

1	2	3
27	Rayagada	1622
28	Sambalpur	1840
29	Sonepur	105
30	Sundargarh	1654
Rajasthan		
1	Ajmer	1927
2	Alwar	2037
3	Banswara	1595
4	Baran	1615
5	Barmer	3079
6	Bharatpur	1571
7	Bhilwara	2113
8	Bikaner	1438
9	Bundi	1039
10	Chittorgarh	1003
11	Churu	1224
12	Dausa	1354
13	Dholpur	806
14	Dungarpur	1588
15	Ganganagar	1949
16	Hanumangarh	1207
17	Jaipur	4027
18	Jaisalmer	221
19	Jalore	1367
20	Jhalawar	1182
21	Jhunjhunu	1443
22	Jodhpur	1111

1	2	3
23	Karauli	1104
24	Kota	826
25	Nagaur	2479
26	Pali	1619
27	Pratapgarh	1174
28	Rajsamand	1051
29	Sawai Madhopur	752
30	Sikar	1399
31	Sirohi	665
32	Tonk	1456
33	Udaipur	1794
Telangana		
1	Adilabad	1030
2	Bhadradi Kothagudem	2028
3	Hyderabad	907
4	Jagitial	800
5	Jangoan	705
6	Jayashankar Bhupalapally	1198
7	Jogulamba Gadwal	688
8	Kamareddy	1010
9	Karimnagar	749
10	Khammam	1642
11	Kumuram Bheem Asifabad	482
12	Mahabubabad	1414
13	Mahabubnagar	1508
14	Mancherial	906
15	Medak	821
16	Medchal Malkajgiri	776

1	2	3
17	Nagarkurnool	1011
18	Nalgonda	2062
19	Nirmal	455
20	Nizamabad	1496
21	Peddapalli	703
22	Rajanna Sircilla	587
23	Ranga Reddy	1326
24	Sangareddy	1499
25	Siddipet	959
26	Suryapet	1162
27	Vikarabad	992
28	Wanaparthi	574
29	Warangal Rural	879
30	Warangal Urban	795
31	Yadadri Bhuvanagiri	593
Uttarakhand		
1	Almora	1388
2	Bageshwar	725
3	Chamoli	699
4	Champawat	519
5	Dehradun	1865
6	Haridwar	2534
7	Nainital	1379
8	Pauri Garhwal	1381
9	Pithoragarh	964
10	Rudra Prayag	479
11	Tehri Garhwal	1859
12	Udam Singh Nagar	2211

1	2	3
13	Uttar Kashi	995
West Bengal		
1	24 Paraganas North	9584
2	24 Paraganas South	10717
3	Alipurduar	0
4	Bankura	5572
5	Birbhum	4928
6	Coochbehar	3942
7	Darjeeling	3134
8	Dinajpur Dakshin	3139
9	Dinajpur Uttar	3488
10	Hooghly	6402
11	Howrah	3881
12	Jalpaiguri	6096
13	Jhargram	1857
14	Kalimpong	639
15	Kolkata	1526
16	Maldah	5180
17	Medinipur East	5132
18	Medinipur West	5669
19	Murshidabad	7075
20	Nadia	6812
21	Paschim Bardhaman	2155
22	Purba Bardhaman	5576
23	Purulia	4486

Note: 1. Total number of districts reporting on ICDS-RRS portal is 615.

2. State of Maharashtra, Nagaland and UT of Chandigarh are not reporting on ICDS-RRS Portal.

Annexure-III

*State-wise number of ASHA workers under National Health Mission (NHM)
and Anganwadi Helpers in AWCs during last three years*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		ASHA Workers	Angan- wadi AWHs	ASHA Workers	Angan- wadi AWHs	ASHA Workers	Angan- wadi AWHs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	41,511	44,774	41,669	44,828	42,346	45,650
2	Arunachal Pradesh	3,868	625	3,868	6,225	3,880	6,225
3	Assam	31,955	56,728	31,955	56,728	32,256	55,949
4	Bihar	86,555	80,176	87,788	81,130	89,191	88,981
5	Chhattisgarh	70,008	42,407	70,008	42,366	69,515	43,767
6	Goa	0	1,241	0	1,153	0	1,219
7	Gujarat	41,334	48,545	43,130	48,710	44,201	48,945
8	Haryana	19,474	24,921	19,880	24,891	20,025	24,600
9	Himachal Pradesh*	32,162	18,149	32,374	18,131	32,376	18,164
10	Jammu & Kashmir	11,906	29,599	11,916	29,599	12,257	29,599
11	Jharkhand	41,180	33,117	41,199	33,117	41,312	35,023
12	Karnataka	39,064	59,026	39,497	59,026	42,548	60,058
13	Kerala	30,042	32,953	29,935	32,953	30,042	32,986
14	Madhya Pradesh	71,478	82,078	73,466	84,465	76,341	83,244
15	Maharashtra	66,446	92,292	68,828	92,179	70,294	90,047
16	Manipur	4,090	9,497	4,090	9,497	4,090	9,958

Source: NHM- MIS report as on March 2019, 2018 & 2017.

Annexure-IV

*State-wise number of Anganwadi Centres having own buildings,
toilets and drinking water facilities*

(As on 30th June, 2019)

Sl. No	States/UTs	AWCs running in own Buildings	No. of AWCs/ Mini-AWCs with toilet facilities	No. of AWCs/ Mini-AWCs with drinking water facilities
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	18,502	54,643	55,606
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	3,043	1,775
3	Assam	39,319	29,356	39,085
4	Bihar	26,097	65,913	90,566
5	Chhattisgarh	36,840	35,858	51,215
6	Goa	141	788	1,242
7	Gujarat	44,364	50,545	52,161
8	Haryana	8,296	23,384	20,460
9	Himachal Pradesh	2,028	18,925	18,925
10	Jammu & Kashmir	817	17,021	23,502
11	Jharkhand	21,791	28,317	25,407
12	Karnataka	39,037	53,896	39,210
13	Kerala	22,723	31,792	28,499
14	Madhya Pradesh	32,789	89,503	95,917
15	Maharashtra	51,826	59,285	103,987
16	Manipur	1,230	9,505	11,510

1	2	3	4	5
17	Meghalaya	2,657	4,302	4,591
18	Mizoram	2,215	2,193	1,988
19	Nagaland	150	3,455	3,455
20	Odisha	17,518	38,211	70,849
21	Punjab	2,098	22,081	27,289
22	Rajasthan	25,780	34,656	48,806
23	Sikkim	882	1,294	1,293
24	Telangana	10,570	19,201	35,469
25	Tamil Nadu	36,407	47,652	50,054
26	Tripura	9,349	8,067	9,336
27	Uttar Pradesh	28,590	1,34,908	1,87,347
28	Uttarakhand	2,815	14,720	14,764
29	West Bengal	54,741	99,196	90,336
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	186	571	719
31	Chandigarh	131	450	450
32	Delhi	35	10,707	10,849
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	155	302	302
34	Daman and Diu	76	101	101
35	Lakshadweep	27	107	107
36	Puducherry	333	707	855
TOTAL		5,40,515	10,14,655	12,18,027

Annexure-V

States-wise number of Anganwadi Centres which do not have their own buildings and AWCs without toilet & drinking water facilities

Sl. No.	State/UTs	AWCs	AWCs in		AWCs in Community Premises										No. of AWCs Without Toilet Facilities	No. of AWCs Without Drinking Water Facilities		
		in Govt	Rented Premises															
		Owned	AWWs/														TOTAL	
		Kuchha	AWHs		School		Panchayat		Others		Open Space							
		Premises	House															
			Kuchha	Pucca	Kuchha	Pucca	Kuchha	Pucca	Kuchha	Pucca	Kuc- hha	Pucca	Kuchha	Pucca				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
1	Andhra Pradesh	113	931	25730	14	5,282	302	1,289	22	3,416	0	0	1382	35,717	964	1		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5,999	226	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6225	0	3,182	4,450		
3	Assam	0	0	11667	0	10,704	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,371	32,797	23,068		
4	Bihar	0	41054	19954	0	4,010	0	8,468	0	0	0	0	41054	32,432	38,177	13,524		
5	Chhattisgarh	2	7298	3424	14	1,077	45	820	68	1,710	1	2	7428	7,033	15,443	86		
6	Goa	0	4	752	0	290	1	25	0	45	0	4	5	1,116	474	20		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
7	Gujarat	0	985	5988	0	0	244	0	54	1,394	0	0	1283	7,382	2,484	868
8	Haryana	0	0	6612	0	2,390	0	2,389	0	6,275	0	0	0	17,666	2,578	5,502
9	Himachal Pradesh	5	1517	7864	336	2,783	21	348	238	3,785	0	0	2117	14,780	0	0
10	Jammu and Kashmir	34	9343	19154	53	165	0	22	1	5	5	0	9436	19,346	12,578	6,097
11	Jharkhand	2	6203	7524	1	1,448	0	622	19	763	34	5	6259	10,362	10,115	13,025
12	Karnataka	4,817	2424	9415	1,066	3,179	164	868	887	4,039	7	8	9365	17,509	12,015	26,701
13	Kerala	153	207	8105	9	422	29	736	57	768	2	6	457	10,037	1,452	4,745
14	Madhya Pradesh	0	9179	19526	718	12,380	510	11,624	1,393	9,016	0	0	11800	52,546	7,632	1,218
15	Maharashtra	5,934	3088	27482	0	6,443	739	5,680	369	8,043	0	0	10130	47,648	50,934	6,232
16	Manipur	1,876	7968	303	12	17	22	16	44	22	0	0	9922	358	2,005	0
17	Meghalaya	0	0	600	56	1,237	79	1,006	261	0	0	0	396	2,843	1,594	1,305
18	Mizoram	0	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	51	256
19	Nagaland	2,861	710	60	0	0	0	0	199	0	0	0	3770	60	525	525
20	Odisha	0	4593	10887	0	18,252	0	7,198	1,440	10,961	0	0	6033	47,298	34,376	1,738
21	Punjab	0	0	3223	0	10,682	0	4,982	0	6,304	0	0	0	25,191	5,208	0
22	Rajasthan	0	0	10491	0	18,594	0	3,904	0	2,586	0	0	0	35,575	27,318	13,168

88

Oral Answers

[RAJYA SABHA]

to Questions

23	Sikkim	64	27	211	2	11	6	6	25	73	1	0	125	301	14	15
24	Telangana	0	4338	8343	1,589	7,889	227	1,261	371	975	0	0	6525	18,468	16,433	165
25	Tamil Nadu	6,689	2698	4534	262	994	250	1,278	271	1,050	2	4	10172	7,860	6,787	4,385
26	Tripura	0	0	290	0	0	0	0	0	272	0	0	0	562	1,844	575
27	Uttar Pradesh	0	0	22892	0	1,13,522	0	22,993	0	0	0	0	0	1,59,407	53,089	650
28	Uttarakhand	0	151	7463	44	5,192	17	2,617	102	1,584	11	1	325	16,857	5,347	5,303
29	West Bengal	0	0	20349	0	14,234	0	3,017	13,190	10576	0	6	13190	48,182	17,031	25,891
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	32	191	0	9	59	241	0	0	0	0	92	441	149	1
31	Chandigarh	0	0	292	0	1	0	11	0	15	0	0	0	319	0	0
32	Delhi	0	32	10662	0	1	0	7	1	14	0	0	33	10,684	190	48
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	58	87	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	58	89	0	0
34	Daman and Diu	0	0	17	0	0	0	4	0	5	0	0	0	26	6	6
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	80	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	0	445	0	3	0	62	0	12	0	0	0	522	148	0
TOTAL		28,550	1,03,066	2,74,646	4,176	2,41,213	2,715	81,494	19,012	73,708	63	36	1,57,582	6,71,097	3,62,940	1,59,568

Oral Answers

[5 December, 2019]

to Questions

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, the Centre provides ₹ 2,700 for an Anganwadi worker while Odisha provides ₹ 4,800; for a mini Anganwadi worker, it provides ₹ 2,100 and Odisha provides ₹ 3,275; for Anganwadi helper, the Centre provides ₹ 1,350 while Odisha provides ₹ 2,400, under Navin Patnaikji. The question is: Would the Ministry consider increasing the honourarium of all the three segments of workers to the matching financial support as is being provided by the State of Odisha or other States, as the case may be.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, the numbers enunciated by the hon. colleague, in fact, are incorrect. The honorarium has gone up. In so far as the State of Odisha goes, since he is highlighting the achievements of the State, my request to the hon. Member would be that in October, 2016 and May, 2017, we had written to the State stating that the need for Anganwadis, given the population, requirements of the children who need to go there, or for that matter, places where today you feel that Anganwadi centres are not available, is a need that needs to be assessed by the State and put forth to the Government of India. I am a bit—I will not use the word ‘displease’, it is a very strong word to use; but I would beg his indulgence to ensure that this information is forthcoming from the State Government which has not till date been received by the Government of India.

DR. SASMIT PATRA: Sir, just to clarify, since the hon. Minister said that my facts are incorrect, would the exact facts be provided? This is not a supplementary question, but I just would like to know what the exact facts are.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, what the Member is speaking is about the privilege of the State in so far as Anganwadi workers go. But, let me assure him that apart from the increase in honorarium, we have also ensured that Anganwadi workers do get enough relief from the State which is over and above the honorarium that they so receive, which includes 180 days of paid maternity leave which also includes coverage under the Prime Minister Suraksha Bima Yojana, Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana. In fact, I myself last wrote to ensure that the protected data of Anganwadi workers is given from each State so that we can give them through LIC the insurance coverage. I am yet to receive even that response.

SHRI ABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Sir, in the answer provided by the Minister, Section 5(1) of the National Food Security Act, 2013, provides for every Anganwadi centre to have facilities of drinking water and sanitation. In the same answer, we have seen that out of 13,77,595 operational Anganwadi centres all over the country, we are having only 10,14,655...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): What is your question?

SHRIABIR RANJAN BISWAS: Out of 13,77,595 operational Anganwadi centres all over the country, we have got only 10,14,655 centres having toilet facilities, only 12,18,027 centres having drinking water facilities. So, there is a yawning gap. I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government has any target dates of achieving these facilities for all the centres all over the country.

SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI: Sir, I would like to state to the hon. Member that, in fact, if I were to be asked whether there is a target date, the date was yesterday. We have continuous engagement with the State Governments to ensure that when we set up Anganwadi centres, those centres do have drinking water and toilet facilities. If I just look at the numbers between March, 2017 and March, 2019, we have managed to build around 1,46,000 toilets and also provide drinking water facilities in 2,02,000 Anganwadi centres. But, our insistence in our engagement with the State Governments is that when we set up an Anganwadi centre, let it not be devoid of drinking water or toilet facilities.

श्री सुरेन्द्र सिंह नागर: माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आंगनवाड़ी के माध्यम से जो पौष्टिक आहार सप्लाई किया जाता है, उसकी गुणवत्ता को लेकर मेरा सवाल है। मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आंगनवाड़ी के माध्यम से जो पौष्टिक आहार सप्लाई किया जाता है, उसकी गुणवत्ता को लेकर कितनी शिकायतें उत्तर प्रदेश से मिली हैं? यदि हां, उसमें कोई खराबी मिली है, तो उसको सुधारने के लिए सरकार की क्या योजना है?

श्रीमती स्मृति जूबिन इरानी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, गुणवत्ता की स्थिति के ऊपर माननीय सदस्य ने जो चिंता व्यक्त की है, मात्र उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ही नहीं, बल्कि देश भर में प्रदेशों में जो क्वालिटी ऑफ फूड सप्लाई किया जाता है, उसके संदर्भ में जब-जब कोई चुनौती आती है, तो भारत सरकार की ओर से प्रदेश सरकार को हम विधिवत वह जानकारी न केवल पहुंचाते हैं, बल्कि रिपोर्ट भी डिमांड करते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, जहां तक गुणवत्ता का सवाल है, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहूंगी कि हम वर्तमान में नीति आयोग के साथ चर्चा कर रहे हैं और राज्य सरकारों के सम्मुख हमने 13 और 14 नवम्बर को जो प्रदेश की सरकारों के बैठक की, उसमें भी कहा कि आईसीडीएस सिस्टम को re-haul करने की दृष्टि से नई-नई जो चुनौतियां उभरी हैं अथवा पुराने जो संघर्ष बचे हुए हैं, उनका कैसे समाधान किया जाए, उसके लिए हम लोग स्टेट और सेंटर के माध्यम से, नीति आयोग के माध्यम से आईसीडीएस को और पोषण को, विशेषकर उसकी क्वालिटी को enhance करने के लिए already एक conversation शुरू कर चुके हैं।

सरदार बलविंदर सिंह भुंडर: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जो पार्ट सी में है। यह जो आंगनवाड़ी वर्क्स हैं, जो बच्चों को भोजन सर्व करते हैं, यह बच्चों की लाइफ का बेस है। क्या इनके लिए अच्छा मकान, अच्छा टॉयलेट, प्ले ग्राउंड, ड्रिंकिंग वॉटर के लिए सेंट्रल

[सरदार बलविंदर सिंह भुंडरा]

गवर्नमेंट अपने पास से फंड उपलब्ध करायेगी, क्योंकि स्टेट्स की पोजिशन वीक है? क्या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट अपने पास से सेंट परसेंट फंड सप्लाई करके, दो साल का टॉरगेट फिक्स करके उनको सभी फैसिलिटीज़ प्रोवाइड करायेगी?

श्रीमती स्मृति ज़ूबिन इरानी: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से माननीय सदस्य जी को अवगत कराना चाहती हूँ कि भारत सरकार की ओर से ही इसके लिए आर्थिक प्रावधान किया जाता है। जैसा कि डा. सस्मित पात्रा जी ने अपने शुरुआती प्रश्न में ऑनरेरियम के संबंध में उत्तर मांगा था, तो मैंने बताया कि सरकार की ओर से ऑनरेरियम भी बढ़ाया गया है, इसको भारत सरकार के माध्यम से 4,500 रुपये किया गया है, साथ ही आंगनवाड़ी के क्रियान्वयन का अथवा उसको बनाने का काम है। भारत सरकार न सिर्फ आईसीडीएस के माध्यम से आर्थिक आवंटन करती है, बल्कि साथ ही हमने कहा है कि अगर 'मनरेगा' से इसको जोड़ना चाहते हैं या फिर हमारा ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय है या जो हमारा जल शक्ति मंत्रालय है, उनके साथ समन्वय करके भी कंस्ट्रक्शन में हम सहयोग लेते हैं।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्री सुखेन्दु शेखर राय): प्रश्न संख्या 189.

**Projects undertaken under the North East Special
Infrastructure Development Scheme**

*189. SHRI KAMAKHYAPRASAD TASA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of projects undertaken under the North-East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) for funding physical infrastructure relating to connectivity, power, water supply, enhancing tourism and social infrastructure relating to education and health sectors in North-Eastern States; and

(b) the details of projects undertaken under the scheme in Assam, the cost of the projects and the status of their implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRASINGH): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) The broad objective of the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS) is to ensure focused development of North East Region by providing financial assistance for projects of (a) physical infrastructure relating to water supply, power, connectivity to enhance tourism and (b) social sector for creation of infrastructure in the areas of primary and secondary sectors of education and health. The details of projects relating to connectivity, power, water supply, education and health sectors in North Eastern States undertaken under NESIDS is as under:-

(₹ in crore)													
Sl. No	State	Sector											
		Connectivity		Power		Water Supply		Education		Health		TOTAL	
		No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost	No.	Cost
1	Arunachal Pradesh	10	216.57	0	0.00	3	59.82	3	36.32	0	0.00	16	312.71
2	Assam	4	344.27	0	0.00	3	90.74	0	0.00	1	22.99	8	458.00
3	Manipur	2	45.80	0	0.00	4	112.97	0	0.00	2	32.97	8	191.74
4	Meghalaya	2	45.46	1	49.80	2	59.55	0	0.00	1	20.00	6	174.81
5	Mizoram	1	27.43	1	40.34	1	114.20	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	181.97
6	Nagaland	7	153.71	0	0.00	2	24.04	0	0.00	0	0.00	9	177.75
7	Sikkim	2	103.31	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	2	103.31
8	Tripura	2	43.95	1	120.88	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.00	3	164.83
TOTAL		30	980.5	3	211.02	15	461.32	3	36.32	4	75.96	55	1765.12

(b) Under the North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), 8 projects costing ₹ 458.00 crore have been undertaken in the State of Assam. The detail is as under:-

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	Project	Approved cost	Total release	Status of implementation
1	2	3	4	5
1	Improvement/Special Infrastructure development of JSB Civil Hospital in Chirang District, Assam	22.99	9.19	Work started. Physical progress is 35%.
2	Construction of Double Lane Road from Lanka to Umrangso <i>via</i> Diyungmukh, Haflong Tinali and Panimur at Tinsukia District in Assam	188.79	0.10	Under process of tendering/award of work.
3	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/1 over River Dikhow at Chiripuria Ghat along with road from Chiripuria <i>via</i> Ajanpeer Dorgarh road to NH 37 Tinsukia District in Assam	17.99	0.10	Under process of tendering/award of work.
4	Construction of RCC Bridge over river Aie at Aie Powali including approach & protection work in Chirang District	69.74	27.89	Work started. Physical progress is 30%.
5	Construction of three lane Road over Bridge at Jorhat in replacement of Railway LC gate No ST-58 on Naali, Jorhat District in Assam during 2018-19	67.75	27.10	Work started. Physical progress is 5%.
6	Digboi Town Water Supply Scheme in Assam Tinsukia District in Assam	41.68	0.10	Under process of tendering/award of work.
7	Water Supply Projects in Tinsukia Town (Phase-III) Tinsukia District in Assam	27.19	0.10	Under process of tendering/award of work.

1	2	3	4	5
8	Infrastructure Development of Greater Kheroni Piped water Supply Scheme in Karbi Anglong, Assam	21.87	8.51	Work started. Physical progress is 40%.
TOTAL (8 Projects)		458.00	73.09	

श्री कामाख्या प्रसाद तासा: उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं ऑनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब को धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने मेरे प्रश्नों का ऑन्सर दिया है। मैं अपनी तरफ से प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को भी धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि वे नॉर्थ-ईस्ट पर स्पेशल ध्यान देते हैं और जापान के प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब भी असम आने वाले हैं। सर, मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि नॉर्थ-ईस्ट स्पेशल इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर डेवलपमेंट स्कीम के तहत कितनी स्कीम्स अंडर कंसिडरेशन में हैं, कितनी फाइनल स्टेज में हैं और उनके लिए टोटल अलोकेटेड फंड कितना है?

डा. जितेन्द्र सिंह: उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सबसे पहले तो आदरणीय सदस्य का अभिनंदन है कि उन्होंने यह प्रश्न किया और साथ ही प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में जो अभूतपूर्व विकास कार्य हुए हैं, उनकी सराहना की है। जो माननीय सदस्य ने प्रश्न किया है, उसके जवाब में मैंने जो सूची दी है, उसमें इनके प्रश्न का जवाब दे दिया है। फिर भी, माननीय सदस्य चाहते हैं, तो मैं संक्षेप में यह कह दूँ कि the North-East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme was launched in 2017 December. Earlier on, these eleven States, which include eight States of the North-Eastern Region and three States of the Hill Region, namely, Himachal Pradesh, erstwhile Jammu and Kashmir and Uttarakhand, were getting funding from the Centre at 90:10 ratio as compared to 60:40 for the other States. But for North-East, after this decision, it has been made 100 per cent and the transformation that has happened in North-East is to be seen to be believed. It is an unbelievable transformation. I have already furnished to the hon. Member the list and it is there in my reply as well. If you want sector-wise, it will go on for a very long time, but I would just say, to sum up, we had at least two States where, for instance, if you see the Railway sector, people had never seen a train in Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya. Today you have from Itanagar to Delhi a train called Arunachal Express. We didn't have an airport in Sikkim though Sikkim has been a part of India for the last 40 years. Today we have an airport at Pakyong. We have also launched the first ever – 1 am just enumerating those schemes which are first of its kind — region-based road agency called North-East Road Development Scheme because North-East gave India a dubious nomenclature of orphan roads. The roads between any two States were not being looked after adequately because both the States would point at each other.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS**MOUs and agreements with the Netherlands**

*190. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has signed MoUs and agreements with the Netherlands;
- (b) whether Government has expressed concerns regarding climate change with the Netherlands; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI S. JAISHANKAR): (a) to (c) India has wide ranging cooperation with the Netherlands in the fields of Science and Technology, Water management, Ports, Shipping, Inland Waterways, Agriculture, Food Processing, Healthcare, Space, Urban Development & Smart Cities, renewable energy, Sports, and Skill Development. This cooperation is both at the government level and at the Business-to-Business level. Currently, there are thirty three (33) active MOUs and Agreements signed between the Government of India with the Netherlands, which are as follows:

- (i) Air Services Agreement (May 1951).
- (ii) Treaty for the Mutual Surrender of Fugitive Criminals (Anglo-Dutch Treaty of 1898 effected in 1971).
- (iii) Agreement on Economic and Technical Cooperation (February 1983).
- (iv) Cultural Agreement (May 1985).
- (v) Agreement on Scientific Cooperation (November 1985).
- (vi) MoU for cooperation in the field of telecommunications (September 1987).
- (vii) MoU on environmental cooperation (January 1988).
- (viii) Avoidance of Double Taxation Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (July 1988).
- (ix) MoU on cooperation in agriculture and animal husbandry (September 1990).
- (x) Agreement for the promotion and protection of investments (November 1995).
- (xi) MoU for investment promotion (February 2004).

- (xii) MoU on Cultural Cooperation (October 2007).
- (xiii) MoU in the field of Ports and Maritime Transport and Logistics (February 2008) - further extended in May 2011 for 3 years.
- (xiv) MoU on Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (March 2008).
- (xv) Social Security Agreement (October 2009).
- (xvi) MoU for establishment of “Long-Term Chair for study of Contemporary India” at Leiden University between Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and Leiden University (December 2010).
- (xvii) Letter of Intent (LOI) for Cooperation in areas of Corporate Governance and CSRs (June 2011).
- (xviii) Revised Protocol amending Convention between India and the Netherlands on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal Evasion (May 2012).
- (xix) MoU on Food Safety between Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and Consumer Product Safety Authority under Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation, Kingdom of the Netherlands (November 2012).
- (xx) MoU in the field of Spatial Planning, Water Management and Mobility Management (May 2013).
- (xxi) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Healthcare and Public Health (January 2014).
- (xxii) MoU on technical cooperation in the field of the development of sports infrastructure (January 2014).
- (xxiii) MoU on Cooperation in Renewal Energy (February 2014).
- (xxiv) MoU on Joint Trade & Investment Committee (November 2014).
- (xxv) Joint Program of Cooperation on strengthening the bilateral cooperation in the area of Electric Mobility (June 2015).
- (xxvi) MoU on cooperation in the field of Water Management (June 2017).
- (xxvii) MoU on Cultural Cooperation (June 2017).

- (xxviii) Protocol amending the Agreement on Social Security (June 2017).
 - (xxix) Extension of MoU on Technical Cooperation in the field of Spatial Planning, Water Management and Mobility Management (April 2018). MoU between Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands (May 2018).
 - (xxx) Letter of Intent (LOI) on an Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters (January 2019).
 - (xxxi) Framework Agreement of the International Solar Alliance (May 2018).
 - (xxxii) MoU between the Foreign Service Institute, MEA and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands (May 2018).
 - (xxxiii) Agreement for Mutual Protection of Classified Information between the Defence Ministries of India and the Netherlands (Oct 2019).
2. India and the Netherlands discuss all mutually important bilateral, regional and international issues, including concerns on Climate Change. These are also reflected in the Joint Statements issued after the Summit level meetings.
3. Relevant portions of the paragraphs on climate change reflected in the Joint Statements after the Summit level meetings in 2017 and 2018 are as under:

India-Netherlands Joint Communiqué The Hague, (June 27, 2017)

Prime Minister Modi invited the Netherlands to join the International Solar Alliance [ISA]. Prime Minister Rutte appreciated the lead taken by India to galvanise global action on Climate Change through the initiative and declared that the Netherlands would consider the invitation positively.

India-Netherlands Joint Statement during visit of Prime Minister of Netherlands to India (May 24, 2018)

The Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to combat climate change, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change, in line with the Paris Agreement. They committed to fully implement the Agreement under the framework of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as a part of an irreversible global process at combating climate change for the benefit of all humanity.

Both sides noted that addressing climate change and promoting secure, affordable and sustainable supplies of energy are key shared priorities and agreed to undertake mutual cooperation for reducing the cost of development and deployment of clean energy projects through technology innovation, knowledge sharing, capacity building, trade and investment and project establishment.

India welcomed the signing of the Framework Agreement of the International Solar Alliance by the Netherlands. The two Prime Ministers urged research institutions and industry to collaborate, including in third countries, to promote greater use of solar technologies through the International Solar Alliance that will also benefit the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Van Dhan Kendras in Telangana

*191. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has proposed to set up Van Dhan Kendras involving Self Help Groups (SHGs) in Telangana State under the Van Dhan Yojana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any such guidelines have been issued for this scheme and districts selected for the implementation of the scheme, State/UT-wise and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) and (b) The Government of India is implementing the scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP under which an initiative, namely, Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram, is being undertaken, targeting livelihood generation for tribal by harnessing the wealth of the forest *i.e.* Van Dhan. This Karyakram aims to tap into traditional knowledge and skill sets of tribals by adding technology and IT to upgrade it at each stage and to convert the tribal wisdom into a viable economic activity. This is proposed to be achieved by setting up Van Dhan Kendras which would act as common facility centres for procurement cum value addition to locally available MFPs.

Each Van Dhan Kendra will cater to approximately 15 Self Help Groups (SHGs) consisting of a maximum of 300 beneficiaries in Total. Each SHG would belong to a contiguous area, preferably in same or nearby villages. The SHG will be led by a tribal and consist of at least 60% tribal members.

Setting up of Van Dhan Kendra will be on the basis of proposals submitted by the State Government. The proposals are expected to consist of proper justification on the basis of a viability study and the willingness of the State Government to provide suitable and conveniently located unencumbered land/building for the Kendra to be setup.

This Karyakram is applicable pan-India and includes the State of Telangana.

All proposals for setting up of Van Dhan Kendras are to be submitted by the State Government to the Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED), a Multi-State Cooperative under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. TRIFED has been authorized by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs to consider all proposals on this subject and sanction those proposals that are deemed viable.

(c) While no separate guidelines have been framed for Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram, guidelines for the scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP were revised on 26th February, 2019 which also include guidelines on the Karyakram.

As the Karyakram is dependent upon the proposals submitted by State Government who identify the location where the Van Dhan Kendras are to be setup, the Government of India has no role in selection of districts under the Karyakram. The State/UT-wise list of Kendras sanctioned by TRIFED is given in the Statement.

Statement

*State-wise status of establishment of Van Dhan Kendras approved
under Van Dhan Vikas Karyakram*

State	No. of VDVK Proposal Received	No. of VDVKs Sanctioned
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	30	30
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
Assam	16	16
Bihar	8	8
Chhattisgarh	139	139

1	2	3
Goa	0	0
Gujarat	17	17
Himachal Pradesh	0	0
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
Jharkhand	39	39
Karnataka	19	19
Kerala	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	20	20
Maharashtra	64	64
Manipur	77	77
Meghalaya	0	0
Mizoram	0	0
Nagaland	31	31
Odisha	156	156
Rajasthan	25	25
Sikkim	0	0
Tamil Nadu	7	7
Telangana	0	0
Tripura	0	0
Uttar Pradesh	5	5
Uttarakhand	0	0
West Bengal	0	0
TOTAL	653	653

**Implementation of schemes of
Ministry in Delhi**

*192. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various schemes being implemented in Delhi by the Ministry;
- (b) the physical and financial achievements of these schemes during the past five years, year-wise and scheme-wise in Delhi;
- (c) whether there are any schemes which have not been implemented by Delhi Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) The details of the Schemes implemented in Delhi are as under:-

- (i) Institute of Eminence Scheme: IIT, Delhi and University of Delhi have been granted the status of Institute of Eminence under this Scheme. Both the Institutes have made themselves eligible to receive an amount of ₹ 1000 crores each during the next five years to improve their status.
- (ii) Samagra Shiksha: This is an integrated scheme for school education throughout the country including NCT of Delhi. This programme subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). The details of achievements in Delhi under this scheme are given below:

13 Primary schools have been established in Delhi. 2609 additional classrooms and arrangements for drinking water in 68 schools have been made. 637 toilets for boys and 615 for girls have been constructed.

Details of financial assistance:

(₹ in lakh)				
2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (Samagra Shiksha)	2019-20
released	released	released	released	released (as on 15/11/2019)
7293.80	8306.19	10976.90	13981.74	18797.80

(iii) National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education (NSIGSE): Under this centrally sponsored scheme a sum of ₹ 3000/- is deposited in the name of eligible unmarried girls as fixed deposit on enrolment in class IX, who are entitled to withdraw it along with interest thereon reaching 18 years of age and passing class 10th examination. The scheme covers (i) all girls belonging to SC/ST communities who pass class VIII and (ii) all girls who pass VIII examination from Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas (irrespective of whether they belong to SC/ST) and enroll in class IX in Government, Government-aided and Local Body schools.

The following grants have been sanctioned to Delhi UT:

Financial year	Total no. of Girls Sanctioned (Physical)	Amount (₹ in Lakh) (Financial)
2016-17	12101	363.03
2017-18	30568	917.04
2018-19	3592	107.76
TOTAL	46261	1387.83

(iv) National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS): This Central Sector Scheme has an objective to award scholarships to meritorious students of economically weaker sections to arrest their drop out at class VIII and encourage them to continue the study at secondary stage. Under this scheme an amount of ₹ 12000/- per year is given to the students whose parental income from all sources is not more than ₹ 1,50,000/- per annum. Under this scheme, scholarships for 1576 students of Delhi per year is stipulated.

Establishment of medical institute by IIT Kharagpur

*193. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether IIT Kharagpur in West Bengal proposes to start one excellent medical institute along with the technological excellence;
- (b) if so, the special features of this institute; and
- (c) by when this institute will start operating for medical education and treatment?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The hospital is intended to provide cost-effective healthcare facilities keeping in view the backwardness and low-paying capacity of the people in the adjacent areas. Simultaneously use of the best of modern technology for treatment, research and education will be given prime importance. The super-speciality services will be provided at an affordable level. The hospital will have all essential wings: such as Medicine, Surgery, Orthopaedics, Gynaecology & Obstetrics, Paediatrics, Eye, ENT etc., and all super-speciality services viz. Cardiac surgery & Catheterisation lab, Neurosurgery, Level III Trauma care centre, Dialysis, Burns Unit, Radiotherapy services etc.

- (c) Continuous efforts are being made by the Institute in this direction.

Employment opportunities for tribals

†*194. SHRIMATI KAHKASHAN PERWEEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to launch any scheme/special scheme for creation of new employment opportunities for the tribal population in the country and particularly in the States of Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The Government of India is implementing the following schemes for promoting/generating employment for the tribals of the country and no new scheme is under consideration:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (i) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution.
- (ii) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme.
- (iii) Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP.
- (iv) Equity Support to National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC)/State Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (STFDCs).
- (v) Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce.

The above schemes have pan-India applicability, including the States of Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh.

‘Build for Digital India’ programme

*195. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONIC AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has recently decided to roll out a ‘Build for Digital India’ programme in partnership with Google;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) what are the expected benefits of this programme; and
- (d) the details of expected expenditure that will be incurred on the programme?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has agreed to provide logo support for Google’s India’s ‘Build for Digital India’ programme.

(b) and (c) The ‘Build for Digital India’ programme provides student tech developers a platform to become solution creators for problems they see around them and the community. In the programme, learning opportunity, mentorship and exclusive showcase opportunity are provided by Google India to technology entrepreneurs. So far, 7400 students have enrolled and 3072 applications have been received out of which 25% are from female applicants.

- (d) There are no financial obligations for the Government in this programme.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Proper safety apparatus in nuclear power plants

1921. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the nuclear energy is the cheapest source of energy compared to other traditional sources of energy;

(b) if so, the number of nuclear power plants which are generating energy in the country and comparative power generated by each of them;

(c) whether any incident leading to risk to human life occurred during the last three years; and

(d) whether proper safety apparatus are there in each of the power plants, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Tariffs of electricity generated by nuclear power are competitive with those of contemporary conventional base load generators like thermal power.

(b) The present installed nuclear power capacity comprises of 22 reactors with a Total capacity of 6780 MW. The electricity generation from the nuclear power plants during the year 2018-19 was about 37813 million units. The details are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. Highest priority is accorded to safety in all aspects of nuclear power *viz.* siting, design, construction, commissioning, and operation. Nuclear power plants are designed adopting safety principles of redundancy, diversity and provided fail-safe design features following a defence in depth approach. This ensures that there are multiple barriers between the source of radioactivity and the environment.

The operations are performed adopting well laid out procedures by highly qualified, trained and licensed personnel. Appropriate Personal Protection Equipments and monitoring aids are provided to all the personnel working in the nuclear power plants.

Statement

Details of energy-generating nuclear power plants in the country and power generated by them

State	Location	Unit	Capacity (MW)	Commercial Generation (in Million Units, MU) ^{\$} 2018-19
1	2	3	4	5
Maharashtra	Tarapur	TAPS-1	160	1322
		TAPS-2	160	937
		TAPS-3	540	4354
		TAPS-4	540	4154
		RAPS-1	100	@
		RAPS-2	200	959
Rajasthan	Rawatbhata	RAPS-3	220	1550
		RAPS-4	220	1820
		RAPS-5	220	1720
		RAPS-6	220	1986
		NAPS-1	220	1498
		NAPS-2	220	1664
Gujarat	Kakrapar	KAPS-1	220	#
		KAPS-2	220	1000
		KGS-1	220	1600
Karnataka	Kaiga	KGS-2	220	1939
		KGS-3	220	1662
		KGS-4	220	2016
		MAPS-1	220	&
	Kalpakkam			

1	2	3	4	5
Tamil Nadu		MAPS-2	220	1491
	Kudankulam	KKNPP-1	1000	2797
		KKNPP-2	1000	3345
Total Generation (MUs)				37813

^s The generation figures are rounded to nearest integer.

[@] RAPS-1 is under extended shutdown for techno-economic assessment.

[#] KAPS-1 & 2 have been taken in project mode for Enmasse Coolant Channel Replacement (EMCCR) and Enmasse Feeder Replacement (EMFR) activities from August 01, 2016. KAPS-2 was synchronized to grid on September 22, 2018 and KAPS-1 on May 24, 2019 upon completion of these activities.

[&] MAPS-1 was taken in project mode from April 01, 2018 for Endshield related works.

Neutrino Observatory in Tamil Nadu

1922. SHRI VAIKO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Neutrino Observatory is being planned in Theni district of Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any opposition has been raised against the project, in view of serious endangerment to bio-diversity of Western Ghats;
- (d) if so, whether any survey of local people and local representatives have been consulted and taken into confidence about the environmental degradation;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether the project would be abandoned in view of large scale opposition in the area?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The India based Neutrino Observatory is being planned in the Theni district in Tamil Nadu.

(c) to (f) There has been opposition from some sections of the local populace. INO has been conducting outreach programmes in & around Madurai and Theni for students in schools & colleges, for faculty as well as journalists and media professionals. A large

outreach program took place during May-August 2018 covering other towns in Tamil Nadu and a few in Kerala. Many students, faculty and members of the public have visited the INO transit campus where an 85 ton mini-ICAL detector is operational detecting naturally occurring cosmic ray muons. This is a much smaller version of the detector that is planned in the cavern at the end of a 2 km horizontal tunnel at the INO site. In June 2010, a public meeting, though not mandated by Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF), was called by the Theni Collector. It was attended by about 1200 local people, including the Panchayat President, who endorsed the project. All the statutory norms and regulations are also followed in implementing the INO project. The INO site is not in the Eco Sensitive Area as identified by the High Level Working Group (HL WG) chaired by Dr. Kasturirangan and referred to in the MoEF Notification F.No.1-4/2012 - RE (PL) dated 13-11-2013.

Higher charges for telecom infra rollout

1923. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM:

SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that some States are charging upto 50 times higher for telecom infra rollout;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that people would face poor quality of services in those States and Union Territories which charge 50 times higher for telecom infra rollout; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government of India had notified the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 on 15th November, 2016. The salient features of these rules with regard to charges for granting Right of Way (RoW) are as under:—

- (i) Levy of one-time fee to meet administrative expenses for processing applications for Right of Way at the maximum rate of Rs 1,000/- per km for laying Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) and Rs 10,000/- per application for installation of towers.
- (ii) Levy of only restoration charges in case of laying Optical Fibre Cable (OFC).

- (iii) Compensation for the value of the immovable property in case of installation of towers.

A Total of twelve States, have so far aligned their State level policies with Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016.

(c) and (d) High cost of telecom infrastructure can have an adverse impact on, *inter-alia*, network expansion. This can affect the quality of services being provided in the said areas. Steps such as consultation with State Governments/Union Territories, holding regional seminars and advocacy workshops have been taken up for facilitating adoption of Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016 and roll-out of telecom infrastructure.

Implementation of WANI

1924. DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is bringing a free WiFi named WANI, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether any pilot project has been undertaken in this regard, if so, the details of the results;
- (c) whether TRAI has received any objection from telecom companies, if so, the details of the objections; and
- (d) whether there is a threat to national security if WANI is implemented?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued *suo moto* recommendations on “Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks” on 9th March 2017. The recommendations *inter-alia* mention that a new framework should be put in place for setting up of Public Data Offices (PDOs). Under this framework, PDOs in agreement with Public Data Office Aggregators (PDOAs) are envisaged to provide Broadband services through Wi-Fi based on certain tariff.

To establish the proof of concept of Public Wi-Fi network using Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (WANI) architecture, TRAI conducted a pilot project from October 2017 to January, 2018. On completion of the Pilot project, a report was released by TRAI on 5th April, 2018.

(c) Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has made certain submissions to TRAI *vide* their letter dated 26.07.2018. Further, Cellular Operators Association of India and other stakeholders like Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI), M/s Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited have made certain submissions to Department of Telecommunications in relation to recommendations made by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on the subject “Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks”. These submissions, *inter-alia*, include: internet services to be provided only through License, level playing field, security and perceived revenue loss to the exchequer.

(d) This matter, including WANI based architecture and submissions received from COAI, is under examination *inter-alia* from security consideration.

Mobile towers in every panchayat

†1925. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is taking any steps to install mobile towers in every Panchayat of the country to fulfill the demand of digitalization and strengthen the rural banking system;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps to provide mobile towers in those far-flung villages of the country where these towers are not available till now; and

(d) the proposed time-line for installing mobile towers in every far-flung villages and each panchayat region of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Government is implementing BharatNet Project to provide broadband connectivity in all the Gram Panchayats (approx. 2.5 lakh) in the country.

As per the data collected from the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Department of Telecommunications (DoT) field units in 2019, it is estimated that there are 27,721 inhabited villages (as per the census 2011) in the country which are not covered by mobile services. Mobile coverage in such villages is being provided by the Government and the TSPs in a phased manner. The Government has approved the following projects to install mobile towers in uncovered villages of the country:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (i) Under Left Wing Extremism (LWE) affected areas Phase-II project, installation of 2,217 mobile towers has been approved for providing mobile connectivity covering the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal;
- (ii) Mobile connectivity in 354 villages of uncovered border areas including Ladakh and Kargil Region, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and other priority areas has also been approved;
- (iii) A Comprehensive Telecom Development Plan for mobile connectivity in the North Eastern Region to provide mobile coverage in uncovered villages and alongwith National Highways and to augment transmission network;
- (iv) Laying of submarine optical fibre cable between Chennai and Andaman & Nicobar Islands for providing connectivity to Andaman and Nicobar Islands;and
- (v) Mobile connectivity to cover uncovered villages and along National Highway (NH 223) in Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Finalisation of revival package for MTNL and BSNL

1926. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the revival package for the ailing MTNL and BSNL has been finalized and announced by Government;
- (b) if so, the details of the plan and the steps being taken for its implementation;
- (c) whether the employees of these two public sector companies have been taken into confidence before finalizing the revival package; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Cabinet in the meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved a revival plan for Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) which, *inter-alia*, includes measures to reduce the staff cost by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme

(VRS) to the employees of age 50 years and above, administrative allotment of spectrum for providing 4G services, monetisation of assets, debt restructuring by raising of sovereign guarantee bonds and in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL. Accordingly, BSNL/MTNL have offered Voluntary Retirement Scheme to their employees on 04.11.2019 which is open till 03.12.2019. The revival plans for BSNL and MTNL were proposed after considering all relevant aspects including, *inter-alia*, the recommendations of consultants, suggestions received from different Unions/Associations and approval of the revival plan by the respective Boards of BSNL and MTNL.

Impact of VRS on smooth functioning of BSNL

1927. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has announced VRS in BSNL and MTNL and if so, the details thereof, including the reasons for the decision;
- (b) the number of people who have opted for VRS so far; and
- (c) whether there is an apprehension that it will badly affect the smooth functioning of BSNL especially the exchanges in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Cabinet in its meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) which *inter-alia*, includes measures to reduce the staff cost by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to the employees of age 50 years and above.

(b) As on 27.11.2019, 79101 employees of BSNL and 14050 employees of MTNL have applied for voluntary retirement under the scheme. However, the scheme is open till 03.12.2019 and the actual number will be known thereafter.

(c) BSNL has reported that it is making all necessary arrangements to ensure smooth functioning of BSNL including the exchanges in rural areas.

Enhancing efficiency of Speed Post services of India Post

1928. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the efficiency of most of the private courier agencies in the country are considered better than the Speed Post services of India Post;

(b) if so, what are the major factors due to which private courier agencies have better efficiency and whether India Post would introduce similar system for Speed Post services by gearing up India Post employee; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to improve Speed Post services at par with private courier agencies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) Based on the test check done by the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) of India in the year 2015 across the country, Speed Post service has been adjudged faster and more reliable than private couriers at the local level, in major cities and at tehsil level. Moreover, the traffic and revenue of Speed Post have been increasing over the years indicating the trust of the customers in the service. There has been more than 34% growth of Speed Post traffic from Financial Year 2014-15 to 2018-19. The performance of Speed Post is monitored through a performance dashboard under which various Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are regularly evaluated. Funds for site preparation and infrastructure upgrade of the processing hubs are allotted every year to ensure smooth working in the Speed Post hubs. Direct available flights are being used from one Speed Post processing hub to another to ensure expedited transmission and delivery of Speed Post. Further Nodal Mechanized Delivery Centres (NDCs) have been operationalised for mechanized delivery of Speed Post parcels. Department has also setup semi-automated parcel centres enabling mechanized sorting of parcels (including Speed Post parcels).

Waiver of interest/penalty on AGR

1929. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for waiver or lowering of interest, penalty and interest on penalty on unpaid statutory dues of Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea based on Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR); and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No Sir.

- (b) Not applicable.

Return of excess recovery of pension contribution of BSNL employees

1930. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per understanding between the BSNL and Department of Telecommunication, the contribution for pension have been deducted from the monthly salary of the employees and while doing so instead of making recovery on the actual pay drawn by the employee the recovery is being made on the maximum of the pay scale; and

(b) if so, whether any corrective action is proposed to be taken to return the excess amount to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir. There is no deduction of pension contribution from the monthly salary of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) employees. As per the provisions of FR 116, pension contribution is paid by the employer, that is BSNL itself. Currently, the pension contribution is being received from BSNL at the maximum of pay scales.

- (b) Not applicable in view of (a) above.

**Merger of DA with basic wages in
VRS package**

1931. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced VRS package to BSNL employees and whether BSNL was supposed to revise the wages for BSNL employees from 1st January, 2017 but it has not been done; and

(b) whether BSNL management has any proposal to give benefit of wage revision by merging the DA with basic wages to the willing employees who have opted for VRS?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Cabinet in the meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved a revival plan for Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) which, *inter-alia*, includes measures to reduce the staff cost by offering Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) to the employees of age 50 years and above.

Pay revision in BSNL has not been considered due to poor financial condition and continuous losses in BSNL.

(b) No Sir.

Sampoorna Bima Gram Yojana

1932. SHRI R. VAITHILINGAM: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Department of Posts propose to build on its life insurance offerings that would be spun off as a separate unit;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Sampoorna Bima Gram Yojana currently covers 1,244 villages and Government plans to expand it to 10,000 villages by March, 2020; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A proposal for setting up of a separate Postal Life Insurance (PLI) Strategic Business Unit (SBU) in the form of a corporate entity is under consideration.

(c) and (d) Under Bima Gram Yojana, Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) coverage is provided to the people in the villages. Coverage of villages under Bima Gram Yojana is an ongoing process. Till October 2019, a Total of 8,362 villages have been covered under Bima Gram Yojana.

Cost to be borne through merger of BSNL/MTNL

1933. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that would be the estimated Total cost to be borne by Government through the merger of BSNL and MTNL in the coming two years before the company starts making profit as planned;

(b) whether Government has identified the assets to be monetised by the current fiscal year;

(c) the details of assets that would be monetised for the current fiscal year and by when does Government plan to do so; and

(d) the details of the disinvestment plans and how Government has planned to attract investors for the same?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The Cabinet in the meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan for BSNL and MTNL. The estimated cost that will be borne by the Government includes ₹ 29,937 cr (₹ 17,169 cr on account of Ex-Gratia on VRS and ₹12,768 cr due to preponement of pensionary benefits spread over a period of ten years) through budgetary allocation for VRS, full cost of spectrum (excluding GST) of ₹ 14,115 cr for BSNL and of ₹ 6,295 cr for MTNL through capital infusion, and GST component of ₹ 3,674 cr on the cost of spectrum through budgetary allocation. The Government has also approved sovereign guarantee bonds of ₹15,000 cr to be raised and serviced by BSNL and MTNL.

(b) and (c) While specific assets to be monetised during the current fiscal year have not been identified, the target for asset monetisation during current fiscal year for BSNL and MTNL is Rs 200 crore and Rs 300 crore respectively.

(d) No proposal for disinvestment of BSNL and MTNL is under consideration.

Revenue losses of MTNL and BSNL

1934. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to merge MTNL and BSNL;

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

(c) the revenue losses and fall in profits suffered by MTNL and BSNL during the last three years and the reasons therefor;

(d) by when the proposed merger would be completed; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to ensure that employees of BSNL and MTNL are not adversely affected?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) operates in metros of Delhi and

Mumbai and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) operates in rest of India. The Cabinet in the meeting held on 23.10.2019 approved the revival plan for BSNL and MTNL which *inter-alia*, includes in-principle approval for merger of BSNL and MTNL. The merger will benefit BSNL/MTNL through pan-India footprint, synergy in operations, reduced fixed costs and overheads, sharing of technical infrastructure and enhanced Enterprise Business etc.

(c) Details of Revenue and Profit/(Loss) of BSNL and MTNL for the last three years are as under:—

Financial Year	(in ₹ crore)			
	BSNL		MTNL	
	Revenue	Profit/(Loss)	Revenue	Profit/(Loss)
2016-17	31,533	(4,793)	3,552	(2,971)
2017-18	25,071	(7,993)	3,116	(2,971)
2018-19	19,321	(14,904)	2,607	(3,398)

Stiff competition in the telecom sector, debt burden, high staff cost and absence of 4G services (except on a limited basis in certain areas for BSNL) are the reasons for losses in BSNL and MTNL.

(d) The merger of BSNL and MTNL is likely to be completed in 18 to 24 months.

(e) Government has taken following steps to ensure that the employees of BSNL and MTNL are not adversely affected:—

(i) Introduction of Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) for the employees of age 50 year and above.

(ii) For the remaining employees of BSNL and MTNL, Government has taken following steps to make these companies competitive and self-sustaining:—

- a. Administrative allocation of spectrum for 4G services to increase the market share of mobile business and higher Average Revenue Per User (ARPU).
- b. Monetization of sparable land and buildings so as to address the liquidity requirement and re-payment of borrowings so far made.
- c. Sovereign guarantee bonds of ₹ 15,000 crore to restructure existing borrowing and support CAPEX/OPEX.

- d. Merger of BSNL and MTNL to improve synergy in operations.

Special package to Nagaland

1935. SHRI K.G KENYE: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has been providing funds to Nagaland under various special packages/schemes;
- (b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, district-wise;
- (c) the expenditure incurred under each scheme/package since their announcement, year-wise;
- (d) the details of projects sanctioned under each package including the expenditure, till date; and
- (e) the details of projects to be implemented during the current financial year, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) There are no special packages/scheme only for the State of Nagaland. Various schemes of Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (M/o DoNER) for the North Eastern Region, like Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), North East Special Infrastructure Development Scheme (NESIDS), schemes of North Eastern Council (NEC), North East Road Sector Development Scheme (NERSDS), etc. are implemented in the State of Nagaland also.

- (b) to (e) Do not arise.

Cyber attacks on Indian sites from China

1936. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as per the report of the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) of the Ministry, 35 per cent of cyber attacks on Indian sites are from China;
- (b) if so, the details of malicious activities that have been identified and what remedial measures are being taken against such attacks; and

- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to contain such attacks?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There have been attempts from time-to-time to penetrate systems/devices of cyber networks operating in cyber space of the country. These attacks include website intrusions, scanning/probing and malicious code and have been observed to be originating from the cyber space of a number of countries including China.

(b) and (c) The Government has taken several measures for preventing unauthorised access to data and enhancing the cyber security of information technology infrastructure in the country. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Enactment of the Information Technology Act, 2000 which has provisions to deal with cyber attacks.
- (ii) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country, as per the provisions of section 70A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.
- (iii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks on regular basis.
- (iv) Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications/infrastructure and compliance.
- (v) All the government websites and applications are to be audited with respect to cyber security prior to their hosting. The auditing of the websites and applications will be conducted on a regular basis after hosting also.
- (vi) Government has empanelled 90 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (vii) Government has formulated Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.
- (viii) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly to enable assessment

of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in Government and critical sectors. 44 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 265 organisations from different States and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS, etc. participated.

- (ix) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network/system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks. 19 trainings covering 515 participants conducted in the year 2019 till October.
- (x) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same.
- (xi) Government has set up National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities. Phase-I of NCCC has been made operational.

Steps taken to improve the security of websites

1937. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that many of Government websites are vulnerable to hacking;
- (b) whether Government would take steps to improve the security of websites, particularly Government websites;
- (c) whether many incidents of data theft have occurred in the country; and
- (d) if so, the action taken to protect Indian data?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As per the information reported to and tracked by Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) a Total number of 199, 172, 110 and 48 websites of Central Ministries/Departments and State Governments were hacked during the year 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (till October) respectively.

(b) to (d) With the innovation of technology and rise in usage of cyber space for businesses, the cyber-attacks are on the rise in the country as well as globally. Such cyber-attacks target organizations and users to gain unauthorized access to data. Government is aware of such instances.

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

Government has taken following measures to enhance the cyber security posture and prevent cyber attacks:

- (i) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country, as per the provisions of section 70A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.
- (ii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks on regular basis.
- (iii) Security tips have been published for users to secure their Desktops, mobile/smart phones and preventing phishing attacks.
- (iv) Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications/infrastructure and compliance.
- (v) All the Government websites and applications are to be audited with respect to cyber security prior to their hosting. The auditing of the websites and applications will be conducted on a regular basis after hosting also.
- (vi) Government has empanelled 90 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (vii) Government has formulated Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.

- (viii) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in Government and critical sectors. 44 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 265 organisations from different States and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS, etc. participated.
- (ix) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network/system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks. 19 trainings covering 515 participants conducted in the year 2019 till October.
- (x) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same.
- (xi) Government has set up National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities. Phase-I of NCCC has been made operational.
- (xii) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) is conducting programs to generate information security awareness. Specific books, videos and online materials are developed for children, parents and general users about information security which are disseminated through Portal “www.infosecawareness.in”.

Report on Artificial Intelligence

1938. DR. AMAR PATNAIK:
SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has received the report on Artificial Intelligence by the Committee constituted for the same;
- (b) the number of reports/studies on A.I initiated by Government and details thereof;

(c) whether Government has released this report, or any information thereof, in public domain;

(d) the actions recommended by this Committee on Artificial Intelligence; and

(e) whether the committee has recommended any safeguards against biases in computer systems in its report and details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has received the draft Reports on four committees constituted on Artificial Intelligence (AI). Following are the details of Committee on AI:

I. Committee A - Committee on Platforms and Data for AI

II. Committee B - Committee on Leveraging AI for identifying National Missions in Key Sectors

III. Committee C - Committee on Mapping Technical Capabilities, Key Policy enablers required across Sectors, skilling, re-skilling and R&D

IV. Committee D - Committee on Cyber Security, Safety, Legal and Ethical Issues

(c) Yes, Sir. Government has published the draft reports at the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) website.

(d) and (e) Reports along with the recommendations of all the committees are available at the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) website <https://meity.gov.in/artificial-intelligence-committees-reports>.

Letter to Cambridge Analytica regarding data of Indians

1939. SHRI A. K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has sent another letter to Cambridge Analytica asking for additional details, not satisfied with the data mining and analysis firm's response received on April 3, 2018 regarding the data of Indian citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government in its letter has asked the firm which was also reportedly involved in electoral campaigns of leaders across the globe to give due sanctity to the data of Indian citizens; and

- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Based on the media reports regarding interference by Cambridge Analytica in Indian elections, Government had approached Cambridge Analytica as well as Facebook separately on 23.03.2018 seeking clarifications. Cambridge Analytica responded on 03.04.2018 that they do not have any Facebook data of Indian citizens. On 05.04.2018, Facebook informed the Government that data of estimated 562,455 Indian's may have been accessed by Cambridge Analytica through installations of the App developed by GSR and installed by Indians. As there were perceived inconsistencies, Government again approached both companies separately and asked Cambridge Analytica for additional details emphasizing that any data concerning Indians is required to be given due sanctity. No further response was however received from CA.

**Regulations to monitor the dark web
and deepfakes**

1940. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has any systematic regulations in place to monitor the dark web;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether the Ministry has any plans to prevent the spread of deepfakes in India?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) Does not arise.

(c) There are adequate legal provisions to prevent the spread of deepfakes. Section 66C and 66D of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides punishment and fine for identity theft and cheating by personation by using computer resource.

Government has taken several steps to prevent the spread of deepfakes. These, *inter alia*, include:—

- (i) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) as well as Police are in regular touch with various social media platforms to effectively address the issue of removal of objectionable content.
- (ii) MeitY took note of media reports about spread of fake news, misinformation/disinformation on Internet particularly using social media platforms. Social media platforms have implemented a number of steps to address the issue of fake news propagated using their platform.
- (iii) MeitY through a program, namely, Information Security Education & Awareness (ISEA), has been creating awareness among users highlighting the importance of following the ethics while using Internet. A dedicated website for information security awareness (<https://www.infosecawareness.in>) provides all the relevant awareness material.

**Security measures taken to protect
cyber networks**

1941. SHRI HARSHVARDHAN SINGH DUNGARPUR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the security measures taken/proposed to be taken by Government to protect cyber networks and also the action taken against the culprits;
- (b) whether there is acute shortage of cyber professionals/experts in the country to deal with cyber attacks; and
- (c) whether Government is planning to give training for cyber professionals?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Government has taken several measures to enhance the cyber security posture and protect cyber networks. These, *inter alia*, include:

- (i) Government has established National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC) for protection of critical information infrastructure in the country, as per the provisions of section 70A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000.
- (ii) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issues alerts and advisories regarding latest cyber threats/vulnerabilities and countermeasures to protect computers and networks on regular basis.

- (iii) Government has issued guidelines for Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) regarding their key roles and responsibilities for securing applications/infrastructure and compliance.
- (iv) Government has empanelled 90 security auditing organisations to support and audit implementation of Information Security Best Practices.
- (v) Government has formulated Crisis Management Plan for countering cyber attacks and cyber terrorism for implementation by all Ministries/Departments of Central Government, State Governments and their organizations and critical sectors.
- (vi) Cyber security mock drills are being conducted regularly to enable assessment of cyber security posture and preparedness of organisations in Government and critical sectors. 44 such drills have so far been conducted by CERT-In where 265 organisations from different States and sectors such as Finance, Defence, Power, Telecom, Transport, Energy, Space, IT/ITeS, etc. participated.
- (vii) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network/system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks. 19 trainings covering 515 participants conducted in the year 2019 (till October).
- (viii) Government has launched the Cyber Swachhta Kendra (Botnet Cleaning and Malware Analysis Centre). The centre is providing detection of malicious programs and free tools to remove the same.
- (ix) Government has set up National Cyber Coordination Centre (NCCC) to generate necessary situational awareness of existing and potential cyber security threats and enable timely information sharing for proactive, preventive and protective actions by individual entities. Phase-I of NCCC has been made operational.
- (x) Ministry of Home affairs has prepared National Information Security Policy and Guidelines (NISPG) and shared with the Central Ministries as well as the State Governments/Union territories. They have been advised to take appropriate steps to strengthen information security controls as per NISPG for strengthening Information Security and preventing information security breaches.

‘Police’ and ‘Public Order’ are State subjects as per the Constitution of India. States/UTs are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of crimes through their law enforcement machinery.

(b) and (c) Cyber Security is an evolving area and new technologies are regularly introduced in this domain causing ever increasing demand for human resources in the area. To address the requirement of trained professionals in this niche area, Government has taken several initiatives which includes:

- (i) Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project Phase II was approved in the year 2014 for a period of 5 years with an objective of capacity building in the area of Information Security, training of Government personnel and creation of mass Information Security awareness targeted towards various user segments. The project aims to train more than 1 lakh candidates in various formal/non-formal courses and more than 13,000 Government officials by March 2020. In addition, the project envisaged creation of mass awareness on Information Security through direct and indirect mode.

So far, 51,164 candidates have been trained/under-going training in various formal/non-formal courses through 52 institutions; 7,523 Government officials have been trained in various short term courses of 2/3/5 days duration and 1,193 Government officials have been trained through e-learning mode in the area of Information Security. Besides this, 1,029 half day general awareness workshops on Information Security have been organized across the country for various user groups covering 1,33,990 participants.

- (ii) Cyber Security is increasingly getting introduced in curriculum of schools and colleges every year. Many universities and institutions are offering PhDs and Master’s degree specializing in Cyber/Information Security. Vocational training program on cyber security have been introduced by Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship and also in universities like IGNOU.
- (iii) CERT-In conducts regular training programmes for network/system administrators and Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) of Government and critical sector organisations regarding securing the IT infrastructure and mitigating cyber attacks. 24 trainings covering 845 participants and 19 trainings

covering 515 participants conducted in the year 2018 and 2019 (till Oct) respectively.

Personal Data Protection Bill

1942. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that according to a study conducted by UK-based research firm, India has been ranked third worst for data privacy in Global Surveillance Index; and

(b) what is the status of draft Personal Data Protection Bill, 2018, by when it is expected to be tabled in the Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There are media reports about UK-based research firm Comaprtech, highlighting that India ranks behind only Russia and China when it comes to surveilling citizens. These attempts to malign the Government of India for the reported surveilling citizens are completely misleading. The Government is committed to protect the fundamental rights of citizens including the right to privacy and will take strict action against any intermediary responsible for breach of privacy. The Government operates strictly as per provisions of law and laid down protocols. There are adequate safeguards to ensure that no innocent citizen is harassed or his privacy breached.

(b) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on 31st July 2017, *vide* OM No.3(6)/2017-CLES, constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice Shri B N Srikrishna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, to look into all aspects relating to personal data protection. The committee gave its report on 27th July, 2018. The Committee also submitted a draft Personal Data Protection Bill, *vide* consultations were held on the draft bill and open feedback was invited on the contents of the bill. These are currently being processed and it is proposed to table the bill in Parliament.

Breach of privacy by digital intermediaries

1943. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that digital intermediaries are allegedly breaching the privacy of its users;

(b) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to ensure that digital intermediaries protect the privacy of user's data; and

(c) by when the notification of New Intermediaries Guidelines Rules is expected?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) There had been media reports of some instances of breach of privacy of users in Digital Intermediaries.

(b) There are legal provisions to deal with protection of privacy of user's data. Section 43A and Section 72A of the Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 provides for privacy and security of data in digital form. Section 43A provides for compensation to be paid to the victim in case of unauthorized access of information and leakage of sensitive personal information respectively. It mandates 'body corporates' to implement 'reasonable security practices' for protecting 'sensitive personal information' of individuals. The Information Technology (Reasonable security practices and procedures and sensitive personal data or information) Rules, 2011 notified under section 43A mandates that body corporate must provide policy for privacy and disclosure of information, so that user is well aware of the type of personal data collected, purpose of collection and usage of such information. The rules also specify mode of collection of information, disclosure of information, transfer of information. Also, Section 72A of the Act provides for punishment for disclosure of information in breach of the lawful contract.

Further, Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under Section 79 of the IT Act, 2000 require that the Intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall publish the rules and regulations, privacy policy and user agreement for access or usage of its computer resource by any person.

In addition, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology is working on the Personal Data Protection Bill to safeguard the privacy of citizens and proposes to table it in Parliament.

(c) The amendment to Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules; 2011 are expected to be finalised by end of January 2020.

Amendments to the Intermediaries Guidelines Rules

1944. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government believes that if intermediaries, as proposed in the amendments to the Intermediaries Guidelines Rules, proactively monitor content, there will be mass-scale private surveillance;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government agrees that this would be in violation of the Puttaswamy Judgement of the Supreme Court;

(d) the details thereof;

(e) whether Government agrees that there are more effective ways to tackle hate speech and misinformation; and

(f) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Government is fully committed to the privacy of its citizen while they use various intermediary services. Government had invited public comments on its draft of amendments to the Intermediary Rules, 2011 and has received public inputs on the same. The amendments *inter alia* proposes that intermediaries should proactively identify and remove child sexual abuse material, rape/gang-rape imagery and contents promoting terrorism without compromising accuracy or privacy using technology based tools and mechanism. The rules are presently being finalised.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) and (f) The Information Technology (IT) Act, 2000 has adequate provisions for removal of objectionable online content. Social media platforms are intermediaries as defined in the Act. Section 69A of the IT Act, 2000 empowers Government to block any information generated, transmitted, received, stored or hosted in any Computer Resource in the interest of Sovereignty and Integrity of India, Defence of India, Security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States or public order or for preventing incitement to the commission of any cognizable offence relating to above.

Further, Section 79 of the Act provides that intermediaries are required to disable/remove unlawful content on being notified by appropriate Government or its agency. The Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under this section

require that the intermediaries, which includes social media platforms, shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable and unlawful in any way.

Government is committed to tackle hate speech and misinformation and is open to any new constructive idea in this regard. The proposed amendment to Intermediaries Guidelines Rules is a step in this direction.

**Development of economy through
data localisation**

1945. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government believes that data localisation will help develop the economy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has conducted or commissioned any studies to assess the costs of data localisation on small and medium businesses and start ups, similar to the exercise that was conducted by the European Union which did a comprehensive assessment of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance cost on small businesses and startups;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons for not commissioning such a study?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) on 31st July 2017, *vide* OM No.3(6)/2017-CLES, constituted a Committee of Experts under the Chairmanship of Justice B N Srikrishna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India, to look into all aspects relating to personal data protection. The Committee gave its report on 27th July, 2018. The Committee also submitted a draft Personal Data Protection Bill, *vide* consultations were held on the draft bill and open feedback was invited on the contents of the bill. These are currently being processed and it is proposed to table the bill in Parliament. The Report and the Draft Bill of the Srikrishna Committee are available at: <https://meity.gov.in/data-protection-framework>. In the report the Committee has analyzed

various aspects pertaining to cross-border transfer of personal data including the benefits and costs of imposing restrictions on flow of personal data outside the country.

Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Scheme for Electronics and IT

1946. SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the reasons which necessitated a separate Visvesvaraya PhD Scheme for Electronics and IT; and
- (b) whether the programme has attracted foreign students as well?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The “National Policy on Electronics (NPE-2012)” and the “National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT-2012)” provided thrust to R&D, Innovation and IP generation. NPIT 2012 suggested that IT/ITES industry to grow from ‘service based’ model to a ‘product based’ growth model, hence there is a need to enhance the availability of Ph.D.s in the country in this sector. It was estimated that 25% of the employees required in IT/ITES and electronics-system design ought to be at Ph.D. level. Enhancing the number of PhDs in these sectors is essential to create such an ecosystem. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the scheme in 2014 “To enhance the number of Ph.D.s in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (IT/ITES) sectors” now known as “Visvesvaraya Ph.D. Scheme for Electronics and IT”. Out of 934 Full Time Ph.D. candidates enrolled, two are foreign students.

Threat of mobile games

1947. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that dangerous mobile games like Blue Whale, PUBG, etc. are becoming serious threat to the children;
- (b) whether Government has any plan and mechanism to stop such games;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) There had been media reports about alleged threats to the children due to dangerous mobile games like Blue Whale, PUBG and Momo Challenge Game. Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000 provides for certain due diligence to be followed by Intermediaries failing which they would be liable. The Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 notified under Section 79 of the Act, *inter alia*, specifies that the intermediaries shall inform the users of computer resource not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is grossly harmful, harms minor in any way; violates any law for the time being in force; etc. Law Enforcement Agencies take action under existing legal provisions for removal of malicious contents/materials and prosecuting the offenders.

Government has issued guidelines for Safe and Effective Use of Internet and Digital Technologies to all Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) schools *vide* circular dated. 18.08.2017. Further, Government had issued advisories on online dangerous games including on “Blue Whale Challenge Game” and also “Momo Challenge Game”. Minister, MWCD wrote to principals of all the schools to take steps to address the issue of online dangerous games.

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) sent an advisory related to online dangerous games to Ministry of Women and Child Development on 7th August, 2017 and 13th August, 2018. The advisory contains best practices for parents and school teachers.

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) published an advisory regarding “blue whale challenge” and published on its website (<http://meity.gov.in/advisory-blue-whale-challenge-game>) on 12th September, 2017. Ministry of Electronics and IT published another advisory regarding “Momo challenge game” on its website on 27th August, 2018.

MeitY and CERT-In interacted with service providers and social media platforms regarding the steps to be taken to prevent users from falling prey to harmful online games.

Chip manufacturing in the country

1948. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that despite its campaign of Digital India, the country lacks basic necessities like a semi-conductor chip manufacturing plant in the country;

- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether any electronic chip manufacturing units are likely to be operational in the next five years;
- (d) if so, the details and the present status thereof;
- (e) whether the setting up of electronic chip facilities would be of the nation's strategic purpose as chips had security implications and if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) whether Government is considering providing subsidy to these units and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Government attaches high priority to electronics hardware manufacturing and it is one of the important pillars of both "Make in India" and "Digital India" programmes. As a result of various measures taken by the Government over the last few years and efforts of the industry, electronics hardware production in the country has grown from ₹1,90,366 crore in 2014-15 to ₹ 4,58,006 crore in 2018-19, at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 25%.

Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali, an autonomous body under the Department of Space and Gallium Arsenide Enabling Technology Centre (GAETEC), Hyderabad, a unit of Society for Integrated Circuit Technology and Applied Research (SITAR) have facilities for Design, Development, Fabrication, Assembly, Packaging, Testing and Quality Assurance of CMOS based semiconductor chips and GaAs monolithic microwave integrated circuits, RF sub systems, respectively, for various applications, and are meeting the strategic requirements.

However, there is no commercial semiconductor chip manufacturing plant in the country. Government has been making serious efforts to set up semiconductor fabrication facilities in the country. The Cabinet, in its decision dated 20.04.2011 had set up an Empowered Committee (EC) with the mandate to identify technology and potential investors for setting up Semiconductor Wafer Fabrication (FAB) manufacturing facilities in the country and to recommend nature and quantum of Government support. Based on the recommendations of the Empowered Committee (EC), Government had approved two proposals for setting up of Semiconductor FAB facility, based on which Letter of Intent (LoI) dated 19.03.2014 were issued to the two consortia. As per the LoI, both the consortia were required to submit certain documents for demonstration of commitment. The consortium led by M/s. Jaiprakash

Associates Ltd. withdrew their proposal and the consortium led by M/s. HSMC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. could not submit the requisite documents for demonstration of commitment, despite being provided extension of time on several occasions. Hence, the Lol issued to M/s. HSMC Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. was cancelled on 20.04.2018. The efforts to set up commercial semiconductor chip manufacturing plant in the country did not meet with success, although very attractive set of incentives were offered to the aforesaid consortia.

India is a signatory to the Information Technology Agreement (ITA-1) of WTO under which most of the electronic components, including semiconductor integrated circuits (chips), are being imported at Nil Basic Custom Duty (BCD). Besides, Electronics hardware manufacturing sector in the country faces lack of level playing field *vis-a-vis* competing nations on account of several disabilities such as lack of adequate infrastructure, domestic supply chain and logistics; high cost of finance; inadequate availability of quality power and water and limited focus on R&D by the industry, which render domestic electronics hardware manufacturing uncompetitive. Further, the manufacturing facilities for semiconductors are highly capital intensive and have to deal with constantly changing technology.

(e) Electronics impacts a large number of economic sectors including IT, telecom, broadcasting, power, etc. as well as strategic sectors, *viz.*, Defence, Space and Atomic Energy. The growth of electronics industry has enormous implication for all these sectors. Besides the economic imperative, focus on electronics hardware manufacturing up to the integrated circuit or chip level is required due to the growing security concerns as well as strategic importance. Presently, SCL and GAETEC facilities are being used for strategic purposes.

(f) In order to attract investment for setting up of Semiconductor FAB facilities in the country, capital subsidy of 20 - 25% was available under the Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS). However, no proposal was received for setting up of Semiconductor FAB under M-SIPS. Following incentives are available to companies for setting up of Semiconductor FAB facilities in India:—

- (i) Capital goods for setting up of Semiconductor FAB are exempted from Basic Customs Duty (BCD).
- (ii) Investment linked deduction under Section 35AD of the Income-tax Act.
- (iii) Deduction of expenditure on research and development as admissible under Section 35(2AB) of the Income-tax Act.

- (iv) New domestic companies making fresh investment in manufacturing and starting operations before March 31, 2023 have an option to pay corporate income tax at reduced rate of 15%. Such companies will also not be liable to pay Minimum Alternate Tax (MAT).

Guidelines for social media

1949. SHRI RAJ KUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that concerned over its wide misuse the Supreme Court of India has recently directed Government to frame guidelines for the social media;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) what action Government has taken on the directive of the Apex Court?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Social media sites are Intermediaries within the context of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India *vide* its order dated 24th Sept., 2019 in Transfer Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 1943-1946/2019 (FACEBOOK INC VERSUS UNION OF INDIA & ORS.), directed the Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to file an affidavit within three weeks stating the stage of the process of updation of Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines) Rules, 2011 and the definite timelines in completing said process.

(c) In October 2019, Secretary, MeitY filed an affidavit before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India that process of notifying the Information Technology (Intermediaries Guidelines), Amendment Rules, 2018, is likely to be completed by 15th January, 2020.

Fee hike in JNU

†1950. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:
SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a significant fee hike in Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) if so, details of heads under which the fees have been increased;
- (c) whether the students have launched an agitation against the said fee hike; and
- (d) the names of the universities in the country witnessing an increase in fee structure alongwith the details on the quantum of increase against each head?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has informed that in order to meet the increased expenditure on the maintenance of hostels and to run them on no profit no loss basis, it has increased room rents after about, forty years. The details are given below:

Particulars	Existing charges in Rs.	Revised charges in Rs. for all students including BPL category students with JRF, SRF and other equivalent scholarships/ fellowships	Revised charges in Rs. for eligible BPL category students
Room Rent Double	10/- per month	300/- per month	150/- per month
Room Rent Single	20/- per month	600/- per month	300/- per month
Utility and Service Charges	Nil	1000/- per month	500/- per month

- (c) The students of JNU launched an agitation against the said fee hike.
- (d) It is pertinent to mention here that Central Universities, including JNU, are autonomous institutions and governed by the respective Acts and the Statutes and the Ordinances made there under. All administrative and academic decisions including fee revision are taken by the University with the approval of its statutory bodies, such as Academic Council, Executive Council and Court. However, no information is maintained centrally in this regard.

NSO spyware scandal

1951. DR. ABHISHEK MANU SINGHVI: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of all the steps taken after the NSO Pegasus spyware scandal;
- (b) whether the Ministry is aware of all the companies that sell such software or provide services; and
- (c) what steps the Ministry has taken to ensure the bulwarking of such spywares in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) On 31st Oct., 2019, there was news in Indian media reporting breach of data of few Indians *via* WhatsApp through a spyware named Pegasus developed and marketed by an Israel based company namely NSO. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) took cognizance of the news reports and sought a report from the WhatsApp through an email sent to them on 1st November and seeking WhatsApp response by 4th November. WhatsApp responded on 2nd November 2019 communicating the aspects relating to exploitation of a vulnerability in their platform by a spyware called Pegasus, developed by Israeli agency named NSO. Once the official response was received from WhatsApp, the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) issued a notice on 9th Nov., 2019 and sought clarifications from WhatsApp. WhatsApp had responded to the initial notice on 18th Nov 2019. CERT-In has also issued a notice to NSO group. The response from WhatsApp was received on November 18, 2019 and further clarifications and technical details were sought on 26th November, 2019. CERT-In has also sent a notice to NSO Group on 26th November, 2019 seeking details about the malware and its impact on Indian users.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) is tracking cyber threats affecting users and issuing advisories to users regarding best practices to be followed for protection of information while using Social Media and securing mobile devices.

Misuse of data by companies to manipulate/electoral process

1952. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that companies are misusing data of India to manipulate the electoral process;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government has warned such companies which were misusing the said data for the said purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) There had been some media reports about leakage of personal data. Government took notice of one such instance about leakage of data by Facebook and Cambridge Analytica, though these companies have claimed that there had been no misuse. Government has asked CBI to conduct an enquiry in the matter.

Breach of privacy on messaging platform WhatsApp

1953. SHRI DIGVIJAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Minister has stated that Government is concerned at the breach of privacy of citizens of India on the messaging platform WhatsApp and Government has asked WhatsApp to explain the kind of breach and what it is doing to safeguard it; and

(b) if so, what has been the response of the WhatsApp?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) sought a report from the WhatsApp regarding breach of privacy of citizens of India on its messaging platform through an email sent to them on 31st October, 2019 and seeking WhatsApp response by 4th November, 2019.

WhatsApp replied on 2nd November, 2019 communicating the aspects relating to exploitation of a vulnerability in their platform by a spyware called Pegasus, developed by Israeli agency named NSO Group. WhatsApp stated that it is likely that Spyware Pegasus used the vulnerability in the video calling feature in the WhatsApp and that the WhatsApp user's device could be compromised even by giving a missed call. WhatsApp has informed that it is believed that around 1400 users's devices were attempted to be attacked globally including 121 users in India. It further stated that personal data of approx. 20 users in India might have been breached.

**Setting up of electronics manufacturing
clusters**

1954. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has accorded permission for setting up of Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) at Kamrup district of Assam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the aims and objectives behind the move;
- (c) whether Government has taken any step to promote investment in IT/ITES sector and to create employment opportunities, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the other steps taken by Government to promote North-Eastern Region as one of the preferred IT destination in the country?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) notified Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) scheme to provide support creation of world class infrastructure for attracting investment in Electronics System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector. Under EMC scheme, the Ministry has accorded approval for setting up of Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Cluster (EMC) over an area of 100 acres at Bongora Village, Palasbari Circle, Kamrup District in the State of Assam with a project cost of ₹ 119.85 crore including a Grant-in-aid of ₹ 50.00 crore from Government of India.

(c) and (d) This Ministry, under Digital India programme has notified India BPO Promotion Scheme (IBPS) and North-East BPO Promotion Scheme (NEBPS) to promote investment in IT/ITES sector and to provide employment opportunities for local youths by setting up of BPO/ITES operations in smaller cities across the country including North Eastern Region. Under IBPS and NEBPS, 52972 seats have been allocated to 206 eligible companies to setup 297 BPO/ITES units in 119 small cities of the country. Out of these, 257 units have started operation on 48519 seats and provided employment to 32749 persons.

**Usage of digital technology among common
man in the country**

1955. SHRI G.C. CHANDRASHEKHAR: Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has launched scores of schemes to boost the usage of digital technology among common man in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the salient features of the schemes being implemented by Government to make more deeper usage of Information Technology in the country;
- (d) whether Government has taken special efforts to promote Information Technology accessible to the people residing in rural, hilly and remote areas of the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof including that of Karnataka; and
- (f) other new initiatives/steps being taken by Government for deeper penetration of digital technology applications for common man?

THE MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India has initiated the 'Digital India' programme with the vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge-based economy by ensuring digital access, digital inclusion, digital empowerment and bridging the digital divide. Under Digital India Programme, MeitY has effectively utilised Digital technologies to transform the lives of people while ensuring digital inclusion of all the segments. The Digital India programme is centred on three key vision areas namely Digital Infrastructure as a Core Utility to Every Citizen, Governance and Services on Demand and Digital Empowerment of Citizens. Digital India aims to provide the much needed thrust to nine pillars of growth areas that is (i) Broadband Highways, (ii) Universal Access to Mobile Connectivity, (iii) Public Internet Access Programme, (iv) e-Governance – Reforming Government through Technology, (v) e-Kranti– Electronic delivery of services, (vi) Information for All, (vii) Electronics Manufacturing – Target NET ZERO Imports, (viii) IT for Jobs and (ix) Early Harvest Programmes. Some of the key initiatives undertaken under Digital India programme are as follows:

- **Common Services Centre (CSC):** MeitY has initiated a project namely "Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0" in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme, which envisages setting up of at least one CSC at Gram Panchayat (GP) to cover all the 2.5 lakh GPs across the country. Common Services Centres are internet enabled centres operated by local entrepreneur, called Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) and provide eServices to rural citizens.

Over 350 digital services are being offered by these CSCs. The number of functional CSCs (Urban & Rural) across the country is 3.64 Lakh, out of which 2.68 Lakh CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat level.

- **Meghraj and CSP:** As part of the Digital India program, Government of India embarked upon an ambitious initiative known as MeghRaj, to utilize and harness the benefits of Cloud Computing. To fast track the adoption of cloud computing, MeitY, Government of India has empanelled cloud service offerings of the 13 Cloud Service Providers under different deployment models viz. Public Cloud, Virtual Private Cloud and Government Community Cloud.
- **Digital locker:** Digital Locker provides an ecosystem with collection of repositories and gateways for issuers to upload the documents in the digital repositories. So far, 3.28 crore registered user of DigiLocker. 370 crore authentic documents have been issued. 144 Issuers and 42 Requestor organizations have been on-boarded.
- **Open Govt. Data Platform:** Open Government Data (OGD) Platform is a platform for supporting Open Data initiative of Government of India. It intends to increase transparency in the functioning of Government and also open avenues for many more innovative usages of Government Data to give different perspective. Currently, 3,41,347 resources under 7,935 catalogs published by 162 Ministries/Departments.
- **eTaal:** eTaal is a web portal for dissemination of e-Transactions statistics of National and State level e-Governance Projects including Mission Mode Projects. It receives transaction statistics from web based applications periodically on near real time basis. More than 4899 crore transactions have been recorded for 3,751 services since January 2019.
- **Government e-Market Place (GeM):** To facilitate on line procurement of Goods and Services required by various Government Departments/Organizations/PSUs, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has been implemented. GeM will enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement. Presently, GeM is being used by various Departments/Ministries of Central Govt. and States/UTs. 3,04,462 Sellers and Services providers are registered on the portal. There are 15,35,527 Products and 20,282+ Services are available on the portal.

- **Jeevan Pramaan:** Digital Life Certificate for Pensioners scheme known as Jeevan Pramaan envisages to digitize the whole process of securing the life certificate. It is a biometric enabled digital service for pensioners. With this initiative, the pensioner is no more required to physically present himself or herself in front of disbursing agency or the certification authority. Over 3.32 crore Digital Life certificates have been processed since 2014.
- **Online Registration System(ORS)/eHospital:** Online Registration System (ORS) under eHospital includes online appointment and registration by new patients, viewing of lab reports, checking the status of blood availability and integration with payment gateway (PayGov). Till date, 31.63 lakh online appointments have been made in 237+ Hospitals through ORS.
- **NCOG- GIS Applications:** National Centre of Geo-informatics (NCoG) project, is a GIS platform developed for sharing, collaboration, location based analytics and decision support system for Departments. So far, 497 applications across various domains are operational.
- **Unified Mobile Application for New-Age Governance (UMANG):** UMANG has been developed as a single mobile platform to deliver major Government services with Core Platform integrated with Aadhaar, DigiLocker, PayGov, Rapid Assessment System (RAS) etc. About 490 services from 104 departments and 21 States are already available on UMANG platform.
- **MyGov:** MyGov is a first-of-its-kind citizen engagement platform for participatory governance in India. MyGov aims to facilitate a dialogue between citizens and Government, bringing citizens closer to the Government and bringing the Government closer to the citizens it serves, *via* this platform. Presently, over 95.96 lakh users are registered with MyGov, participating in various activities hosted on MyGov platform. MyGov activities are structured under 64 groups consisting of 869 tasks, 816 discussions, 265 Polls/Surveys and 185 talks.
- **Soil Health Card:** It has been developed to establish the national database on Soil Health and provide fertilizer and micro-nutrient suggestions for the soil to farmers. The system captures data at each stage of soil sample collection and testing to generate Soil Health Card in uniform format with local language interface for 22 languages.

- **e-NAM:** National Agriculture Market (NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC (Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee) mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. The NAM Portal provides a single window service for all APMC related information and services.
- **E-WayBill:** It provides a self-service platform to consignors, consignees and transporters to generate e-Way Bill for movement of goods from one place to another. It provides multiple modes of generation including web, bulk upload, SMS, and Mobile App.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. Government has taken various initiatives to make Information Technology accessible to the people residing in rural, hilly and remote areas including State of Karnataka. Some of the key initiatives are as follows:

- **Common Services Centre (CSC):** MeitY has initiated a project namely “Common Services Centre (CSC) 2.0” in August, 2015 under Digital India Programme, which envisages setting up of at least one CSC at Gram Panchayat (GP) to cover all the 2.5 lakh GPs across the country. Common Services Centres are internet enabled centres operated by local entrepreneur called Village Level Entrepreneurs (VLEs) and provide eServices to rural citizens. Over 350 digital services are being offered by these CSCs. The number of functional CSCs (Urban & Rural) across the Country is 3.64 Lakh, out of which 2.68 Lakh CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat level. With respect to State of Karnataka, as on 30th October, 2019, Total 9,028 CSCs are functional including rural and urban location out of which Total 4,827 CSCs are functional at Gram Panchayat (GP) level.
- **Digital Village:** MeitY has also initiated the “Digital Village Pilot Project” in October, 2018. 700 Gram Panchayats(GPs)/villages with atleast one Gram Panchayat/village per District per State/UT are being covered across the country. The digital services being offered are Digital Health Services (Tele-Health & Tele-Veterinary consultation), Education Service (NIELIT courses on BCC/CCC, Tally), Financial Inclusion Awareness Programme, Skill Development, Solar panel powered street lights including Government to Citizens Services (G2C), Business to Citizen (B2C) Services. The project is covering atleast one Gram Panchayat/Village from all district of the Karnataka for implementation under Digital Village Pilot Project.

- **e-District Mission Mode Project (MMP):** e-District project has been implemented at district and sub-district levels of all States/UTs, benefitting all citizens by delivering various high volume e-Services such as Certificates (Birth, Caste, Death, Income and Local Resident), Pension (Old Age, Disability and Widow), Electoral, Consumer Court, Revenue Court, Land Record and services of various departments such as Commercial Tax, Agriculture, Labour, Employment Training & Skill Development etc. e-District services have been launched in 721 districts across all States/UTs. In the State of Karnataka, 190 eServices have been rolled-out across all 30 districts of Karnataka.
- **BharatNet:** BharatNet is an ambitious initiative to trigger a broadband revolution in rural areas. This project is being implemented by Department of Telecommunications. BharatNet aims to connect all the 2,50,000 Gram Panchayats in the country and provide 100 Mbps connectivity to all gram panchayats (GPs). So far, 3,85,754 Kms. optical fiber has been laid connecting 1,42,086 Gram Panchayats. 1,29,973 Gram Panchayats are ready for service. In the state of Karnataka, 6158 Gram Panchayats are ready for service.
- **Soil Health Card:** It has been developed to establish the national database on Soil Health and provide fertilizer and micro-nutrient suggestions for the soil to farmers. The system captures data at each stage of soil sample collection and testing to generate Soil Health Card in uniform format with local language interface for 22 languages.
- **e-NAM:** National Agriculture Market (NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC (Agriculture Produce Marketing Committee) mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities. The NAM Portal provides a single window service for all APMC related information and services.

(f) A large number of initiatives have been undertaken by Government for penetration of digital technology application across the country. Under Pillar 5: e-Kranti of Digital India programme, a Total of 44 Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) are being implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments, States and State Departments. These MMPs are providing services in the areas such as education, healthcare, agriculture, justice, land records, social benefits, local governments, rural development, women & child development, legislature, local language, transport, financial services, Income Tax (IT), Passport, Posts,

etc. Some of the key initiatives implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments, States, and State Departments covering above sectors are as follows:

- **Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA):** The Government has approved a new scheme titled “Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (PMGDISHA)” in February, 2017 to usher in digital literacy in rural India by covering 6 crore rural households (one person per household). As on date, over 2.38 crore candidates have been trained under PMGDISHA scheme, out of which more than 1.75 crore candidates have been certified.
- **MCA21:** The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA), Government of India, has initiated the MCA21 project, which enables easy and secure access to MCA services in an assisted manner for corporate entities, professionals, and general public.
- **Passport Seva Project (PSP):** Passport Seva enables simple, efficient and transparent processes for delivery of passport and related services. The Passport Seva Project is transforming passport and related services in India to provide a best-in-class experience to Indian citizens.
- **National Voters Service Portal (NVSP):** Through NVSP, a user can avail and access various services such as access the electoral list, apply for voter id card, apply online for corrections in voter’s card, view details of polling booth, Assembly Constituency and Parliamentary Constituency and get the contact details of Booth Level officer, Electoral Registration Officer, among other services.
- **Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AEPS):** AEPS is a bank led model which allows online interoperable financial inclusion transaction at PoS (MicroATM) through the Business correspondent of any bank using the Aadhaar authentication.
- **BHIM:** Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) is an app that makes payment transactions simple, easy and quick using Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

Opening of new consulates of Saudi Arabia and the US

1956. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposals for opening more consulates of Saudi Arabia and the US in various States are under consideration;

(b) if so, the details of the States and respective cities in which opening of consulates are considered;

(c) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) There are no pending proposals with the Government from Saudi Arabia and the US to open new consulates in India.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Consultants/advisors with the Ministry

1957. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of full time consultants and/or advisors currently working with the Ministry and it's various Departments and Autonomous Bodies/institutions and Public Sector Organizations associated with it as of 31st August, 2019;

(b) Since when they are working and what is the Total amount of honorarium/salary/fees being awarded to them, Department/institution-wise;

(c) what is the mechanism, if any, of assessing their performance periodically; and

(d) how many of them are serving with the Department or in any other associated organisation continuously for the last ten years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (d) As of 31st August, 2019, 56 Consultants/Advisrs were engaged by the Ministry, including subordinate offices, autonomous bodies etc., on the basis of extant rules and procedures and in line with functional requirements. The Total monthly expenditure is ₹ 48,32,508. Their performance is regularly assessed by the Ministry, including at the time of renewal of the contract, based on performance and functional requirements.

Arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan army

1958. SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of increase in arrest of Indian Fishermen by Sri Lankan armed forces;
- (b) if so, the number of Indian Fishermen arrested and jailed in Sri Lanka;
- (c) the efforts taken by Government to release Indian fishermen; and
- (d) whether there is any proposal to develop any mechanism to alert fishermen not to cross International Maritime Border in Indian Ocean/Bay of Bengal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (d) Indian fishermen are arrested from time to time by the authorities of Sri Lanka for allegedly crossing the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) and fishing in Sri Lankan waters. With sustained diplomatic efforts the Government has secured the release of 2082 Indian fishermen and 380 fishing vessels from the custody of Sri Lanka since May, 2014. Currently, there are 50 boats and 1 Indian fisherman in Sri Lankan custody. During his recent visit to India, President of Sri Lanka, H.E. Mr. Gotabaya Rajapaksa, assured that Sri Lanka would take steps to release the boats belonging to Indian fishermen in their custody.

Government attaches the highest priority to the safety and security of Indian Fishermen. As soon as reports of apprehension of Indian fishermen are received, the Government through diplomatic channels takes up the matter with the Sri Lankan authorities.

Government of India has assisted in the installation of 507 transponders by the Government of Tamil Nadu in mechanised fishing boats to alert fishermen on the location of the IMBL on pilot basis. Further, assistance is being provided to fishermen for obtaining safety kits which consist of GPS, communication equipment, Distress Alert Transmitter (DAT), life-saving appliances (VHF radiotelephones) for use in case of emergencies.

Views expressed by Malaysia and Turkey

†1959. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether it is a fact that the interests of India are being overlooked continuously by Malaysia and Turkey and these countries are continuously speaking against the interests of India on international fora;

(b) whether it is also a fact that imports from Malaysia has continuously increased;

(c) the steps being taken by Government in view of over-looking of interests of India by Malaysia; and

(d) the main reason responsible for widening gulf between India and neighbouring country like Malaysia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (c) India's relations with Malaysia and Turkey have traditionally been cordial, underpinned by growing economic engagements.

Any issue that may arise between India and these countries will be resolved bilaterally and Government of India has always urged our partners including Malaysia and Turkey to respect India's sovereignty and territorial integrity; and develop proper understanding of the concerned issue.

(b) Bilateral trade between India and Malaysia has been growing over the years. The trade figures for last four years are given below:—

	(in US & Bn)			
Trade/Year	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Export to Malaysia	3.70	5.22	5.70	6.43
Import from Malaysia	9.08	8.93	9.01	10.81
TOTAL TRADE	12.78	14.15	14.71	17.24

(d) Does not arise.

Increasing the sectors under MPLADS fund

1960. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering to increase the areas and sectors under MPLADS funds;

(b) if so, the complete details in this regard;

(c) whether Government has received certain suggestions for increase of MPLADS funds of Members of Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) and (b) Sector-wise list of illustrative works under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) is provided under MPLADS guidelines. This list is revised from time to time on the basis of inputs received from Hon'ble MPs. The latest information in this regard is also available on the official website of the Ministry (www.mplads.gov.in).

(c) and (d) There is no proposal under consideration with the Government for increase of MPLADS funds at present.

Know India Programme

1961. SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the Indian diaspora has responded to the Know India Programme; and

(b) the details of participation of the diaspora?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) The Know India Programme is an important initiative of the Government of India which aims to engage diaspora youth in the age group of 18-30 years. The aim is to connect them with their motherland and to motivate and inspire them by the transformations taking place in contemporary India. The programme also aims to give them an exposure to India's diverse forms of art, heritage, and culture.

Ministry has received an overwhelmingly positive response from the Indian diaspora. In view of the positive response received from the diaspora, the Know India Programme was revamped in 2016 and the number of editions were enhanced from 04 to 06 in a financial year. The age limit criteria was also increased from 18-26 years to 18-30 years.

(b) Since its inception in 2004, Ministry had conducted 57 editions of this programme, with the participation of 1981 diaspora youth from 49 countries. The 58th and 59th editions of this programme are scheduled to be organized in the months of December, 2019 and January, 2020.

Prime Minister's visit to the US

1962. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) number of agreements and MoUs signed between India and US during last visit of Prime Minister to the US and details thereof;
- (b) whether any discussion was held for reducing the imposition of 25 per cent safeguard duty on steel by US which affected steel exports from India, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) details of the organiser of the "Howdy Modi" event in US;
- (d) whether Government has any information regarding the expenditure incurred and source of fund for organising that event; and
- (e) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons for not collecting such information?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) An Indian company, Petronet LNG Limited, and a U.S. company, Tellurian Inc., concluded an MoU to explore energy cooperation on the sidelines of the Prime Minister's interaction with leading energy sector CEOs in Houston, Texas on 21 September, 2019.

(b) India and the U.S. have engaged on trade issues of mutual interest, including on the additional tariffs on import of steel imposed by the U.S.

(c) to (e) The U.S.-based Texas India Forum, Inc. organized a Community Summit entitled 'Howdy, Modi! Shared Dreams, Bright Futures' in honour of the Prime Minister in Houston on 22 September, 2019. According to the website of the event, the costs of the event will be covered by donations from the general public.

**Proposed amendment to the National Defence
Authorisation Act (NDAA)**

1963. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the amendment proposed for the National Defence Authorisation Act (NDAA) by the US Congressman Brad Sherman;

- (b) its implications on current US-India relations; and
- (c) the implications of this on India's global standing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) Member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Congressman Brad Sherman, introduced an amendment pertaining to India in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020. This amendment proposes the sense of the Congress that the U.S. should strengthen and enhance its major defence partnership with India, *inter alia*, to promote shared values and common interests, enhance civilian and military exchanges, facilitate information sharing and technology transfer. This amendment also mandates the submission of a report by the U.S. Secretary of Defense to the U.S. Congress regarding defence cooperation between India and the U.S. in the Western Indian Ocean.

The amendment was passed by the House of Representatives, and included in its version of the NDAA for FY 2020. The U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate versions of the text of the NDAA for FY 2020 are currently being reconciled in a joint committee.

India and the U.S. have established a strategic partnership based on our shared values and common interests. As sovereign democracies and strategic partners, both countries are closely involved in global efforts to promote peace, prosperity and security, and have committed to work together on regional and global issues.

Information of fake foreign universities

1964. DR. PRABHAKAR KORE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the instances of Indian students enrolling in fake foreign universities are on the rise;
- (b) whether Government has identified the issues faced by several Indian students abroad after foreign institutes they enrolled in, turns out to be fake;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up a portal to help students seeking admission in foreign universities to identify the genuineness of such universities; and
- (d) if so, the details of the proposed portal and other steps taken by Government to help Indian students enrolling in foreign universities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) There is no evidence to suggest that instances of students enrolling in fake foreign universities are on the rise.

However, some instances where Indian students have unwittingly enrolled in fake foreign universities have come to Ministry's notice during the period 2016-2018 from USA, UAE, Switzerland, Suriname and Czech Republic. In most of the cases the Universities were operating without the requisite permission and approval from the host Government.

(b) Indian Missions/Posts closely coordinate with local authorities and provide all possible assistance to the affected students, including facilitation of their voluntary departure to India. The Education officer in the Mission regularly meets the students. The Missions/Posts also issue advisories to warn students about fake universities. Some Missions/Posts share the link of the list of genuine universities on their website so that students may apply to these universities only. Social media platforms to sensitize the Indian students about the fake universities are also utilized.

(c) and (d) Yes. The Ministry, in consultation with various stakeholders including MHRD, MoH&FW, Medical Council of India, Association of Indian Universities, University Grants Commission etc. is in the process of developing a Global Indian Students Portal. In addition, following steps have been taken by the Ministry and our Missions/Posts abroad to help Indian students:—

(i) To safeguard the interest of Indian students going abroad, Ministry has developed a “Students Registration Module” within the MADAD portal to create a database of Indian students going abroad. It enables Indian students abroad to register voluntarily and provide data about their courses, location, institution, duration of the course, etc. Also, a separate category of grievances (*e.g.* related to fake universities; fraudulent educational consultants/agents; safety and security of students etc.) for the Indian students abroad has been created on the portal.

(ii) Officials of the Missions/Posts regularly visit local universities and colleges to meet Indian students to address their issues. Student Welfare officers of Indian Missions are constantly in contact with Indian students association and University administrations. There are informal group of students on social media to disseminate information about students related issues in many countries. Such groups are in touch with student welfare officers. Advisory on “do's and don'ts” in foreign countries, including issues related to

fraudulent agents are issued by Indian Missions, which are placed on the website of the Mission.

Role of BRICS in international context

1965. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India is not in active role for the acceleration of the role of Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (BRICS) in international prospective;
- (b) if so, the reasons for not taking an active role in BRICS at present; and
- (c) the present outlook and international context of BRICS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): (a) to (c) India along with Brazil, Russia, China and South Africa actively engages on issues of global importance through BRICS. BRICS is an important Grouping bringing together the major emerging economies from the world, comprising 42% of the world population, having 23% of the world GDP and over 16% share in the world trade. BRICS countries have been the main engines of global economic growth over the years. At the same time, BRICS has emerged as a major factor in a peaceful, prosperous and multi-polar world.

During Summit, BRICS Leaders discuss various issues of global importance including global financial and security situation, countering terrorism, climate change, sustainable development, reform of the multilateral system, reform of WTO and institutions of international governance, ways to promote Intra-BRICS cooperation including in science & technology, trade, health, information and communication technology, people-to-people exchanges. In all BRICS Leaders Summits, Indian delegations have been led by Prime Minister.

BRICS cooperation is broadly covered under Economic, political & security, and people-to-people exchanges. From inception, finance and trade is a major area of Intra-BRICS Cooperation. The New Development Bank (NDB) and the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) are the major outcomes in this area. NDB has funded/decided to fund 44 projects worth more than USD 12 billion, within BRICS countries including 8 projects worth USD 3246 million in India. Further, Contingent Reserve Arrangement to provide protection against global liquidity pressures has been set up in BRICS.

BRICS Leaders have been supporting India's stand on countering terrorism and that terrorism is not acceptable in any form and manifestation. BRICS Leaders also listed the terrorist entities like LeT, JeM, TTP etc. as perpetrators of violence. Counter Terrorism Working Group in BRICS has set up subgroups to cover various aspects of countering terrorism.

Tribal university in Khammam, Telangana

1966. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of setting up for tribal university in Khammam, Telangana; and
- (b) the research made for this purpose so far?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Re-organisation Act, 2014 mandates establishment of one Central Tribal University in the State of Telangana and it is proposed to be established in Mulugu, Bhupalpally District, Telangana.

As per the Twelfth Plan (2012-17), as approved by the National Development Council, the thrust is on consolidation of the higher education system. Expansion is to be mainly done by scaling up capacity of the existing institutions in place of setting up new institutions. Besides, the Central Government has launched Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) on cost sharing basis to assist States to open new institutions. The 'education' being a concurrent subject, the State Government also takes initiative in establishing new universities.

Reservation of SCs/STs and OBCs across Central Universities

†1967. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large number of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are vacant in the Central Universities in the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of sanctioned posts for SCs/STs and OBCs as well as the general category and the category-wise number of sanctioned/vacant posts in the Central Universities;

(c) the details of steps taken to fill these posts during the last three years; and

(d) whether some communities are being kept deprived of the benefits of reservation by making no appointments against the sanctioned posts?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The vacancies exist in all the categories including reserved categories of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes. The incidence and filling up of vacancies in the Central Universities including those for reserved categories is an ongoing and continuous process which goes on round the year. The details of sanctioned and vacant teaching and non-teaching posts, category-wise, in the Central Universities under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The onus of filling up of posts, including those belonging to reserved categories lies on the Central Universities which are autonomous bodies created under the respective Acts of Parliament. Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and University Grants Commission (UGC) has issued repeated instructions to all the Central Universities to fill up the vacancies, including the reserved ones, on priority basis. The UGC had issued instructions from time to time to all these Central Universities for (i) implementation of Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes/ Other Backward Classes/reservation policy of the Government /UGC (ii) display of reservation roster on University website and (iii) filling up of remaining identified backlog reserved vacancies of these categories in teaching and non-teaching posts.

To uphold the Constitutional Provisions for safeguarding the interests of SCs/STs and OBCs, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Ordinance, 2019 was promulgated on 07.03.2019. The same was subsequently repealed and the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Act, 2019 was notified on 09.07.2019 to ensure preparation of rosters by considering the University as a 'Unit'.

UGC *vide* its D.O. letter No.F.1-14/2019 (CPP-II) dated 4th June, 2019 UGC has prepared the Guidelines for Recruitment of Faculty in Universities, Colleges and Institutions Deemed

to be Universities outlining the selection procedure and the time-frame for recruitment which has been circulated to all Universities to adhere to the guidelines. The Universities have also been requested to take steps to ensure that the vacancies in the University as well as in the Colleges affiliated to University are filled up at the earliest. Further, UGC *vide* its letter No. F. 1-14/2019(CPP-II) dated 31st July, 2019, 7th August, 2019, 5th September, 2019 and 22nd October, 2019 again requested to ensure that vacant positions in University as well as colleges affiliated to university are filled at the earliest and the status of the recruitment process is uploaded on the University Activity Monitoring Portal of UGC.

Besides this, a number of other steps have been taken to fill up the vacant teaching posts including reserved category posts in Central Universities, include regular monitoring by Ministry/UGC, review during various meetings including Visitor's Conference, providing of Visitor's nominees for Selection Committees, increase in age of superannuation to 65 years, re-employment of retired teachers beyond the age of 65 years, etc.

The posts reserved for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes are filled up by the candidates of the respective categories only as per the reservation policy of the Government which is a continuous process.

Statement

Details of sanctioned and vacant teaching and non-teaching posts, category-wise

I. Sanctioned/Vacant position of Teaching/Non-Teaching posts in 40 Central Universities

(As on 01.10.2019)

Category	Number of Sanctioned Posts				Number of Vacant Posts			
	GEN	SC	ST	OBC	GEN	SC	ST	OBC
Number of Teaching Posts	10850	2202	1118	2717	2669	1089	627	1575
Number of Non-Teaching Posts	24587	3448	1898	4071	8067	1144	759	1716

II. Sanctioned/Vacant position of Teaching/Non-Teaching posts in IGNOU

Category	Number of Sanctioned Posts				Number of Vacant Posts			
	GEN	SC	ST	OBC	GEN	SC	ST	OBC
Number of Teaching Posts (as on 01.06.2019)	288	67	32	67	79	41	19	53
Number of Non-Teaching Posts (as on 31.10.2019)	1611	314	146	274	750	106	62	166

Calculation of vacancies in universities

1968. DR. KANWAR DEEP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has asked the University Grants Commission (UGC) to convey to all universities to start its process of teachers' appointment by calculating vacancies based on individual departments;

(b) if so, details thereof and steps being taken by Government so far;

(c) the number of universities and colleges that are going ahead with appointments and calculating vacancies on the basis of departments which may affect the representation of SC/ST candidates and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Commission had announced that an individual department should be considered as base unit to calculate number of teaching posts to be reserved for SCs/STs?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) The Hon'ble Allahabad High Court in its judgement to W. P. No. 43260 of 2016 dated 7.04.2017, ruled that reservation rosters should be prepared by considering the Department as a Unit instead of University as a Unit. In compliance to this judgement, the Ministry had issued a letter dated 22.02.2018 to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for preparation of fresh rosters accordingly. Instructions were subsequently issued by UGC on 5.3.2018 to all Universities.

However, subsequently based upon the analysis of data from 21 Central Universities conducted by UGC, wherein it was observed that implementation of these orders would

result in injustice to the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBCs), a letter dated 18.07.2018 was issued by the Ministry to postpone the recruitment process.

SLP Nos. 14318/2018 dated 16.04.2018 & 14099/2018 dated 12.04.2018 against the impugned judgement, filed by Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) and UGC respectively, were dismissed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 22.01.2019. Review Petitions Nos. 5664/2019 dated 13.02.2019 and 4595/2019 dated 12.02.2019 filed by MHRD and UGC respectively were also dismissed.

To uphold the Constitutional Provisions for safeguarding the interest of SCs/STs and SEBCs the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Ordinance, 2019 was promulgated on 7.3.2019. The same was subsequently repealed and the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Act, 2019 was notified on 9.7.2019 to ensure preparation of rosters by considering the University as a 'Unit'.

Status of Project Vishwajeet

1969. SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Project Vishwajeet and whether the Ministry has plans to revive the Project;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the list of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) currently included under the project and whether the Ministry plans to include more IITs under the ambit of the project;
- (d) whether the funding plan for the project has been prepared and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the time by when the project is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (e) Project Vishwajeet was approved 'in-principle' by the IIT Council with a view to help 7 Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) to come up into the Top 100 World University rankings. Meanwhile, the Government has approved a new scheme to establish 20 'Institutions of Eminence' – 10 from the public institutions and 10 from the private institutions. Hence, the requirements projected under Project Vishwajeet are adequately addressed under the new scheme.

**Establishment of Kendriya Vidyalayas
in Telangana**

1970. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any policy of Government to establish Kendriya Vidyalayas in each district of State;
- (b) if so, details of the action being initiated for establishment of Kendriya Vidyalayas in Telangana State; and
- (c) if not, the specific reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) The Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of the wards of transferable Central Government employees including Defence personnel on receipt of the proposal in the prescribed proformae from Ministries/ Departments of Government of India / State Governments / Union Territory Administration committing thereby availability of requisite resources for setting up a new KV as well as on availability of necessary sanction of the Government. The proposals received from various sponsoring authorities for opening of new KVs also have to compete among other proposals under the "Challenge Method".

**Higher education facilities for Below
Poverty Line students**

1971. SHRI RAJMANI PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has conducted any survey to collect data of students belonging to the Below Poverty Line families admitted for higher education;
- (b) if so, the details thereof indicating the Total number of such students who got admission for higher studies during the last three years, State/UT-wise and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to provide higher education to the students belonging to poorest families?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Ministry has no provision for such survey.

(c) The Constitution (One Hundred and Third Amendment) Act, 2019, inter-alia, enables the State to provide the benefits of reservation to the students from Economically Weaker Sections (EWSs) for admission in educational institutions. Accordingly, the Ministry issued order dated 17.01.2019 providing 10% reservation for students belonging to EWSs in admission to Central Educational Institutions (CEIs). Instructions have been issued to all CEIs for increasing the Total number of seats, over a period of two years, for providing this reservation. In this regard, an amount of ₹ 4315.15 crores has been sanctioned for creation of 2,14,766 additional seats in CEIs.

Further, to provide financial assistance to the meritorious students having family income of less than 8 lakhs per annum, the Ministry is implementing the 'Central Sector Scheme of Scholarship for College and University Students'. The Ministry is also implementing the 'Central Sector Interest Subsidy Scheme' to provide full interest subsidy on education loan upto ₹ 7.5 lakhs for students having parental income upto ₹ 4.5 lakhs. In the Indian Institutes of Technology and the National Institutes of Technology, the most economically backward students (whose family income is less than ₹ 1 lakh per annum) are given full remission of tuition fees and 2/3rd of the tuition fee remission is given to the other economically backward students (whose family income is between ₹ 1 lakh to ₹ 5 lakh per annum). Besides, the University Grants Commission is also implementing 'Ishan Uday Special Scholarship Scheme for North Eastern Region' under which the scholarship is provided for pursuing the undergraduate degree courses for students with domicile of NER whose parental income does not exceed ₹ 4.5 lakh per annum from all sources.

Hurdles in functioning of autonomous colleges

1972. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of colleges in the country which have been made autonomous;
- (b) whether it is a fact that State Governments and universities are creating obstacles for these colleges to function autonomously; and
- (c) steps that are being taken by Government to ensure that they are allowed to function autonomously?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) As on date, there are 736 Autonomous Colleges in the country.

(b) and (c) To ensure excellence in educational standards, the Government is making all efforts to promote the Autonomy of good performing Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs). With this objective, the UGC (Conferment of Autonomous Status Upon Colleges and Measures for Maintenance of Standards in Autonomous Colleges) Regulations, 2018 has been notified on 12th February, 2018.

The States have been requested by Ministry of Human Resource Development to provide support and cooperation of the State Governments, so that the benefits of liberalized autonomy Regulations are passed on to the Educational Institutions under their respective controls.

**Delay in appointment of Vice Chancellor of
Manipur University**

1973. SHRI K. BHABANANDA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) reasons for the delay in appointment of the Vice Chancellor of Manipur University, whether this post has been lying vacant for a long time;

(b) whether there is any difficulty in appointing a new Vice Chancellor for Manipur University, if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government has decided to fill up the post of Vice Chancellor in the near future, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) The present Vice Chancellor of Manipur University is under suspension. The Hon'ble High Court of Manipur *vide* its Order dated 11.10.2018 in Public Interest Litigation (PIL) No. 49 of 2018, has appointed Shri Jarnail Singh, IAS Retd., and former Chief Secretary of Manipur as an Administrator for discharging the functions of the Vice Chancellor of Manipur University. As such the post of Vice Chancellor cannot be treated as vacant.

Current status of model degree colleges

†1974. SHRI RAM SHAKAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (a) whether model colleges have been upgraded into degree colleges;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any plan has been formulated by Government for setting up of new model colleges in current financial year; and
- (d) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA), there is no component for upgradation of model colleges into degree colleges. However, under this scheme, central assistance is provided for upgradation of existing degree colleges to Model Degree Colleges. Till date, under this component central assistance amounting to ₹ 373.174 crore has been approved for 129 existing degree colleges. The list of institutions approved, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Under RUSA, central assistance for setting up of new Model Degree Colleges is also provided. From the year 2013 till date, central assistance amounting to ₹ 1026.92 crore under RUSA has been approved for setting up of 130 new Model Degree Colleges. The list of institutions approved, State-wise, is given in the Statement (*See below*). The target units for supporting Model Degree Colleges under the current phase of RUSA (1.04.2017-31.03.2020) had already been achieved by the end of financial year 2018-19, as such there is no scope for approving new Model Degree Colleges in the current financial year.

Statement

Number of Units for which central assistance approved under RUSA

States	No. of Units approved under Upgradation of Degree Colleges to Model Degree Colleges	Central Share approved (₹ in crore)	No. of Units approved under New Model Degree College	Central Share approved (₹ in crore)
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1	4.00	1	12.00
Andhra Pradesh	5	12.00	8	57.60

1	2	3	4	5
Arunachal Pradesh	4	14.40	2	21.60
Assam	17	61.20	5	54.00
Bihar	16	38.40	4	28.80
Chhattisgarh	-	-	11	79.20
Gujarat	2	4.80	-	-
Haryana	1	2.40	1	7.20
Himachal Pradesh	3	10.80	2	21.60
Jammu and Kashmir	5	18.00	3	32.40
Jharkhand	14	33.60	10	72.00
Karnataka	4	9.60	2	14.40
Kerala	1	2.40	1	7.20
Madhya Pradesh	7	16.80	10	72.00
Maharashtra	-	-	2	14.40
Manipur	5	18.00	-	-
Meghalaya	3	10.80	2	21.60
Mizoram	6	21.60	-	-
Nagaland	-	-	2	21.60
Odisha	4	9.60	14	100.80
Punjab	4	9.60	3	21.60
Rajasthan	3	7.20	5	36.00
Sikkim	-	-	2	21.60
Tamil Nadu	4	9.60	-	-
Telangana	5	12.00	7	50.40
Tripura	5	18.00	4	40.8591
Uttar Pradesh	-	-	26	187.20
Uttarakhand	6	18.774	3	30.861
West Bengal	4	9.60	-	-
TOTAL	129	373.174	130	1026.92

**Contractual teachers appointed in universities
and pre-education**

1975. DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that contract teachers are appointed in universities and in schools from primary to higher secondary levels;
- (b) the reasons for permanent teachers not being appointed in these universities and schools;
- (c) whether the reservation policy is being followed in the appointment of contract teachers in different universities and schools; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Occurring and filling up of vacancies is a continuous and ongoing process. Vacancies keep on arising due to opening of new Universities and Schools, opening of streams, retirement, resignation, promotion, death etc. Vacancies are duly filled up by following process of recruitment which includes advertisement of notification, conduct of recruitment examination, interview, declaration of result, preparation of select panel, issuance of offer of appointment etc. and takes time to complete.

In order to ensure the academic interest of the students in schools, teachers are engaged purely on contractual basis for a short period of time until the vacancies are filled up by appointment of regular teachers.

Further, in respect of Universities and Colleges, University Grants Commission (UGC) (Minimum Qualifications For Appointment of Teachers And Other Academic Staff In Universities And Colleges And Other Measures For The Maintenance of Standards In Higher Education) Regulations, 2018 provides for appointment of teachers on contract basis only when it is absolutely necessary and when the student teacher ratio does not satisfy the laid-down norms. In any case, the number of such appointments should not exceed 10% of the Total number of faculty positions in a College/University.

As far as appointment of contract teachers in Universities is concerned, UGC has instructed all the Universities to follow the reservation policy of Government of India. So

far as appointment of contract teachers in schools is concerned, posts are required to be filled up by appointing regular teachers and no such contractual posts of teachers are sanctioned. As such while appointing teachers on contract basis in the schools, candidates available strictly as per eligibility criteria laid down in Recruitment Rules are engaged for a short period. Reservation policy of Government of India is followed while filling up of these posts on regular basis.

Monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

1976. DR. L. HANUMANTHAI AH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has initiated any monitoring of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the success achieved in realising the targets fixed under it;
- (b) if so, the State-wise achievement of the targets and parameters contemplated thereunder indicating specifically how far the socially backward classes—SCs/STs/ OBCs and minorities have been benefited by the Abhiyan; and
- (c) the State-wise expenditure incurred and the number of boys and girls who were benefited thereby?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) programme was under implementation since 2000-2001 for universalization of elementary education throughout the country. Now, SSA along-with other two centrally sponsored schemes of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE) have been subsumed under a new Integrated Scheme for School Education—Samagra Shiksha, launched in the country from 2018-2019. It is an overarching programme for the school education sector extending from pre-school to class XII and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education at all levels of school education.

The Centrally Sponsored Scheme of SSA/Samagra Shiksha has an inbuilt concurrent evaluation and monitoring system. The Ministry of Human Resource Development convenes

periodic meetings with State Education Ministers and Secretaries to review the programmes. Educational data is collected through a Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE+) every year to assess the progress. A National Achievement Survey (NAS) across all States and UTs was conducted on 13.11.2017 to assess the learning achievement of students of classes 3, 5 and 8. The status of these evaluations and monitoring is placed in the public domain. Further, an All India Performance Audit on Implementation of RTE Act, 2009 was conducted by the Comptroller & Auditor General of India (C&AG) for the period extending from 2010-11 to 2015-16 and accordingly Report No. 23 of 2017 has been laid on the Table of the Parliament on 21.07.2017. An independent third party evaluation of the SSA Scheme was also conducted in 2017-18. It has pointed out that SSA achieved considerable success in universalizing access and strengthening of infrastructure in schools. It has appreciated the enhanced focus of SSA on quality of education in recent years.

(b) and (c) Since the inception of SSA in 2001 till 2017-18 and Samagra Shiksha effective from 2018-19, sanction has been given for construction of 3,12,336 school buildings, 18,88,140 additional classrooms, 2,45,225 drinking water facilities, 4,08,370 Boys toilets and 5,29,273 girls toilets. States and UTs have reported construction of 2,96,943 school buildings, 18,18,628 additional classrooms, 2,34,417 drinking water facilities, 3,82,941 boys toilets and 5,14,502 girls toilets as on 30.06.2019. The State and UT-wise details are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

The details of State and UT-wise enrolment of children belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and minorities during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

The State/UT-wise details of central share released and expenditure incurred under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)/Samagra Shiksha during the last three years and the current year are given in the Statement-III (*See below*).

The details of State and UT-wise enrolment of boys and girls at elementary level during 2015-16, 2016-17 and 2017-18 are given in the Statement-IV.

Statement-I

*Cumulative physical progress of school infrastructures for elementary schools under
SSA/Samagra Shiksha (As on 30.06.2019)*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Primary School		Upper Primary School		Additional Classrooms		Drinking Water		Boys Toilets		Separate Girls Toilets	
		Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement	Target	Achievement
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	8	6	0	0	294	268	83	83	91	91	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	3408	3408	1047	1045	70273	70204	7143	6895	16350	15336	19196	18525
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1833	1833	540	540	5448	5406	2362	1891	2072	2072	3322	3322
4	Assam	11012	10941	1192	1192	73341	71308	1786	788	19001	17350	42504	41716
5	Bihar	18467	15079	544	532	298846	277061	26201	25324	48492	46749	36979	36296
6	Chandigarh	27	25	10	10	304	177	0	0	12	12	0	0
7	Chhattisgarh	10692	10111	8808	8532	51309	48921	4781	3652	11247	10528	35573	32597
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	60	60	0	0	694	592	91	91	75	75	258	258
9	Daman and Diu	9	8	7	6	114	96	80	80	53	53	27	27

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	170
10	Delhi	13	13	0	0	3189	2609	68	68	667	637	724	615	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
11	Goa	0	0	0	0	227	173	637	637	611	609	644	635	
12	Gujarat	835	835	0	0	77531	76423	5089	5089	22188	20809	20380	18877	
13	Haryana	1019	982	1389	1338	30313	29601	6117	5454	8061	8061	11812	11812	
14	Himachal Pradesh	105	90	45	26	11586	11406	2491	2480	4707	4670	9990	9976	
15	Jammu and Kashmir	10564	9411	1174	1038	24886	19598	2745	2226	9174	4540	18264	18075	
16	Jharkhand	19460	19221	10232	10004	108401	105315	7329	7329	8239	8239	16568	16568	
17	Karnataka	3740	3738	16	11	57279	57190	22861	22861	27520	24640	24818	24683	
18	Kerala	555	538	54	50	8578	8546	10690	10682	12449	12216	7948	7874	
19	Lakshadweep	1	1	1	1	19	19	5	5	9	9	9	9	
20	Madhya Pradesh	28029	27153	20099	19692	129408	120762	18964	18706	32592	31322	63376	61322	Unstarred Questions
21	Maharashtra	12981	12981	5067	5052	80459	78470	8407	7586	12443	12443	23215	23215	
22	Manipur	1116	760	338	172	3885	3280	746	689	1369	1359	4209	4209	
23	Meghalaya	2834	2764	1332	1252	7666	7311	2991	2991	4378	4378	5295	5295	
24	Mizoram	817	717	650	616	2019	1979	2030	1770	3694	3633	3367	3323	

25	Nagaland	447	410	545	532	4776	4770	1789	1789	2392	2392	2394	2394
26	Odisha	10191	9828	9242	9056	77609	74712	7260	7204	14315	13079	49806	48033
27	Puducherry	5	4	2	2	508	497	345	345	312	312	132	132
28	Punjab	678	579	859	857	31209	28293	17743	17737	18501	18501	6352	6271
29	Rajasthan	6911	6767	3212	3165	95692	93856	23283	23283	34235	34235	9962	9962
30	Sikkim	56	56	59	59	605	605	660	654	886	866	608	598
31	Tamil Nadu	2740	2740	5804	5804	38727	38647	17376	17330	26283	24580	26162	24040
32	Telangana	4600	4600	913	913	38865	38757	7797	6747	14440	10631	12666	12216
33	Tripura	1406	1406	636	618	5894	5820	1598	1207	1461	1450	3752	3745
34	Uttar Pradesh	31729	31394	30887	30588	315420	312486	15385	14548	21055	19592	12856	12856
35	Uttarakhand	3661	2823	2247	1916	9334	8931	6373	6160	4907	4864	16015	15811
36	West Bengal	10677	7450	4699	3592	223432	214539	11919	10036	24089	22608	40090	39215
TOTAL ELEMENTARY		200686	188732	111650	108211	1888140	1818628	245225	234417	408370	382941	529273	514502

Notes: (i) PAB Minutes as per PMS and Progress reports submitted by the States and UTs.

(ii) The Surrender of infrastructure for Bihar, J&K, MP, Odisha, WB, Maharashtra, Telangana, UP and Haryana incorporated.

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

171

Statement-II*Enrolment of children belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs/Minorities at Elementary Level*

Sl. No.	States and UTs	2015-16				2016-17				2017-18			
		All				All				All			
		SC	ST	OBC	Minorities	SC	ST	OBC	Minorities	SC	ST	OBC	Minorities
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	15	4280	10383	4470	2	4359	11213	4491	0	4453	11350	4636
2	Andhra Pradesh	1113845	406259	2819122	436560	1102695	388828	2831306	435241	1115226	397687	2887655	457585
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2386	239715	2257	4160	3068	197464	5243	4945	2858	194886	5635	3615
4	Assam	469329	777327	1428630	2015835	455774	777442	1440291	2025967	453190	742931	1414259	1980654
5	Bihar	4630121	428802	15230660	3699879	4459435	400040	14032247	3619367	4177193	498855	13164856	3281369
6	Chandigarh	15066	237	3048	8954	14823	247	3889	9088	14603	298	3920	9080
7	Chhattisgarh	661917	1432148	2021856	71763	636704	1391689	1972082	67276	632855	1399583	1926409	67050
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1309	33061	1816	2082	1379	31526	2226	2184	1288	31262	2395	2285
9	Daman and Diu	923	2540	8875	2739	1028	2530	8814	2796	1049	2413	8936	2893
10	Delhi	303708	11126	145539	473905	294617	11301	147185	469291	286184	11121	146762	456305

11	Goa	2827	16313	18473	22693	3935	16960	21812	24422	2729	16066	18278	21346
12	Gujarat	631805	1584511	4512630	813619	614396	1597883	4444156	767947	608650	1554052	4319360	928134
13	Haryana	904008	0	1212184	286910	900191	0	1216125	292202	917806	0	1226637	292182
14	Himachal Pradesh	260985	52387	126072	18635	257548	53449	124981	16343	250962	53287	123644	17370
15	Jammu and Kashmir	153184	292628	155598	1235313	150574	278873	158450	1137104	150933	283194	142106	1154880
16	Jharkhand	963952	1843136	3017761	808736	823478	1663560	2710225	846380	906749	1717353	2825152	728127
17	Karnataka	1604688	653885	5227746	1246052	1603986	638767	4954742	1301961	1600309	645366	5016207	1328577
18	Kerala	355099	73026	2654614	1365425	347943	70152	2650491	1380162	344857	69432	2657408	1347518
19	Lakshadweep	1	7472	74	7526	5	7172	81	7248	6	7147	85	7100
20	Madhya Pradesh	2198098	3113439	5529170	673384	2109060	3030575	5345912	665755	2090420	3000895	5195867	628086
21	Maharashtra	2119383	1920440	5392313	2149866	2089413	1921426	5358200	2116065	2049638	1883631	5300039	2150257
22	Manipur	22768	211593	122684	49305	21682	196312	140248	46420	21194	205079	142056	49755
23	Meghalaya	8842	704489	5662	27302	7281	654228	6348	27151	7202	726318	6190	25141
24	Mizoram	1114	209431	836	1822	395	197969	0	1544	424	199215	75	1284
25	Nagaland	7973	305914	5315	13114	5668	249987	7511	14046	6739	260216	9459	14257
26	Odisha	1194109	1908550	2319243	106312	1166775	1872644	2261650	110525	1142485	1785192	2200327	95326

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

173

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
27	Puducherry	32028	0	125182	12354	31595	348	121574	13490	30367	382	115133	0
28	Punjab	1502953	396	582082	88759	1462606	448	581403	88769	1420944	2581	578411	98410
29	Rajasthan	2481601	1890509	5988668	1003253	2460005	1875696	5827815	988909	2496838	1908270	5893930	1118178
30	Sikkim	8297	38328	42761	1664	7068	32931	35982	1738	7437	33558	35720	1508
31	Tamil Nadu	2220381	153321	6537377	538470	2177251	148565	6463322	537668	1993362	140877	6057285	535270
32	Telangana	820850	589611	2320904	702227	812540	560500	2410619	741083	802940	546536	2389558	736137
33	Tripura	106214	219661	99722	68284	103466	209783	98174	67166	103088	209895	97929	62025
34	Uttar Pradesh	10231960	276835	18810197	4582345	9303695	288772	18124818	4857560	8981343	318311	18161686	4645310
35	Uttarakhand	413439	49839	475609	251934	390526	47569	482998	248978	381469	44631	487607	241582
36	West Bengal	3471239	917832	1729811	4351635	3133860	823359	1777870	4207459	3202485	857623	1780983	4071678

Source: UDISE 2017-18 (provisional)

174 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Statement-III

State/UT-wise details of Total central share released and expenditure incurred under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)/Samagra Shiksha during 2016-17 to 2018-19 and current year under Samagra Shiksha

(₹ in lakh)								
Sl. No.	Name of the State	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20
		Central share released	Expenditure	Central share released	Expenditure	Central share released	Expenditure	Central share released* (Adhoc + 1st Instalment)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	479.14	831.90	1945.53	1251.03	2180.33	1766.22	2001.90
2	Andhra Pradesh	63302.18	122115.26	70431	94919.79	95096.76	190605.61	80077.58
3	Arunachal Pradesh	19956.64	30445.19	23022.07	34987.92	33048.8	41386.2	23874.17
4	Assam	87652.30	106131.38	123584	138517.86	157072.23	162023.01	106872.63
5	Bihar	270688.44	638367.43	255797	763107.95	305837.73	558747.65	237515.28
6	Chandigarh	3333.55	5673.19	9265.5	7528.56	7714.56	6605.56	3956.81

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	176
7	Chhattisgarh	59262.77	170229.54	67477	160100.00	88206.43	152798.14	64441.40	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
8	Dadra Nagar and Haveli	1068.38	1974.23	5476.54	6056.80	3462.38	3555.34	2237.37	
9	Daman and Diu	300.00	230.50	1038.57	853.78	631.22	835.22	133.51	
10	Delhi	8306.19	11439.95	10976.9	16056.56	13981.74	35063.19	18797.80	
11	Goa	869.11	1791.08	862.6	2188.60	1353.03	2379.62	1143.12	
12	Gujarat	77740.50	118412.76	65046	111952.09	67089.17	152861.67	66636.30	
13	Haryana	32000.88	68265.36	36355	71296.29	57841.95	84409.09	47080.27	
14	Himachal Pradesh	12825.46	30704.71	30874	29895.16	43295.44	52079.51	35182.22	
15	Jammu and Kashmir	107250.05	125783.94	153797.98	234513.73	171776.09	146445.4	3334.24	
16	Jharkhand	50945.73	131992.15	58984.54	116924.18	68596	130488.03	66463.81	
17	Karnataka	54495.50	128686.02	54881.99	161776.40	62784	129923.72	51082.24	
18	Kerala	11316.74	32147.72	13680	44203.09	25604.99	39631.31	14741.54	
19	Lakshadweep	239.87	250.99	406.52	393.51	265.07	217.79	292.62	Unstarred Questions
20	Madhya Pradesh	154455.09	266913.52	173814	278913.36	243783.65	359283.06	191166.59	
21	Maharashtra	60369.65	192206.91	64232	226473.17	95051.92	146341.28	69819.40	
22	Manipur	4405.31	14384.23	18377	20806.32	25202.01	25683.1	16227.55	

23	Meghalaya	20067.00	23522.18	33579.5	29152.24	23784.62	36708.57	24217.99
24	Mizoram	10934.31	12664.43	12000.33	12883.11	14630.41	17081.83	10125.71
25	Nagaland	10725.34	17000.91	11717	11229.79	19766.33	17516.7	10773.19
26	Odisha	70423.00	156377.33	86612	186883.65	123021.51	260807.8	133487.50
27	Puducherry	304.68	577.38	622.73	748.98	804.88	2189.42	305.80
28	Punjab	30002.69	60009.64	31665	54084.88	44400	82829.07	18290.63
29	Rajasthan	182578.48	453491.19	198973	726452.68	262721.45	361782.35	197623.20
30	Sikkim	3479.24	5015.36	5684.35	6682.54	6624.19	9998.24	5932.93
31	Tamil Nadu	82111.30	138620.06	86644	144594.98	147444.01	246585.47	118615.61
32	Telangana	41776.09	124582.92	44244.72	74259.25	68840.41	108529.98	56244.15
33	Tripura	19190.95	19965.83	20220.38	26301.57	24896.48	29210.96	15927.09
34	Uttar Pradesh	505433.99	1458836.03	424980.68	645175.27	462541.04	684631.1	246588.01
35	Uttarakhand	25268.98	42238.11	62499	71989.57	51138.26	47717.44	28234.75
36	West Bengal	82185.32	173945.60	89657	164908.86	108934.52	199768.38	117389.02
TOTAL		2165744.85	4885824.93	2349425.43	4678063.52	2929423.61	4528487.03	2086833.93

Note: Expenditure shown above is against receipts from Central release, State share release, Finance Commission Award and Miscellaneous incomes, if any.

* Releases as on 15-11-2019 (Adhoc + 1st Instalment).

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

177

Statement-IV*Enrolment of Boys and Girls at elementary level (as per UDISE+)*

Sl. No.	States and UTs	2015-16			2016-17			2017-18		
		Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	25519	24594	50113	25009	24136	49145	24813	23983	48796
2	Andhra Pradesh	2900208	2711102	5611310	2911829	2648891	5560720	2986189	2680227	5666416
3	Arunachal Pradesh	163330	159128	322458	141280	137264	278544	136944	136234	273178
4	Assam	2704398	2727655	5432053	2762882	2780960	5543842	2660441	2698680	5359121
5	Bihar	11763996	11667789	23431785	10862092	10857372	21719464	10474813	10357929	20832742
6	Chandigarh	84791	73130	157921	84069	72329	156398	86422	74938	161360
7	Chhattisgarh	2272234	2185121	4457355	2213623	2136628	4350251	2189897	2113126	4303023
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	31402	27572	58974	31578	27702	59280	32065	28379	60444
9	Daman and Diu	14983	12995	27978	15262	13389	28651	15433	13484	28917
10	Delhi	1602852	1404158	3007010	1592595	1395906	2988501	1567122	1374364	2941486

11	Goa	102327	93982	196309	101241	92343	193584	102342	94446	196788
12	Gujarat	4873652	4217062	9090714	4814610	4197563	9012173	4735576	4120953	8856529
13	Haryana	2036742	1694202	3730944	2100628	1724274	3824902	2171996	1780395	3952391
14	Himachal Pradesh	498049	452717	950766	493240	447434	940674	486623	442677	929300
15	Jammu and Kashmir	970577	886199	1856776	892417	800642	1693059	901087	825478	1726565
16	Jharkhand	3304293	3217775	6522068	2959594	2829547	5789141	3110788	2978917	6089705
17	Karnataka	4306046	4034327	8340373	4346371	4017468	8363839	4341848	4022526	8364374
18	Kerala	2052789	1959627	4012416	2033261	1942882	3976143	2025582	1930923	3956505
19	Lakshadweep	3852	3724	7576	3688	3590	7278	3649	3618	7267
20	Madhya Pradesh	6702640	6099329	12801969	6503752	5882956	12386708	6333783	5759411	12093194
21	Maharashtra	8524514	7519261	16043775	8495745	7489967	15985712	8460736	7451371	15912107
22	Manipur	253912	248684	502596	236122	226486	462608	246056	232349	478405
23	Meghalaya	382320	393293	775613	355729	360734	716463	395597	399184	794781
24	Mizoram	111054	103263	214317	104676	97270	201946	104271	97908	202179
25	Nagaland	178236	171460	349696	150434	143684	294118	155676	148984	304660
26	Odisha	3269702	3058382	6328084	3207884	2990141	6198025	3083033	2889837	5972870

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

179

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
27	Puducherry	87122	82340	169462	87137	81594	168731	85632	79566	165198
28	Punjab	2175275	1787164	3962439	2126227	1768001	3894228	2056877	1721117	3777994
29	Rajasthan	6652274	5687861	12340135	6534144	5617961	12152105	6580556	5684082	12264638
30	Sikkim	53946	51351	105297	48830	45951	94781	47796	45227	93023
31	Tamil Nadu	4732662	4503530	9236192	4678433	4430459	9108892	4383831	4130708	8514539
32	Telangana	2576864	2428321	5005185	2491414	2326558	4817972	2470125	2311827	4781952
33	Tripura	290190	279322	569512	278926	269149	548075	276547	267156	543703
34	Uttar Pradesh	18530236	17895397	36425633	17682217	17025528	34707745	17577470	16748718	34326188
35	Uttarakhand	900909	811764	1712673	885672	793623	1679295	887741	789547	1677288
36	West Bengal	6459444	6449590	12909034	5998263	5935759	11934022	6111315	6057800	12169115

Source: UDISE 2017-18 (provisional).

180 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

**Government schools lacking drinking
water facility**

1977. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRARAO: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that several Government run schools are lacking drinking water facility;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the State-wise details of Total number of schools having drinking water facility?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) As per Unified District Information System for Education (U-DISE), 2017-18, 96.4% Government schools in the country have drinking water facilities.

- (c) As per U-DISE 2017-18, the State/UT-wise details of Total number of schools (classes I to XII) having drinking water facility across the country are given in the Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of schools (classes I to XII) having drinking water facility

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Number of schools having drinking water facility
1	2	3
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	412
2	Andhra Pradesh	61855
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3304
4	Assam	62421
5	Bihar	78888
6	Chandigarh	225
7	Chhattisgarh	53882
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	344
9	Daman and Diu	140

1	2	3
10	Delhi	5723
11	Goa	1525
12	Gujarat	54128
13	Haryana	23221
14	Himachal Pradesh	18142
15	Jammu and Kashmir	27188
16	Jharkhand	46513
17	Karnataka	73761
18	Kerala	16937
19	Lakshadweep	45
20	Madhya Pradesh	148328
21	Maharashtra	108779
22	Manipur	4513
23	Meghalaya	9404
24	Mizoram	3193
25	Nagaland	2326
26	Odisha	68313
27	Puducherry	733
28	Punjab	28842
29	Rajasthan	93913
30	Sikkim	1284
31	Tamil Nadu	58015
32	Telangana	41903
33	Tripura	4365
34	Uttar Pradesh	263273
35	Uttarakhand	22986
36	West Bengal	95948
TOTAL		1484772

Source: UDISE, 2017-18 (Provisional).

**Introduction of Hindu epics at
school/kindergarten level**

1978. SHRIRIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to introduce Hindu epic literature from the kindergarten and/or school level;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government also proposes to narrate and/or include other minority epics of the world related to the country thereof; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Literary pieces from Indian literature and epic tradition are introduced to children at various stages of learning for inculcating values and enriching their learning experiences. Content related to stories of Ramayana and Mahabharata have been incorporated in the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT)'s Class VI History textbook: Our pasts-I. The content about Mahabharata has also been given in the form of textual as well as visual material in Class XII History textbook: Themes in Indian History Part-I.

(c) and (d) References about different religions of the world have been included in different history textbooks of NCERT.

Quality of mid-day meals across the country

1979. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has put in place any stringent mechanism to ensure that quality food is served under Mid-day Meal Scheme in the schools across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has come across any instances or received any complaints regarding serving of sub-standard food under Mid-day Meal Scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken in such cases?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Government has adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh to ensure quality food is served to children under the Scheme. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of Human Resource Development and also a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) as well as Programme Approval Board (PAB) monitor the scheme and suggest measures for its smooth and effective implementation. At the State level, a State level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and, at the District Level, a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of the senior-most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha of the district monitor the implementation of the scheme.

At local level Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas, members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) and the School Management Committees (SMCs) monitor the regularity and wholesomeness of the mid-day meal served to children, cleanliness in cooking and serving of the meal, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, etc., implementation of variety in menu so as to make it attractive to children and ensuring social and gender equity on daily basis. In addition to directing States and UTs to carry out Social Audit, the Centre constitutes Joint Review Missions (JRM)s consisting of educational and nutritional experts, which review the scheme through field visits from time to time. The reports of JRM)s are shared with concerned States and UTs for taking suitable action on the findings.

The Government of India has also issued guidelines on quality, safety and hygiene in school level kitchens to all the States and UTs. These guidelines, *inter-alia*, provide for instructions to schools to procure Agmark quality and branded items for preparation of mid day meals, tasting of meals by 2-3 adult members of School Management Committee including at least one teacher before serving to children and to put in place a system of testing of food samples by accredited laboratories. Further, the MDM Rules, 2015 provide for mandatory testing of food samples by Government recognized laboratories to ensure that the meals meet nutritional standards and quality.

(c) and (d) A Total number of 16 complaints regarding substandard food quality have been reported during the last two years and current year. The year-wise details are as under:—

Complaints regarding Substandard Food Quality			TOTAL
2017	2018	2019	
6	6	4	16

The overall responsibility for providing cooked and nutritious Mid Day Meal to the eligible children lies with State Governments and UTs Administrations. Respective State Governments and UT Administrations were requested to furnish Action Taken Report (ATR) in the matter. As per Action Taken Reports (ATRs) received from States and UTs, action such as issuing warning against the official responsible, terminating the contract of concerned NGOs / Organisations, initiating criminal proceedings and imposing penalties against the defaulting persons/officials/organisations have been taken by the concerned State Governments and UT Administrations.

**Status of disbursement of Means-cum-Merit
Scholarship**

1980. SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether disbursement of sanctioned Means-cum-Merit Scholarship under the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) is pending with Government;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor and the State-wise number of sanctioned Means-cum-Merit Scholarship of which disbursement remains pending;
- (c) whether any steps have been taken to clear the dues; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) To avail of National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme (NMMSS) Scholarship, the eligible students from different States/UTs have to register themselves on National Scholarship Portal (NSP). The scholarships are sanctioned after due verification. Scholarships are disbursed by the State Bank of India (SBI), New Delhi, directly by electronic transfer into the accounts of students through Public Financial Management System (PFMS).

The scholarship amount sanctioned under NMMSS against online applications of the 2018-19 on NSP is under process for disbursement because of revision of the payment

module on the PFMS platform for the scheme. A new Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the transfer of payments is being developed. The process of the implementation of the SOP for direct payment to the beneficiaries directly in their bank accounts through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode, is in its last stage of finalization. A State-wise list for the number of scholarships sanctioned and under process for disbursement is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise list for the number of scholarships sanctioned and under process for disbursement

Sl. No.Name of State/UT		Number of students				
		IX	X	XI	XII	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	32	7	3	5	47
2	Andhra Pradesh	3739	1305	259	20	5323
3	Assam	497	0	0	0	497
4	Bihar	1108	0	0	0	1108
5	Chandigarh	72	38	22	15	147
6	Chhattisgarh	556	31	4	0	591
7	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21	17	12	10	60
8	Daman and Diu	13	13	8	6	40
9	Delhi	51	0	0	0	51
10	Goa	12	11	15	0	38
11	Gujarat	3810	2988	1181	935	8914
12	Haryana	1626	376	131	101	2234
13	Himachal Pradesh	790	453	313	309	1865
14	Jammu and Kashmir	165	0	0	0	165
15	Karnataka	3875	2790	666	577	7908
16	Kerala	3416	0	0	0	3416
17	Madhya Pradesh	2068	1060	692	513	4333

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	Maharashtra	9257	7154	5742	3965	26118
19	Manipur	45	0	0	0	45
20	Meghalaya	85	18	13	1	117
21	Mizoram	78	0	0	0	78
22	Odisha	2556	1382	535	219	4692
23	Puducherry	114	115	48	53	330
24	Punjab	1352	1130	380	315	3177
25	Rajasthan	3048	2037	921	701	6707
26	Sikkim	32	21	9	6	68
27	Tamil Nadu	5458	3632	20	5	9115
28	Telangana	2346	1863	243	2	4454
29	Tripura	50	70	37	14	171
30	Uttarakhand	609	129	78	71	887
31	Uttar Pradesh	659	543	633	505	2340
32	West Bengal	3814	2558	1878	1859	10109
TOTAL		51354	29741	13843	10207	105145

**Implementation of Saakshar Bharat Mission in
Telangana and Andhra Pradesh**

1981. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has released funds for implementation of Saakshar Bharat Mission to the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the sanctioned funds are not at all sufficient for the implementation of the programme;

(d) whether Government has received any proposals from the State Governments of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for early release of the necessary funds, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps being taken by Government to execute the implementation without any problems at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of India released funds for implementation of Saakshar Bharat Scheme to the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh from 2009-10 to 2017-18. Details of Central share released to the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana are as follows:—

Sl. No.	Year	Central Share released to Andhra Pradesh	Central Share released to Telangana
1	2	3	4
1	2009-10	₹ 2,12,70,19,788/-	₹ 1,90,78,54,299/-
2	2010-11		
3	2011-12		
4	2012-13		
5	2013-14		
6	2014-15	₹ 34,32,00,000/-	₹ 34,32,00,000/-
7	2015-16	₹ 44,56,44,660/-	₹ 17,25,00,000/-
8	2016-17	—	₹ 15,60,00,000/-
9	2017-18	₹ 18,72,00,000/-	₹ 24,96,00,000/-
TOTAL		₹ 3,10,30,64,448/-	₹ 2,82,91,54,299/-

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. As per the settlement of accounts, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have unspent balance (central share) of ₹ 10.94 crore and ₹ 27.18 crore, respectively. Hence, no farther release could be made. They may utilize the amount (as per rules) or return the money.

(e) Government of India took appropriate steps during tenure of Saakshar Bharat Scheme for its implementation without any problems.

**Expected growth of education and investment
by private and NGO sector**

1982. DR. AMEE YAJNIK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the proposed allocation for education in coming two years along with the expected growth of education; and
- (b) the amount of investment expected to be provided by private sector, NGOs and others?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The budget allocation is done on annual basis. The allocation for the Department of Higher Education and Department of School Education and Literacy under the Ministry of Human Resource Development in Budget Estimates 2019-20 is ₹ 38317.01 crore and ₹ 56536.63 crore respectively. The allocation depends upon demand, absorption capacity and availability of resources.

- (b) The data regarding expected investment in education by private sector, NGOs is not maintained.

Module for study of Artificial Intelligence

1983. SHRISANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has prepared a module to introduce a study of Artificial Intelligence at the school level, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has collaborated with technology leaders like Intel for this purpose;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with details of MoU signed;
- (d) whether Government has given enough training to teachers to teach courses of Artificial Intelligence, if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has identified classes in which study of Artificial Intelligence will be introduced, if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) time by when study of Artificial Intelligence will be introduced in the schools all over country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) In order to enhance multidisciplinary approach in teaching-learning and to sensitize the new generation, Artificial Intelligence has been introduced as a subject in class IX from the session 2019-20 in the schools affiliated with Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE). A twelve hours 'Inspire' module on Artificial Intelligence has also been announced, which schools can take up with the students of class VIII. The study material for teaching Artificial Intelligence in classes VIII and IX has already been provided to schools through the CBSE's website (<http://cbseacademic.nic.in/ai.html>).

(b) CBSE has collaborated with several organizations such as Intel, IBM, Microsoft, Private Schools, etc.

(c) No MoU has been signed for this purpose.

(d) 41 training programmes on Artificial Intelligence has been conducted in schools affiliated with CBSE at various parts of the country in which 1690 participants (principals and teachers) have been trained.

(e) Artificial Intelligence has been introduced in classes VIII, IX & X in schools affiliated with CBSE.

(f) Decision to introduce Artificial Intelligence in the States and UTs will have to be taken by the respective Boards.

Lack of training of teachers in rural areas

1984. SHRISANJAY SETH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the quality of education in rural areas is poor due to lack of proper training of teachers, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has introduced Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the objective behind this move;

(d) the quantum of funds allocated/ utilised to States/UTs under this scheme;

(e) whether Government has any mechanism to assess the proper utilisation of funds by States in imparting training to teachers, if so, the details thereof; and

(f) other steps taken by Government to boost the teaching profession especially in rural India?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 lays down the duties of the appropriate Government and the local authority to ensure that good quality elementary education conforming to norms and standards is provided, curriculum and courses of study are prescribed in a timely manner, and teachers are trained. In order to focus on quality education, the Central RTE Rules have been amended on 20th February, 2017 to include reference on class-wise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes. These would serve as a guideline for States and Union Territories (UTs) to ensure that all children acquire appropriate learning level.

Further, Section 23(2) of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009 was amended to ensure all untrained in-service elementary teachers are trained. The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) was entrusted with the task of conducting D.El.Ed programme through Open Distance Learning (ODL) mode for the training of untrained in-service elementary teachers. 958513 teachers have successfully completed this course.

(b) to (d) The Department has launched the Samagra Shiksha Scheme – an Integrated Scheme for School Education from 2018-19 which envisages the 'school' as a continuum from pre-school, primary, upper primary, secondary to Senior Secondary levels. The major objectives of the Samagra Shiksha include provisioning of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students, bridging social and gender gaps in school education, ensuring equity and inclusion at all levels of school education, ensuring minimum standards in schooling, promoting vocationalisation of education, supporting States and UTs in implementation of Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 and strengthening and up gradation of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT)s/State Institutes of Education and District Institute for Education and Training (DIET)s. An allocation of ₹36322 crore has been provided as Budget Estimate (BE) 2019-20 for the Samagra Shiksha scheme.

(e) and (f) To ensure effective utilization of funds under Samagra Shiksha, there is robust monitoring system in place to review the physical and financial progress of approved interventions through monthly/quarterly reports, annual audit by independent Chartered Accountants, a system of concurrent financial reviews, as well as regular internal audit and regular Review Meetings with all States and UTs are held for monitoring the optimum

utilization of funds. Further, prior to the release of central share, the intervention/ activity-wise expenditure and progress is taken into consideration before approval of further release of funds to the respective State/ UT.

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha, the States and UTs are supported on several interventions to improve teaching standards, including regular in-service teachers' training, induction training for newly recruited teachers, recruitment of additional teachers for improving pupil-teacher ratio, academic support for teachers through block and cluster resource centres, continuous and comprehensive evaluation system to equip the teacher to measure pupil performance and provide remedial action wherever required for development of appropriate teaching-learning materials, etc.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched a National Mission to improve learning outcomes at the Elementary level through an Integrated Teacher Training Programme called NISHTHA – National Initiative for School Heads' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Samagra Shiksha in 2019-20.

Inauguration of new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas

1985. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has recently inaugurated five new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs), one National Navodaya Leadership Institute and laid foundation stone of nine new JNVs in various States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any proposal from Andhra Pradesh to allot Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in the next academic year; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and their status thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, 05 new Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNVs) at Kanshiram Nagar and Sitapur-II in Uttar Pradesh, Dang and Navasari in Gujarat, Malkangiri-II in Odisha and 01 Navodaya Leadership Institute at Puri in Odisha were inaugurated. Foundation stone was laid for the permanent buildings of JNVs at Sefaijala and South Tripura in Tripura, South West Khasi Hills in Meghalaya, Jalpaiguri in West Bengal, Kalaburgi-I & Kolar in Karnataka.

(c) and (d) The Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme provides for opening of one JNV in each district of the country. Opening of new JNVs is a continuous process which depends on the willingness of the concerned State Government/UT Administration to make available requisite suitable land free of cost and making available required temporary building, free of rent to run the Vidyalaya till the permanent building is constructed. However, actual sanction and opening of new JNV depends on availability of funds and approval by the competent authority. All the districts of Andhra Pradesh as on date have already been covered under Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme.

Mandatory physical activity in schools

1986. SHRI HISHEY LACHUNGPA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take any steps to make fixed duration of one hour or half an hour of physical activity mandatory on daily basis in all Government and private schools or colleges in country in view of growing incidents of low health standards due to lack of physical activity among children in the society;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) if not, reasons therefor;

(d) whether in many schools there is no regular physical activity classes as was the case in earlier days when along with assembly, physical exercises was mandatory especially in the NCT of Delhi; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) As per the National Curriculum Framework, 2005, Health and Physical Education is a Compulsory subject from Class I to X. In this regard, National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has brought out material for Class VI, VII and VIII as Teachers Guide and for Class IX Textbooks on Health and Physical Education (HPE). In addition, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has introduced a streamlined and well designed Health and Physical Education (HPE) Program to mainstream health and physical education in schools for students of class I - XII. CBSE has made Health and Physical Education compulsory in all classes from I-XII. The Board has directed schools to keep one period of HPE for classes I-XII each day. All students from these classes are compulsorily required to participate in at least two sports activities as per their interest and capability and this has been included in the eligibility criteria to appear in

Board Examinations of classes X and XII. The Department of School Education and Literacy in co-ordination with Department of Sports, is organising activities on “Fit India Movement-Fit India School” in schools to inculcate physical activity and sports into daily life of students.

Further, University Grants Commission (UGC) has prepared guidelines for institutional fitness plan. These guidelines encourage higher educational institutions to adopt policies and practices towards fitness and well being of students and staff. The indicative guidelines *inter-alia* suggest denoting minimum one hour per day on fitness activities.

(d) and (e) Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education–Samagra Shiksha, with effect from 1st April, 2018. Realizing the need for holistic development of children, under the Samagra Shiksha, Sports and Physical Education component has been introduced for the first time for encouragement of Sports, Physical activities, Yoga, Co-curricular activities etc. in all States and UTs including NCT of Delhi. Further, majority of schools including Government schools in NCT of Delhi are affiliated to CBSE and the HPE programme is compulsory for all CBSE affiliated schools.

School capacity in the country

1987. PROF. M.V.RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) details of school capacity in the country, including but not limited to number of schools and classrooms, management-wise, education stage-wise (elementary, secondary and higher secondary) and State-wise as per the most recent data;

(b) details of school capacity utilisation, in terms of number of students that can be enrolled versus the number of students currently enrolled, management-wise, education stage-wise (elementary, secondary and higher secondary) and State-wise; and

(c) details of schools that Government is planning to shut down for various reasons including low enrollment, management-wise, education stage-wise (elementary, secondary and higher secondary) and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL ‘NISHANK’): (a) and (b) The information related to number of schools and number of students (enrolment) is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The decision to shut down schools are taken by the respective State/UT Governments.

Statement

State-wise information related to number of schools and number of students (enrolment) in the country

(A) Number of schools 2018-19 (category and management-wise)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Government			Aided			Private			Unrecognised schools & Madarasa (recognised & unrecognised)		
		Elem-entary (Classes I-V, VI-VIII & I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes I-X, VI-X & IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes I-XII, VI-XII, IX-XII & XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-V, VI-VIII & I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes I-X, VI-X & IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes I-XII, VI-XII, IX-XII & XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-V, VI-VIII & I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes I-X, VI-X & IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes I-XII, VI-XII, IX-XII & XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-V, VI-VIII & I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes I-X, VI-X & IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes I-XII, VI-XII, IX-XII & XI-XII)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	241	44	54	0	0	2	56	6	10	1	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	37992	6296	725	1742	460	144	8824	5726	1312	368	31	1
3	Arunachal Pradesh	2864	191	124	31	24	9	394	87	22	41	0	6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	196
4	Assam	42491	3559	1173	3922	882	261	2960	2509	615	7154	618	180	<p>Written Answers to</p> <p>[RAJYA SABHA]</p> <p>Unstarred Questions</p>
5	Bihar	66601	2234	3755	408	215	66	4505	890	636	8504	289	416	
6	Chandigarh	21	55	45	0	0	7	17	14	43	23	3	1	
7	Chhattisgarh	43902	1953	2816	326	8	100	4626	741	1475	327	0	0	
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	271	13	16	6	4	0	21	6	8	1	0	0	
9	Daman and Diu	84	14	14	0	1	3	8	9	6	0	0	1	
10	Delhi	1694	103	987	69	25	159	1804	239	623	0	0	0	
11	Goa	740	77	16	118	309	87	110	18	11	0	0	0	
12	Gujarat	33446	1152	604	525	1967	3242	8376	1726	3539	0	1	3	
13	Haryana	11160	1217	2139	3	5	18	3196	1921	2796	1026	33	20	
14	Himachal Pradesh	12605	942	1886	\$	\$	\$	1417	784	577	1	0	0	
15	Jammu and Kashmir	21386	1835	859	29	0	0	3786	1362	404	41	3	3	
16	Jharkhand	33064	1894	996	996	139	42	206	714	480	6716	604	57	
17	Karnataka	43668	4948	1568	2965	3549	903	10702	6884	3018	21	7	0	
18	Kerala	3714	294	1003	5753	492	950	1220	977	959	1125	164	50	

19	Lakshadweep	30	2	13	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	112637	5028	4391	594	35	245	21371	3176	4558	1948	1	0
21	Maharashtra	64130	1447	456	7304	10301	5949	10269	5516	3615	793	140	22
22	Manipur	2632	365	76	495	87	5	380	458	165	177	4	0
23	Meghalaya	7680	80	42	3450	609	122	1489	581	150	282	148	36
24	Mizoram	2240	296	28	74	138	19	686	218	121	44	31	18
25	Nagaland	1696	256	55	\$	\$	\$	294	321	130	0	0	0
26	Odisha	49528	5302	653	1872	3289	609	3500	758	699	1931	139	437
27	Puducherry	283	73	67	3	19	11	77	105	101	0	0	0
28	Punjab	15620	1713	2071	91	78	289	3135	2643	2717	148	50	82
29	Rajasthan	52621	3697	11260	\$	\$	\$	20029	6835	8739	2449	30	14
30	Sikkim	647	119	88	8	3	8	381	24	12	0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu	31461	3155	3112	6545	599	1211	6788	2043	3608	587	31	12
32	Telangana	23057	5715	1050	414	264	29	4439	5862	1320	199	6	0
33	Tripura	3327	589	393	12	5	29	244	71	28	240	4	3
34	Uttar Pradesh	160427	1520	1195	3130	527	4433	65938	8514	12981	12495	1522	553

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
35	Uttarakhand	14516	950	1468	217	64	335	4579	301	639	456	26	8
36	West Bengal	73889	2599	6388	79	12	36	10736	480	561	2414	247	387
	TOTAL	972365	59727	51586	41181	24110	19323	206563	62519	56678	49512	4132	2310

Source: UDISE+ 2018-19 (Provisional)

\$ No school under the management in States/UTs

Note: Government includes - Department of Education, Tribal Welfare, Social Welfare, Local Body, Central School, Railway School, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sainik School, Ministry of Labour School, Central Tibetan School & Other Government Schools.

(B) Enrolment of students 2018-19 (level and management-wise)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Government			Aided			Private			Unrecognised schools & Madarasa (recognised & unrecognised)		
		Elem-entary (Classes I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes XI-XII)	Elem-entary (Classes I-VIII)	Secon-dary (Classes IX-X)	Higher Secondary (Classes XI-XII)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	32449	9475	7494	984	403	436	14651	1994	1101	8	0	0

2	Andhra Pradesh	2937336	785441	174266	165353	42678	55468	2576296	508117	588468	27460	390	626
3	Arunachal Pradesh	161585	38582	21438	14523	2529	656	74625	5692	1859	4056	43	254
4	Assam	3885854	665701	247310	303057	100338	54973	1022500	168739	98942	310104	53359	19562
5	Bihar	16206725	2606910	839427	109922	52468	18567	1399645	363931	428827	1770275	79044	48734
6	Chandigarh	97269	27548	24866	3542	1307	3187	53591	12909	12808	5254	69	20
7	Chhattisgarh	2931322	729866	427537	54910	19010	14979	1152885	197551	136635	14486	0	0
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	41825	10560	6071	1988	445	0	17347	2556	1413	90	0	0
9	Daman and Diu	15428	3620	1735	2589	1154	1468	11237	1517	417	223	29	33
10	Delhi	1519967	478050	290279	95712	35472	26958	1311259	217510	169036	0	0	0
11	Goa	33438	5741	4598	131364	40356	32273	31037	2075	1263	0	0	0
12	Gujarat	5210861	154914	51672	169359	1102293	552588	3294197	548940	395118	875	449	86
13	Haryana	1512661	404225	219779	8757	4214	3321	2351813	556360	369635	129815	2768	829
14	Himachal Pradesh	516527	175531	156733	\$	\$	\$	405074	76600	43654	16	0	0
15	Jammu and Kashmir	876372	197295	190664	610	0	0	806705	132422	45375	3087	113	57
16	Jharkhand	4017513	576046	283608	260554	44232	21514	571485	284598	303837	1172875	62733	9799
17	Karnataka	3976291	662901	310577	837457	500076	217190	3760021	637225	451223	951	63	0
18	Kerala	909559	298772	352127	1632103	514527	385959	1214538	197051	105962	191742	9926	4280
19	Lakshadweep	7348	2122	2205	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	6814534	1622420	828926	76655	40565	37086	4737459	806674	543206	136248	0	0
21	Maharashtra	5342873	240833	80531	5791341	2700510	2175029	4484034	775351	628323	129804	6519	885
22	Manipur	156234	19611	18149	23052	3567	1591	292621	61655	43855	18008	148	0
23	Meghalaya	357476	10301	10041	233540	65977	28127	142247	30299	18555	18554	4773	1571

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

199

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
24	Mizoram	95551	17814	8532	7076	9268	4853	98110	13139	10389	2871	977	604
25	Nagaland	112007	16939	9139	\$	\$	\$	175449	39007	23760	0	0	0
26	Odisha	4455672	776951	222637	178550	396597	351923	896502	107987	281359	201858	11472	220823
27	Puducherry	46036	15554	15047	19359	5585	2812	97863	20452	16334	0	0	0
28	Punjab	1522108	422800	310630	115128	52263	59803	1983335	415224	305133	56391	9903	11972
29	Raj as than	6170686	1417358	888075	\$	\$	\$	5761148	1131330	904460	168288	2870	933
30	Sikkim	52415	22304	14178	2059	841	704	29960	3171	1420	0	0	0
31	Tamil Nadu	3018809	863353	693413	1382354	488934	426213	3993855	696939	563665	46790	3198	1834
32	Telangana	2032480	557543	232412	79509	19419	8603	2610992	497164	505196	13175	208	0
33	Tripura	417740	107165	45256	15068	6218	7009	82358	10942	4861	13898	210	34
34	Uttar Pradesh	16286765	360800	227491	1846280	1607564	1394960	13318521 • 4128218	2873923	1949665	108867	27360	
35	Uttarakhand	639867	186192	141746	62491	54116	48694	895876	136314	101686	55914	2220	496
36	West Bengal	10152296	2448801	1635285	30113	9624	10864	1381689	79108	49208	488357	160749	76557
TOTAL		102563879	16940039	8993874	13655359	7922550	5947808	61050925	12868761	10030906	6931138	521100	427349

Source: UDISE+2018-19 (Provisional)

\$ No school under the management in States/UTs

Note: Government includes - Department of Education, Tribal Welfare, Social Welfare, Local Body, Central School, Railway School, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Sainik School, Ministry of Labour School, Central Tibetan School & Other Government Schools.

200 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Minimum qualification for teachers

1988. PROF. M.V. RAJEEV GOWDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the minimum qualification for appointment of school teachers as authorised by the Centre, State-wise and educational level-wise (pre-primary, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary);

(b) average salary of teachers, management-wise, State-wise and educational level-wise (pre-primary, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary) as per the most recent data available; and

(c) pupil-teacher ratio, management-wise, State-wise and educational level-wise (pre-primary, primary, upper primary, secondary and higher secondary) as per the most recent data available?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) As per Section 23(1) of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has been notified as an academic authority to lay down minimum qualifications for appointment as a teacher. For a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher in schools, the NCTE has notified the minimum qualifications *vide* notification dated 25th August, 2010 as amended from time to time and the NCTE (Determination of Minimum Qualifications for Persons to be recruited as Education Teachers in Pre-primary, Upper Primary, Secondary, Senior Secondary or Intermediate Schools or Colleges) Regulations, 2014. The details are at link: <https://ncte.gov.in/Website/MinimumQualifications.aspx>.

(b) Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution. Hence, the recruitment, service conditions and deployment of teachers come under the purview of the concerned State/Union Territory (UT) Government.

(c) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 in its Schedule lays down Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) for both primary and upper primary schools which is 30:1 and 35:1 respectively. As per the framework of erstwhile scheme Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA)- now subsumed under Samagra Shiksha, PTR at secondary level should be 30:1. As per the Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) 2017-18 (provisional), the PTR at national level for primary schools is 23:1, for upper primary schools is 25:1, for Secondary level is 26:1 and for Higher Secondary level is 35:1. State-wise and education level-wise PTR is given in the Statement.

Statement*State-wise and education level-wise PTR in the Country*

State/UT	Pupil - Teacher Ratio (All Schools): 2017-18				
	Primary	Upper Primary	Elementary	Secondary	Higher Secondary
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	10	9	9	13	16
Andhra Pradesh	22	17	21	26	38
Arunachal Pradesh	11	13	12	17	23
Assam	20	13	17	17	22
Bihar	38	39	39	52	60
Chandigarh	16	18	18	26	26
Chhattisgarh	20	22	21	24	32
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	21	27	25	27	27
Daman and Diu	29	18	23	20	26
Delhi	35	31	34	30	28
Goa	18	10	17	24	20
Gujarat	21	28	27	27	33
Haryana	23	19	21	25	26
Himachal Pradesh	12	8	11	13	17
Jammu and Kashmir	10	11	11	15	23
Jharkhand	25	33	30	49	65
Karnataka	16	27	24	26	30
Kerala	17	19	18	22	24
Lakshadweep	10	11	11	12	10
Madhya Pradesh	21	22	22	27	41
Maharashtra	23	28	26	31	37
Manipur	8	10	9	16	20
Meghalaya	21	13	18	14	21

1	2	3	4	5	6
Mizoram	12	11	11	9	13
Nagaland	7	9	8	13	23
Odisha	17	22	20	25	38
Puducherry	13	12	13	18	21
Punjab	20	13	17	19	22
Rajasthan	20	20	20	23	29
Sikkim	4	7	6	10	15
Tamil Nadu	18	18	18	19	25
Telangana	19	17	18	27	44
Tripura	10	11	10	17	21
Uttar Pradesh	31	29	30	42	68
Uttarakhand	15	16	15	17	26
West Bengal	18	24	19	31	45
TOTAL	23	25	24	26	35

Source: UDISE 2017-18 (Provisional).

Devolution of funds to States with respect to education sector

1989. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that spending on education has gone down during the last five years, if so, the details of the last five years;

(b) the devolution of funds to States under the Fourteenth Finance Commission for education; and

(c) the amount of money spent and the State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Fourteenth Finance Commission did not provide any specific funds for education sector, however, Fourteenth Finance Commission has devolved more funds for State Governments giving flexibility to State Governments.

**Kendriya Vidyalayas in small cities
of Madhya Pradesh**

†1990. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to open Kendriya Vidyalayas in small cities of the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Kendriya Vidyalayas will be opened at Churhat of district Sidhi, Sarai of district Singrauli and Beohari of district Shahdol, if so, by when; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) are opened primarily to cater to the educational needs of the children of transferable Central Government employees including Defence and Para-Military personnel by providing a common programme of education.

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has informed that no proposal in the prescribed proforma has been received from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh for opening of a new KV at Churhat of district Sidhi, Sarai of district Singrauli and Beohari of district Shahdol.

(c) Proposals for opening of new KVs are considered only if sponsored by Ministries or Departments of the Government of India/State Governments / Union Territories Administrations thereby committing resources for setting up a new KV as well as the availability of necessary sanction of the Government. The proposals received from various sponsoring authorities for opening of new KVs also have to compete among other proposals under the "Challenge Method".

One Nation-One Education Policy

†1991. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:
SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:
CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether Government is contemplating to formulate the 'One Nation-One Education Policy' to provide similar education to children aged 6-14 years in the country, so that duality in education system prevalent in the country could be dispensed with and students could get uniform education at private as well as Government-run schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the students who have studied in private schools are more successful in various examinations and the poor families are being adversely affected as a result thereof; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (d) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 provides for free and compulsory education for children of the age 6-14 years for classes I to VIII. Section 12 of the RTE Act mandates all private aided, Special Category schools and private unaided schools to admit in class I (or below) to the extent of at least 25% of the strength of that class, children belonging to weaker sections and disadvantaged groups and provide free and compulsory education till its completion.

The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha from 2018-19, which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA), Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) and Teacher Education (TE). The new integrated scheme envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education. The main objectives of the scheme are provision of quality education and enhancing learning outcomes of students, bridging social and gender gaps in school education, ensuring minimum standards in schooling provisions, support States in the implementation of RTE Act, 2009 and strengthening of teacher education institutions.

The Central Government has taken the various initiatives for improving quality of education and developing critical thinking of students such as Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA), Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat (PBBB), e-PATHSHALA, DIKSHA portal, SWAYAM and NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers' Holistic Advancement).

The Government has also undertaken a detailed exercise in formulating a New Education Policy and a Committee for the Draft National Education Policy under the

Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan was constituted, which has submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May, 2019 and is presently under finalization.

Budget allocation to Central Universities

1992. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of budget allocation for Central Universities over the last five years;
- (b) Total expenditure incurred on Central Universities for the same period; and
- (c) details of budget allocation and expenditure incurred for Jawaharlal Nehru University under various categories?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The details of the funds allocation/released by UGC to Central Universities and expenditure incurred by the Central Universities during the last five years are as under:—

(₹ in crore)		
Year	Allocation / Grant released by UGC	Expenditure*
2014-15	5653.95	5669.55
2015-16	5621.38	6224.71
2016-17	6355.93	6912.39
2017-18	7286.33	6990.66
2018-19	6608.61	8057.12

* It includes Internal Resource Generation (IRG) and unspent balances available during the previous financial year etc.

- (c) The details of the funds allocation/released by UGC to Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) and expenditure incurred under various categories during the last five years are as under:—

(₹ in crore)

Year	Funds Allocation/ Released	Category-wise Expenditure*			
		Salary Head	Recurring Head	Capital Assets	Total
2014-15	336.91	172.73	132.71	32.23	337.67
2015-16	301.30	193.77	129.25	7.03	330.05
2016-17	332.46	207.96	130.27	28.32	366.55
2017-18	373.51	221.87	132.62	4.70	359.19
2018-19	371.65	305.51	147.02	4.85	457.38

* It includes Internal Resource Generation (IRG) and unspent balances available during the previous financial year etc.

Per Child Cost under RTE Act

1993. KUMARI SELJA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- the State-wise Per Child Cost (PCC) under Section 12(1)(C) of RTE Act;
- whether all States have State Advisory Councils;
- State-wise frequency at which this cost is revised;
- action taken if this cost is not revised yearly; and
- whether the costs notified are checked by any other authority?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The State-wise Per Child Cost as notified by concerned States and Union Territories under section 12(1)(c) of The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) All States and Union Territories except Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Ladakh and Telangana have State Advisory Councils under the RTE Act, 2009.

(c) to (e) Education is in the concurrent list of the Constitution and majority of the schools are under the jurisdiction of respective State and UT Governments. The States and UTs are required to notify per child cost norm to claim reimbursement of expenditure incurred by them towards implementation of the provisions of Section 12(1) (c) of the RTE Act, 2009.

The notification and revision of per child cost is completely under the domain of concerned State and UT Governments, which are the Appropriate Government under the Act.

Statement

Status of Per Child Cost notified by States and UTs

Sl. No.	State	Per Child Cost Per Annum
1	2	3
1.	Assam	₹ 16396
2.	Bihar	₹ 6,569
3.	Chandigarh	₹ 16440
4.	Chhattisgarh	₹ 7,650/- for Primary and ₹ 12,050/- for Upper Primary
5.	Delhi	Primary Level: ₹ 28008/-Upper Primary: ₹ 28108/-
6.	Gujarat	₹ 13,000/-
7.	Himachal Pradesh	₹ 2,895.35/- for Primary and ₹ 2816.62/- for Upper Primary
8.	Jharkhand	₹ 5100/-
9.	Karnataka	₹ 8,000/- for Pre-primary and ₹ 16,000/- for primary and above classes
10.	Lakshadweep	Section 12 (1) (C) of RTE Act Not Applicable as there are no Private Unaided School in the UT.
11.	Madhya Pradesh	₹ 4,640/-
12.	Maharashtra	₹ 17670/-
13.	Odisha	₹ 13,370/-
14.	Rajasthan	₹ 13,662/-
15.	Tamil Nadu	₹ 11,960/-
16.	Tripura	₹ 21,138/-
17.	Uttar Pradesh	₹ 5,400/-
18.	Uttarakhand	Primary: ₹ 18696/-Upper Primary: ₹ 18796/-

Source: AWP&B 2019-20.

Benefit of reservation in educational institutes

1994. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the benefit of reservation is not being given to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in the teaching and management positions of higher educational institutes such as IITs, IIMs, IHMs and universities and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to implement the reservation system effectively in such institutes; and

(c) if so, the dates on which higher educational institutes have been directed by Government to fill up vacant posts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) has issued directives to the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) for providing reservation to Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) according to the Government of India norms.

(b) and (c) To uphold the Constitutional Provisions for safeguarding the interests of SCs/STs and OBCs, the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Ordinance, 2019 was promulgated on 07.03.2019. The same was subsequently repealed and the Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Teachers Cadre) Act, 2019 was notified on 09.07.2019 to ensure preparation of rosters by considering the University as a 'Unit'. The Ministry is regularly monitoring the filling up of faculty posts in the HEIs.

Proposal to start E and ICT academy at Warangal NIT

1995. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has proposed to start Electronics and Information and Communication Technology (E and ICT) academy in Warangal National Institute of Technology; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when, such proposal would be considered?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has set up Electronics and Information and Communication Technology (E and ICT) Academy at the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Warangal in the year 2015 under the scheme titled "Scheme of Financial Assistance for setting up of Electronics and ICT Academies" for faculty / mentor development / up gradation to improve the employability of the students in various streams. The Electronics and ICT Academy at NIT, Warangal is fully functional with its jurisdiction covering the States of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Goa, Puducherry and Andaman and Nicobar Islands and it has, so far, imparted training to 15,772 beneficiaries (Faculties - 15,097 and Students / Others - 675) under 334 Faculty Development Programmes.

Proposals for development works in Chhattisgarh

†1996. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals received by the Ministry regarding development related works from the State Government of Chhattisgarh during the last three years and scheme-wise allocation of funds alongwith the details of action taken thereon;
- (b) the reasons for the proposals received from the State Government still being pending;
- (c) whether any timeline has been fixed for the disposal of the said proposals;
- (d) whether delay in the disposal of the proposal hampers the development related works and the manner in which the increased cost of works is adjusted; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development has received from Government of Chhattisgarh, one proposal for setting up a new School of Planning and Architecture and 23 proposals regarding New Model Degree Colleges, Enhancing Quality & Excellence in select Autonomous Colleges and Infrastructure Grants to Colleges under the scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan(RUSA). Institution-wise details of these 23 proposals is given in the Statement (*See below*).

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The 23 proposals under the scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan(RUSA) have been approved.

(b) to (e) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Statement

*Institution-wise details of proposals received under the
RUSA from Government of Chhattisgarh*

Sl. No.	Component	Name of Institution	Date of Approval	Total Amount Approved	Central Share Approved
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Bijapur	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
2.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Narayanpur	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
3.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Sukma	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
4.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Kondagaon	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
5.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Dantewada (South Bastar)	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
6.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Korba	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
7.	New Model Degree College	Govt. Model Degree College, Mahasamund	(25.5.2018)	12	7.2
8.	Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select Auto-nomous Colleges	Govt. V.Y.T PG Autonomous College, Durg	(25.5.2018)	5	3
9.	Enhancing	Govt ER Rao PG	(09.09.2019)	5	3

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Quality and Excellence in select Auto-nomous Colleges	Science College (Autonomous) Bilaspur			
10.	Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select Auto-nomous Colleges	Govt JY Chhattisgarh College	(09.09.2019)	5	3
11.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Holy Cross Womens College, Ambikapur	(25.5.2018)	2	1.2
12.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Govt DSRMVPG Sanskrit College, Raipur	(25.5.2018)	2	1.2
13.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	D.P. Vipra College, Bilaspur	(25.5.2018)	2	1.2
14.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Govt Mata Shabari Naveen PG Girls College Bilaspur	(25.5.2018)	2	1.2
15.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Govt. Niranjana Kesharwani College, Kota	(25.5.2018)	2	1.2
16.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Mini Mata Girls College, Korba	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
17.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Dr. B.S. B. Ambedkar College, Dongargaon, Rajnandgaon	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
18.	Infrastructure Grants to	Government Vijay BhushanSinghdev	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2

1	2	3	4	5	6
	Colleges	P.G. Girls College, Jashpur Nagar			
19.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Badri Prasad College, Arang, Raipur	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
20.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government L.C.S. College, Ambagarh Chowki, Rajnandgaon	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
21.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Govt. College, Dhamdha, Durg	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
22.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	S.G.G Government P G College, Kurudh, Dhamtari	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2
23.	Infrastructure Grants to Colleges	Government Rajmohini Devi Girls College, Ambikapur, Surguja	(09.09.2019)	2	1.2

**Testing the quality of education in
English medium schools**

1997. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the mechanism devised by Government to test the quality of education imparted in English medium schools in the country;
- (b) whether Government has any basis to conduct comparative study of schools in the country with those of developed countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether Government proposes to promote critical thinking and develop practical skills among the school children; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) conducts National Achievement Survey at grade 3,5, 8 and 10 to find learning level of students studying in Government and Government Aided Schools on sample basis, covering all mediums of instruction across the country.

(b) and (c) Government of India (GoI) has signed an agreement with Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) to participate in Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2021. PISA is a triennial international survey that aims to evaluate education systems worldwide by testing skills and knowledge of 15 year old students in the subjects of Mathematics, Science and Reading.

(d) and (e) The Central Government has taken the following initiatives for promoting critical thinking and developing practical skills among school children:—

- (i) Under Samagra Shiksha, to ensure inclusive and equal education at all levels, support is provided to the States and Union Territories *inter alia* for implementation of Rashtriya Aavishkar Abhiyan (RAA) to motivate and engage children in Science, Mathematics and Technology and 'Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat' (PBBB) for teaching reading, writing and mathematics in elementary classes, and vocational education in an integrated manner in schools.
- (ii) To ensure competencies, the Central rules to the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 have been amended and class-wise, subject-wise Learning Outcomes have been shared with all States and Union Territories.
- (iii) Training has been provided to untrained in-service elementary teachers.
- (iv) In order to provide e-learning material, different facilities like e- PATHSHALA, DIKSHA portal, SWAYAM (Study Webs to Active Learning for Young Aspiring Minds), SWAYAM PRABHA DTH Channels have been made available by the Ministry.
- (v) An integrated Teacher Training Programme titled NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers' Holistic Advancement) has been launched.
- (vi) The Government of India has decided to participate in the Programme for International Students Assessment (PISA) to be conducted by the

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in 2021.

- (vii) The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has undertaken various examination reforms to promote competencies and quality of learning:—
- a. Change in design of question papers with nearly 33% increase in internal choice in all major subjects for classes X and XII and introduction of objective type questions. It has been decided to include 10% competency based Questions in the annual examination of class 10 in the current year.
 - b. Experiential learning has been introduced from 2019-20 to promote self thinking, creativity and effective study skills among students.
 - c. The Board has developed a training manual on Critical and Creative Thinking Skills for teachers.
 - d. The Board has also published Life Skills manuals which include Critical and Creative Thinking Skills.

Spending on research and innovation

1998. SHRIMATI JHARNADAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is spending only 0.7 per cent of the GDP on research and innovation in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is contemplating to increase the spending on research and innovation in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes. As per information received from Principal Scientific Advisor, expenditure on Research & Development as a percentage share in National Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was 0.7% in 2004-05, 0.7% in 2008-09, 0.6% in 2012-13 and 0.7% in 2016-17.

(c) and (d) Yes. Government is working towards increasing the spending on research and innovation in the country through the creation of National Research Foundation as per its Budget Announcement in 2019-20 in this regard .

(e) Does not arise.

Assessment of school education

1999. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to transform the assessment methods in school education; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has developed a module on School Based Assessment (SBA) with an objective to transform Assessment in the school education which is a part of NISHTHA (National Initiative for School Heads and Teachers' Holistic Advancement).

Further, Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) follows National Curriculum Framework-2005 which includes flexibility in assessments and examination reforms. CBSE has introduced the following changes in the assessment methods and pattern in the session 2019-20:—

- (i) The number of questions asked in the examination for all major subjects have been curtailed to ensure that students don't find the paper to be too lengthy to complete in the stipulated time of 3 hours.
- (ii) Internal choices for students in at least 33% questions in all major subjects has been provided.
- (iii) Twenty five per cent objective type Questions have been included in all major subjects in 2020 examination.
- (iv) Internal assessment has been extended to all subjects for Class 10 and Class 12 to make assessment holistic and continuous.

Upgradation of Universities to global standards

†2000. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is contemplating on upgrading some universities and institutions of higher education in the country, to global standards;
- (b) if so, whether Government also proposes to make universities and other institutions located in the State of Gujarat as the ones meeting global standards; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (c) Institutions of Eminence scheme (IoE) has been launched in order to implement the commitment of the Government to empower the Higher Educational Institutions and to help them become world class teaching and research institutions. As per the Cabinet approval, 10 public and 10 private Universities/ Institutions have to be declared as IoE. As of now, 8 institutions in public category and 10 institutions in private category have been selected for declaration of IoE. The selection of the above Institutions/ Universities has been made on the recommendation of Empowered Expert Committee (EEC) and University Grants Commission (UGC) based on the merit of the Institution and not region-wise.

Amendments in the draft New Education Policy

2001. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has received the draft of New Education Policy from the Committee constituted in this regard;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has amended the draft New Education Policy to state that students are free to choose any language they wish to study in till grade five;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether it is also a fact that the policy is under review by Government and if so, whether Government is considering to implement the policy very soon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) to (e) The Committee for the Draft National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of Dr. K. Kasturirangan submitted its report to the Ministry on 31st May, 2019. The Draft NEP 2019 which was uploaded on the Ministry's website and also at *innovate.mygov.in* platform has received a large number of suggestions/comments from all stakeholders including Government of India Ministries and State Governments. Based on the Draft NEP Report submitted by the Committee to Draft NEP, and the stakeholder feedback thereon, the process of finalizing the National Education Policy is currently ongoing and it is expected to be submitted for necessary approval shortly.

Vacant posts for SCs/ STs in Universities

†2002. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the State-wise details of the number of vacant posts of teachers of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in various universities of the country; and

(b) if so, by when these posts are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) The details of vacant teaching post for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in 41 Central Universities under the purview of the Ministry of Human Resource Development are given in the Statement (*See* below). The details in respect of State universities and others universities is not centrally maintained.

(b) Occurring and filling up of vacancies is an ongoing and continuous process.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Details of SCs/STs vacant teaching posts (Post-wise) in Central Universities (as on 1.10.2019)

Sl. No.	Name of State	Name of Central University	Post-wise	Scheduled Caste	Scheduled Tribe
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Bihar	Central University of South Bihar	Professor	3	1
			Associate Professor	3	3
			Assistant Professor	3	3
2	Bihar	Mahatma Gandhi Central University	Professor	2	1
			Associate Professor	4	2
			Assistant Professor	-1	0
3	Chhattisgarh	Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya	Professor	6	3
			Associate Professor	13	9
			Assistant Professor	12	7
4	Delhi	University of Delhi	Professor	36	18
			Associate Professor	89	47
			Assistant Professor	45	27

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

219

1	2	3	4	5	6	220
5	Delhi	Jamia Millia Islamia	Professor	0	0	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
			Associate Professor	0	0	
			Assistant Professor	0	0	
6	Delhi	Jawaharlal Nehru University	Professor	16	15	[RAJYA SABHA]
			Associate Professor	38	22	
			Assistant Professor	16	9	
7	Delhi	Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)#	Professor	8	5	[RAJYA SABHA]
			Associate Professor	14	8	
			Assistant Professor	17	7	
8	Gujarat	Central University of Gujarat	Professor	3	1	Unstarred Questions
			Associate Professor	5	3	
			Assistant Professor	3	1	
9	Haryana	Central University of Haryana	Professor	4	2	Unstarred Questions
			Associate Professor	10	4	
			Assistant Professor	17	9	

10	Himachal Pradesh	Central University of Himachal Pradesh	Professor	4	2	<i>Written Answers to</i>
			Associate Professor	8	2	
			Assistant Professor	9	6	
11	Jammu & Kashmir	Central University of Jammu	Professor	2	1	<i>[5 December, 2019]</i>
			Associate Professor	6	1	
			Assistant Professor	1	1	
12	Jammu & Kashmir	Central University of Kashmir	Professor	3	1	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>
			Associate Professor	7	3	
			Assistant Professor	8	4	
13	Jharkhand	Central University of Jharkhand	Professor	3	2	221
			Associate Professor	6	4	
			Assistant Professor	5	1	
14	Karnataka	Central University of Karnataka	Professor	4	1	
			Associate Professor	7	4	
			Assistant Professor	11	6	
15	Kerala	Central University of Kerala	Professor	3	1	
			Associate Professor	5	3	
			Assistant Professor	4	1	

1	2	3	4	5	6	222
16	Madhya Pradesh	Dr. Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya	Professor	7	4	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
			Associate Professor	14	8	
			Assistant Professor	-5	12	
17	Madhya Pradesh	Indira Gandhi National Tribal University	Professor	4	2	
			Associate Professor	8	5	
			Assistant Professor	3	3	
18	Maharashtra	Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya	Professor	1	1	Unstarred Questions
			Associate Professor	1	2	
			Assistant Professor	4	4	
19	Odisha	Central University of Odisha	Professor	3	1	
			Associate Professor	6	3	
			Assistant Professor	11	5	
20	Punjab	Central University of Punjab	Professor	4	2	
			Associate Professor	9	4	
			Assistant Professor	7	7	

21	Puducherry	Pondicherry University	Professor	8	4	<i>Written Answers to</i>
			Associate Professor	8	10	
			Assistant Professor	10	5	
22	Rajasthan	Central University of Rajasthan	Professor	5	1	<i>[5 December, 2019]</i>
			Associate Professor	9	4	
			Assistant Professor	8	5	
23	Tamil Nadu	Central University of Tamil Nadu	Professor	4	2	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>
			Associate Professor	9	4	
			Assistant Professor	6	6	
24	Telangana	Maulana Azad National Urdu University	Professor	5	2	<i>223</i>
			Associate Professor	12	6	
			Assistant Professor	12	5	
25	Telangana	University of Hyderabad	Professor	5	7	
			Associate Professor	24	15	
			Assistant Professor	12	2	
26	Telangana	The English & Foreign Languages University	Professor	2	2	
			Associate Professor	3	4	
			Assistant Professor	1	-2	

1	2	3	4	5	6	224
27	Uttarakhand	Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University	Professor	5	3	Written Answers to
			Associate Professor	11	3	
			Assistant Professor	2	1	
28	Uttar Pradesh	Aligarh Muslim University	Professor	0	0	[RAJYA SABHA]
			Associate Professor	0	0	
			Assistant Professor	0	0	
29	Uttar Pradesh	Banaras Hindu University	Professor	36	19	
			Associate Professor	62	36	
			Assistant Professor	58	50	
30	Uttar Pradesh	Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University	Professor	4	2	
			Associate Professor	4	3	
			Assistant Professor	3	1	
31	Uttar Pradesh	University of Allahabad	Professor	11	5	Unstarred Questions
			Associate Professor	30	15	
			Assistant Professor	57	34	
32	West Bengal	Visva Bharati*	Professor	7	6	

33	Assam	Assam University	Associate Professor	16	10	<i>Written Answers to</i>
			Assistant Professor	12	7	
			Professor	4	2	
			Associate Professor	4	3	
34	Assam	Tezpur University	Assistant Professor	7	4	
			Professor	5	3	
			Associate Professor	6	3	
			Assistant Professor	2	2	
35	Arunachal Pradesh	Rajiv Gandhi University	Professor	3	2	[5 December, 2019]
			Associate Professor	4	2	
			Assistant Professor	6	4	
			Professor	6	2	
36	Manipur	Manipur University	Associate Professor	8	4	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>
			Assistant Professor	3	3	
			Professor	8	4	
			Associate Professor	9	5	
37	Meghalaya	North Eastern Hill University	Assistant Professor	6	3	
			Professor	5	0	
			Associate Professor	9	5	
			Assistant Professor	6	3	
38	Mizoram	Mizoram University*	Professor	5	0	225
			Associate Professor	8	4	
			Assistant Professor	3	3	
			Professor	8	4	

1	2	3	4	5	6	226
						<i>Written Answers to</i>
			Associate Professor	2	2	
			Assistant Professor	2	0	
39	Nagaland	Nagaland University	Professor	6	2	
			Associate Professor	6	0	
			Assistant Professor	5	-3	
40	Sikkim	Sikkim University	Professor	5	2	
			Associate Professor	9	4	
			Assistant Professor	2	-3	
41	Tripura	Tripura University	Professor	3	0	
			Associate Professor	0	0	
			Assistant Professor	2	6	
		TOTAL	Professor	253	134	
			Associate Professor	498	270	
			Assistant Professor	386	243	
			GRAND TOTAL	1128	647	

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Note: * information as on 1.04.2019.

information as on 1.9.2019.

**Pendency of cases in Courts and
vacancy of Judges**

2003. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases pending in the Supreme Court, High Courts in the country, Court-wise, District Courts in the country, Court-wise over the past five years; and
- (b) the number of vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts of the country, Court-wise, District Courts of the country, Court-wise over the past five years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As per the data made available on the website of the Supreme Court of India, the number of cases pending in the Supreme Court in the past five years is as given below:-

Year	Total Pendency (No. of cases)
2015 (as on 31.12.2015)	59,272
2016 (as on 31.12.2016)	62,537
2017 (as on 01.12.2017)	55,089
2018 (As on 01.12.2018)	56,994
2019 (As on 01.11.2019)	59,867

As per information and data furnished by the High Courts and also information and data available on the web-portal of the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), High Court-wise pendency of cases in High Courts and State/UT-wise pendency of cases in District and Subordinate Courts during last four years and current year is given in the Statement-I and the Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

- (b) The number of vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court and various High Courts and State/UT-wise vacancies in District and Subordinate Courts during last four years and current year is given in the Statement-III and the Statement-IV respectively.

Statement-I

High Court-wise pendency of cases in High Courts during last four years and current year

Sl. No.	High Court	As on 31.12.2015	As on 31.12.2016	As on 31.12.2017	As on 21.12.2018	As on 02.12.2019
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Allahabad	9,18,829	9,16,046	\$	7,24,726	7,31,516
2.	Punjab & Haryana	2,88,351	3,02,313	3,84,098	3,93,953	5,16,613
3.	Madras	2,84,428	2,97,617	3,14,345	3,98,997	4,01,778
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2,73,827	2,89,445	3,07,384	3,30,554	3,56,869
5.	Andhra Pradesh	2,70,272*	2,91,761*	3,25,119*	3,60,574*	1,92,914
6.	Bombay	2,46,441	2,61,649	4,64,074	4,64,074	2,67,809
7.	Rajasthan	2,44,866	2,54,131	2,63,103	7,41,193	4,58,714
8.	Karnataka	2,37,454	2,77,620	2,11,110	2,36,161	2,46,194
9.	Calcutta	2,21,282	2,19,064	2,32,116	2,43,456	22,049
10.	Odisha	1,69,453	1,68,003	1,68,375	1,67,072	1,49,454
11.	Kerala	1,57,369	1,66,735	1,81,114	1,93,371	1,96,625
12.	Patna	1,28,738	1,34,459	1,45,056	1,49,920	1,68,762
13.	Gujarat	87,072	75,098	1,09,709	1,13,511	1,25,937
14.	Jharkhand	80,419	85,757	57,944	87,997	84,205
15.	Delhi	68,784	67,082	69,546	74,252	80,091
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	56,453	59,404	\$	91,994	74,849
17.	Chhattisgarh	50,111	55,642	59,463	63,359	67,734
18.	Uttarakhand	26,680	32,004	36,910	55,751	39,025
19.	Himachal Pradesh	26,533	25,147	37,955	36,066	44,497

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Gauhati	25,948	29,469	39,191	40,457	44,963
21.	Manipur	3,315	3,286	16,889	7,308	3,717
22.	Tripura	3,037	2,545	2,798	2,964	2,686
23.	Meghalaya	597	700	951	1,069	1,056
24.	Sikkim	114	170	212	254	239
25.	Telangana\$\$	2,17,632	—	—	—	2,17,632
TOTAL		38,70,373	40,15,147	34,27,462	49,79,033	44,95,928

Includes Data for Telangana

\$ Data as on 31.12.2017 was not available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

\$\$ New High Court established after bifurcation of the State of Andhra Pradesh.

Statement-II*State/UT-wise pendency of cases in District and Subordinate Courts during last four years and current year*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	As on 31.12.2015	As on 31.12.2016	As on 31.12.2017	As on 10.12.2018	As on 02.12.2019
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9,495	8,767	11,185	—	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	10,31,515*	10,77,944*	4,99,246	5,22,853	5,63,587
3.	Telangana			4,16,164	5,14,425	5,58,826
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	8,776	14,583	—	—	
5.	Assam	2,42,503	2,58,639	2,23,954	2,84,344	2,91,792
6.	Bihar	20,73,303	21,28,325	16,58,292	24,39,139	28,45,004
7.	Chandigarh	36,322	38,907	38,628	42,980	47,569
8.	Chhattisgarh	2,85,962	2,90,434	2,72,888	2,57,782	2,76,761
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,903	3,766	3,552	2,465	3,091

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Daman and Diu	1,723	1,720	1,746	1,758	2,203
11.	Delhi	5,39,601	6,06,181	6,07,036	7,19,977	8,44,115
12.	Goa	39,615	42,074	39,745	43,825	46,637
13.	Gujarat	21,42,011	18,22,311	16,41,355	16,59,335	16,30,273
14.	Haryana	5,24,281	5,47,736	6,45,647	7,21,335	8,57,782
15.	Himachal Pradesh	1,62,553	2,06,941	2,09,938	2,56,577	2,92,505
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,24,763	1,45,999	1,21,754	1,55,889	1,74,876
17.	Jharkhand	3,24,357	3,42,768	3,33,494	3,53,670	3,82,972
18.	Karnataka	12,68,966	13,62,167	13,81,438	12,77,153	15,61,111
19.	Kerala	13,45,127	14,82,667	11,52,056	11,62,952	12,72,369
20.	Lakshadweep	380	357	—	—	—
21.	Madhya Pradesh	11,91,799	10,97,634	13,25,053	13,70,355	14,29,873
22.	Maharashtra	29,94,074	32,39,540	33,36,574	35,61,746	37,76,743
23.	Manipur	6,885	6,978	9,604	9,994	9,866
24.	Meghalaya	7,493	15,239	7,032	6,727	8,845
25.	Mizoram	4,671	4,665	3,306	3,653	2,541
26.	Nagaland	3,862	4,450	—	—	—
27.	Odisha	10,64,039	10,49,325	10,22,635	11,23,055	12,22,098
28.	Punjab	5,04,028	5,04,320	5,68,232	5,99,053	6,34,354
29.	Rajasthan	14,79,173	11,48,704	14,24,560	15,05,712	16,71,789
30.	Sikkim	1,299	1,434	1,400	1,306	1,156
31.	Tamil Nadu	10,82,793	10,99,521	10,10,381	11,03,460	11,59,965
32.	Puducherry	24,973	—	—	—	—
33.	Tripura	1,29,789	43,568	25,191	23,519	24,204
34.	Uttar Pradesh	55,74,490	59,80,071	61,61,822	70,04,569	75,60,213

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
35.	Uttarakhand	1,66,618	1,90,948	2,10,587	2,38,349	1,98,944
36.	West Bengal	26,18,813	27,28,753	17,59,635	22,05,954	22,77,387
TOTAL		2,70,19,955	2,74,97,436	2,61,24,130	2,91,73,911	3,16,29,451

Statement-III

Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts during last four years and current year

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	2015 (As on 01.1.2015)	2016 (As on 01.1.2016)	2017 (As on 01.1.2017)	2018 (As on 01.1.2018)	2019 (As on 27.11.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Supreme Court	03	05	07	06	00
	High Courts					
1	Allahabad	80	86	75	52	60
2	Andhra Pradesh	19	22	38	30	22
3	Bombay	08	35	32	24	29
4	Calcutta	19	16	34	39	32
5	Chhattisgarh	08	13	11	10	07
6	Delhi	19	21	22	23	23
7	Gauhati	12	08	07	06	03
8	Gujarat	12	24	21	21	24
9	Himachal Pradesh	06	06	03	05	03
10	High Court for Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh	08	07	07	06	09
11	Jharkhand	11	11	12	11	06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
12	Karnataka	27	31	32	37	22
13	Kerala	07	03	10	10	15
14	Madhya Pradesh	19	23	14	19	22
15	Madras	17	38	18	15	21
16	Manipur	01	02	02	03	01
17	Meghalaya	00	01	01	02	01
18	Orisha	07	05	09	10	13
19	Patna	11	25	22	20	26
20	Punjab & Haryana	29	35	38	35	29
21	Rajasthan	20	25	16	16	29
22	Sikkim	01	01	01	00	00
23	Telangana	—	—	—	—	11
24	Tripura	0	0	01	02	01
25	Uttarakhand	05	05	04	02	01
TOTAL		346	443	430	398	410

Statement-IV

*Vacancies of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts
during last four years and current year*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2015 (as on 31.12.2015)	2016 (as on 31.12.2016)	2017 (as on 31.12.2017)	2018 (as on 31.12.2018)	2019 (as on 02.12.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	249	96	66	85	146
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2	9	11	5	14
3	Assam	105	113	77	74	53

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	Bihar	660	823	835	637	695
5	Chhattisgarh	44	39	63	58	74
6	Goa	8	7	12	3	7
7	Gujarat	769	391	375	360	326
8	Haryana	170	143	149	172	293
9	Himachal Pradesh	18	8	11	15	23
10	Jammu and Kashmir	25	27	29	86	58
11	Jharkhand	126	225	253	218	213
12	Karnataka	302	387	327	202	241
13	Kerala	15	64	85	68	75
14	Madhya Pradesh	218	781	728	442	517
15	Maharashtra	334	125	167	176	236
16	Manipur	6	9	9	15	16
17	Meghalaya	28	16	58	58	48
18	Mizoram	33	33	17	18	18
19	Nagaland	2	9	12	7	0
20	Odisha	118	261	206	164	144
21	Punjab	182	128	136	148	93
22	Rajasthan	206	129	103	271	303
23	Sikkim	4	10	5	4	6
24	Tamil Nadu	46	108	200	263	129
25	Tripura	36	29	31	40	24
26	Uttar Pradesh	277	1414	1348	1208	1404
27	Uttarakhand	74	73	61	63	67
28	West Bengal	59*	100*	40	57	93
29	Andaman and Nicobar Islands			0	0	13

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	1
31	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	1	1	0	0	1
32	Delhi	303	304	317	216	119
33	Lakshadweep	0	0	1	0	0
34	Puducherry	12	13	14	14	15
TOTAL		4432	5875	5746	5147	5439

* includes data for A&N Islands

Survey of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

2004. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any survey has been conducted in respect of children not going to schools in the country under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the number of such children, State-wise; and
- (c) the special efforts being made under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan to send such children to schools?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009 came into effect from 1st April, 2010. The Act makes elementary education a fundamental right of all the children in the age group of 6-14 years. Ministry of Human Resource Development conducts periodic independent survey to estimate out of school children in the age group of 6 to 13 years. As per Survey conducted by the International Market Research Bureau (IMRB) in 2014, there were 20.41 crore children in the age group of 6-13 years in the country, out of which 60.64 lakh (2.97%) were out of school. The State/UT-wise detail is given in the Statement (*See below*).

- (c) Government of India in partnership with the States and UT Governments have taken a range of initiatives to ensure that all children are enrolled in schools and complete their elementary education. The Department of School Education and Literacy has launched an Integrated Scheme for School Education - Samagra Shiksha with effect from 2018-19

which subsumes the three erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and Teacher Education. The scheme envisages school education as a continuum from pre-school to senior secondary level and aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for all. Under the scheme, financial assistance is provided to States and UTs for undertaking various activities to reduce number of out of school children including opening/strengthening of new schools upto senior secondary level, construction of school buildings and additional classrooms, setting up, upgradation and running of Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalayas, setting up of residential schools/hostels, free uniforms, free text books, transport allowance and undertaking enrolment and retention drives. Further, special training for age appropriate admission of out of school children and residential as well as non-residential training for older children, seasonal hostels/residential camps, special training centres at worksites, transport/escort facility are also supported to bring out of school children to the formal schooling system. Also, mid-day meal is provided to students at the elementary level of education. Further, under the student oriented component for the children with special needs, financial assistance is provided for identification and assessment of children with special needs, aids and appliances, braille kits and books, appropriate teaching learning material and stipend to girl students with disability etc.

Also, Section 10 of the RTE Act states that it shall be the duty of every parent or guardian to admit or cause to be admitted his or her child or ward, as the case may be, to an elementary education in the neighbourhood school.

Statement

Out of school children as per independent survey

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1015
2	Andhra Pradesh	107829
3	Arunachal Pradesh	6517
4	Assam	157813
5	Bihar	1169722
6	Chandigarh	1090
7	Chhattisgarh	167072

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	745
9	Daman and Diu	421
10	Delhi	85084
11	Goa	0
12	Gujarat	159308
13	Haryana	43879
14	Himachal Pradesh	2176
15	Jammu and Kashmir	45468
16	Jharkhand	140426
17	Karnataka	122139
18	Kerala	33161
19	Lakshadweep	267
20	Madhya Pradesh	450952
21	Maharashtra	145326
22	Manipur	7037
23	Meghalaya	17237
24	Mizoram	972
25	Nagaland	2896
26	Odisha	401052
27	Puducherry	285
28	Punjab	91578
29	Rajasthan	601863
30	Sikkim	535
31	Tamil Nadu	57529
32	Tripura	4518
33	Uttar Pradesh	1612285
34	Uttarakhand	86794
35	West Bengal	339239
TOTAL		6064229

Source: IMRB Survey, 2014

Appointment of lawyers to provide legal assistance

†2005. SHRIAMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the process of appointing lawyers to provide legal assistance to the people by Government;
- (b) the number of such Government appointed lawyers in the country at present, whether the posts of such Government lawyers are vacant or there is a requirement of more lawyers;
- (c) whether with a view to provide justice for all, Government intends to set up free legal advice centres in every district or tehsil; and
- (d) if so, the details of the scheme thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 provides for criteria and procedure for empanelment of panel lawyers for providing legal assistance to the eligible sections of the population. The selection of panel lawyers is made by the Executive Chairman or Chairman of the Legal Services Institution in consultation with the Attorney General [for the Supreme Court], Advocate General [for the High Court], District Attorney or Government Pleader [for District and Taluka level] and the Monitoring and Mentoring Committee of the Institution.

(b) At present, there are 61,295 panel lawyers empanelled by Legal Services Authorities throughout the country for providing legal assistance to the people who are eligible to receive such assistance. The panel lawyers are empanelled by the Legal Services Institutions as per the work load. As of now, the required number of panel lawyers are available with the Legal Services Institutions.

(c) and (d) The Legal Services Institutions have been set up under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 at all levels from the level of Taluk Courts to Supreme Court. The Legal Services Institutions have set up Front Offices to provide legal advice to the visitors. More than 23,000 legal Services Clinics have also been set up in Jails, Courts, Juvenile Justice Board (JJBs), Community Centres, Villages/Rural areas and Law Colleges/Universities to provide free legal services.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Corruption in judicial services

2006. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to workout any concrete policy to save judicial service from corruption and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of Judges of High Courts and District Courts who have been compulsorily retired or imposed with a ban on their judicial power during the last three years till date, State-wise details thereof; and

(c) whether regular monitoring of the Judges of the District Courts/High Courts are being done to check corruption in judicial service and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The issue of checking corruption in the judiciary is to be addressed by the judiciary itself, as it is an independent organ under the Indian Constitution. Accountability in higher judiciary is maintained through “in-house procedure” adopted by the Supreme Court in Full Court meeting held on 7th May, 1997. As per the “In-house procedure” Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of High Court Judges. Further, as per Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the control over District Courts and Courts subordinate thereto vests in the High Court.

Complaints and representations regarding allegation of corruption received are forwarded to the Chief Justice of India or to the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action. Similarly, complaints/representations against member of Subordinate Judiciary received are forwarded to the Registrar General of the concerned High Court, for appropriate action.

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

Women Judges in High Courts

2007. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that as per the India Justice Report, the share of women Judges came down to 28 per cent in Subordinate Courts and 11 per cent in High Courts;

- (b) whether any gender sensitivity study has been initiated to look into the matter;
- (c) if so, the findings thereof; and
- (d) the measures taken to address the issue?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) India Justice Report, 2019, published by a private body, Tata Trusts, claims to rank States according to the level to which they have capacitated themselves to deliver justice to all. The report has pointed out that despite wide acceptance of the value of gender diversity, the actual presence of women in State judiciaries is underwhelming. As per information available in the Department of Justice, for the year 2019, the number of women judges in all the High Courts is 77 as against 53 in the year 2012.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

(d) Appointment of Judges of the High Court is made under Article 217 of the Constitution of India. This Article does not provide for reservation for any caste or class of person. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data of Judges is maintained by the Government. Government has, however, been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, women and Minorities.

Further, the selection and appointment of Judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and the State Governments concerned. The recruitment of judicial officers in some States is done by respective High Courts, whereas in other States the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions. As per the available information, some States such as Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Rajasthan, have provided reservation quota for appointment of women in the subordinate judiciary.

Vacancies of Judges in Andhra Pradesh

2008. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are 24 vacancies of Judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court;

- (b) if so, since how long they have been lying vacant; and
- (c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill the vacancies?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to
(c) As on 01.12.2019, there are 22 vacant posts of Judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment and transfer of Chief Justices and Judges of High Court, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposals for filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. However, this timeline is rarely adhered to.

Filling up of vacancies is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength.

Pendency of cases in District Courts/High Courts

2009. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the number of District Courts and High Courts which have complied with the direction of the Supreme Court for bringing down pendency to nil, of cases pending for ten years or more on or before 31st December, 2017 and cases pending for five years or more on or before 31st December, 2018, State-wise;
- (b) whether any court in Delhi and Uttar Pradesh has complied with the said direction of the Supreme Court;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, Court-wise; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to
(c) Current data regarding pendency of cases in District and Subordinate Courts and High Courts is available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). NJDG does not provide historical data. As on 02.12.2019, the number of cases pending for ten years or more and for five years or more, in District and Subordinate Courts, State/UT-wise is given in the

Statement-I (See below). and in High Courts, High Court-wise is given in the Statement-II (See below).

(d) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, *inter-alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures.

Statement-I

State/UT-wise number of cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Number of cases pending for 5 years or more	Number of cases pending for 10 years or more
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	—	—
2.	Andhra Pradesh	24149	4105
3.	Telangana	31441	6704
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	—	—
5.	Assam	21984	2703
6.	Bihar	929823	373542
7.	Chandigarh	554	49
8.	Chhattisgarh	5427	739
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	523	198
10.	Daman and Diu	259	67
11.	Delhi	38561	5023
12.	Goa	5241	1690
13.	Gujarat	347012	173578
14.	Haryana	6117	493
15.	Himachal Pradesh	20842	714

1	2	3	4
16.	Jammu and Kashmir	26220	3958
17.	Jharkhand	63348	11350
18.	Karnataka	170078	35224
19.	Kerala	61694	6064
20.	Lakshadweep	—	—
21.	Madhya Pradesh	84390	13045
22.	Maharashtra	720314	249282
23.	Manipur	807	256
24.	Meghalaya	1920	744
25.	Mizoram	122	16
26.	Nagaland	—	—
27.	Odisha	395189	174088
28.	Punjab	8779	880
29.	Rajasthan	247159	47170
30.	Sikkim	3	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	138728	33086
32.	Puducherry	—	—
33.	Tripura	2707	1176
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2467929	939849
35.	Uttarakhand	18371	2710
36.	West Bengal	743277	285332
TOTAL		6582968	2373835

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

Statement-II*Number of cases pending in the High Courts*

Sl. No.	Name of High Courts	Number of cases pending for 5 years or more	Number of cases pending for 10 years or more
1	2	3	4
1.	Allahabad High Court	419378	250179
2.	Calcutta High Court	11691	8226
3.	Gauhati High Court	3944	272
4.	High Court for the State of Telangana	71001	23078
5.	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	67279	23018
6.	High Court of Bombay	121928	71346
7.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	13891	4360
8.	High Court of Delhi	19817	7461
9.	High Court of Gujarat	32801	12021
10.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	7358	977
11.	High Court of Jammu & Kashmir	27417	6126
12.	High Court of Jharkhand	29961	13431
13.	High Court of Karnataka	47676	5587
14.	High Court of Kerala	54945	15227
15.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	147070	62269
16.	High Court of Manipur	588	249
17.	High Court of Meghalaya	13	0
18.	High Court of Punjab & Haryana	144137	75881
19.	High Court of Rajasthan	130324	67367
20.	High Court of Sikkim	1	0

1	2	3	4
21.	High Court of Tripura	12	1
22.	High Court of Uttarakhand	8417	4186
23.	Madras High Court	142055	91382
24.	Orissa High Court	59783	24986
25.	Patna High Court	39545	20943
TOTAL		1601032	788573

Policies on safety concerns of lawyers

2010. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to introduce any guidelines for the safety of lawyers, especially of women lawyers in the light of rising incidents involving the murders of lawyers and their safety, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government proposes to introduce any compensation schemes for covering the hospital expenses, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of such victims since 2015 and the measures Government has taken to help these victims?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The subject matter of Police and Public Order as per Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India are State subjects and hence the responsibility to maintain Public Order to protect safety of every person rest with the respective State Governments. The details of such incidents are also maintained by respective State Governments. Further a reference has recently been made to the Law Commission of India to examine the proposal of the Advocates (Protection) Bill.

(b) The demand of the advocates to formulate a customized Insurance scheme to cover the risks arising out of accidental death and incurring of medical expenses is under active consideration of the Government in consultation with the Bar Council of India and Insurance companies.

Modernisation of judicial infrastructure

2011. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the schemes/programmes intended for modernisation, infrastructural development and judicial reforms have achieved the desired results in the country, if so, the details thereof along with funds allocated and released under the said schemes/programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, scheme/programme-wise;

(b) whether the delivery of justice of Gram Nyayalayas to the litigants is faster than that of the judicial system in the country, if so, the details thereof along with the reaction of Government thereto; and

(c) the other steps taken by Government to improve the functioning of judiciary in the country?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) It is the primary responsibility of the State Governments to provide Judicial Infrastructure for District and Subordinate Courts. The Union Government has been administering a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in order to augment the resources of State Governments by providing financial assistance to the States/UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodations of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As on date, ₹ 7,453 crores has been sanctioned since the inception of the Scheme in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 4,008 crores has been sanctioned to the States and UTs since April, 2014. 19,423 court halls and 17,151 residential accommodations are available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts against the working strength of 18,120 Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts of the country. In addition, 2,826 court halls and 1,843 residential units are under construction. The details of Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and funds released under the Scheme during last 3 years and current financial year are given below:—

(₹ in crore)

Financial year	Budget Estimates (BE)	Revised Estimates (RE)	Funds released
2016-17	595.00	538.74	538.74
2017-18	621.20	621.21	621.21
2018-19	622.00	650.00	650.00
2019-20	710.00	—	702.86
			(As on 02.12.2019)

In addition, the Central Government has been implementing another Scheme, namely, the e-Courts Mission Mode Project for Information and Communication Technology enablement of District and Subordinate Courts. Number of computerised District and Subordinate Courts has increased from 13,672 to 16,845 registering an increase of 3,173 during 2014 till date. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerised District and Subordinate Courts. All stakeholders including Judicial Officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerised District and Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). Currently, case status information in respect of over 12.23 crore pending and disposed cases and more than 10.26 crore orders/judgments pertaining to these computerised courts is available on NJDG. e-Courts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders and final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through e-Courts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerised courts, e-Courts Mobile App, e-mail service, SMS push and pull services. The details of Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and funds released under e-Court Mission Mode Projects during last 3 years and current financial year are given below:—

(₹ in crore)			
Financial year	Budget Estimates (BE)	Revised Estimates (RE)	Funds released
2016-17	286.00	362.07	344.82
2017-18	416.00	375.00	373.27
2018-19	480.00	300.00	284.23
2019-20	256.53	—	37.15
(As on 02.12.2019)			

(b) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 provides the following for faster delivery of justice to litigants:—

- (i) Special procedure for both criminal and civil disputes under Sections 11, 12 and 13.
- (ii) Summary trial procedure for criminal offences under Section 19.
- (iii) Plea bargaining in Gram Nyayalayas under Section 20.

- (iv) Pronouncement of judgment within fifteen days immediately after termination of trial under Section 22.
- (v) Hearing on a day to day basis until its conclusion under Section 24.
- (vi) Disposal of suit, claim, application, filed under the Act within a period of six months from the date of its institution under Section 24.
- (vii) Procedure for conciliation and settlement of civil disputes under Section 26.
- (viii) Gram Nyayalayas to receive evidence which would be otherwise not relevant or admissible under the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 under Section 30.
- (ix) Appeals in civil and criminal matters under Section 33 and 34 respectively.

The Central Government has been requesting States and High Courts for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States. As per the information made available by various State Governments / High Courts, 353 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified, out of which 221 are operational.

(c) The Government has adopted a coordinated approach for improving judicial administration through many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure (court halls and residential units) for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court.

Pending cases of corruption

†2012. SHRI NARAYAN RANE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that close to several thousand cases of corruption are pending in Courts of the country;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the number of such cases disposed of by the Courts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Cases of corruption under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 are investigated by agencies of the Central Government as well as agencies under State Governments/UTs.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Details of cases pending as well as disposed in the District and Subordinate Courts (criminal or civil cases), as well as High Courts (criminal or civil cases or writ petitions) are available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). However, NJDG does not provide data regarding corruption cases separately. As per information/data available on NJDG, a Total number of 2,27,20,111 criminal cases are pending in District and Subordinate courts of the country, which includes criminal cases of corruption. Similarly, a Total number of 12,75,545 criminal cases are pending in the High Courts of the country, which includes criminal cases of corruption.

(b) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, *inter-alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures.

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

**Funds for judicial infrastructure development in
Madhya Pradesh**

†2013. DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the details of the installment amount and release schedule thereof with regard to the amount of ₹2.69 crores till the year 2018-19 and ₹ 617 crores for the year 2019-20 respectively as Central Government's Total share designated under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for 'Judicial Infrastructure Development' in the State of Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): A sum of ₹ 477.45 crore has so far been sanctioned to the Government of Madhya Pradesh under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary since inception of the Scheme in 1993-94, which includes ₹ 79.42 crore in 2018-19 and ₹ 46.90 crore in 2019-20. The details of the date and funds sanctioned and released to Madhya Pradesh State during 2018-19 and 2019-20 are given below:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(₹ in crore)

2018-19		2019-20	
Date	Amount	Date	Amount
14.08.2019	34.71	08.05.2019	15.00
13.09.2019	34.71	21.08.2019	31.90
07.08.2019	10.00		
TOTAL	79.42	TOTAL	46.90

Video conferencing during trials

2014. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of prisons across the country that have been linked *via* video conferencing across the country, the State-wise details thereof;

(b) whether any amendment has been made to permit the use of video conferencing during trial hearings;

(c) the number of prisoners being produced *via* video conferencing for remand hearing and trial hearings across the country; and

(d) the nodal agency incharge of monitoring and documenting the use of video-conferencing at the district/State/national level?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, video conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. State/UT-wise information is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) An amendment was made in section 167 (2) (b) of Code of Criminal Procedure to extend further detention of the accused in judicial custody through the medium of electronic video linkage.

As per the said section, no Magistrate shall authorise detention of the accused in custody of the police under this section unless the accused is produced before him in person for the first time and subsequently every time till the accused remains in the custody of the police, but the Magistrate may extend further detention in judicial custody on

production of the accused either in person or through the medium of electronic video linkage.

(c) and (d) The nodal agency in charge of monitoring and documenting the use of video conferencing varies from State to State. In some States, the documentation is recorded in the proceedings of case records. In some States, Nodal Officers under e-Courts project at District Level and Central Project Coordinator (CPC) of High Court at State Level do the monitoring and documenting of use of video conferencing. In some other States, the remote end District Jails are also maintaining the records of such under trial prisoners in which judicial proceedings are conducted through video conferencing. Therefore, the details of number of prisoners being produced *via* video conferencing for remand hearing and trial hearings across the country are not maintained centrally but by the respective nodal agency.

Statement

State/UT-wise information of court complexes and jails where video conference facility has been enabled

Sl. No.	High Court	State/UT	Total Court Complexes	Total Jails
1	2	3	4	5
1	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	150	65
2	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	212	111
3	Bombay	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1
		Daman and Diu	2	2
		Goa	17	2
		Maharashtra	466	138
4	Calcutta	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	4	4
		West Bengal	84	53
5	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh	90	28
6	Delhi	Delhi	6	10
7	Gauhati	Arunachal Pradesh	14	2
		Assam	68	29
		Mizoram	8	7

1	2	3	4	5
		Nagaland	11	11
8	Gujarat	Gujarat	327	23
9	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	43	12
10	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu and Kashmir	86	14
11	Jharkhand	Jharkhand	28	27
12	Karnataka	Karnataka	200	97
13	Kerala	Kerala	156	33
		Lakshadweep	3	4
14	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	203	122
15	Madras	Puducherry	4	2
		Tamil Nadu	263	117
16	Manipur	Manipur	17	2
17	Meghalaya	Meghalaya	6	4
18	Odisha	Odisha	141	88
19	Patna	Bihar	76	56
20	Punjab & Haryana	Chandigarh	1	1
		Haryana	53	19
		Punjab	64	24
21	Rajasthan	Rajasthan	238	95
22	Sikkim	Sikkim	4	2
23	Telangana	Telangana	129	44
24	Tripura	Tripura	13	13
25	Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand	52	10
TOTAL			3240	1272

Law Commission report on gambling in sports

2015. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Law Commission has submitted to Government a report stating that since it is impossible to stop illegal gambling, the only viable option left is to regulate gambling in sports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the panel wanted Government to introduce a cap on the number of gambling transactions for each individual; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) The Law Commission of India submitted 276th report titled "Legal Framework: Gambling and Sports Betting including in Cricket in India" to Government on 05.07.2018. In para 9.7 of the report on page 115, it has been strongly and categorically recommended that legalising betting and gambling in India in the present scenario is not desirable and that a complete ban on unlawful betting and gambling must be ensured. However, in para 9.8, it has been recommended that if it is not possible to enforce a complete ban then regulating this activity is the only viable option to prevent unlawful activities. The Commission thus as an alternative to complete ban on gambling and betting has recommended a number of regulations which include that there must be a cap on the number of the transactions an individual can indulge in these activities in a specific period. The report of the Law Commission is available on the website of the Commission. The aforesaid report is presently under the examination of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Department of Sports.

Criminal record of candidates contesting election

2016. SHRI B.K. HARI PRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2149 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th July, 2019 and state:

(a) whether no criminal record or criminal background is being assessed by the Election Commission and Ministry for the candidates who are contesting election; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 lays down the provisions for disqualification for membership of Parliament and Legislatures. Further, the Election Commission of India has informed that a declaration is being obtained from the candidates

in form 26 appended to the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 regarding details of their assets, liabilities, criminal background and educational qualifications. The candidates are also required to publish details of their criminal cases in newspaper and TV channel.

Internal Commercial Disputes Redressal

Mechanism

2017. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the current internal mechanism in force to deal with commercial disputes between Ministries, Departments and PSUs;
- (b) the success of the mechanism in discouraging Court litigation; and
- (c) the details thereof since the year of its inception?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) As far as commercial disputes pertaining to Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) with other Government entities are concerned, Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has issued guidelines on Administrative Mechanism for Resolution of Commercial Dispute (AMRCD) which *inter alia* provide for a two tier mechanism for dispute resolution *vide* O.M. dated 22.5.2018 Details are given in the (Statement (*See* below).

Under this mechanism of AMRCD, the dispute resolution falls within the domain of the concerned administrative Ministries/Departments to which the disputing CPSEs/Parties belong. The Secretaries of respective Ministries/departments of the disputing parties and Secretary, Legal Affairs are members of the AMRCD mechanism at the first level of dispute resolution and appeals, if any, are to be decided at the second level by the Cabinet Secretary.

(b) and (c) The AMRCD guidelines provide for inclusion of an enabling 'arbitration clause' in all the commercial contracts signed by CPSEs with other Government entities making it binding that any dispute by either parties to the contract will be taken up for resolution only through AMRCD mechanism. Further, the decisions arising out of the AMRCD mechanism are binding on the concerned parties to comply with the same. To this extent, it curtails the scope for any litigation as far as CPSEs are concerned. However, there is no such centralised data is available of the disputes handled by AMRCD since its inception.

Statement

F. No. 4(1)/2013-DPE(GM)/FTS-1835

Government of India

Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises

Department of Public Enterprises

Public Enterprises Bhawan,
Block No. 14, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.
Dated: 22nd May, 2018

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Settlement of commercial disputes between Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) *inter se* and CPSE(s) and Government Department(s)/Organisation(s) - Administrative Mechanism for Resolution of CPSEs Disputes (AMRCD).

The undersigned is directed to refer to Department of Public Enterprises guidelines issued *vide* OM No. 4(1)/2011-DPE (PMAJ)-GL dated 12.06.2013, No.4(1)2011-DPE(PMA) dated 24.03.2014, No. 4(1)/2011-DPE (PMA) dated 26.03.2014 and No. 4(1)/2013-DPE(PMA)/FTS-1835 dated 11.04.2017 regarding the resolution of commercial disputes between Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) *inter se* and also between CPSEs and Government Departments/Organisations (excluding disputes concerning Railways, Income Tax, Customs and Excise Departments) through PMA (Permanent Machinery of Arbitration) mechanism.

2. To make the mechanism more effective and binding on the disputing parties, a new mechanism namely Administrative Mechanism for Resolution of CPSEs Disputes (AMRCD) having two level (tier) structure has been evolved in consultation with various stakeholders to replace the existing PMA mechanism which stands wound up from the date of issue of this OM.

3. Applicability

In the event of any dispute or difference relating to the interpretation and application of the provisions of commercial contract(s) between Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)/ Port Trusts *inter se* and also between CPSEs and Government Departments/Organisations (excluding disputes concerning Railways, Income Tax, Customs and

Excise Departments), such dispute or difference shall be taken up by either party for its resolution through AMRCD.

4. As per the approved new mechanism to resolve the commercial disputes, the following structure and procedure shall be followed by the concerned disputing parties:

A. Structure:

- (i) At the First level (tier), such commercial disputes shall be referred to a Committee comprising of Secretaries of the Administrative Ministries/Departments to which the disputing CPSEs/Parties belong and Secretary-D/o Legal Affairs, The Financial Advisors (FAs) of the two concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments will represent the issues related to the dispute in question before the above Committee. In case the two disputing parties belong to the same Ministry/Department, the above said Committee will comprise Secretary of the Administrative Ministry/Department concerned, Secretary-D/o Legal Affairs and Secretary-Department of Public Enterprises. In such a case, the matter may be represented before the Committee by the FA and one Joint Secretary of that Ministry/Department.

Further, in case of a dispute between CPSE and State Government Department/Organisation, the above said Committee will comprise the Secretary of the Ministry/Department of the Union to which the CPSE belongs and Secretary-D/o Legal Affairs and a senior officer nominated by the Chief Secretary of the State concerned. In such a case, the matter will be represented before the Committee by the FA of the concerned Administrative Ministry/Department and the concerned Principal Secretary of the State Government Department/Organisation.

- (ii) In case the dispute remains unresolved even after consideration by the above Committee, the same will be referred at the Second level (tier) to the Cabinet Secretary, whose decision will be final and binding on all concerned.

B. Procedure:

- (i) At the First level (tier), the claiming party (Clamant) will approach the FA of it's administrative Ministry/Department for representing the dispute before the Secretary of it's Administrative Ministry/Department The Secretary of

Administrative Ministry/Department of claiming party will intimate the same to the Secretary of administrative Ministry/Department of responding party (Respondent) and Secretary-D/o Legal Affairs and thereafter meetings will take place in the Administrative Ministry/Department of the claiming party to examine the facts and resolve the dispute on merit. The FAs of the concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments will represent the issues related to the dispute in question before the above Committee. After arriving at a decision by the Committee, the Secretary of the administrative Ministry/Department of the claiming party will write down the decision and it will be signed jointly by both the Secretaries and Secretary- D/o Legal Affairs. A copy of the decision will be communicated by the Secretary of the Administrative Ministry/Department of the claiming party to each party to the dispute for implementation.

In case where one party (1st party) to the dispute is a Department/Organisation of a State Government, the procedure for admitting the dispute will be same as above, however, all meetings in connection with resolution of the dispute will be held in the Administrative Ministry/Department (Union) of other party (2nd Party) irrespective of the position of the 1st Party whether as a Claimant or Respondent. The presentation of the issues before the above Committee in this case will be done by the FA of the concerned Administrative Ministry/Department and concerned Principal Secretary of the State Government Department/Organisation.,

- (ii) The Committee of Secretaries at the First level (tier) shall finalise its decision within 3 months after having received the reference/notice in writing regarding the dispute from the concerned aggrieved party.

5. **Appeal**

Any party aggrieved with the decision of the Committee at the First level (tier) may prefer an appeal before the Cabinet Secretary at the Second level (tier) within 15 days from the date of receipt of decision of the Committee at First level, through it's Administrative Ministry/Department, whose decision will be final and binding on all concerned.

6. Arbitration Clause

- (i) The CPSEs will ensure inclusion of a clause in all the existing and future commercial contracts between CPSEs, *inter-se* and CPSEs and Government Departments/Organisations as under-

“In the event of any dispute or difference relating to the interpretation and application of the provisions of commercial contract(s) between Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)/Port Trusts *inter se* and also between CPSEs and Government Departments/Organisations (excluding %, disputes concerning Railways, Income Tax, Customs and Excise Departments), such dispute or difference shall be taken up by either party for resolution through AMRCD as mentioned in DPE OM No.

4(1)/2013-DPE(GM)/FTS-1835 dated 22.05.2018”.

- (ii) The on-going contracts shall also be suitably amended accordingly.

7. Disposal of pending cases in PMA

All pending cases with Sole Arbitrator-PMA and Appellate Authority shall stand transferred with immediate effect to concerned Administrative Ministries/Departments to be dealt with as per above mentioned laid down mechanism of dispute resolution. All cases in which the hearing has been completed by Sole Arbitrator, the award will be made by Sole Arbitrator. Appeal, if any, made against such cases will lie with the Cabinet Secretary at Second level (tier).

8. All the Administrative Ministries/Departments concerned with Central Public Sector Enterprises/Port Trusts etc. are requested to bring these guidelines to the notice of all CPSEs under their administrative control for strict compliance.

9. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Sd/-

(J. N. Prasad)

Director

Tel. 24360736

To.

1. Secretary of all Ministries/Departments of the Government of India.

2. Chief Secretary of all the States and Union Territories.

Copy to:

1. Sh. G. S. Yadav, Joint Secretary and Arbitrator-PMA, DPE.
2. Chief Executive of all CPSEs for information and necessary compliance.

Copy forwarded for kind information to:

- (i) The Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
- (ii) The Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (iii) PS to the Minister (HI&PE), Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (iv) Secretary (DPE), CGO Complex, New Delhi
- (v) Secretary (Law), D/o Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/-

(J. N. Prasad)

Director

Tel. 24360736

Sanctioned post of Judges in High Courts

2018. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of vacancies of Judges in various High Courts filled up during last three years and the current year so far, year-wise and High Court-wise;
- (b) whether 40 per cent sanctioned post of High Court Judges are lying vacant at present;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, High Court-wise;
- (d) the reasons for the same; and
- (e) the details of steps Government would take to ensure speedy and fair justice to common people?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges and Total number of Judges appointed during 2016 to 2019 (till 27.11.2019) in the High Courts are given in the Statement (*See below*).

As per the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment and transfer of Chief Justices and Judges of High Court, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposals for filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. However, this timelines is rarely adhered to.

Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength.

The disposals of cases in Courts is within the domain of judiciary. However, the Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases to improve access to justice in line with the % mandate under Article 39A of the Constitution. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms, established by the Union Government in 2011, has adopted many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure (court halls and residential units) for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases.

Statement

Details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges and Total number of Judges appointed during 2016 to 2019 in the High Courts

(Position as on 27.11.2019)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies	Total number of Judges appointed during			
					2016	2017	2018	2019 (27.11.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Allahabad	160	100	60	20	31	28	01
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	15	22	01	10	-	02
3	Bombay	94	65	29	06	14	04	05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	Calcutta	72	40	32	01	06	11	06
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	07	03	03	4	-
6	Delhi	60	37	23	05	04	5	04
7	Gauhati	24	21	03	05	02	2	04
8	Gujarat	52	28	24	05	-	4	03
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	10	03	04	-	-	02
10	High Court for Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh	17	08	09	-	03	2	-
11	Jharkhand	25	19	06	04	02	3	02
12	Karnataka	62	40	22	05	02	12	10
13	Kerala	47	32	15	05	03	4	01
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	31	22	18	-	8	02
15	Madras	75	54	21	25	12	8	01
16	Manipur	05	04	01	01	-	-	-
17	Meghalaya	04	03	01	-	-	1	01
18	Odisha	27	14	13	-	-	1	-
19	Patna	53	27	26	06	06	-	05
20	Punjab and Haryana	85	56	29	01	08	7	10
21	Rajasthan	50	21	29	11	05	-	03
22	Sikkim	03	03	0	-	01	-	-
23	Telangana	24	13	11	-	-	1	03
24	Tripura	04	03	01	-	03	3	-
25	Uttarakhand	11	10	01	01	-	-	-
TOTAL		1079	669	410	126	115	108	66

Problems reflected by India Justice Report, 2019

2019. SHRI JOSE K. MANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has examined the recently released India Justice Report, 2019 compiled by the Civil Society, relying on Government data since 2012, that throws light on problems plaguing the justice delivery system in the country;

(b) whether the report reveals that India spends 0.08 per cent of its GDP on its judiciary with no State filling all the sanctioned posts of High Court Judges; and

(c) whether even on physical infrastructure, the report reveals a shortage of over 4,000 court halls against the sanctioned number?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVISHANKAR PRASAD): (a) It is understood that India Justice Report, 2019 has been published by a private body, Tata Trusts. The report claims to rank states according to the level to which they have capacitated themselves to deliver justice to all. The report claims to use data available in public domain for analysis and inferences but in the absence of the details of years and sources of data it is not possible to verify the data used in the report.

(b) Insofar as expenditure for providing infrastructure to High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts is concerned, it is the primary responsibility of State Governments to provide adequate infrastructure for High Courts as well as Subordinate Judiciary. Further, the Union Government in its Memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission had proposed an amount of ₹ 9748.71 crore for the justice sector including setting up of additional courts, Fast Track Courts, Family Courts, Re-designing existing courts, technical manpower support, scanning and digitization, Law Schools, Lok Adalats, ADR centres, Mediators, and capacity building. The 14th Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Union Government and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements.

As regards filling all the sanctioned posts of High Court Judges, initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the High Court. Appointment of Judges in High Courts is a continuous collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 currently. While every effort is made to fill up the existing

vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges. Due to combined efforts of Government and Judiciary, 126 Judges in 2016, 115 Judges in 2017, 108 Judges in 2018 and 66 Judges in 2019 (as on 02.12.2019) have been appointed in High Courts.

(c) As regards physical infrastructure, the Union Government has been administering the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for District and Subordinate Judiciary in order to augment the resources of State Governments in this regard in association with the States/UT Governments. As on date, ₹ 7,453.10 crores have been released since the inception of the CSS in 1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 4,008.80 crores (which is 53.79% of the Total amount released till date) have been released to the States and UTs since April, 2014. Under the CSS, the number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 19,423 as on 02.12.2019 under this scheme. In addition, 2,826 court halls are under construction. As on 02.12.2019, the sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Judiciary is 23,567 and working strength is 18,120. Thus, compared with the sanctioned strength, there is a shortfall of 4,144 court halls (including court halls under construction, the shortfall is 1,318 court halls). However, compared with the working strength, there is an excess of 1,303 (including court halls under construction, the excess is 4,129 court halls).

SC/ST Judges in Supreme Court

2020. SHRI RONALD SAPA TLAU: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is eager to provide maximum accommodation to the deserving/qualified minority groups *i.e.* SCs/STs etc. even in high places like the Supreme Court;

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

(c) the present number of Supreme Court Judges belonging to the SCs/STs; and

(d) how many such posts are lying vacant in Supreme Court as on date?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (d) Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court is made under Article 124 of the Constitution which does not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, no caste or class-wise data of Judges is maintained. However, the Government is committed to

social diversity in the appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and makes such request to the High Courts from time to time.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure the initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges of Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India. The Government considers only those names for appointment as Judges of Supreme Court, which are recommended by the Chief Justice of India/Supreme Court Collegium. As on 01.12.2019, out of sanctioned strength of 34 Judges in Supreme Court, there is a working strength of 33 Judges, leaving one vacancy.

Fast Track Courts in Andhra Pradesh

2021. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that 14th Finance Commission has urged the State Government to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in tax devolution from 32 per cent to 42 per cent to set up Fast Track Courts across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government/State Governments has set up Fast Track Courts (FTCs) pursuant to this;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) Yes Sir. The Union of India proposed setting up of 1800 FTCs at a Total cost of ₹ 4144 crore during the period of 2015-2020, in its memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission. The Commission endorsed the proposal and urged the State Government to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet the requirements. Further the Union Government has also urged the State Governments to allocate funds for the activities mentioned in the 14th Finance Commission recommendation including setting up of FTCs from their State budgets from the financial year 2015-16 onwards. The number of FTCs and fund proposed, State-wise, is given in the Statement-I (*See* below). The present status of number of Fast Track Courts functional, State-wise made available, by the various High Courts is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise status of no. of Fast Track Courts and fund proposed during
14th Finance Commission (2015-20),*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of FTCs proposed	Funds proposed
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47	108.21
2.	Telangana	37	85.18
3.	Assam	36	82.88
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00
5.	Mizoram	07	16.12
6.	Nagaland	03	6.91
7.	Bihar	147	338.43
8.	Chhattisgarh	28	64.46
9.	Gujarat	174	400.59
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13	29.93
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	21	48.35
12.	Jharkhand	50	115.11
13.	Karnataka	95	218.72
14.	Kerala, Lakshadweep	41	94.39
15.	Madhya Pradesh	133	306.20
16.	Maharashtra, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	204	469.67
17.	Goa	05	11.51
18.	Manipur	03	6.91

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of FTCs proposed	Funds proposed4
19.	Meghalaya	04	9.21
20.	Odisha	63	145.04
21.	Punjab	50	115.11
22.	Chandigarh	02	4.61
	Haryana	48	110.51
23.	Rajasthan	93	214.11
24.	Sikkim	01	2.3
25.	Tamil Nadu, Puducherry	89	204.91
26.	Tripura	09	20.72
27.	Uttar Pradesh	212	488.08
28.	Uttarakhand	28	64.46
29.	West Bengal, Andaman and Nicobar Islands	94	216.42
30.	Delhi	63	145.05
	TOTAL	1800	4144.11

Statement-II

Status of State-wise no. of fast track courts functional as on 30.09.2019

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of FTCs functional (as on 30.09. 2019)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	21
2.	Assam	26
3.	Maharashtra	74
4.	West Bengal and Andaman and Nicobar Islands	88

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	23
6.	Manipur	04
7.	Bihar	59
8.	Delhi	10
9.	Haryana	06
10.	Sikkim	02
11.	Tripura	09
12.	Uttar Pradesh	286
13.	Mizoram	02
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	05
15.	Tamil Nadu	51
16.	Telangana	38

Vacancies of Judges in Courts

2022. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vacancies in the post of Judges in each of the High Courts, State-wise for the years 2015-16, 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19; and

(b) the number of vacancies in the post of Judges at the District level in each State for the same period?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) The number of vacancies of the Judges High Court-wise during the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (upto 27.11.2019) is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) The number of vacancies of the Judicial Officers at District level, State-wise during the years 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 (upto 02.12.2019) is given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement-IV appended to the answer to USQ No. 2003 Part (b)].

Statement

*The number of vacancies of the Judges, High Court-wise
during 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019*

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges				
		2015 (as on 01.1.2015)	2016 (as on 01.1.2016)	2017 (as on 01.1.2017)	2018 (as on 01.1.2018)	2019 (as on 27.11.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Allahabad	80	86	75	52	60
2	Andhra Pradesh	19	22	38	30	22
3	Bombay	08	35	32	24	29
4	Calcutta	19	16	34	39	32
5	Chhattisgarh	08	13	11	10	07
6	Delhi	19	21	22	23	23
7	Gauhati	12	08	07	06	03
8	Gujarat	12	24	21	21	24
9	Himachal Pradesh	06	06	03	05	03
10	High Court for Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh	08	07	07	06	09
11	Jharkhand	11	11	12	11	06
12	Karnataka	27	31	32	37	22
13	Kerala	07	03	10	10	15
14	Madhya Pradesh	19	23	14	19	22
15	Madras	17	38	18	15	21
16	Manipur	01	02	02	03	01
17	Meghalay	00	01	01	02	01

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
18	Odisha	07	05	09	10	13
19	Patna	11	25	22	20	26
20	Punjab and Haryana	29	35	38	35	29
21	Rajasthan	20	25	16	16	29
22	Sikkim	01	01	01	00	00
23	Telangana	—	—	—	—	11
24	Tripura	0	0	01	02	01
25	Uttarakhand	05	05	04	02	01
TOTAL		346	443	430	398	410

Amendment in Representation of People Act

† 2023. SHRI LAL SINH VADODIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to amend the laws related to the Representation of People Act and 'Aadhaar';

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

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

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) In order to ensure preparation of error free electoral roll and to prevent duplication of entries, a proposal to amend Representation of the People Act, 1951 to enable linking of electoral data with Aadhaar system has been received from the Election Commission. The matter is under examination.

Retirement of Government officials

2024. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is actively considering for retirement of Government officials either at the age of 60 years or after completing 33 years of service, whichever is earlier;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (c) by when orders in this regard is likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No Sir. There is no proposal to reduce retirement age below 60 years.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.

Compulsory retirement of Government employees

2025. SHRI RANJIB BISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) number of Government employees retired under Rule 56(J) of CCS (Pension) Rules, 1972 since 2015, Group-wise and Cadre-wise;
- (b) any proposal to reduce the retirement age of Government employees in the near future, the details thereof;
- (c) whether pension fixed at the time of retirement on superannuation, can be refixed/revised upon re-employment of such employee in Government Sector on contractual basis, if so, details of such rule along with number of such cases which came to the notice of Government so far; and
- (d) the steps taken to improve the efficiency of Government employees and to ensure their timely promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) As per the information/data uploaded by the different Ministries/Departments/Cadre Controlling Authorities (CCAs) on Probitry Portal followed by the rectification requests made by some Ministries/Departments/CCAs, during the period from July, 2014 to October, 2019 (as on 25.11.2019), provisions of FR 56 (J) have been invoked against a Total number of 96 Group 'A' officers and 126 Group 'B' officers of different Ministries/Departments.

- (b) No Sir. Presently, there is no proposal in the Government to reduce age of retirement of Government employees below 60 years.

- (c) Re-employment of the Government servant has no bearing on the pension fixed at the time of his retirement on attaining the age of superannuation.

- (d) Department of Personnel & Training has been impressing upon all the Ministries/Departments to convene the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) meetings at

prescribed interval (by laying down a time schedule for the purpose) to draw panels which could be utilized for making promotion against the vacancies occurring during the course of a year. The Ministries/Departments have been further advised to initiate action to fill up the existing as well as anticipated vacancies well in advance of the expiry of the previous panel by collecting relevant documents like seniority list, Annual Performance Appraisal Report (APAR) etc. for placing before the DPCs so as to obviate the problem of delays in promotion.

The provisions under FR 56(J) also ensure to improve efficiency in Government.

Appointment of Board level positions in CPSEs

2026. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry has expressed its concern over the delay in the appointments of Board level positions in Public Sector Enterprises and various Ministries of Government;

(b) whether Government has written to those Ministries which have failed to comply with the prescribed timelines for appointments of both CMDs and other Board level appointments; and

(c) if so, the names of the Ministries in this regard and the names of the Public Sector Enterprises where CMD and Board level positions are yet to be fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) Sir, filling up of the Board level positions in the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) under various Ministries/Departments is a continuous process. At any point of time, some vacancies may exist for variety of reasons *inter-alia*, including some unanticipated vacancies. It has been the continuous endeavor of the Government to ensure that Board level vacancies in the Government are filled as per extant procedure in a timely manner. In this regard, the ACC has issued directions, from time to time, prescribing timelines for processing the proposals for appointments to Board level posts in Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) requiring the approval of the ACC.

(c) The names of the Ministries/Departments and the Central Public Sector Enterprises where CMD and Board level positions are vacant as on 30.11.2019 and which require the approval of the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) are given in the Statement.

Statement

Names of the Ministries/Departments and CPSEs where CMD and Board level positions are vacant as on 30.11.2019

Sl. No.	CPSE	Ministry/Department
1.	Electronics Corporation of India Ltd. (ECIL)	Atomic Energy
2.	Airports Authority of India (AAI)	Civil Aviation
3.	Air India Limited (AIL)	Civil Aviation
4.	Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd. (PHHL)	Civil Aviation
5.	Central Mine Planning and Design Inst Ltd. (CMPDIL)	Coal
6.	Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)	Coal
7.	Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd. (MCL)	Coal
8.	Northern Coalfields Ltd (NCL)	Coal
9.	NLC India Ltd.	Coal
10.	Western Coalfields Ltd. (WCL)	Coal
11.	Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation Ltd.	Commerce
12.	PEC Ltd.	Commerce
13.	State Trading Corporation of India Ltd. (STC)	Commerce
14.	Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)	Defence Production
15.	Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL)	Defence Production
16.	Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. (MDSL)	Defence Production
17.	Fertilizers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT)	Fertilizers
18.	Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited (BVFCL)	Fertilizers
19.	Cement Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)	Heavy Industry
20.	Engineering Projects (India) Ltd. (EPI)	Heavy Industry
21.	Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC)	Heavy Industry
22.	HMT Ltd.	Heavy Industry
23.	Bridge and Roof Company (India) Ltd.	Heavy Industry

Sl. No.	CPSE	Ministry/Department
24.	Scooters India Limited	Heavy Industry
25.	Hindustan Steelworks Construction Ltd. (HSCL)	Housing & Urban Affairs
26.	Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited	Mines
27.	Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)	New & Renewable Energy
28.	Gas Authority of India Ltd.	P&NG
29.	O.N.G.C. Videsh Limited (OVL)	P&NG
30.	Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL)	Power
31.	Rural Electrification Corporation (REC)	Power
32.	North Eastern Electric Power Corporation (NEEPCO)	Power
33.	Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd. (DFCCIL)	Railways
34.	Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)	Railways
35.	Rail Vikas Nigam Ltd. (RVNL)	Railways
36.	Braithwaite and Co. Ltd.	Railways
37.	Konkan Railway Corporation Limited	Railways
38.	Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation Limited (KMRCL)	Railways
39.	Shipping Corporation of India Limited (SCI)	Shipping
40.	Indian Port Rail Corporation Limited	Shipping
41.	MECON Ltd.	Steel
42.	National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC)	Steel
43.	Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)	Telecommunications
44.	Indian Telephone Industries (ITI)	Telecommunications
45.	Telecom Consultants India Limited (TCIL)	Telecommunications
46.	Cotton Corporation of India Ltd. (CCI)	Textiles
47.	Handicrafts and Handlooms Export Corporation	Textiles
48.	National Textile Corporation Ltd. (NTC)	Textiles

**Implementation of Supreme Court order
benefiting pensioners**

2027. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had filed a Review Petition in the Supreme Court of India against Court's order dated the 23rd July, 2018 [RP (c) No. 1731/2019 in SLP (c) No. 22008/2018] and the Court had dismissed the SLP on 8th August, 2019, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether in the light of the said order of the Supreme Court. Government has issued any order to implement it for the benefit of pensioners who retired on 30th June, if not, whether any timeline has been fixed and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. Union of India filed SLP (C) No. 22008/2018 in the Supreme Court of India against Order dated 15.09.2017 in WP No. 15732/2017 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Madras. The said SLP was dismissed by the Supreme Court of India by its Order dated 23.07.2018. Against the said Order, Union of India filed Review Petition (C) No. 1731/2019 which was dismissed by the Supreme Court of India *vide* its Order dated 08.08.2019.

(b) As the judgment is in personam and is contrary to the personnel policy of Government of India, no general order has been issued.

**Regional and Hindi speaking students
in civil services**

2028. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many Hindi speaking and regional language students made it to Civil Services from 2014 till date; and

(b) whether there would be any efforts such as age relaxation, trainings etc. by Government to encourage women to participate in Civil Services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Details showing number of recommended candidates in Civil Service Examination from the year 2014 to 2018, who have claimed their mother tongue as Hindi or other regional languages:

Sl. No.	Year	Mother Tongue (recommended candidates)		Total
		Hindi	Others	
1	2014	743	620	1363
2	2015	643	521	1164
3	2016	664	545	1209
4	2017	633	423	1056
5	2018	485	327	812

(b) The Government strives to have a workforce which reflects gender balance and women candidates are encouraged to apply and participate in Civil Services. Female candidates are exempted from payment of fee for Civil Services Examination.

Further, relaxation of age up to 35 years (up to 40 years for members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) for the widows, divorced women and women judicially separated (JSW) from their husbands who are not re-married for employment to Group 'C' and erstwhile Group 'D' post already exists. Similar relaxation also exists for Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts except where recruitment is made through Open Competitive Examination. It is however, stated that these instructions are applicable only to Central Government Civilian Employees holding civil posts.

Leave encashment of employees

2029. SARDAR SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has issued any circular to all the Ministries clarifying that there is no distinction between regular/ad-hoc/co-terminus employees working in main Ministries or Commissions under the Ministries as far as leave encashment is concerned;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the relevant rules in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As per Rule 39 of the CCS(Leave) Rules, 1972, a Central Government servant is entitled to cash equivalent of leave salary for both earned leave and half pay leave at his/her credit on the date of retirement, subject to a maximum of 300 days including the period of encashment allowed in the previous employment under the Central Government. In case a Government servant resigns or quits service, the maximum encashment of leave allowed is 150 days.

Policy on promotion of bureaucrats

2030. SHRI DHIRAJ PRASAD SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed a new comprehensive policy on promotion of bureaucrats;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the aims and objectives thereof;

(c) whether Government has also reviewed the performance of Government servants and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the number of officers who have been compulsorily retired due to non performance during each of the last three years and the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Review of performance of Government employees is a continuous process and the Central Government has since long been reviewing officials on grounds of performance and integrity.

(d) As per the information/data uploaded by the different Ministries/Departments/Cadre Controlling Authorities (CCAs) on Probity Portal, followed by the rectification requests made by some of them, a Total of 32,305 Group 'A' and 83,205 Group 'B' Officers have been reviewed during the period July, 2014 to October 2019. Of these, the provisions of Rule 56(J) of the Fundamental Rules and similar rules have been invoked against 117 Group 'A' officers, as also against 126 Group 'B' Officers.

**Minimum basic salary of contractual
employees**

2031. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that nearly 10 lakh contractual employees are working in various Departments of Central Government through contractor or direct contract employees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether these contract labours/employees are entitled to get minimum basic salary and dearness allowance as a permanent employee in the same position; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) No such information is centrally maintained.

(c) and (d) Department of Expenditure has informed that contractual employees working in Central Departments/Ministries are not covered under CCS(Pay Rules). However, Ministry of Labour and Employment has informed that under Rule 25(2)(v)(a) of Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Rules, 1971, in cases where the workman employed by the contractor perform the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment, the wage rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service of the workmen of the contractor shall be the same as applicable to the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment on the same or similar kind of work.

Pending cases of RTI violations

2032. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of RTI Act violations pending at the State Information Commission and Central Information Commission till September, 2019;
- (b) the number of cases that resulted in imposition of penalties on the Public Information Officers (PIOs) for violating the law in the financial year 2017-18;
- (c) the current status of recruitment of the vacant posts of four Chief Information Commissioners and by when they will be filled; and

(d) whether the Ministry is planning to implement stricter punishment for violating the RTI law by the PIOs and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Data is not maintained in respect of State Information Commissions. As far as Central Information Commission is concerned, 32,696 appeals were pending as on 30.09.2019.

(b) Penalties were imposed on the Public Information Officers (PIOs) in 156 cases during the financial year 2017-18.

(c) Applications for appointment to the post of four Information Commissioners in the Central Information Commission were called for *vide* advertisement dated 04.01.2019 and a Total no. of 256 applications were received by the last date of receipt of application. The process of selection of Information Commissioners involves following subsequent steps:-

- (i) Tabulation of particulars of applicants and to sent to the Search Committee (constituted by Hon'ble PM) chaired by Cabinet Secretary.
- (ii) Shortlisted names by the Search Committee *inter-alia* particulars of other applicants are sent to the Committee constituted under Section 12(3) headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister.
- (iii) Persons recommended by the Committee under Section 12(3) are appointed by the Hon'ble President.
- (d) No such proposal is under consideration, at present.

Pending sanction requests of CVC

2033. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several requests of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) seeking permission to prosecute various officials involved in various corruption cases is pending;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of number of such requests pending with Government at various administrative authorities and tenure of pendency of each such request?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRASINGH): (a) to (c) As per extant provision of law, the investigating agency has to seek sanction for prosecution. Hence the question of requests of Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) pending for seeking permission to prosecute various officials involved in various corruption cases does not arise.

Funds allocated by Planning Commission/NITI Aayog

2034. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total amount of funding provided by Planning Commission to the various States in the country over the past ten years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (b) the Total amount of funding provided by NITI Aayog to the various States in the country over the past ten years, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) number of research and publications produced by Planning Commission since its inception till it was revamped with names of the research and publications undertaken; and
- (d) the number of research and publications produced by NITI Aayog since its inception till date with names of the research and publications undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRIRAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The erstwhile Planning Commission was involved in the exercise of State-wise allocation of Plan funds through Central Assistance to State and UT Plan (CASP) during the finalization of Annual Plans of States. A table showing year-wise, State-wise funds allocated under CASP during 2009-10 to 2014-15 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) With effect from 1st January, 2015 Planning Commission has been replaced by NITI Aayog and allocation of Central Assistance to State and UT Plans (CASP) is not a mandate of NITI Aayog. Thus, no funds are being provided by NITI Aayog to States at present.

(c) The list of studies commissioned by erstwhile Planning Commission during the period 2000-2014 is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) List of studies commissioned by NITI Aayog since its inception in January, 2015 is given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I*Central Assistance to State Plan (CASP) - Allocation*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	States	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15*
1	Andhra Pradesh	5433.55	5851.36	5825.33	5892.38	5270.11	13107.7
2	Arunachal Pradesh	2168.96	2255.6	2451.05	3311.24	3177.15	4674.09
3	Assam	4445.37	4726.72	6289	7861.07	8873.05	17718.83
4	Bihar	4951.96	6012.98	7119.33	7173.59	8618.3	24850.01
5	Chhattisgarh	1878.94	2302.3	2352.5	2694.36	2632.91	9994.83
6	Goa	149.94	441.06	277.97	391.05	300.45	337.94
7	Gujarat	2907.14	2985.64	4471.01	4410.12	3978.79	10222.95
8	Haryana	839.03	913.12	1042.25	1029.29	1135.81	4492.75
9	Himachal Pradesh	2021.21	2588.35	3029.59	3858.72	3815.43	6267.6
10	Jammu and Kashmir	7595.65	7680.92	8992.96	10497.95	10396.68	16618.72
11	Jharkhand	1641.43	1775.63	3481.25	3973.73	3201.67	8719.28
12	Karnataka	2867.36	2798.7	3405.18	3413	3600.36	13295.08
13	Kerala	1590.93	1284.71	1480.36	1665.75	1742.37	7404.848
14	Madhya Pradesh	4244.84	5219.38	5258.52	6091.07	6325.77	20644.29
15	Maharashtra	6528.66	7392.46	7497.42	7799.63	7013.99	17677.63
16	Manipur	1899.12	1991.07	2187.57	3433.57	3745.36	4909.34
17	Meghalaya	1540.14	1475.8	1873.63	2698.45	2912.25	4039.83
18	Mizoram	1376.45	1391.6	1624.24	2246.68	2513.85	3520.28
19	Nagaland	1330.94	1849.15	2070.32	2689	2904.7	4313.18
20	Odisha	3295.41	3643.32	4195.45	4805.34	4467.58	13033.2
21	Punjab	967.94	1534.58	1499.67	1944.56	1883.86	4787.59

Sl. No.	States	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15*
22	Rajasthan	2448.66	2984.12	3078.27	3476.95	3591.36	18785.3
23	Sikkim	1109.96	953.07	1254.06	1614.01	1790.51	2604.06
24	Tamil Nadu	2814.03	2742.87	2829.5	3473.48	3165.46	13633.12
25	Tripura	1431.18	1876.01	2500.74	2919.06	3106.91	5741.33
26	Uttar Pradesh	5892.11	6874.2	7701.51	12254.5	11335.9	29812.16
27	Uttarakhand	3417.74	3388.3	3698.82	4825.61	5385	7812.61
28	West Bengal	3634.36	4070.47	4563.23	7298.33	6759.41	25434.66

Source: Scheme of Financing for Finalization of Annual Plan of States, Planning Commission

*: From Financial Year 2014-15, Central Assistance to State Plan (CASP) was restructured to include Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS).

Statement-II

List of Research Studies that have been sanctioned by the Planning Commission from 2000 to 2014 to various Consultants, NGOs, Educational and Research Organisations

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
1.	Assessment of Impact of Poverty Alleviation Programmes on Beneficiaries in a few selected villages of Jharkhand	Xavier Institute of Social Service, Ranchi
2.	Evaluation of Development Programmes in Barmer, Rajasthan	Advantage India, New Delhi
3.	A Study of Selected Panchayats in Raipur and Bilaspur Districts (M.P.)	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi
4.	Monitoring of Social Inputs in Ganjam and Nuapada Districts of Odisha (Sectoral Overview)	Centre for Development Studies and Activities, Pune
5.	Monitoring of Social Inputs in Ganjam and Nuapada Districts of Odisha (Ten Villages Studies)	Centre for Development Studies and Activities, Pune

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
6.	Study on Assessment of Poverty Alleviation Schemes in Maharashtra	Policy and Development Initiatives (PDI)
7.	Impact Assessment Study of Socio-Economic Development Programmes - A Case Study of Himachal Pradesh	Asia Pacific Socio-Economic Research Institute, New Delhi
8.	Poverty Alleviation Programmes and Structural Changes in the Rural Economy	Institute of Small Enterprises and Development ISED Road, Cochin
9.	Panchayati Raj Institutions in India — A Scoping Study for the World Bank (216)	
10.	Evaluation of RD Programmes in Gonda District (215)	
11.	Bihar Education Project (Sitamarhi)	
12.	Bihar Education Project (Muzaffarpur)	
13.	Bihar Education Project (Ranchi)	
14.	Asam Report (MAKTAB)	
15.	Study on Bundelkhand	
16.	Study on Increasing Community Involvement in Reproduction and Child Health Programme	
17.	Macarthur - CINI Macarthur Project	
18.	ISST - Institution of Social Studies Trust Health through Panchayat	
19.	CINI-OMNI Project on Micronutrient Situation in West Bengal	

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
20.	Research Study on Longitudinal Study in Karnataka	Kalpataru Research Foundation, Bangalore
21.	Research Study Proposals on Development Schemes and their Effectiveness in the States of Madhya Pradesh	Separd, New Delhi
22.	Impact of various schemes related to Elementary Education: A Comparative Study of Girls' Literacy in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh	
23.	Research Study on "Status, Impact and Determinants of Farmer Participation in Irrigation Management -Publication of Report".	Institute of Resource Management and Economic Development (IRM and ED)
24.	An Empirical Study of Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Bihar	Mathura Krishna Foundation for Economic and Social Opportunity and Human Resource Management (Maker), Bihar
25.	Impact of Social Sector Development in West Bengal	Institute for Development of Backward Regions, Bhubaneswar
26.	Performance of Social Sector Schemes in Rural Areas of Uttar Pradesh	Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad
27.	Rural Marketing System in the North Eastern States: Problems, Diagnosis and Strategy Perspective	Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad
28.	Mazdoorvani	Bandhua Mukti Morcha, New Delhi
29.	Financial Fragility, Asset Bubbles, Capital Structure and Real Rate of Growth - A Study of The Indian Economy	Indian Institute of Social Welfare & Business Management, Kolkata

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
30.	An Evaluation of Vocational Education Scheme of UGC	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi
31.	Voluntarism and Government Policy, Programme and Assistance	Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), New Delhi
32.	Public Distribution System of Essential Commodities as a Social Safety Net-A Study of the District of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh	Govind Ballabh Pant Social Science Institute Jhusi, Allahabad
33.	Educational Development Parameters and The Preparation of Educational Development Index	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi
34.	An Analysis of The Price Behaviour of Selected Commodities	National Council of Applied Economic Research, New Delhi
35.	Support from the Banking System-A Case Study of Kisan Credit Card	
36.	Financing Infrastructure Development- A Holistic Approach with Special Reference to the Power Sector Supplement to earlier report on India's Stock Market Reform and Regulation	Society for Capital Market Research & Development, Delhi
37.	Growth and Prospects of the Handloom Industry (2001-2002)	Seemanthini Niranjana Soumya Vinayan, Dastkar Andhra Pradesh
38.	Seemanthini Niranjana Soumya Vinayan For Dastkar Andhra	Kalpataru Research Foundation
39.	Study Report on Building External Market Linkages for Entrepreneurs in the N.E.	All India Shippers Council, New Delhi
40.	Study Report on Creating Corporate Success in the N.E.	All India Shippers Council, New Delhi
41.	A Study On Management of Public Expenditure by State Governments in India	The Indian Institute of Economics, Hyderabad

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
42.	Assessment of Watershed Development Programme in Gujarat	Policy and Development Initiatives
43.	A Handbook for Parents of Children with Disabilities	
44.	Study on Growth of Rural Non-Farm Employment for Selected Districts of Haryana	Centre for Research, Planning and Action, New Delhi
45.	Study Report on Border Area Development Programme (BADP)	
46.	A Handbook on Schemes for Children with Disabilities: Role of The Panchayati Raj Institutions	Ms Renu Sobti, Senior Research Officer, Education Division, Planning Commission, New Delhi
47.	Research Project on Anti-poverty Programmes in Uttar Pradesh: An Evaluation	Institute of Human Development, New Delhi
48.	An Assessment of Impact of Poverty Reduction Programmes on the Poor in Rajasthan	Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur
49.	Non-Farm Economy and Rural Development	Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow
50.	Impact of Infrastructure created under poverty Alleviation Programme (Maharashtra)	Marathwada Institute for Training Research, Education & Employment (MAITREE), Aurangabad
51.	Mazdoorvani	Bandhua Mukti Morcha, New Delhi
52.	Social Development in India - The Policy Canvas: An Overview of the Last Fifty Years & Emerging Issues for the Twenty-First Century	Council for Social Development, New Delhi
53.	Scheduled Communities: A Social Development Profile of SCs/STs (Bihar, Jharkhand & W.B.)	

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
54.	“In Search of a Strategy to Build a Field Model to Ensure People’s Participation for Sustainable Development - Case Study of Didayi: A Primitive Tribal Group of Malkangiri District of Odisha	Council of Analytical Tribal Studies (COATS), Koraput, Odisha
55.	Rural Development Programmes and Externalities: A Study of Seven Villages in Tamil Nadu (Volume: III)	Department of Economics, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
56.	Rural Development Programmes and Externalities: A Study of Seven Villages in Tamil Nadu (Volume: II)	Department of Economics, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
57.	Rural Development Programmes and Externalities: A Study of Seven Villages in Tamil Nadu (Volume: I)	Department of Economics, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu
58.	A Status and Evaluation Study-The Upper Primary Section, The Elementary Education System	Indian Institute of Education, Pune
59.	Poverty Alleviation Programmes in Andhra Pradesh -An Assessment	Centre For Economic and Social Studies, Begumpet, Hyderabad
60.	Impact of National Coaching Scheme of Sports Authority of India: A Study on Sports Promotion in the Eastern Region	Institute for Development of Backward Regions, Bhubaneswar
61.	How Far Can Poverty Allevation Programmes Go?- Assessment of PAPs in Gujarat	Centre for Development Alternatives (CFDA), Ahmedabad
62.	A Study of Unemployment among Female Graduates in Pune City	Indian Institute of Education, Pune
63.	The Compliance Cost of the Personal Income Tax and its Determinants	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
64.	Evaluation/Management Audit of Central Schemes of NYKS (Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan) in Assam, Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal and Manipur	Vision Foundation for Development Management, New Delhi
65.	The Income Tax Compliance Cost of Indian Corporations	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi
66.	India's External Trade during the 'Nineties: Some Aspects An Analysis of Customs House and Company Data	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi
67.	Extent of Unemployment in the Border Districts of Punjab: A Case Study of Rural Ferozepur District	Department of Economics and Centre for Research in Economic Change, Punjabi University, Patiala
68.	Budgetary Subsidies in India Subsidising Social and Economic Services	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi
69.	The Personal Income Tax in India: Compliance Costs and Compliance Behaviour of Taxpayers	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi
70.	Report on Village Level Evaluation Study	Santek Consultants Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
71.	Economic and Environmental Impact of Policy on Transportation Subsidy to Wood-Based Industries in Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Ecological Economics Unit, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
72.	Pilot Study on Water Use Efficiency for Western Yamuna Canal (Haryana)	Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi
73.	Pilot Study on Water Use Efficiency for Upper Ganga Canal (Uttar Pradesh)	Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited, New Delhi
74.	Extent of Unemployment in the Border Districts of Punjab: A Study of Amritsar District	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
75.	A Study Report on Evaluation of Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan Scheme in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu	Tirpude College of Social Work, Sadar, Nagpur
76.	Economic and Fiscal Impact of Royalty Rates of Coal and Lignite in India	Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore
77.	Development Interventions in Bihar and Preparation of Model Development Plan for Villages	Lai Bahadur Shastri Institute of Rural Management and Rural Development, Patna
78.	Research Projects on India- 2025	Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi
79.	Report on Comparative Backwardness of North Bengal Region	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, New Delhi
80.	Evaluation Study of RLTP in the KBK Region in Odisha	Institute of Applied Manpower Research, Narela, New Delhi
81.	The Restructuring of the Unorganised Sector in India	Institute for Human Development, New Delhi
82.	Studies on Socio-economics of Coral Reef Resource Users in The Gulf of Mannar Coast, South India	Centre for Marine and Coastal Studies, School of Energy, Environment and Natural Resources, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
83.	Estimation Loss of Horticulture Produce due to non-availability of Post Harvest & Food Processing Facilities in Bihar & U.P.	ASET, New Delhi
84.	Research Study on Seeds of Hope	Lokayan
85.	Evaluation of varied approaches for enabling sustainable and equitable access to drinking water in Uttarakhand	Development Centre for alternative policies, 62, Babar Road, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
86.	Poverty Planning and Development (A Case Study of Uttarakhand State)	Central Himalayan Institute, Dehradun
87.	Pattern of Development in India - A Study of Andhra Pradesh	
88.	Socio Economic Barriers in Adoption of Improved Technology in the SSI Sector	Society for Economic and Social Transition, New Delhi
89.	Priorities of the Poor and Appropriateness of Poverty Alleviation Programmes: A Study of Mahabubnagar and Prakasam Districts in Andhra Pradesh	Development Management Network, Pune and Hyderabad
90.	Tail-enders and Other Deprived in the Canal Water Distribution	Development Support Centre, Ahmedabad
91.	New Development Platforms through information communication technologies for poverty reduction	Centre for Technology Management, Hyderabad
92.	Research Study on "The Impact and Prospects of the Community College System in India"	Madras Centre for Research and Development of Community Education (MCRDCE), Chennai
93.	Report on functioning of 'Rural Postal System' including 'Panchayat Sanchar Seva Yojana'	AMC Research Group, New Delhi
94.	Evaluation of National Coaching Scheme of Sports Authority of India: A Study on Sports Promotion in the Southern Region	Institute for Development Research and Alternatives Sarvodaya Women Welfare Society, Tirupati
95.	Water Policy for Drought Proofing, Chhattisgarh	Institute for Human Development, New Delhi
96.	Report on Impact of the Tribal Sub-Plan Implementation in Improving the Socio-Economic Condition of the Tribal People with	Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
	Special Focus on Reduction of Poverty Level covering the States of Assam and Tamil Nadu	
97.	Evaluation Study on the Pattern of Flow and Utilisation of Funds by the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council in Assam	National Institute of Rural Development, North Eastern Regional Centre, Guwahati
98.	Not as Poor, Nor as Unequal, As you Think - Poverty, Inequality and Growth in India, 1950-2000	Oxus Research & Investments, New Delhi
99.	Structural-Political Approach and Methodology of Study	
100.	A Study on Nature, Incidence, Extent and Impact of Domestic Violence against Women in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra	Yugantar Education Society, Nagpur
101.	A Study of Homeless Populations in Delhi, Chennai, Patna and Madurai	
102.	Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Tamil Nadu: An Evaluation Study	Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati
103.	A Report on the Success and Failure of SHG's in India - Impediments and Paradigm of Success	Voluntary Operation in Community & Environment, New Delhi
104.	A Research Study on "Impact of Rural Housing Programmes on People Settled in Rural Uttarakhand: A Study	G. B. Pant Social Science Institute Allahabad
105.	A Study on Kudumbashree Project: A Poverty Eradication Programme in Kerala Performance, Impact and Lessons for other States	Kerala Development Society (KDS-Delhi)

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
106.	Research Study on: "Mechanism for Sustainable Development & Promotion of Herbal & Medicinal Plants in the State of Uttarakhand"	Natural Resources India Foundation (NRIF), New Delhi
107.	Economics of Bamboo Boring: A Study of the North-East Region of Bihar	Planning Commission (SER Division) Government of India
108.	Land Alienation and Indebtedness among Tribals in TN, Kerala and Karnataka	Khadir Mohideen College, Adirampattinam
109.	Evaluation of Socio- Economic Development in Small Areas	Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, Pusa, New Delhi
110.	Children of Women Prisoners in Jails: A Study in Uttar Pradesh	Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant Institute of Studies in Rural Development, Lucknow
111.	The Impact of Minor Irrigation Projects on Economic Development in Selected Six Tribal Majority Districts of Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal	Gramin Vikas Sewa Sanstha, West Bengal
112.	A Research Study on Migrant Tribal Women Girls in Ten Cities: A Study of Their Socio-Cultural and Economic Reference to Social Intervention	Tirpude College of Social Work, Civil Lines, Sadar, Nagpur
113.	Benchmark Survey for Impact Assessment of Participatory Watershed Development Projects in India	Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad
114.	Sharing Best Practices in Rural Development Case Studies of few success stories in Rajasthan and U.P.	Research and Development Initiatives, New Delhi
115.	Study Report of Finances of State Governments in India: Volume I and II	
116.	A Study on the Effectiveness of Public Distribution System in Rural Tamil Nadu	TBML Collage, Porayar, Tamil Nadu

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
117.	A Review of Charities Administration in India	Sampradaan Indian Centre for Philanthropy, New Delhi
118.	Changing Pattern of Household Consumption Expenditure	
119.	Micro Finance and Empowerment of Scheduled Caste Women: An Impact Study of SHGs in Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand	BL Centre for Development Research and Action, Lucknow
120.	Manpower Utilisation of Voluntary Retirement Services Optees for Rural Coastal in Karnataka	Bharathiya Vikas Trust 'Ananth', Perampalli, Shivalli, Udupi
121.	Flow of Funds and Monitoring Arrangements under Selected Centrally Sponsored and Earmarked State Plan Schemes	National Institute of Administrative Research, Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie
122.	Research Project on Collection, Collation and Dissemination of Quality Statics at Local Level	Society of Socio Economic Studies & Services (SSESS), Kolkata
123.	Rural Housing and Living Condition of People Settled in Rural U.P.: A Study	G. B. Pant Social Science Institute, Allahabad
124.	A Study on Inter Regional Economic Inequalities in Rajasthan	Social Policy Research Institute, Jaipur
125.	Economic Reforms and Regional Disparities in Economic and Social Development in India	Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi
126.	A Study on Continuing Education Programme: An Impact Study	Centre for Media Studies (CMS), New Delhi
127.	Knowledge Portal on Andhra Pradesh Health and Population	Information Technology Area Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
128.	Report on Status of Women's Act in Empowering Women in Thanjavur District Tamil Nadu	Periyar Maniammai College of Technology, Thanjavur
129.	Development Policies and Rural Poverty in Odisha: Macro Analysis and Case Studies	Vasundhara, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
130.	Social Audit on Gram Sabha and Panchayati Raj (Assessment of present status and recommendation of methods for making Social Audit, a viable instrument for sustainable programme delivery)	VISION Foundation for Development Management
131.	Eighth Memorial Lecture of Prof D.T. Lakadawala delivered by late Shri I.G. Patel	
132.	Mobilisation and Management of Financial Resources by Panchayati Raj Institutions - A Study of Haryana State	Haryana Institute of Rural Development, Nilokheri-Haryana
133.	Employment Generation in Post Globalisation Era in Greater Mumbai	Efi - Solar Foundation Mumbai
134.	Status Study of Tribal Handicraft- An Option for Livelihood of Tribal Community in the States of Arunachal Pradesh Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Chhattisgarh	Socio-Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), New Delhi
135.	Social Accounting Matrix for India 2003-04	India Development Foundation
136.	A Study of The Extent and Causes of Drop-outs in Primary Schools in Rural Maharashtra with Special Reference To Girl Drop-outs	Indian Institute of Education, Pune
137.	Impact Study on Development of Agriculture and Allied Activities in Madhya Pradesh through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (Agriculture Science Centres)	Centre for Rural Development and Environment, Bhopal
138.	Implementing CSR and HIV/AIDS programmes in the supply chain	The Energy and Resources Institute, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
139.	Research Study on “Role of PRIs in Execution and Implementation of Plan Projects in UTs without Legislature” - forwarding of Report	
140.	India and China in WTO Building Complementarities and Competitiveness in the External Trade Sector	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi
141.	Empowerment of Elected SC Members through PRIs in Bihar	Sulabh Institute of Development Studies, New Patliputra Colony, Patna
142.	Strengthening the Capacity of Elected Women in Preparation of Village Level Planning in Women Led Panchayats	Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore
143.	Socio-Economic Conditions of Adolescent Girls: A Case Study of Backward District of Poverty Dominated States	Mathura Krishna Foundation for Economic and Social Opportunity and Human Resource Development (Maker), Bihar
144.	Mobilizing Resources through Reform of State Non-tax Sources for Plan Development	Foundation for Public Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi
145.	Psycho Socio Impact of Terrorists Insurgence Activities on Women and Children in the State of Assam and Insurgency as represented by ULFA & BODO in the State of Assam	S.P. Memorial Shiksha Niketan Samiti, Delhi
146.	A Research Study on Entrepreneurial Challenges for SC Persons in India	Bhartiya Shishu Evom Mahila Vividh Vikash Samiti, New Delhi
147.	Functioning and Performance of Swashakti and Swayamsiddha Projects in India	Solidarity of the Nation Society, Gonda (U.P)
148.	Career Perception of SC/ST Students In Institutions of Higher Learning	Centre For Research, Planning and Action, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
149.	Evaluation of the Scheme of Setting up Educational Complexes in Low Literacy Pockets for the Development of Women's Literacy	SANKALP (An All-India Organisation for Integrated Participatory Development), New Delhi
150.	Making JFM Work towards Forest Conservation in Odisha: Some Conceptual, Institutional and Participatory Issues	Nabakrushna Choudhury Centre for Development Studies, Odisha, Bhubaneswar
151.	Comparative study of SGSY and NABARD Supported SHGs Initiatives in Northern India"	ASEED
152.	Mid-term Evaluation of the Composition and Working of Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana in 24 Parganas South District (West Bengal)	Loka Kalyan Parishad, Kolkata
153.	The Socio-Economic Causes and Determinants behind Infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality.	The Indian Trust for Innovation and Social Change, New Delhi
154.	Evaluation Study of Rehabilitation and Reconstruction Process in Post Super Cyclone, Odisha	Gramin Vikas Sewa Sanstha, West Bengal
155.	Evaluation of SGSY in Selected Blocks of Madhya Pradesh	EKATRA, New Delhi
156.	Multiple Impacts of Droughts and Assessment of Drought Policy in Major Drought Prone States in India	Centre for Development Alternatives, Ahmedabad
157.	Research Study on Livelihood Options Assets Creation out of Special Component Plan (SCP) and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) Schemes and its Impact among SCs and STs in India	Socio Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), New Delhi
158.	A Study of Food Related Nutritional Deficiency in KBK Districts of Odisha	Agricultural and Rural Development Consultancy

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
		Society (ARDCOS), Bhubaneswar
159.	Comparative Study of Regulatory Framework in Infrastructure Sector: Lessons for India.	CUTS International, Jaipur
160.	Hungry People and Empty Hands: Need for Vigorous Implementation of N.P.P.-2000 in Bihar: An Empirical Study	Bra Bihar University Muzaffarpur, Bihar
161.	Intellectual Property Rights and The Impact of Trips Agreement With Reference To Indian Patent Law	Alagappa University, Karaikudi
162.	Chronic Poverty in Remote Rural Areas: Evidence from Central Tribal Belt of India	Madhya Pradesh Institute of Social Science Research, Ujjain
163.	Participatory Irrigation Management in Andhra Pradesh: A Quick Review of 7 years of experience	Development Support Centre, Bopal, Ahmedabad
164.	Study on the Impacts of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Schedule Areas) Act, 1996 towards Tribal Development”, which is being implemented in Mandla and Dindori Districts of Madhya Pradesh	SRIDA, Madhya Pradesh
165.	Transformation of Rural Economy during Last Decade and Its Impact on Rural Women in Un-organised Sector	Marathwada Institute for Training research, Education and Employment (Maitree), Aurangabad
166.	Impact of Scheme of Training and Rehabilitation on Socio Economic Improvement of Scavengers in Rajasthan	Institute of Social Development, Udaipur
167.	A Report on Evaluation of Post Matric Scholarships (PMS) Scheme and Its Impact on the Scheduled Caste Students in the States	P R Memorial Foundation, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
	of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal	
168.	Growth of Indian Agriculture: A District Level Study	Department of Economics, Panjab University, Chandigarh
169.	Empowerment of Women through Participation in Panchayati Raj Institutions: Some Structural Impediments and a Training Strategy	Institute of Social Development, Udaipur
170.	Extension of MSP: Fiscal and Welfare Implications	IRADe
171.	Research Project on District Planning: Status and Way Forward	
172.	Child Friendly Panchayat - A Study of Child Development Indicators in Rural Panchayats of Tamil Nadu	Shanti Ashram Planning Commission Kovaipudur, Coimbatore
173.	Research Project on Socio- Economic Disability and Unemployment Problems among Muslims of Other Backward Classes	Global Environment and Welfare Society, New Delhi
174.	A Research Study on "Economics of Fish Farming in Flood Prone Areas of Bihar with Special reference to Koshi River System	Chankya Education Trust, Bhagalpur
175.	Evaluation/impact assessment of "rural sports programme"	Centre For Market Research and Social Development, New Delhi
176.	State of Mental Health in Delhi, 2008	
177.	Promotion of Diversity of India's Cultural Expressions - An Impact Assessment Study of Central Sangeet Natak Akademi (SNA)	SANKALP, New Delhi
178.	Project Report on a Study of the Problems of Sick Small Scale Industries In Uttar Pradesh and Suggested Strategies for Their Revival	Institute of Development Studies, University of Lucknow, Lucknow

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
179.	Employment of Persons with Disabilities in Public Sectors in India Emerging Issues and Trends— An Evaluation Study with Special Reference to Persons with Disabilities Act (1995)	Society for Disability and Rehabilitation Studies, New Delhi
180.	Revised Report Status of Youth Artisan in Bihar: Assessment of Potential of Artisans Sector for Generating Large Scale Self Employment in Bihar	Bihar Institute of Economic Studies, Patna
181.	Study of Present Status and Utilization of Land Allotted to the Sc Families and Its Impact in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal	Haryali Centre for Rural Development, New Delhi
182.	Extent of Decentralization of Local Planning and Finances in West Bengal	Gramin Vikas Sewa Sanstha, West Bengal
183.	A Study of Out of Pocket Household Expenditure on Drugs and Medical Services An Exploratory Analysis of UP, Rajasthan and Delhi	Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi
184.	Impact Assessment of Externally Aided Project Interventions on Livelihood of the Poor and Marginalized In KBK Districts of Odisha	Centre For Rural Development, Bhubaneswar
185.	Action Research-cum - Study: Evolving Methodology for Participatory Micro-level Planning	Institute of Social Sciences, New Delhi
186.	Impact of Bottom up Planning under PRIs and Women Participation therein in the States of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Jharkhand and Maharashtra	Society of Tribal Women for Development (STWFD), New Delhi
187.	Final Report on Project Growth of Indian Agriculture: A District Level Study	Centre for the Study of Regional Development Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
188.	A Report on Bonded Labour Rehabilitation Scheme under Centrally Sponsored Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976 in the State of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh	Socio Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), New Delhi
189.	Local Budgeting and People's Planning: A Study of PRIs in Rajasthan and Kerala	Centre for Budget and Governance Accountability, New Delhi
190.	Research Study on Changing Socio-Economic Condition and Livelihood of Geographically Isolated Tribal Community in Kandhamal and KBK Districts of Odisha	Amity School of Natural Resources and Sustainable Development, Amity University, Uttar Pradesh
191.	Research Studies At A Glance Sponsored under The SER Scheme of the Planning Commission	
192.	Impact of the Growth of Organised Food Retailing and Its Impact on Traditional Retailers in Bangalore City	St. Joseph's College of Commerce, Bangalore
193.	Research Studies Maternal Mortality in Odisha: An Epidemiological Study	My-Heart, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
194.	Research Studies on "Assessment of Evaluation of Scope of Upgradation of Select ITIs through PPP in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu	Maharashtra Economic Development Council, Mumbai
195.	SME Cluster in India Identifying Areas of Intervention for Inclusive Growth	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi
196.	Constraints and Potentials of Diversified Agricultural Development in Eastern India	Council for Social Development (CSD) Sangha, Lodi Estate, New Delhi
197.	Economic Participation Anticipation of Women in Bihar: A Status Report	Equity Foundation (A Forum For Women & Child), Bihar

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
198.	A Report on Status of Panchayat Extension to Scheduled Areas (PESA) Act, 1996 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Chhattisgarh	P R Memorial Foundation, New Delhi
199.	Final Report on “Poverty, Hunger and Public Action”: An Empirical Study of on-going Decentralisation Initiatives in West Bengal	Loka Kalyan Parishad, Kolkata
200.	A Critical Assessment of the Existing Health Insurance Models in India	Public Health Foundation of India
201.	Performance of Agriculture in River Basins of Tamil Nadu in the last three Decades - A Total Factor Productivity Approach	Centre for Agricultural and Rural Development Studies Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore
202.	Supply Determinants of Timber Trade of India	
203.	Poverty Mapping using Clustering	Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
204.	Comparative study analyzing the Issue of Female Foeticide in Two Districts of Madhya Pradesh having Highest and Lowest Girl Child Sex Ratio with Reference to PC PNDT Act, 1994 and with 2002 Amendment	Society for Research Integration and Development Action, Madhya Pradesh
205.	The Non-Governmental Development Sector in India: Structure, Linkages and Opportunities	Institute of Small Enterprises and Development, Cochin
206.	The Non-Governmental Development Sector in India: Structure, Linkages and Opportunities	
207.	Study Report on a Study of Effectiveness of Social Welfare Programmes on Senior Citizen in Rural Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh	Sonali Public Shiksha Samiti, Punjabi Mohalla, Gurudwara Road

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
208.	Improving Effectiveness and Utilisation of Funds for Selected Schemes through Suitable Changes in Timing and Pattern of Releases by the Centre	National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, New Delhi
209.	Sustainable Development Emerging Issues in India's Mineral Sector	Institute for Studies in Industrial Development, New Delhi
210.	Successful Models of Implementation of Environmental Policies and Programmes in States	Prestels, Mumbai
211.	Recommendations for Handloom Sector Policy and Schemes	Craft Revival Trust, New Delhi
212.	The Emerging Scenario of Agribusiness in India A Sociological Study Volume-I	Department of Sociology Presidency University, Kolkata
213.	A Study on Impact Evaluation of Package of Special Category States (Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir)	Stellar Society (Trivenee School of Excellence Research Institute), H.P.
214.	Final Report Evaluation Study of Tribal/Folk Arts and Culture in West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgrah and Bihar	Gramin Vikas Seva Sanshtha, West Bengal
215.	Agro-Processing Industry in Uttar Pradesh Emerging Structure and Development Potentials	Giri Institute of Development Studies, Lucknow
216.	A Study on Effectiveness of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Health Care System in the State of Kerala	Kerala Development Society (KDS-Delhi), New Delhi
217.	Report Performance of Rajiv Gandhi National Creche Scheme for Children of Working Mothers	Supath Gramyodyog Sansthan Himmat Nagar, Gujarat
218.	Research Study Report Impact of Skill Development Programmes of Jan Shikshan Sansthans on the Neo-Literates in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Kerala	Noble Social and Educational Society, Tirupati

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
219.	Study Report on the Crimes and Atrocities against SCs and STs with Special Reference to Implementation of the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Atrocities Act, 1989 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh	Socio Economic and Educational Development Society (SEEDS), New Delhi

Statement-III

List of Research Studies that have been sanctioned by the NITI Aayog from 2015 to 2019 (25th November) to various Consultants, NGOs, Educational and Research Organisations

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
2015-16		
1.	Development of Energy Information Portal for India	Initiatives in Health, Energy, Learning and Parenthood, PRAYAS, Pune
2.	Assessment of Water Foot Prints of India's Long-term Energy Scenarios	The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), New Delhi
3.	Status of Women in Science among Select Institution in India: Policy Implications	Society for Socio- Economic Studies and Services, Kolkata
2016-17		
4.	State Finance on Kerala	Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kozhikode
5.	State Finance of West Bengal	Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kolkata
6.	Reassessment of National Parameters for Project Appraisal in India	Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
7.	Fiscal Scenario in Punjab: Past Trends, Future Prospectus and Challenges	Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), New Delhi
8.	Impact of Public Transport on Pollution Emissions	Centre for Study of Science, Technology & Policy (C-STEP), Bangalore
9.	Impact of Power Sector Growth on Water Resources	Centre for Study of Science, Technology & Policy (C-STEP), Bangalore
10.	Energy, Food and Water Nexus-Analysis in a Macro-economic Consistency Framework	Integrated Research & Action for Development (IRADe), New Delhi
11.	Energy-water Nexus & efficient water cooling Technologies for Thermal Power Plants in India: An Analysis within an Integrated Assessment Modelling Framework	Council on Energy, Environment & Water (CEEW), New Delhi
12.	Integrated Modelling Study of Energy-Water-Food Nexus in India	The Energy Resource Institute (TERI), New Delhi
13.	Catalysing Action for District Development Planning by Consolidating Local Priorities-Strengthening Decentralized District Development Planning	Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), New Delhi
14.	Mega Regional Trading Agreements	Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi
2017-18		
15.	Judicial Case Studies in India	Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, New Delhi
16.	Judicial Reforms and Education	Daksh, Bangalore
17.	Highlighting key Economic Impacts of Select Decisions of the Supreme Court of India	CUTS International, Jaipur

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
18.	Diagnostic Study for Power Distribution Sector	CRISIL Risk and Infrastructure Solutions Limited, Mumbai
19.	Development of Enhanced Energy Data Portal for India	Initiatives in Health, Energy, Learning and Parenthood, PRAYAS, PUNE
20.	Design and Implementation Issues of Specific Purpose Grants Given by the Union to State Governments	National Institute of Public Finance & Policy (NIPFP), New Delhi
21.	Development of Conceptual Framework to Rationalize trains using Operational Research Tools	Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay
22.	Policy Paper on Capital Market Predation in the Internet commerce Sector	Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad
23.	District Hospital Ranking-Tracking the performance of District Hospitals	Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), New Delhi
24.	Impact of Special Package for Drought Mitigation Implemented in Bundelkhand Region of U.P. and M.P. States during the Period of 12th Five Year Plan	The Energy Resource Institute (TERI), New Delhi
25.	Efficiency of Micro-Irrigation in Economising Water use in India -Learning from Potential and Under-explored States	National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NIAP-ICAR), New Delhi
2018-19 (up to 25th November 2019)		
26.	Impact of NHM in Health Outcomes	PGIMER, Chandigarh
27.	Impact of NHM on Health Systems, Governance and Human Resources	IIPH, Gandhinagar

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation ³
28.	Impact of NHM on Health Care Spending and Finances	NIPFP, New Delhi
29.	Kaizen Assessment and Pilot at NITI Aayog	Kaizen Institute (SAIN) LLP
30.	Rapid Assessment of Swasth Nagrik Abhiyan (SNA) of erstwhile IEC Programme.	Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi
31.	Composite Water Management Index -Round II	Dalberg Development Advisors Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi
32.	Health Surveys and Research Studies -MIS Component of the Umbrella Scheme for Family Welfare and Other Health Interventions	ICRIER, New Delhi
33.	Preparation of Policy Interventions for Giga Scal Battery Manufacturing Units	Pricewaterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
34.	Identifying Non-Core Assets for Monetization	Pricewaterhouse Coopers Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon
35.	Detailed Analysis of OVL Overseas Investments in Oil and Gas Assets	Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Petroleum University (PDPU), Ahmedabad
36.	Policy Interest Rates, Market Rates, Inflation and Economic Growth	EGROW Foundation
37.	Engagement of NIPFP for helping NITI with Strategic Disinvestment of CPSES.	National Institute of Public Finance & Policy, New Delhi
38.	Design and Delivery of Capacity Building Programme for Civil Servants to Implement 2030 Agenda	Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad
39.	PPP Framework for NILERD	KPMG Advisory Services (KPMG)

Sl. No.	Research Topic	Name of Organisation
40.	Prediction of GDP	Quantta Analytics Private Limited, Kolkata
41.	Impact Assessment of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme/Amended TUFs	Technopak Advisors Pvt. Ltd., Gurgaon

Estimation of poverty in urban areas

†2035. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the poverty in cities is declining;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the State-wise number of the people living Below Poverty Line in urban areas;
- (c) the details of the schemes being launched for the elimination of urban poverty and generation of employment in the country; and
- (d) other steps taken by Government for effective implementation of the said schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAO Inderjit Singh): (a) to (d) The methodology for estimation of poverty followed by the erstwhile Planning Commission has been based on the recommendations made by experts in the field from time to time. The last data on poverty estimates was issued by erstwhile Planning Commission in 2011-12 following the extant Tendulkar Committee methodology and released through a Press Note issued on 22nd July, 2013. According to this Press Note, in urban areas of the country, the poverty ratio has declined from 25.7 per cent during 2004-05 to 13.7 per cent during 2011-12. The State-wise number of poor in urban areas for 2011-12 are given in the Statement (*See below*). The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission, since FY 2014-15 in statutory towns of the country to reduce poverty and vulnerability of urban poor households by enabling them to access gainful self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities. The Mission also aims to build strong grass root level institutions of the urban poor, provide shelters equipped with

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

essential services to the urban homeless and address livelihoods concerns of the urban street vendors.

Statement

Number of Population Below Poverty Line by States - 2011-12

(Tendulkar Methodology)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	No. of Persons in Urban areas (lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	16.98
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0.66
3	Assam	9.21
4	Bihar	37.75
5	Chhattisgarh	15.22
6	Delhi	16.46
7	Goa	0.38
8	Gujarat	26.88
9	Haryana	9.41
10	Himachal Pradesh	0.30
11	Jammu and Kashmir	2.53
12	Jharkhand	20.24
13	Karnataka	36.96
14	Kerala	8.46
15	Madhya Pradesh	43.10
16	Maharashtra	47.36
17	Manipur	2.78
18	Meghalaya	0.57
19	Mizoram	0.37
20	Nagaland	1.00
21	Odisha	12.39

1	2	3
22	Punjab	9.82
23	Rajasthan	18.73
24	Sikkim	0.06
25	Tamil Nadu	23.40
26	Tripura	0.75
27	Uttarakhand	3.35
28	Uttar Pradesh	118.84
29	West Bengal	43.83
30	Puducherry	0.55
31	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.00
32	Chandigarh	2.34
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.28
34	Daman and Diu	0.26
35	Lakshadweep	0.02
	ALL INDIA	531.25

Notes:

1. Population as on 1st March, 2012 has been used for estimating number of persons below poverty line. (2011 Census population extrapolated)
2. Poverty line of Tamil Nadu has been used for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
3. Urban Poverty Line of Punjab has been used for both rural and urban areas of Chandigarh.
4. Poverty Line of Maharashtra has been used for Dadra and Nagar Haveli.
5. Poverty line of Goa has been used for Daman and Diu.
6. Poverty Line of Kerala has been used for Lakshadweep.

Estimated growth rate in the country

2036. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of economic, industrial and agricultural growth rates of the country during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;

(b) whether Government has reviewed the estimated growth rate of the country and if so, the results thereof;

(c) the existing growth rate and the targeted growth rate of various sectors of the economy including the agricultural sector; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to achieve the targeted growth rate in various sectors of the economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI RAO Inderjit Singh): (a) and (c) The growth rates of GDP, Agriculture and Manufacturing for the past three years and current year are given in Statement (*See below*). There are no official targets for growth rates.

(b) The Government continuously reviews the GDP numbers. It releases quick estimates, provisional estimates and finally the revised estimates from time to time in any fiscal year.

(d) While there are no official targets for growth rates, the Government takes several steps in various sectors to enhance the growth rate of the economy. Some of the major steps taken by the Government are recapitalization of Public Sector Banks and providing for significant infrastructure expenditure, reduction in Corporate Tax for encouraging manufacturing.

Statement

Growth Rates of GDP, Agriculture and Manufacturing

Year-on-Year Growth (%), at constant prices (2011-12)	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19 (PE)
GDP	7.1	7.2	6.8
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	6.3	5.0	2.9
Manufacturing	7.9	5.9	6.9

Source: MoSPI

Estimated growth rates for the first two quarters for the current year

Year-on-Year Growth (%), at constant prices (2011-12)	Q-1- 2019-20	Q-2- 2019-20
GDP	5.0	4.5
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	7.9	7.4
Manufacturing	2.0	-1.1

Source: MoSPI

India Skills Report, 2019

2037. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards 'India Skills Report-2019', an annual survey conducted by a talent assessment firm and an HR technology company in association with UNDP, Association of Indian Universities (AIU), CII and AICTC, which concluded that the overall employability of Indian graduates stood at around 47 per cent;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto;
- (c) whether Government is considering to upgrade universities to enhance practical skill development of graduate students as per industry demand; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAMESH POKHRIYAL 'NISHANK'): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The key points of the report are as follows:

- Employability reaches a new high of 47% in year 2019.
- There is a 15% increase in hiring against 2018 hiring numbers.
- Technologies companies are expected to pick up on hiring after a gap of 3 years.
- In order to provide the quality education to students and to increase the overall employability of Indian graduates some quality initiatives have been taken by AICTE such as:
 - (i) Preparation of outcome based model curriculum for Diploma, Undergraduate (UG) and Post Graduate (PG) courses in Engineering and PGDM/MBA Courses.

- (ii) Introduction of 3 week induction programme for students to be offered right at the commencement of the 1st year at UG level in Engineering.
- (iii) Setting up of Induction Cell at AICTE to monitor the induction activities and National Level Coordination Committee to coordinate training of Faculty members on 'Student induction Programme'.
- (iv) Exam reforms and formulation of comprehensive teachers' training. 8 modules are proposed for incumbent as well as in service teachers.
- (v) Mandatory internship, Revision of model curriculum, and Industry readiness accreditation.
- (vi) Wheebox Employability Skill Test (WEST) being held for all pre-final and final year graduates of AICTE approved institutions to identify the core strengths of students and certify the same.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Human Resource Development is working along with Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) under National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to undertake Apprenticeship/Internship embedded degree programmes with core focus on development of knowledge, skills, aptitude and on-job training. Some of the sectors like Logistics and Retail have commenced Degree Apprenticeship programmes in 15 institutions. In addition, to enhance practical skill development of graduate students, 3 schemes are being implemented by University Grants Commission (UGC) under National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) which are Community Colleges (since 2013-14), B.Voc. Degree Programme (since 2014-15) and Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Kaushal Kendra (since 2015-16). There are 188 Community Colleges, 289 Institutions offering B.Voc. Degree Programmes and 68 DDU Kaushal Kendras in which 68,663 students are enrolled in various skill programmes. Also, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has introduced the Vocational Degree/Diploma Programmes under NSQF for AICTE approved Institutions. In the year 2019, AICTE has given approval to 473 institutions to run vocational courses with intake of 35,450 students.

Non-implementation of schemes by States

†2038. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of public welfare schemes being run by Government currently;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the number of schemes not being implemented by various States out of the said schemes; and

(c) the number of beneficiaries deprived of the benefits of such Central Government schemes on account of their non-implementation by the States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO Inderjit Singh): (a) to (c) The Government of India has been implementing more than 700 Central Sector (CS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) relating to Infrastructure, Social Sector, Projects etc. for public welfare in various States and UTs. The number of schemes being implemented in States/UTs vary year to year depending upon induction of new schemes(s), merging of schemes, applicability/relevance in States/UTs, etc. The concerned States/UTs are expected to ensure the coverage of all beneficiaries in respective States, as per scheme guidelines.

Launching of Indian Space Station

2039. SHRI NARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken a decision to launch an Indian Space Station;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has set any time-frame for launching an Indian Space Station;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether financial implications of launching an Indian Space Station have been assessed; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) to (f) Space station is viewed as part of the sustained Indian Human Space programme. Government has not yet taken a decision on the launch of an Indian Space Station. However, ISRO has initiated various studies related to newer technologies required for space station.

BRICS remote sensing satellite constellation

2040. SHRI AMAR SHANKAR SABLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in technical discussions to realise a virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites provided by space agencies, as part of the BRICS Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the purpose for which such a network can be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The space agencies of BRICS nations have been negotiating a Framework Agreement to formalize the cooperation on building a 'virtual constellation of remote sensing satellites', made up of satellites contributed by BRICS space agencies. Technical aspects with respect to identifying the satellites and the ground stations for the initial virtual constellation were discussed by the Space Agencies.

(c) The purpose of the proposed virtual constellation is to get access to satellite remote sensing data, which could be used by the individual BRICS nations for various applications including natural resources management and disaster management.

**Setting up dedicated cells in IITs in
collaboration with ISRO**

2041. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO has taken an initiative to involve IITs in high-end space technology by pursuing them to setup dedicated cells;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) which are the major research areas in which ISRO desires development of high-end technology in collaboration with IITs; and

(d) whether ISRO would fund the identified projects or IITs themselves would arrange the resource?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) ISRO has set up 5 Space Technology Cells (STCs) at premier institutions like Indian Institute of Technologies (IITs) - Bombay, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Madras; Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru and Joint Research Programme with Savitribai Phule Pune University (SPPU, Pune) to carry out research activities in the areas of space technology and applications.

(c) ISRO desires development of high end technology in collaboration with IITs in the areas of Space Science, Space Technology and Space Applications.

(d) Yes, Sir. ISRO would fund the identified projects.

Reasons for change of base year of GDP

2042. KUMARI SELJA:

SHRI BINOY VISWAM:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is planning to change the base year for Gross Domestic Product (GDP) calculations on constant prices to 2017-18;

(b) if so, the rationale behind selecting 2017-18 as the appropriate base year;

(c) if not, the details of all the base years being considered, including the rationale for each, thereof; and

(d) the present base year to determine the GDP and the difficulties faced while calculating the GDP from this base year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) to (d) As per the United Nations System of National Accounts (UN SNA)-2008, the member countries are required to revise the base year of their macro-economic indicators like Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Gross Value Added (GVA), Index of Industrial Production (IIP), Consumer Price Index (CPI) etc. periodically, to better capture the structural changes in the economy. The exercise of base year revision of National Accounts is guided by the Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS) comprising experts from the Central and State Government, Academia, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and other domain specific experts. While selecting

a new base year, several activities, including new surveys, are to be planned and carried out to have the latest data for use in the revised base year. The ACNAS had earlier recommended to revise the present base year of National Accounts from 2011-12 to 2017-18 in view of the likely availability of requisite data. The issue of the base year revision was again discussed by ACNAS in its recent meeting held on 30 October, 2019 and after considering different choices it was recommended to the Ministry, to consider 2020-21 as the next base year of National Accounts in view of the structural reforms in the economy and likely availability of data through various annual surveys like Consumer Expenditure, Annual Survey on Unincorporated Sector Enterprises, Annual Survey of Service Sector Enterprise, etc.

Setting up of panel to revise GDP norms

2043. SHRI A.K. SELVARAJ: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has set up a 13 member panel to revise norms for the preparation of GDP at States and district level;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering revising the base year for the computation of national income to 2017-18 from the current 2011-12 to better capture economic realities in a fast changing world; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government of India has constituted a Committee for Sub-National Accounts vide Gazette Notification dated 27.06.2018 to review the method for preparation of State Domestic Product (SDP) and District Domestic Product (DDP), suggest measures for improving the same and lay down revised guidelines. The Committee has held several meetings and submitted its interim report. The extended tenure of the Committee is till June, 2020.

- (c) No Sir.
- (d) Does not arise in view of (c).

**Delay in releasing second installment of
MPLADS funds**

†2044. SHRI P. L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days taken to release second installment of MPLADS fund to the MPLADS fund accounts after submission of all documents of first installment of the said fund;

(b) whether it is a fact that regular complaints are being raised by the Members of Parliament that release of second installment is delayed due to non-submission of documents by concerned districts on time; and

(c) the assistance being provided by Government to Members of Parliament at District level in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The second installment of Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) funds is released usually within a month from the date of receipt of requisite documents and its scrutiny thereof as per MPLADS guidelines.

(b) and (c) In cases where complaints are received from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Ministry follows up with the concerned District Authorities to expedite release of funds. Further, to facilitate the Hon'ble Members of Parliament, there are provisions in the guidelines for setting up of facilitation Centers in the Nodal Districts.

Cost overrun in ongoing infrastructure projects

2045. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ongoing infrastructure projects worth more than ₹150 crore or more, which have shown cost overruns owing to delays and other reasons, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Ministry has analysed the reasons for cost and time escalation of these projects, if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) steps taken to reduce delay in execution of projects, including streamlining land acquisition, forest clearance and supply of equipment; and

(d) the Total expenditure of these projects and the amount spent as on 31st October, 2019 and the amount that has been escalated due to delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation monitors on-going Central Sector Infrastructure Projects costing ₹ 150 crore and above on time and cost overruns, on the basis of information provided by the project implementing agencies on OCMS. As on 01.10.2019, 1635 projects were on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these 1635 projects, 377 projects were showing cost overruns and 187 projects were showing both time and cost overruns with respect to their original project implementation schedules. The details of these are available in the flash report at www.cspm.gov.in/publications.

(b) The causes for time and cost overruns are project-specific and depend on a variety of technical, financial and administrative factors. However, as reported by the project implementing agencies on this Ministry's OCMS, the main reasons for increase in cost of the projects are: Under-estimation of original cost; Changes in rates of foreign exchange and statutory duties; High cost of environmental safeguards and rehabilitation measures; Spiraling land acquisition costs; Shortage of skilled manpower/labor; Changes in Project scope; Monopolistic pricing by vendors of equipment services; General Price rise/inflation and Time Overruns and the main reasons for delay in timely completion of the Projects are: law and order problems, delay in land acquisition, delay in environment and forest clearances, funding constraints, rehabilitation and resettlement issues, local body/municipal permissions, utility shifting, contractual issues, etc.

(c) The major steps undertaken to ensure completion of Central Sector Infrastructure Projects without time and cost overruns include; Periodic review of projects under PRAGATI through video conferencing; rigorous project appraisal; Online Computerized Monitoring System (OCMS) for better monitoring; setting up of Revised Cost Committees in the Ministries for fixation of responsibility for time and cost overruns; regular review of infrastructure projects by the concerned administrative Ministries; and setting up of Central Sector Projects Coordination Committees (CSPCCs) in the States under the Chief Secretaries for removal of bottlenecks and for facilitating the speedy implementation of major projects.

(d) The Total expenditure of these projects and the amount spent as on 01.10.2019 available on OCMS and the cost overrun due to delay is given below:—

Description	Total projects	Original Cost (₹ in crore)	Anticipated Cost (₹ in crore)	Cost overrun (₹ in crore)	Expenditure during current financial year (₹ in crore)	Cumulative Expenditure till Sep, 19 (₹ in crore)
Cost overrun	377	5,72,073.56	9,86,598.03	4,14,524.47	52,242.04	5,13,218.97
Both time and cost overrun	187	3,52,996.53	6,01,488.44	2,48,491.91	37,759.66	3,55,667.77

Data on consumer spending

2046. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

- whether as per the annual report of the Ministry, data regarding the consumer spending in rural and urban areas was supposed to be released in June, 2019;
- if so, the details thereof;
- the reasons for blocking the data and not releasing it;
- whether Government is trying to conceal the historical decline in consumer spending; and
- if so, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) As per Annual Report 2018-19 of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, the key indicator report and data of NSS 75th round (July, 2017-June, 2018) including that of the Consumer Expenditure Survey was expected to be released in June, 2019.

(c) to (e) The Ministry carried out an all-India survey on Household Consumption Expenditure during NSS 75th round (July 2017 - June 2018). The survey generates estimates of household Monthly Per Capita Consumer Expenditure (MPCE) and the distribution of households and persons over the MPCE classes. It is designed to collect information regarding expenditure on consumption of goods and services (food and non-food) consumed by the households. The survey results are also used for rebasing of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) series and other macro-economic indicators.

The Ministry follows a rigorous procedure for vetting of data and reports which are produced through surveys. The results of this survey were examined and it was observed that there was a significant variation in the levels in the consumption pattern as well as in the direction of the change while comparing with other administrative data sources.

The matter was also referred to a Committee of Experts which has recommended refining the survey methodology and improving the data quality aspects on a concurrent basis. As per the Press Release dated 15.11.2019, the Ministry has decided not to release the Consumer Expenditure Survey results of 2017-18.

Monitoring of textile industry in States

2047. SHRINARAYAN LAL PANCHARIYA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is monitoring the state of textile industry in various States;
- (b) if so, details in respect of state of textile industry in Rajasthan, if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the contribution of Rajasthan in country's textiles exports has declined in last two years;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether Government has taken any steps to promote textile industry in Rajasthan, especially in Bhilwada; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (f) The Government is responsible for policy formulation, planning and development of the textile industry by providing a conducive policy environment and creating enabling conditions for promotion of the textile industry all over the country including State of Rajasthan.

In order to promote and develop various sectors/segments of the textiles industry, the Government has been implementing various policy initiatives and schemes which *inter alia* support/improve the lives and livelihoods of textile weavers through employment generation and promotes production and export competitiveness of the textile industry such as Schemes for the development of the Powerloom Sector (Power-Tex), Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Additional Grant

for Apparel Manufacturing Units under SITP (SAGAM), SAMARTH - The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS), Jute (Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise) ICARE, Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS), National Handloom Development Programme, Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), Silk Samagra, Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP), North East Region Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL) etc.

Further, to encourage the domestic apparel sector including Rajasthan to compete in International market, Government announced key reforms under a Special Package that includes additional incentives under the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund (ATUFS), relaxation of Section 80JJAA of Income Tax Act and introduction of fixed term employment for the apparel sector. Under Pradhan Mantri Rojgar Protsahan Yojana (PMRPY), Government is providing entire 12% of employer's contribution.

The textile sector schemes mentioned above support the promotion of commercial ventures, setting up of new units as well as expansion of the existing units in the country including Bhilwada, Rajasthan. However, indicative physical targets are allotted to States/ implementing agencies including in the State of Rajasthan and funds are released based on viable proposals received and utilisation of previous funds.

The State-wise data of Exports is not maintained. In the State of Rajasthan there are 38 Cotton and Man-Made Spinning Textile Mills (NON-SSI). As per the data available the estimated production of spun yarn and cloth in Rajasthan during last two years is given below:—

	2017-18	2018-19
Spun Yarn (Mn. Kg.)	495	524
Cloth (Mn.Sq.Mtr.)	281	254

The following activities have been implemented in the State of Rajasthan in the last five years (2014-15 to 2018-19) to promote Handloom sector:—

- (i) As per 4th All India Handloom Census (2019-20), there are 6446 handlooms, 8687 handloom weavers and 1403 allied workers in Rajasthan.
- (ii) ₹ 38.00 lakh has been released for one Block Level Cluster covering 554 beneficiaries.

- (iii) ₹ 99.00 lakh has been released for 4 marketing events covering 5820 beneficiaries.
- (iv) Loan worth ₹ 66.00 lakh has been disbursed under Weavers' MUDRA Scheme covering 380 beneficiaries.
- (v) 10.03 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 9.42 crore has been supplied at mill gate price and 9600 kg. of yarn worth ₹ 16.71 lakh has been supplied to the weavers of Rajasthan under 10% subsidy scheme of Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).
- (vi) 1963 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) and 18 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).

**Focus on regional and cluster subsidies
in the textile sector**

2048. SHRI MANISH GUPTA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether India's export-specific subsidy violates WTO norm's, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there are any policies to move away from export subsidy and focus on regional and cluster subsidies, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether Government policies encompass the need for technology upgradation, skill development and skill development subsidies, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Export specific subsidy administered under export, promotion schemes are incompatible with WTO norms as these are in the category of prohibited subsidies being contingent on export performance. Under the Agreement on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures (ASCMs) of the WTO, developing countries members and LDCs who are exempt from prohibition will be required to phase out the subsidies, if exports of a product have attained the stipulated threshold level of export competitiveness in world trade in that product and/or if the members have attained the stipulated GNP threshold per capita.

(b) and (c) Government has been focusing on cluster development through various schemes including those that target setting up of integrated facilities for value addition, development of skilled labour and technology upgradation of machinery to boost manufacturing and competitiveness.

Skilling under Samarth Scheme

2049. DR. AMEE YAJ NIK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons have been skilled under the textile scheme 'Samarth' which will skill 4 lakh people in 18 States; and

(b) the State-wise details of the beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Government has approved a new skill development scheme titled Samarth-Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector covering the entire value chain of the textile sector, excluding Spinning and Weaving in the organized sector, for a period of three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an outlay of ₹1300 crore. The Scheme targets to train 10.00 lakh persons over a period of 3 years. In this regard, Ministry of Textiles has allocated targets to State Governments for training of 3.66 lakh persons in textiles sector under Samarth Scheme. The State-wise break-up is given in the Statement.

Statement*Details of State-wise training target allocation*

Sl. No.	Name of Applicant Agency	State	Target Allocated
1	2	3	4
1	Arunachal Pradesh Handloom & Handicrafts Society Ltd.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,050
2	Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute*	Jammu and Kashmir*	600
3	Indian Institute of Handloom Technology, Kannur	Kerala	1,975
4	Handloom & Handicrafts Wing, Directorate of Commerce & Industries	Mizoram	6940
5	Handloom & Textiles	Tamil Nadu	1,400
6	Telangana State Textile Complex Cooperative Society	Telangana	1,440
7	U.P. Industrial Cooperative Association Ltd.	Uttar Pradesh	20,160

1	2	3	4
8	Khadi Village Industries Board (UPKVIB)	Uttar Pradesh	48,000
9	Institute of Entrepreneurship Development, Kanpur	Uttar Pradesh	30,840
10	Uttarakhand Skill Development Society, Dehradun	Uttarakhand	25,000
11	Director of Handlooms & Textiles - Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	12,000
12	Assam Skill Development Mission	Assam	17,065
13	Handloom Textiles & Sericulture Department	Assam	50,000
14	Madhya Pradesh Laghu Udyog Nigam	Madhya Pradesh	13050
15	Directorate of Skill Development	Tripura	3,540
16	Karnataka State Textile Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited	Karnataka	52,580
17	Institute of Entrepreneurship Development Odisha*	Odisha*	3,150
18	Department of Textiles, Commerce & Industry, Directorate of Handlooms & Textiles, Government of Manipur	Manipur	25000
19	Directorate of Industries & Commerce	Haryana	42,480
20	Directorate of Sericulture & Weaving	Meghalaya	7,200
21	Directorate of Handloom, Sericulture & handicraft	Jharkhand	3,200
TOTAL			3,66,670

*MoU has not been signed yet.

**Implementation of Samarth scheme in
textile sector**

2050. SHRI DHARMAPURI SRINIVAS: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented Samarth Scheme for capacity building in textile sector;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the Total amount spent under the scheme for capacity building during the last two financial years;
- (d) the amount allocated for the State of Telangana for capacity building of people working in the textile sector from the State and the implementing agencies thereof; and
- (e) the present status of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has approved a skill development scheme titled Samarth-Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS) covering the entire value chain of the textile sector, excluding spinning and weaving in the organized sector, for a period of three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20 with an outlay of '1300 crore to train 10.00 lakh persons over a period of 3 years.

(c) During the last 2 financial years, amount incurred towards skill development in textiles is as follows:—

Year	Amount spent (In crore)
2017-18	100.00
2018-19	16.98

(d) Based on the proposal of the State Government, a target for training of 1440 persons has been allocated to the State Government of Telangana. The funds transfer for implementing the Scheme is commensurate with the progress of the training, in accordance with the Scheme guidelines.

(e) The Ministry has allocated skilling target of over 3.5 lakh persons to State Government agencies (Arunachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Tripura, Karnataka, Odisha, Manipur) and 43020 persons to Sectoral organisations of Ministry of Textiles (Central Silk Board, Development Commissioner of Handicrafts, Development Commissioner of Handloom and National Jute Board) for commencing the training programme under the scheme. Further, Ministry has allocated training target of 69,174 persons to textile industry/ Industry Associations, for skill development directly by the respective Industry and Industry Associations.

**Steps taken to boost exports post implementation
of GST**

2051. SHRI M. P. VEERENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken certain steps to boost exports in the wake of declining textile exports;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which these measures are helpful in the post GST regime; and
- (d) the extent to which competition from neighbouring countries like China, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka has affected India's exports in textile sector?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Government has taken various steps to boost exports and enhance competitiveness of the textile sector. Special Package announced by Government offered Rebate of State Levies (RoSL). The RoSL scheme has been replaced by RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme w.e.f. 7th March, 2019. Assistance is provided to textile exporters under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. Government has enhanced interest equalization rate for pre and post shipment credit for exports done by MSMEs of textile sector from 3% to 5% w.e.f. 02.11.2018. Benefits of Interest Equalisation Scheme has been extended to merchant exporters from 02.01.2019 which was earlier limited to only manufacturer exporters.

(c) Textile exports have increased by 6.2% post-GST as compared with corresponding period pre-GST.

(d) India faces competition from countries like Vietnam, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka which enjoy duty free access to key markets while India faces a duty disadvantage. Besides, Bangladesh and Vietnam have the benefit of scale in apparel manufacturing and a large and productive labour force.

**Development of handloom weavers in
Tamil Nadu**

2052. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there are around 3.5 lakh handloom weavers and allied workers in the State of Tamil Nadu, which is highest among the Southern States and second highest on all India basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has taken any concrete steps regarding the welfare of the handloom weavers and allied workers in the State of Tamil Nadu; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) As per 4th All India Handloom Census (2019-20), there are 2,43,575 handloom weavers and allied workers in the State of Tamil Nadu, which is the highest among Southern States and third highest on all India basis.

(c) and (d) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country, including the State of Tamil Nadu:—

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)
- (4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above 4 schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

A. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)

- (i) Block Level Cluster : Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of Common Facility Centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance

upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Government.

- (ii) Handloom Marketing Assistance is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
- (iii) Weavers' MUDRA Scheme: Under the Weavers' MUDRA Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weavers. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. MUDRA portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.
- (iv) Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS): Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December, 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share is released directly in the Bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.
- (v) Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children: Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialised subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programmes through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL, and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

- (vi) “India Handloom” Brand: During the celebration of 7th August, 2015 as National Handloom Day, ‘India Handloom’ Brand was launched by Hon’ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of ₹ 722.57 crore has been generated.

Initiatives with various leading brands has been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

- (vii) E-Commerce: In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy framework was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products. A Total sales of ₹ 66.20 crore has been reported through the online portal.
- (viii) Urban Haats are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate middle agencies. 38 such Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.

B. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme CHCDS :

The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering atleast 15,000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as Gol share from ₹ 40.00 to ₹ 70.00 crore is in a period of 5 years. 8 mega handloom clusters taken up as announced in the Budgets *i.e.* Varanasi, Sivasagar (2008-09), Virudhunagar, Murshidabad (2009-10), Prakasam and Guntur districts and Godda and neighbouring districts (2012-13), Bhagalpur and Trichy (2014-15).

Under the scheme, components like conducting Diagnostic Study, engaging Designer, Product Development, Corpus for raw material, Construction of Worksheds (for BPL/SC/ST/Women weavers), Skill upgradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology upgradation, lighting units funded 90% and other common infrastructure projects like Design Studio, Marketing Complex, Value Addition Centres, Publicity etc., are funded by the GoI to the extent of 80%.

C. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme HWCWS:

Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).

D. Yarn Supply Scheme YSS :

Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @ 2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn with quantity caps.

The Government has undertaken following activities in the State of Tamil Nadu in the last three years (2016-17 to 2018-19) and the current year (2019-20 upto 30.09.2019):—

- (i) Two Mega Handloom Clusters are under implementation in the State of Tamil Nadu at Virudhunagar and Trichy. A sum of ₹ 40.66 crore has been released for Virudhunagar Mega Cluster and a sum of ₹ 19.17 crore has been released for Trichy Mega Handloom Cluste'
- (ii) ₹ 25.02 crore has been released for 20 Block level Clusters covering 28,626 beneficiaries.
- (iii) ₹ 1.77 crore has been released for 25 marketing events covering 54100 beneficiaries.
- (iv) Loan worth ₹ 328.37 crore has been disbursed under Weavers' MUDRA Scheme covering 68,727 beneficiaries.
- (v) 3,08,964 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY)/converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana and 1,43,819 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana.
- (vi) 12,037 upgraded items (looms and accessories) have been distributed to 12,037 beneficiaries under Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata Yojana.

- (vii) 3,896 beneficiaries have been imparted training for skill upgradation under National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP).
- (viii) 1397.39 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 2532.20 crore has been supplied at mill gate price and 245.47 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 942.49 crore has been supplied to the weavers of Tamil Nadu under 10% subsidy scheme of Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).
- (ix) 166 Yarn Depots are functioning in Tamil Nadu for supply of yarn at subsidized rates.
- (x) To protect imitation of products by others, following handloom products of Tamil Nadu have been registered under Geographical Indications Act:—
 - (a) Kancheepuram Silk
 - (b) Madurai Silk
 - (c) Kawai Cara Cotton
 - (d) Arani Silk
 - (e) Salem Venpattu Dhoti
 - (f) Bhavani Jamakkalam

Apart from the above schemes of the Government of India, Ministry of Textiles, the Tamil Nadu Government has launched a scheme *viz.* Handloom Support Programme (HSP) for the handloom weavers of the State to provide financial assistance for innovation and diversification of products in the handloom sector and has allocated a sum of ₹ 40.00 crore towards implementation of this Scheme.

Decline in export of cotton yarn

2053. SHRI HUSAIN DALWAI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether export of cotton yarn from India in first quarter of April-June, 2019 have fallen by a steep 33 per cent from 338 Mn. Kgs. for the period between April-June, 2018 to 226 Mn. Kgs. in April-June, 2019;
- (b) if so, data on spinning units that have closed due to declining exports;
- (c) measures taken by Government to help cotton yarn units, State/UT-wise details since 2014;

(d) whether Government has done an adequate study on reasons contributing to this decline, if so, details thereof; and

(e) steps taken by Government to mitigate this problem of declining exports, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) As per the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, cotton yarn exports from India is reported at 226 million kg. during April-September, 2019 as compared with 338 million kg. during April-September, 2018.

(b) There is no information regarding closure of spinning units due to decline in exports of cotton yarn.

(c) to (e) To promote exports of textile industry, Government announced a Special Package for garments and made-ups sectors. The package offered Rebate of State Levies (RoSL), labour law reforms, additional incentives under Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) and relaxation of Section 80JJAA of Income Tax Act. The RoSL scheme has been replaced by RoSCTL (Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies) scheme *w.e.f.* 7th March, 2019. Products such as fibre, yarn and fabric in the textile value chain are being strengthened and made competitive through various schemes, *inter alia*, Powertex for fabric segment, Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (ATUFS) for all segments except spinning, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP) for all segments, etc. Assistance is also provided to exporters under Market Access Initiative (MAI) Scheme. Government has enhanced interest equalisation rate for pre and post shipment credit for exports done by MSMEs of textile sector from 3% to 5% *w.e.f.* 02.11.2018. Benefits of Interest Equalisation Scheme has been extended to merchant exporters from 02.01.2019 which was earlier limited to only manufacturer exporters.

Difficulties in access to credit in powerloom sector

2054. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor access to credit is the main cause of hardships being faced by weavers/workers of the unorganised powerloom sector in the country, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) the schemes/programmes being implemented by Government to ensure adequate credit and to overcome the hardships being faced by such weavers/workers in the country; and

(c) the funds provided by Government under the said schemes/programmes during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise and scheme/programme-wise?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) No Sir, there is no such type of report received in the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing Pradhan Mantri Credit Scheme for Powerloom Weavers under PowerTex India w.e.f. 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020. The scheme provides adequate and timely financial assistance to the powerloom weavers to meet their credit requirements for investment needs (Term loan) in a flexible and cost effective manner. There are two components in the Scheme *i.e.* Prime Minister MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) and Stand-up India Scheme. The details are as under:—

(i) Under MUDRA

Eligibility:—

- Existing individual powerloom units (or) new individual/group enterprises involved in weaving activity are eligible.

Financial Assistance:—

- Margin money @ 20% of machinery cost with a ceiling of ₹ 1.00 lakh and
- Interest Subvention @ 6% per year for 5 years.

(ii) Under Stand-up India (SC/ST/Woman - who are new entrepreneurs)

Eligibility:—

- New Powerloom units established by a person who belongs to SC/ST/Woman Entrepreneur.
- In case of non-individual units at least 51% of the share holding and controlling stake should be held by either an SC (or) ST (or) Women entrepreneur.

Financial Assistance:—

- 25% Margin Money (Max. ₹ 25 lakhs) on the machinery cost, the borrower is required to bring in 10% of the Project Cost as his/her own contribution.

(c) The scheme is effective from 01.04.2017 with an approved outlay of ₹ 11.92 crores for a period of 3 years and it is operating and implementing on Pan India basis. Under this new scheme, applications received through banks are under scrutiny. Textile Commissioner Office, Mumbai has received 4 applications from banks out of which 1 was found eligible as per guidelines and in remaining clarification from banks are sought. For one eligible application, release of ₹ 22.90 lakh is under process.

Status of textile sector in West Bengal

2055. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any investors willing to invest in handloom, textiles and handicraft sector in West Bengal since past three years, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of textile/jute mills in West Bengal, area-wise;

(c) whether Government proposes to establish new textile/jute mills in West Bengal and revive the sick and closed mills as part of Public Sector Undertakings or through PPP model, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether there is any plan to grant special packages to the West Bengal jute mills, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) During the last three years two jute mills have informed the Government of India about their willingness to set up composite jute mills and supply of gunny bags to the government viz. M/s Dooars Trading Company and M/s Maa Annapurna Jute & Carpet Industries Pvt. Ltd. both in West Bengal. M/s Maa Annapurna Jute & Carpet Industries Pvt. Ltd. has already started production and supply of gunny bags.

The Government of India under Amended Technology Upgradation Funds Scheme (A-TUFS) provides Unique Identification Number to the Units for availing benefit. The projected investment in West Bengal in last three years is given below:—

2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
No. of UIDs	Total Project Cost (₹ crore)	No. of UIDs	Total Project Cost (₹ crore)	No. of UIDs	Total Project Cost (₹ crore)
29	127.42	34	235.81	23	152.23

(UID: Unique Identification Number issued against the application submitted by the unit for availing benefit under ATUFS)

In order to develop handloom sector in the State of West Bengal, the following activities have been undertaken under various schemes of this office in the last three years and the current year (as on 30-9-2019):—

- As per 4th All India Handloom Census (2019-20), there are 283404 handlooms and 366656 handloom weavers in the State.
- One Mega Handloom Cluster has been sanctioned for Murshidabad district of the State. Project cost of ₹ 72.26 crore has been approved by PAMC, of which Gol Share is ₹ 61.12 crore. A sum of ₹ 23.26 crore has been released under the project.
- 25 Block Level clusters have been sanctioned and a sum of ₹ 9.02 crore has been released covering 26793 beneficiaries.
- 5 Marketing events have been sanctioned and a sum of ₹ 34.00 lakh has been released.
- Concessional loan worth ₹ 5.20 crore have been sanctioned to 1080 beneficiaries.
- 97696 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY)/converged MGBBY and Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).
- 49 Yarn Depots and 3 Warehouses are functional in the State for supply of yarn at subsidised rates.
- 37.10 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 111.52 crore has been supplied to the handloom weavers of West Bengal at mill gate price and 33.22 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 104.73 crore has been supplied under 10% subsidy scheme of Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).
- In order to prevent production of handloom reserved items on powerlooms, enforcement machinery is operational in the State. ₹ 57.08 lakh has been released for the machinery. Powerloom inspections are carried out by the enforcement machinery.

(b) The lists of Textile Mills and Jute mills are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(c) and (d) The Government generally does not set up / establish new textile units in the country. The role of the Government is to ensure a conducive policy environment, facilitating in creating enabling conditions for the industry and private entrepreneurs to set up units through policy initiatives and various schemes implemented *viz.* the Amended Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (A-TUFS), Schemes for the development of the Powerloom Sector(Power-Tex), Schemes for Technical Textiles, Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), Scheme for Additional Grant for Apparel Manufacturing Units under SITP (SAGAM), SAMARTH-The Scheme for Capacity Building in Textile Sector (SCBTS), Jute Improved Cultivation and Advanced Retting Exercise (ICARE), National Handloom Development Programme, National Handicrafts Development Programme, Integrated Processing Development Scheme (IPDS), Silk Samagra, Integrated Wool Development Programme (IWDP), North East Region Textiles Promotion Scheme (NERTPS), Rebate of State and Central Taxes and Levies (ROSCTL) etc.

The issue of re-opening of closed mills is a subject being handled by the respective State Governments. However, to protect/revive the jute industries, Government of India has decided to continue Jute Packaging Material (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 keeping in view the interest of raw jute growers and workers involved in the jute industry. This Act has provided uninterrupted market for jute bags. In every month, different State Government agencies purchase jute bags for packing foodgrains for distribution through PDS. On an average, a Total quantity of 26 to 28 lakh bales of jute bags is purchased in a year. This purchase has taken care of almost 93% of the sacking capacity of the industry. Government of India, have issued an Order dated 30-11-2018 under the Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987 stipulating 100% foodgrains and 20% sugar are required to be compulsorily packed in jute packaging material. In fact, w.e.f. 30-11-2018, the reservation to foodgrains was increased to 100% that was 90% in the preceding years, manifesting in increased patronage of the Government of India.

Statement-I*Details of cotton/man-made Fibre Textile Mills in the State of West Bengal*

Sl. No	Name and Address of Textile Mills	Remarks
1	2	3
1	Mill Sr. No:- .2011001 M/s. Arati Cotton Mills (Unit of N.T.C. (Wbabo) Limited) Dasnagar Howrah West Bengal: 711105 Phone: 033 - 2653 0146; Fax: 033 - 26538870	Working
2	Mill Sr. No:- .2011310 M/s. Luxmi Narayan Cotton Mills (Unit of N.T.C. (Wbabo) Limited) Morepukur (PO) Rishra Hooghly West Bengal: 712205 Phone: 033 - 26722074; Fax: 033 - 26724376	As per this office records the mill is closed
3	Mill Sr. No:- .2011311 M/s. Sodepore Cotton Mills Ltd. PO Sodepore 24 Parganas West Bengal: 700110 Phone: 033 - 25656214; Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed
4	Mill Sr.No:- .2012328 M/s. The West Bengal Co-Operative SPG Mills Ltd. Serampur Simla Serampore Hooghly West Bengal: 712203 Phone: 2622 - 2779; Fax: 2622 - 1926	Working
5	Mill Sr. No:- .2012949 M/s. Tamralipta Co-Operative Spinning Mills Limited Rangamati PO	Working

1	2	3
	Near Midnapore Rly. Station Midnapore West Bengal: 721102 Phone: 03222 - 276621, 275034; Fax: 03222 - 275034	
6	Mill Sr. No:- .2013001 M/s. Vikram Spinners (Unit of Eastern SPG Mill & Inds. Ltd.) Pirgachha (Village) Kadamgachhi (PO) Barasat 24 Parganas North West Bengal: 743201 Phone: 033 - 5523330/5523477/0794/0795; Fax: 033 - 5523551	Working
7	Mill Sr. No:- .2013002 M/s. Vishnu Cotton Mills Limited Barbaria Jagannathpur Barasat 24 Parganas West Bengal: 743203 Phone: 033 - 25424155; Fax: 033 - 25428463	Working
8	Mill Sr. No:- .2013003 M/s. Sri Annapurna Cotton Mills & Industries Limited Shyam Nagar, Feeder Road 24, Parganas (North) West Bengal: 743127 Phone: 033 - 25863793; Fax: 033 - 25863793	Working
9	Mill Sr. No:- .2013004 M/s. Pacific Cotspin Ltd.	Working

1	2	3
	<p>Falta Industrial Growth Centre, Sector-IV, 24 Parganas (South) West Bengal: 743504 Phone: 03174 - 222252; Fax: 03174 - 222252</p>	
10	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013309 M/s. Usha Corporation Limited (Shineup Fibres Limited) Phuleswar PO Ulberia Howrah West Bengal: 711316 Phone: -: Fax: -</p>	Working
11	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013314 M/s. Gis Cotton Mills Ltd. (The Gis Ltd.) 47, G. T. Road Champdany, Baidyabati (PO) Hooghly West Bengal: 712222 Phone: 033 - 26322611/3250/2894; Fax: 033 - 26324348</p>	<p>As per this office records the mill is closed</p>
12	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013317 M/s. Anantpur Textiles Limited Jhumjhumi Village Ananthapur PO Howrah West Bengal: 711301 Phone: -: Fax: -</p>	<p>As per this office records the mill is closed</p>
13	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013321 M/s. Eastern Spinning Mills and Industries Limited Pirgachha (Village) Kadamgachhi (PO) 24 Parganas</p>	Working

1	2	3
	West Bengal: 743201 Phone: 033 - 552-3330/3477/0794/0795; Fax: 033 - 5523551	
14	Mill Sr. No:- .2013322 M/s. Hada Textile Industries Limited Diamond Harbour Road Bishnupur PO24 Parganas West Bengal: 743503 Phone: 033 - 24709401; Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed
15	Mill Sr. No:- .2013323 M/s. Keshar Multiyarn Mill Ltd (Rajshree/Midnapur) Tantigaria Vidyasagar University Road, Midnapore West Bengal: 721102 Phone: 03222 - 263964; Fax: 03222 - 275528	As per this office records the mill is closed
16	Mill Sr. No:- .2013324 M/s. Shaktigarh Textile & Industries Ltd. P O Barsul Shaktigarh Burdwan West Bengal: 713214 Phone: -: Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed
17	Mill Sr. No:- .2013326 M/s. Poddar Projects Limited 1/1, Taratala Road Kolkata West Bengal: 700088 Phone: 033 - 4691522, 4695927, 4695913; Fax: 033 - 2488906	As per this office records the mill is closed

1	2	3
18	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013327</p> <p>M/s. Mayurakshi Cotton Mills (1990) Limited</p> <p>Panchrahat (PO) P.S. Khayrasole</p> <p>Birbhum</p> <p>West Bengal: 731133</p> <p>Phone: 03462 - 237268; Fax: 03462 - 237362</p>	Working
19	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013833</p> <p>M/s. India Jute & Industries Limited</p> <p>(Cotton Division)</p> <p>3, William Carey Road</p> <p>Serampore (PO)</p> <p>Hooghly</p> <p>West Bengal: 712201</p> <p>Phone: - 6622147; Fax: 033 - 6623451</p>	Working
20	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2013910</p> <p>M/s. The India Jute & Industries Limited</p> <p>(Synthetic Division)</p> <p>3, William Carey Road</p> <p>Serampore (PO)</p> <p>Hooghly</p> <p>West Bengal: 712201</p> <p>Phone: 033 - 26527498; Fax: 033 - 26623451</p>	Working
21	<p>Mill Sr. No:- .2014319</p> <p>M/s. The Kalyani Spinning Mills Limited</p> <p>Unit No.1 Kalyani (PO)</p> <p>D Block</p> <p>Nadia</p> <p>West Bengal: 741235</p> <p>Phone: 033 - 25828209; Fax: 033 - 25828229</p>	<p>As per this office</p> <p>records the mill is closed</p>

1	2	3
22	Mill Sr. No:- .2014325 M/s. The Kalyani Spg. Mills Ltd. Unit-2 PO Ashoknagar PC Habra 24 Parganas West Bengal: 743222 Phone: 03216 - 221270; Fax: 03216 - 221270	As per this office records the mill is closed
23	Mill Sr. No:- .2014683 M/s. The West Dinajpur Spinning Mills Limited Bogram (Village) Karnajora (PO) Raiganj Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal: 733130 Phone: - 09434511318; Fax: -	Working
24	Mill Sr. No:- .2023267 M/s. Swan Mills Panihatti PO Near Barrock Pore 24 Parganas West Bengal: 743176 Phone: -: Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed
25	Mill Sr. No:- .2023268 M/s. Bowreah Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. Bauria Howrah West Bengal: 711305 Phone: -: Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed

1	2	3
26	Mill Sr. No:- .2023271 M/s. Dunbar Mills Ltd. No.1 to 5 Shyam Nagar PO 24 Parganas West Bengal: 743126 Phone: -: Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed
27	Mill Sr. No:- .2023272 M/s. Kesoram Textile Mills Ltd. (Kesoram Industries Ltd) Textile 42, Garden Reach Road Kolkata 24 Parganas (South) West Bengal: 700024 Phone: 033 - 4691106/1110/7825/6788; Fax: 033 - 4691092	As per this office records the mill is closed
28	Mill Sr. No:- .2023278 M/s. Sridurga Cotton Spg. & Wvg. Mills Ltd. Konnagar PO Hooghly West Bengal: 712235 Phone: - Fax:-	As per this office records the mill is closed
29	Mill Sr. No:- .2023280 M/s. The Bangodaya Cotton Mills Ltd. Panihatti PO 24 Parganas West Bengal: 743176 Phone: -: Fax: -	As per this office records the mill is closed

1	2	3
30	Mill Sr. No:- .2023281 M/s. Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd. Rishra PO Prabasnagar Hooghly West Bengal: 712249 Phone: 033 - 26001202; Fax: 033 - 26722626	Working

Statement-II*List of Mills in West Bengal along with name and address*

Sl. No.	Mill Name in West Bengal	Factory Address
1	2	3
1	Agarpara	Mill: 28, B.T. Road, Kamarhatti Kolkata-700058
2	Alliance	Mill: Jagatdal 24 pgs. (North)
3	Anglo India	Mill: 1, West Ghoshpara Road, Jagatdal, 24 Parganas (North) Pin-743125
4	Angus	Mill: P.O. Angus (Bhadreswar) Hooghly-712221
5	Auckland	Mill: West Ghosh Para Road P.O. Jagatdal, 24 Pgs. (North), Pin- 743125
6	Ambica	Mill: 3, Haren Mukherjee Road Belur Math, Howrah-711202
7	Bally	Regd.Office and Mill: 5, Sree Charan sarani, Bally, Howrah- 711201
8	Birla	Mill: Birlapur, 24 pgs. (South)

1	2	3
9	Budge Budge	Mill: 64, Maulana Azad Road Budge Budge, 24pgs. (South)
10	Baranagore	Mill: 284, Maharaja Nanda Kr. Road, Alambazar (N), Kolkata- 700035
11	Bowreah	Mill: P.O. Fort Gloster Dist: Howrah-711310
12	Calcutta	Mill: 93, Narkeldanga Main Road Kolkata-700054
13	Caledonian	Mill: 18, Mehata Road, Chitrganj Budge Budge, 24Pgs.(South) Kolkata-700137
14	Champdany (Wellington Jute Mills)	Mill: Wellington Jute Mill 9, G.T.Road, P.O. Rishra, Hooghly
15	Cheviot	Mill: 19, Mehta Road Badekalinagar Budge Budge, 24pgs. (South)
16	Dalhousie	Mill: 1, G.T. Road, P.O. Baidyabati Hooghly-712222
17	Daaksh Jute	220/2, Shew Gopal Bajerjee Lane, Ghusuri, Howrah-711 107.
18	Delta	Manickpore, P.O. Delta Mill, Howrah, Pin-711309
19	Eastern (Sunbeam)	Mill: Ali Hyder Road P.O. Titagarh, 24 Pgs. (North)
20	Empire	Mill:15, B.T. Road, P.O.- Titagarh Dist. 24 Pgs. (North)
21	Gloster	Mill: Fort Gloster, Bauria, Howrah-711310
22	Ganges Jute Private Ltd.	Mill: P.O. Bansberia, Hooghly- 712502

1	2	3
23	Ganges Manufacturing	Mill: P.O. Bansberia, Hooghly-712502
24	Gondolpara	P.O. Gondalpara, Chandannagore Hooghly-712137
25	Hastings	Mill: 13, G.T. Road (East) Rishra, Hooghly-712248
26	Hooghly	Mill: 9, Garden Reach Road Kolkata-700043
27	Howrah (Premier Digital)	Mill: 493/C, G.T. Road (South) Howrah-711102
28	Hukumchand	Mill: Hazinagar, 24 Pgs. (North)
29	India	Mill: 3, William Carey Road Sreerampore, Hooghly-712201
30	Jagatdal	Mill: Jagatdal, Bhatpara 24 Pgs. (North)
31	Jai Jute	Kanthal Para, P.O.-Naihati-743165
32	Kanknarrah	Mill:1, Clark Ghat Road, P.O. Kanknarrah- 24 Pgs. (North)
33	Kanoria Jute	P.O-Sijberia,Uluberia, Dist-Howrah,Chengail.
34	Kamarhatty	Mill: Graham Road, Kamarhatty Kolkata-700058
35	Kelvin	Mill: 25, Park Road, Talpukur Titagarh, 24 Pgs. (North)
36	Ludlow	Mill: P.O. Chengail Howrah-711308
37	Maa Annapurna	Naroi, Dakshin Dinajpur, Pin-733124
38	Megna (Jankalyan Vinimay Pvt. Ltd.)	Barrackpore, North 24 Pgs.
39	Naffarchandra	Mill: Bhutnath Koley Road Kankinarah, 24 Pgs. (North)

1	2	3
40	Naihati	Mill: Hazinagar, 24 Pgs. (North)
41	Northbrook	Mill: 1, G.T. Road, Champdany P.O. Baidyabati, Hooghly-712222
42	Premchand	Mill: Chengail, Howrah
43	Prabartak	Mill: Kamarhatty, 24 Pgs. (North), Kolkata-700058
44	Reliance	Mill: P.O. Bhatpara, 24 Pgs. (North) Kankinara-742123
45	Samnuggar (Aditya Translink)	Mill: Bhadreswar, Hooghly- 712124
46	Sri Gouri Shankar	Mill: Shamnagore, P.O. Garulia 24 Pgs. (North)
47	Sree Mahadeo	Mill: P.C.B. Road, Badamtala Bally, Howrah-711201
48	Tepcon	Mill: 76, J.N. Mukherjee Road Ghusuri, Howrah-711107
49	Titagarh	Titagarh, 24 (PGS-North), WB- 700119
50	Vijaishree	Mill: 47 and 48, Rajnarayan Choudhury Ghat Road, Sibpur Howrah-711102
51	Victoria (RDB Textiles Ltd.)	Mill: Telinipara, Hooghly-712125
52	Weaverly	Mill: 117, West Ghosh Para Road P.O. Autpur, 24 Pgs. (North)
53	Kamakshi	Mill: Plot No.-114-121, WBIIDC Growth Centre, Chak Chaka Cooach Bihar-736156
54	Kaliyaganj Agro	Mill: Patharpara, Khordohi, Jamtala P.O. Gazol, Dist: Maldah
55	HSB Agro	Mill: Rajgunj, Jalpaiguri-735134
56	Uma Spinners	Rajeshwaripur, P.O.-Mogra Dist. Hooghly-712148 (W.B)

1	2	3
57	Goyal Merchants	Khoribari Road, Ghoshpukur P.O.-Kamalabagan, Dist. Darjeeling, NH-31, Siliguri (W.B.)
58	Sarada Jute Mills	Murshidabad, West Bengal
59	G.S. Jute	Dankuni, West Bengal
60	Barshul Tex/Shaktigarh	Bardhaman, West Bengal
61	Jutex	Hooghly, West Bengal

Skill development of women in Technical textiles sector

2056. SHRIMATI SAROJINI HEMBRAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry is planning to provide training or skill training to women on technical textile in order to boost the industry and women entrepreneurship in this field;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government also propose to impart training to the weavers about digital technology keeping aside the manual methods of weaving; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) Ministry of Textiles has been implementing training and skill development in all segments of textile sector across all value chains, with a view for capacity building and employment generation in the sector. During the period 2010-17, under Integrated Skill Development Scheme (ISDS) in the textiles sector, 11.14 lakh persons have been provided with skill development including 7.94 lakh women, which is 71.27% of the Total beneficiaries.

The current skill development programme also is focused on technology orientation, demand driven and capacity building of the entire textiles sector. As far as technical textiles sector is concerned there are 6 courses already approved for imparting training. Women, scheduled caste/scheduled tribes, North Eastern Region, and Divyang Jan are given due priority in all these training programmes.

(c) and (d) Keeping in tune with the current trend in technology, use of digital technology has been adequately provided for in all course content of training in textiles

under Samarth Scheme. In addition, upskilling/re-skilling programmes have now been introduced for apparel and garmenting segment in areas such as, Specialised Sewing Machine Operator, Advance Pattern Maker (CAD/CAM), Measurement Checker etc. These upskilling courses are modern state-of-the-Art technology based using digital, computer and robotics technologies.

**Setting up of jute manufacturing unit
to promote jute**

†2057. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has set up any jute manufacturing unit in order to promote jute after a recent ban on the use of single-use plastic;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the jute industry has not been able to fully utilise its production capacity due to decline in the demand of jute in the country in the year 2018-19;
- (c) the measures being taken by Government to make the jute mills established in the country ultra-modern; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Government is trying to promote jute manufacturing units by 100% mandatory packaging of foodgrains procured by State Procurement Agencies/FCI in jute bags.

(b) The production of jute goods over the last few years by the jute mills has remained consistent. During the year 2017-18 and 2018-19, approximately 1,200 Thousand MT of raw jute per year was consumed by the mills to meet the demand of jute products, the details of which are as under:—

(Qty: in: '000' MT)

April-March	Production of jute goods		
	Hessian and Others	Sacking	Total
2016-17	270.9	871.6	1142.5
2017-18	276.8	910.3	1187.1
2018-19	248.9	912.3	1161.2

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) and (d) A number of measures have been taken by the Government to modernise the jute mills established in the country, the details of which are as follows:—

- (i) The Government has implemented Incentive Scheme for Acquisition of Plants and Machinery (ISAPM) to facilitate modernisation in existing and new jute mills and for upgradation of technology in existing jute mills. An incentive of 20% of the cost of machinery for jute mill and 30% for Jute Diversified Products (JDP) - MSME units is considered for reimbursement under the scheme, subject to a maximum of ₹ 2.50 crore per unit. Under this scheme, a subsidy amounting to ₹ 49.71 crores has been disbursed to Jute mills and JDP units during the period 2014-15 to 2018-19.
- (ii) A Scheme for Research and Development for the Textile Industry including Jute with a Total outlay of ₹ 80.00 crores has been launched in 2015 by the Government for promotion of Research and Development, technology transfer and dissemination activities in textile sector including jute.

Condition of handloom weavers in Delhi and Rajasthan

2058. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of schemes being implemented by the Ministry to improve the condition of handloom weavers in Delhi and Rajasthan;
- (b) the achievements of these schemes during the past five years, year-wise and scheme-wise;
- (c) whether any study has been conducted on the impact of these schemes on handloom weavers; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The Government of India, Ministry of Textiles is implementing following schemes for development of handlooms and welfare of handloom weavers across the country, including the State of Delhi and Rajasthan:

- (1) National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP)
- (2) Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS)
- (3) Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS)

(4) Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS)

Under the above 4 schemes, financial assistance is provided for raw materials, purchase of looms and accessories, design innovation, product diversification, infrastructure development, skill upgradation, lighting units, marketing of handloom products and loan at concessional rates.

A. National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP):

- (i) Block Level Cluster: Introduced in 2015-16 as one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP). Financial assistance upto ₹ 2.00 crore per BLC for various interventions such as skill upgradation, Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata, product development, construction of workshed, project management cost, design development, setting up of Common Facility Centre (CFC) etc. is provided. Besides, financial assistance upto ₹ 50.00 lakh is also available for setting up of one dye house at district level. The proposals are recommended by the State Government.
- (ii) Handloom Marketing Assistance is one of the components of National Handloom Development Programme. In order to provide marketing platform to the handloom agencies/weavers to sell their products directly to the consumers, financial assistance is provided to the States/eligible handloom agencies for organising marketing events in domestic as well as overseas markets.
- (iii) Weavers' MUDRA Scheme: Under the Weavers' MUDRA Scheme, credit at concessional interest rate of 6% is provided to the handloom weaver. Margin money assistance to a maximum of ₹ 10,000 per weaver and credit guarantee for a period of 3 years is also provided. MUDRA portal has been developed in association with Punjab National Bank to cut down delay in disbursement of funds for margin money and interest subvention.
- (iv) Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS): Hathkargha Samvardhan Sahayata (HSS) was introduced on 1st December, 2016 with an objective to provide looms/accessories to the weavers to enhance their earnings through improved productivity and quality of the handloom products. Under the scheme, 90% of the cost of loom/accessory is borne by the Government of India while remaining 10% is borne by the beneficiary. The Government of India's share

is released directly in the Bank account of the beneficiary through designated agency.

- (v) Education of Handloom Weavers and their Children: Ministry of Textiles has signed Memorandums of Understanding with Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to secure educational facilities for the weavers and their families. NIOS offers Secondary and Senior Secondary level education with specialised subjects on design, marketing, business development, etc. through distance learning mode for handloom weavers, whereas IGNOU offers continuing education programmes through accessible and flexible learning opportunities relevant to the aspirations of handloom weavers and their children for career progression.

Ministry of Textiles is providing reimbursement of 75% of the fee towards admission to NIOS/IGNOU courses in case of SC, ST, BPL and Women learners belonging to handloom weavers' families.

- (vi) "India Handloom" Brand - During the celebration of 7th August, 2015 as National Handloom Day, 'India Handloom' Brand was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister for branding of high quality handloom products. It promotes production of niche handloom products with high quality, authentic traditional designs with zero defect and zero effect on environment. Since its launch, 1232 registrations have been issued under 122 product categories and sale of ₹ 722.57 crore has been generated.

Initiatives with various leading brands has been undertaken to bring out a separate range of handloom garments in their brand.

- (vii) E-Commerce- In order to promote e-marketing of handloom products, a policy framework was designed and under which any willing e-commerce platform with good track record can participate in online marketing of handloom products. Accordingly, 23 e-commerce entities have been engaged for on-line marketing of handloom products. A Total sales of ₹ 66.20 crore has been reported through the online portal.
- (viii) Urban Haats are set up in the big towns/metropolitan cities to provide adequate direct marketing facilities to the craft persons/weavers and eliminate middle agencies. 38 such Urban Haats have been sanctioned across the country so far.

B. Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS):

The Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS) is implemented for development of Mega Handloom Clusters covering at least 15000 to 25,000 handlooms and financial assistance as Gol share from ₹ 40.00 to ₹ 70.00 crore is in a period of 5 years. 8 mega handloom clusters taken up as announced in the Budgets *i.e.* Varanasi, Sivasagar (2008-09), Virudhunagar, Murshidabad (2009-10), Prakasam and Guntur districts and Godda and neighbouring districts (2012-13), Bhagalpur and Trichy (2014-15).

Under the scheme, components like conducting Diagnostic Study, engaging Designer, Product Development, Corpus for raw material, Construction of Worksheds (for BPL/SC/ST/Women weavers), Skill upgradation etc. are fully funded by Government of India, while the components like Technology upgradation, lighting units funded 90% and other common infrastructural projects like Design Studio, Marketing Complex, Value Addition Centres, Publicity etc., are funded by the GoI to the extent of 80%.

C. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS):

Handloom Weavers Comprehensive Welfare Scheme (HWCWS) is providing life, accidental and disability insurance coverage under the components Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY), Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) and Converged Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY).

D. Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS):

Yarn Supply Scheme is being implemented throughout the country to make available all types of yarn at Mill Gate Price. The scheme is being implemented through National Handloom Development Corporation. Under the Scheme freight is reimbursed and depot operating charges @2% is given to depot operating agencies. A component of 10% price subsidy also exists on hank yarn, which is applicable on cotton, domestic silk, wool and linen yarn with quantity caps.

(b) Funds to the eligible handloom agencies in the States are released on receipt of viable proposals from the States and on utilisation of previous funds. The Government has undertaken following activities in the State of Delhi in the last five years (2014-15 to 2018-19):—

- (i) As per 4th All India Handloom Census (2019-20), there are 2498 handlooms, 3236 handloom weavers and 1049 allied workers in Delhi.
- (ii) ₹ 42.00 lakh has been released for 23 marketing events covering 8740 beneficiaries.
- (iii) 10,000 kg. of yarn worth ₹ 14.35 lakh has been supplied at Mill Gate Price and 11,000 kg. of yarn worth ₹ 16.11 lakh has been supplied to the weavers of Delhi under 10% subsidy scheme of Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).

The Government has undertaken following activities in the State of Rajasthan in the last five years (2014-15 to 2018-19):-

- (i) As per 4th All India Handloom Census (2019-20), there are 6446 handlooms, 8687 handloom weavers and 1403 allied workers in Rajasthan.
- (ii) ₹ 38.00 lakh has been released for one Block Level Cluster covering 554 beneficiaries.
- (iii) ₹ 99.00 lakh has been released for 4 marketing events covering 5820 beneficiaries.
- (iv) Loan worth ₹ 66.00 lakh has been disbursed under Weavers' MUDRA Scheme covering 380 beneficiaries.
- (v) 10.03 lakh kg. of yarn worth ₹ 9.42 crore has been supplied at Mill Gate Price and 9600 kg. of yarn worth ₹ 16.71 lakh has been supplied to the weavers of Rajasthan under 10% subsidy scheme of Yarn Supply Scheme (YSS).
- (vi) 1963 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) and 18 beneficiaries have been enrolled under Pradhan Mantri Jivan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)/Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY).

(c) and (d) Government of India has conducted evaluation studies through independent agencies for smooth implementation of developmental schemes. Evaluation studies have revealed increase in working days, productivity and wages of the handloom weavers.

**Views of CBI for releasing payment
to small traders**

2059. SHRI MAJEED MEMON: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is mandatory to seek the views or clarifications from Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) before releasing payments to small traders/entrepreneurs/enterprises;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether M/s Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India Limited (HHEC) have repeatedly sought the views/clarification of CBI of small bullion parties against whom no case or enquiry is pending for releasing these payments; and
- (d) if so, complete details of views/clarifications sought by HHEC and replies given to them, case-wise during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Handicrafts and Handlooms Exports Corporation of India (HHEC) has withheld amount of M/s Edelweiss Commodities Limited (ECL) against which investigation by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) is going on. HHEC has also withheld payments of other bullion parties with whom HHEC has identical agreements as signed with ECL.

During CBI investigation in the case against ECL, CBI has examined the transaction of buyer's credit and sought information from HHEC regarding availing of buyer's credit and passing on difference amount between interest earned on Fixed Deposit (FD) and interest charged by the foreign bank for providing buyer's credit. This case has not been concluded yet.

HHEC has been informed by CBI on 26.11.2019 that the Agency has registered a case against Vice President, ECL, Mumbai, unknown officials of HHEC, Noida and unknown others. The investigation of the case is still going on.

HHEC is of the firm view that since the Agreement signed between HHEC and ECL is identical to the agreements signed with other bullion parties and the investigation in the ECL case by CBI is still not concluded, it is not possible at this stage to consider the release of payments to other bullion parties as any adverse outcome in the CBI case against ECL may have implications in other cases.

Launch of 'Going Online As Leaders' programme

2060. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has recently launched the second phase of the 'Going Online As Leaders' (GOAL), a Facebook programme aimed at inspiring, guiding and encouraging tribal girls from across the country to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of all the States selected in the first phase;

(c) whether members from the tribal community were selected from the State of Andhra Pradesh; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (d) GOAL (Going Online As Leaders) is a digitally-enabled mentorship initiative of Facebook for empowering tribal youth to become leaders for tomorrow in the respective fields. GOAL Project is stated to aim at identifying and mobilising renowned people from industry (policy makers and influencers), known for their leadership skills or roles, to digitally empower and personally mentor tribal youth from tribal communities across multiple locations of India. The initiative has been designed to identify and attach 1 Mentor who is expert in their respective fields, to four tribal youth, who will be trained and mentored.

Facebook had started a pilot project on its own in March, 2019 in 5 States of India *i.e.* Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Maharashtra, wherein they have identified 100 Tribal Mentees and 25 Mentors. Further, Facebook envisages to identify 5000 tribals from various fields to be mentored by 1250 mentors in 5 years in a phased manner.

GOAL (Going Online As Leaders) is a Facebook initiative. Ministry of Tribal Affairs was not associated with the pilot project implemented by the Facebook, specific details regarding State-wise beneficiaries are not available.

Tribals residing outside tribal majority blocks

2061. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that the Tribal Health in India report by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in November, 2018 states that over half of the country's 104 million tribal population now resides outside country's 809 tribal majority blocks;

(b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted to examine their inclusion in society, access to services, among other factors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) In order to have all Institutes/Centers working in the field of tribal health on a single platform, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare established Tribal Health Research Forum (THRF) on 9th August 2010, which is committed to prioritise research addressing specific health needs of the tribal population. Under the THRF, there are 16 Institutes/Centers and major Divisions of ICMR under leadership of National Institute of Research in Tribal Health (NIRTH), Jabalpur. 10 Tribal Health Research Units (THRUs) have been established by ICMR in two phases, which are functioning with an overall mandate to improve tribal health through diagnosis and develop strategies for management in their sub-population with emphasis on various infectious diseases as well as non-communicable diseases, apart from hemoglobinopathies, nutrition and maternal and child health etc. These units worked to outline the health problems of tribal population and generated evidence for policy change.

In addition, surveys like National Family Health Survey (NFHS), and District Level Household Survey (DLHS) are conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare give estimates, *inter-alia*, for tribal health indicators.

Displaced tribal communities

2062. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the list of figures of tribal communities who have been displaced due to development related works during the past five years on a national scale;

(b) whether the Ministry has maintained a database of the compensation awarded to each of these communities and families who have been displaced;

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources (DoLR), which is the nodal Ministry dealing with land acquisition matter, have informed that the land acquisition is undertaken by the Central and State Governments under various Central and State Acts, including the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and the provisions of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 are implemented by appropriate Government as defined under Section 3 (e) of the said Act. DoLR has also informed that they do not centrally maintain data relating to land acquisition (including displaced tribal communities) by States or other authorities.

Forest villages in Gujarat

†2063. SHRI NARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of forest villages in Gujarat at present;
- (b) the criteria for declaring a village as a forest village; and
- (c) the details of development related works being carried out in these forest villages and the Total expenditure incurred on the same during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) As per the information provided by Government of Gujarat, there were 196 Forest Settlement villages in the State of Gujarat. All villages, except 14 villages in Protected Areas have been declared as Revenue Villages.

(b) Section 2 (f) of The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 provides that “forest village” means the settlements which have been established inside the forests by the forest department of any State Government for forestry operations or which were converted into forest villages through the forest reservation process and includes forest settlement villages, fixed demand holdings, all types of taungya settlements by whatever name called, for such villages and includes lands for cultivation and other uses permitted by the Government.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) Development work like road, drinking water, school, electrification, sanitation, etc. are done in forest settlement villages by the respective line Departments and Forest Department of State Governments. Total fund utilised by Forest Department of Gujarat in the Forest settlement villages during last three years is as under:—

(‘ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Year	Funds utilized
1.	2016-17	₹ 223.98
2.	2017-18	₹ 232.45
3.	2018-19	₹ 42.02

Displacement of tribals

†2064. SHRI RAKESH SINHA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of tribal population/number of families displaced during the period from 2015 to 2019;

(b) the State-wise details thereof;

(c) the reasons attributable for the said displacement;

(d) the provision in place for Government assistance to those who are displaced; and

(e) whether Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund is being utilised for the displaced tribal population?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Rural Development, Department of Land Resources (DoLR), which is the nodal Ministry dealing with land acquisition matter, have informed that the land acquisition is undertaken by the Central and State Governments under various Central and State Acts, including the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 and the provisions of the RFCTLARR Act, 2013 are implemented by appropriate Government as defined under Section 3 (e) of the said Act. DoLR has also informed that they do not

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

centrally maintain data relating to land acquisition (including displaced tribal communities) by States or other authorities.

(d) DoLR has informed that the First Schedule of the RFCTLARR Act provide for compensation for land owners. The Second Schedule provide for element of rehabilitation and resettlement for all the affected families (both land owners and the families whose livelihood is primarily dependent on land acquired) in addition to those provided in the first Schedule. Similarly, the Third Schedule provide for infrastructural amenities for a reasonably habitable and planned settlement in the resettlement area.

(e) Ministry of Corporate Affairs have informed that Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is a Board driven process and the Board of a company is empowered to decide the activities to be undertaken by it. Schedule VII of Companies Act, 2013('Act') enlists CRS eligible activities. Under item no. (viii) of Schedule VII, contribution to the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund or any other fund set up by the Central Government for socio-economic development and relief and welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women; is considered as CSR activity.

Livelihood support for tribals

2065. SHRI D. KUPENDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of schemes meant for livelihood support for tribals in the country presently under implementation; and

(b) the details of number of beneficiaries enrolled/benefited under these schemes, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) The Government of India is implementing the following schemes for livelihood support for tribals in the country:—

- (i) Grants under Article 275(1) of the Constitution: It is a 100% grant from Government of India. Funding under this programme is to enable the State to meet the cost of such schemes of development as may be undertaken by the State for the purpose of promoting the welfare of Scheduled Tribes in that State or raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas therein to that of the administration of the rest of the areas of that State. Government

has adopted a multi-pronged strategy for overall development of tribal people across the country, which includes various sectors *viz.* (i) Education (ii) Health (iii) Agriculture, Horticulture, Animal Husbandry (AH), Fisheries, Dairy & others in Primary Sector (iv) Other income generating schemes to augment Tribal household economy and (v) Administrative structure/ Institutional framework & Research studies.

- (ii) Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub Scheme (SCA to TSS): It is a part of the Umbrella Scheme for Development of Scheduled Tribes which is now a Core of the Core Scheme. It supplements the efforts of State Governments for development and welfare of tribal people by extending Special Central Assistance as additive to the State Tribal Sub-Plan (TSP).

Under the special area programme of the Special Central Assistance to Tribal Sub-Scheme (SCA to TSS), Grants are released to 27 States, having ST population for development and welfare of tribal people. Funds are released to States based upon proposals received from the State Governments and considered in the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC), to bridge the gaps in sectors like education, health, agriculture, skill development, employment-cum-income generation, etc. 100% grants are provided to States. Major part of infrastructure development in tribal dominated areas and provision of basic amenities to tribal people in the country is carried out through various schemes/programmes of concerned Central Ministries and the State Governments concerned, while the Ministry of Tribal Affairs provides additive to these initiatives by way of plugging gaps under SCA to TSS.

- (iii) Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and development of Value Chain for MFP : The scheme of “Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Development of Value Chain for MFP” was designed as one of the social safety measures for the Minor Forest Produce (MFP) gatherers, who are primarily members of Scheduled Tribes. It seeks to establish a system to ensure fair monetary returns for their efforts in collection primary processing, storage, packaging, transportation, etc. of MFP. It also seeks to get them a share of revenue from the sale proceeds with cost deducted.

As the scheme is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, the costs of various components are shared between the Centre and the States in 75:25 ratio. The scheme consists of the following components:—

- Revolving Fund, operated at State level, for upfront payment for procuring of MFP. After the procured MFP is disposed off, the proceeds therefrom will be credited back to this fund.
 - Fund to meet the losses will be made available to the State agencies on yearly basis, based on their audited accounts and vetting by TRIFED.
 - Expansion of Storage and Trading facilities at State level covers requirements for infrastructure such as godowns, cold storage, processing facilities, etc.
 - Modernisation of Haats involves setting up of permanent structure and facilities for storage, drinking water, shade, platforms, etc.
 - Creation of Storage facility at aggregation points involves establishment of small godowns of 50 MTs capacity at Block level. (The cost of land and recurring expenses for this will be met by the State agencies which will be besides the State's share of 25% of the cost).
 - Multi-Purpose Centres for training, primary processing, value addition in MFPs.
 - Fixing of MSP for MFP is done on the basis of recommendation of the Pricing Cell, which is set up from time to time in TRIFED. This cell is to include experts/knowledgeable persons from the fields of price fixation, economic analysis, trade and marketing of MFP and will use the cost of collection, cost of cleaning and primary processing, packaging and transportation cost as the criteria for determination of MSP for MFP. Baseline survey is to be carried out for each of the MFP item which will form the basis of MSP fixation.
- (iv) Equity Support to national Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) / State Tribes Finance and Development corporation (STFDCs): National Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporation (NSTFDC) is an apex organization set up in April, 2001 exclusively for economic development of Scheduled Tribes. This Corporation was incorporated as a Govt. Company under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) and granted license under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (now Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013). It is managed by the Board of Directors with representation from Central Government State Channelising Agencies, National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

(NABARD), Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI), Tribal Co-operative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) and eminent persons representing Scheduled Tribes. The Corporation plays a leading role in economic up-liftment of Scheduled Tribes by providing financial assistance at concessional rates of interest through channelising agencies.

The broad objectives of NSTFDC are:—

- To identify economic activities of importance for Scheduled Tribes so as to generate self-employment and raise their level of income.
- To upgrade skills and process used by the Scheduled Tribes by providing both institutional and on the job training.
- To make the existing State/UT Scheduled Tribes Finance and Development Corporations (SCAs) and other developmental agencies engaged in the economic development of Scheduled Tribes more effective.
- To assist SCAs in project formulation, implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes and in imparting training to their personnel.
- To monitor implementation of NSTFDC assisted schemes in order to assess their impact.

Functions:

- To generate awareness amongst the STs about NSTFDC concessional schemes.
- To provide assistance for skill development and capacity building of beneficiaries as well as officials of SCAs.
- To provide concessional finance for viable income generation scheme through SCAs and other agencies for socio-economic development of eligible Scheduled Tribes.
- To assist in market linkage of tribal produce.

NSTFDC implements following schemes for self-employment of Scheduled Tribes who are unemployed or underemployed:

- Term Loan scheme: NSTFDC provides Term Loan for any viable income generation scheme costing upto ₹ 25.00 lakhs per unit. The financial assistance

is extended upto 90% of the cost of the scheme and the balance is met by way of subsidy/promoter's contribution/margin money. The interest rate chargeable is 6% p.a. for loan upto ₹ 5 lakhs, 8% p.a. for loans ranging between ₹ 5 lakhs to ₹ 10 lakhs and 10% p.a. for loan exceeding ₹ 10 lakhs on the entire amount of loan.

- Adivasi Mahila Sashaktikaran Yojana (AMSY): Under the scheme, Scheduled Tribes women can undertake any viable income generation activity costing upto ₹ 1 lakh per unit. Loans upto 90% for scheme are provided under this scheme at a concessional rate of 4% interest p.a.
 - Micro Credit Scheme for Self Help Groups: The Corporation provides loan ₹ 5 lakhs per Self Help Group (SHG) and upto ₹ 50,000/- per member. The interest rate chargeable is 6% p.a.
 - Adivasi Shiksha Rin Yojana (Education Loan): Under this scheme, financial assistance upto ₹10.00 lakh at concessional rate of interest of 6% per annum is provided to ST students for pursuing professional/technical education including Ph.D. in India. Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India provides interest subsidy for this scheme, whereby, no interest is payable by a student during the course period and one year or six months after getting the job, as the case may be.
- (v) Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce: Under the scheme, Grants-in-aid are released to State Tribal Development Cooperative Corporations (STDCCs) and Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd. (TRIFED) which is a multi-State Cooperative under MoTA. The scope of this Scheme is:-
- (i) To give comprehensive support for people belonging to various tribes in the entire range of production, product development, preservation of traditional heritage, support to both forest and agricultural produce of tribal people, support to Institutions to carry the above activities, provisions of better infrastructure, development of designs, dissemination of information about price and the agencies which are buying the products, support to Government agencies for sustainable marketing and thereby ensure a reasonable price regime.

- (ii) Sharing of information with Gram Panchayats and Gram Sabhas
- (iii) Skill upgradation, development of utilitarian products for increase in value in market. The objective of the Scheme is to create institutions for the Scheduled Tribes to support marketing and development of activities they depend on for their livelihood. These are sought to be achieved by specific measures like (i) market intervention; (ii) training and skill up-gradation of tribal Artisans, Craftsmen, MFP gatherers etc.; (iii) R&D/IPR activity; and (iv) Supply chain infrastructure development.

(b) Under the above schemes, funds are released to States Government, State Implementing Agencies and not to the beneficiaries directly so, the numbers of beneficiaries availing benefit under the schemes are not maintained centrally.

Petitions under Forest Rights Act

2066. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of petitions received under the Forest Rights Act from May, 2019 to October, 2019, individual and community claims filed, State-wise;
- (b) the number of claims which have been pending and which have been settled under the FRA from May, 2019 to October, 2019, individual and community claims settled, State-wise; and
- (c) the number of acres of forest land that have been given under the Forest Rights Act, from May, 2019 to October, 2019, State- wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RENUKA SINGH SARUTA): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is preparing Monthly Progress Report (MPR) on the recognition and vesting of rights under the Forest Rights Act, 2006 on the basis of the information received from the State Governments who are responsible for the implementation of the said Act. However, the information sent by many of the States is with a lag and not up to date. The latest MPR compiled on this basis is for May, 2019. Accordingly, the information pertaining to the number of claims received (individual and community), the number of titles distributed (individual and community), the number of claims pending (individual and community) and extent of forest land for which titles distributed (individual and community) as per the latest MPR as on 31.05.2019 is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of claims received, title distributed, number of pending claims and extent of forest land (Individual and Community), as on 31.05.2019.

Sl. No.	State	No. of Claims received		No. of Titles Distributed		Pending Claims		Extent of Forest Land (Acres)	
		Individual	Community	Individual	Community	Individual	Community	Individual	Community
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1	Andhra Pradesh	177446	4062	96675	1374	7302	230	239554.00	453384
2	Assam	148965	6046	57325	1477	91640	4569	NA	NA
3	Bihar	8022	0	121	0	3686	0	NA	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	858682	31558	401251	21967	3219	2213	843100.69	2038146.15
5	Goa	9758	378	17	8	9694	370	76.60	10.25
6	Gujarat	182869	7187	83699	3516	36710	1362	129571.61	1161351.49
7	Himachal Pradesh	2071	170 -	129	7	1942	163	5.96	4670.56
8	Jharkhand	107032	3724	59866	2104	20796	-117*	153395.86	103758.97
9	Karnataka	275446	5903	14667	1406	84239	81	20813.51	28155.75

10	Kerala	36140	1395	24599	0	3652	1395	33018.12	NA
11	Madhya Pradesh	582927	42048	226313	27962	7846	2020	812345.19	1465013.16
12	Maharashtra	362679	12037	165032	7084	152459	4616	392928.73	2736660.68
13	Odisha	617935	13826	430212	6564	41973	6263	642542.12	235205.91
14	Rajashtan	74414	1441	38007	103	651	795	57730.26	2993.64
15	Tamil Nadu	32983	1005	6111	276	15238	621	8607.26	0
16	Telangana	183252	3427	93639	721	7538	1024	300284.00	454055
17	Tripura	200358	277	127931	55	4039	0	460049.16	91.16
18	Uttar Pradesh	92520	1124	17712	843	144	0	120802.06	139656.06
19	Uttarakhand	3574	3091	144	1	10	0	0.00	0
20	West Bengal	131962	10119	44444	686	185	179	21014.27	572.03

* The discrepancy with regard to pending claims of Jharkhand occurred due to the figure reported for the rejected community claims for Ramgarh District of Jharkhand exceeds the received community claims.

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

365

Child Mortality data

2067. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the UNICEF report 'The State of the World's Children 2019' which has pointed out that malnutrition caused 69 per cent of deaths of children below the age of five in India;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;
- (c) whether Government has maintained any data regarding child mortality due to malnutrition; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (d) Malnutrition is not a direct cause of death among children under five years of age. It can increase morbidity and mortality by reducing resistance to infections. Malnourished children are more vulnerable to any infection than normal children. The overall under five mortality rate has reduced from 74.3 (NFHS-3) to 49.7 (NFHS-4) deaths per thousand live births.

Pay and allowances to Anganwadi workers

†2068. SHRI AJAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the State-wise details of pay and allowances being paid to Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers employed at various places under the Ministry during the last three years;
- (b) whether any State has paid lesser pay and allowances to Anganwadi workers and Anganwadi helpers during current financial year as compared to last year; and
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Anganwadi Services {under Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Schemes} envisages the Anganwadi Workers (AWWs) and Anganwadi Helpers (AWHs) as "honorary workers" from the local community who come forward to render their services, on part time basis, in the area of child care and development. Being

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

honorary workers, they are paid monthly honoraria as decided by Government from time to time. The honorarium paid by Government of India (GOI) is uniform for all the AWWs/AWHs across the country. The details of honorarium paid to AWWs and AWHs during the last three years are as under:—

Category	Rate of Honorarium w.e.f . 01.04.2011	Rate of Honorarium w.e.f . 01.10.2018
AWWs at Main-AWCs	₹ 3,000/-	₹ 4,500/-
AWWs at Mini-AWCs	₹ 2,250/- (w.e.f. 04.07.2013)	₹ 3,500/-
AWHs	₹ 1,500/-	₹ 2,250/-

Note: Performance linked incentive of ₹500/- per month to AWWs for using ICDS-CAS (Common Application Software) under POSHAN Abhiyaan and ₹250/- per month to AWHs paid by GoI w.e.f. 01.10.2018.

Most of the States/UTs are also giving monetary incentives to these workers out of their own resources. The details of additional honorarium being paid by States/UTs to AWWs and AWHs during the last three years are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) As per the information available, all the States/UTs are paying same honorarium to AWWs/AWHs as sanctioned by GoI. However, there is variation in the honorarium paid by States/UTs from their own resources which varies from State to State.

Statement

Details of additional honorarium being paid by States/UTs to AWWs and AWHs during the last three years

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Additional honorarium given by States/UTs (In ₹) for 2016-17		Additional honorarium given by States/UTs (In ₹) for 2017-18		Additional honorarium given by States/UTs (In ₹) for 2018-19	
		AWWs	AWHs	AWWs	AWHs	AWWs	AWHs
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3000	2500	3000	2500	3000	2500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1200	700	1200	700	1200	700
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
4.	Assam	1000	500	1000	500	2000	1000
5.	Bihar	750	375	750	375	750	375
6.	Chandigarh	2000	1000	2000	1000	2000	1000
7.	Chhattisgarh	1000	500	1000	500	2000	1000
8.	Dadra and Nagar Heveli	1000	600	1000	600	1000	600
9.	Daman and Diu	1000	600	1000	600	1000	600
10.	Delhi	2000	1000	2000	1000	6678	3339
11.	Goa	3062- 11937*	3000- 6000	3062- 11937*	3000- 6000	3062- 11937*	3000- 6000*
12.	Gujarat	1750	900	1750	900	3300	1700
13.	Haryana	2500	1000	2500	2250	7286- 8429*	4215
14.	Himachal Pradesh	300	200	1450	600	1750	900
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	600	340	600	340	600	340
16.	Jharkhand	700	350	1400	700	1400	700
17.	Karnataka	2000	1000	3000	2000	5000	2500
18.	Kerala	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
19.	Lakshadweep	1600	1000	1600	1000	3000	2000
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2000	1000	2000	1000	7000	3500
21.	Maharashtra	2000	1000	2000	1000	2000	1000
22.	Manipur	100	50	100	50	100	50
23.	Meghalaya	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
24.	Odisha	1000	500	1000	500	1000	500
25.	Puducherry	600	300	600	300	600	300
26.	Punjab	2000	1000	2600	1300	2600	1300
27.	Rajasthan	1724- 1736*	1065	1724- 1736*	1065	1724- 1736*	1065
28.	Sikkim	2225	1500	2225	1500	2225	1500

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
29. Uttarakhand		3000	1500	3000	1500	3000	1500
30. West Bengal		1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300
31. Uttar Pradesh		200	100	1000	500	1000	500
32. Nagaland		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
33. Mizoram		Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	294-306*	150
34. Tamil Nadu		5940	3532	6750	4275	6750	4275
		(Pay-2500, GP-500, HRA-500, CCA-180, MA-100& DA-2160)	(Pay-1300, GP-300, HRA-500, CCA-180, A-100& DA-1152)	(Pay-2500, GP-500 & DA-3750)	(Pay-1500, GP-400 & DA-2375)	(Pay-2500, GP-500 & DA-3750)	(Pay-1500, GP-400 & DA-2375)
35. Telangana		4000	3000	4000	3000	6000	3750
36. Tripura		2865	1924	2865	1924	2865	1924

*Top up provided by State Government to Angawaddi workers

Increase in number of malnourished children

2069. SHRI RITABRATA BANERJEE: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of malnourished children have increased in the country during the last two years;

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

(c) what remedial measures are adopted to fight it?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) As per the report of NFHS-4 conducted in 2015-16, 35.7% children under 5 years of age are underweight and 38.4% are stunted indicating a reduction from the NFHS-3 conducted in 2005-06, which reported 42.5% children under 5 years of age as underweight and 48% stunted. Further, as per the report of Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS) (2016-18), prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children is 34.7%, 17% and 33.4% respectively, which indicates further reduction when compared to the levels reported by NFHS-4.

(c) The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is implementing several schemes/programmes of different Ministries/Departments through States/UTs to address various aspects related to nutrition. This Ministry is implementing POSHAN Abhiyaan, Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana, Anganwadi Services and Scheme for Adolescent Girls under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services Scheme (ICDS) as direct targeted interventions to address the problem of malnutrition in the country.

Government has set up POSHAN Abhiyaan on 18.12.2017 for a three year time-frame commencing from 2017-18. The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time-bound manner during the three years with fixed targets as under:—

Sl. No.	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0-6 years).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young children (6-59 months).	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

The Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a life cycle approach, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan has mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure. The major activities undertaken under this Abhiyaan are ensuring convergence with various other programmes; Information Technology enabled Common Application Software for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Community Mobilisation and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan- to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Capacity Building of Frontline Functionaries, incentivising States/UTs for achieving goals etc.

Further steps taken under the National Health Mission (NHM), a flagship programme of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, to address malnutrition *inter alia* include promotion of appropriate Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices, Anaemia Mukh Bharat, Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) supplementation, de-worming, promotion of iodized salt, Vitamin-A supplementation, Mission Indradhanush to ensure high coverage of vaccination in children, conducting intensified diarrhoea control fortnights to control childhood diarrhoea, management of sick severely malnourished children at Nutrition Rehabilitation Centers, monthly Village Health and Nutrition Days, Home-Based Newborn Care (HBNC) and Home-Based Young Child Care (HBYC) programmes, Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram, etc.

Shortage of Working Women Hostel

2070. DR. SASIKALA PUSHPA RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that there is a shortage of Working Women Hostel across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu, due to which girls/women find it very difficult to obtain safe accommodation and putting their life and modesty to risk;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to set up/establish adequate number of Working Women Hostel across the country including the State of Tamil Nadu; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) No State Government/UT Administration has reported shortage of Working Women Hostels except the States of Assam, Goa, Tamil Nadu and Punjab.

(c) and (d) Setting up of new Working Women Hostels is a continuous process. Government sanctions new hostels on receipt of proposals as per scheme guidelines along with the recommendations from State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

One Stop Centres in Gujarat

† 2071. SHRINARANBHAI J. RATHWA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the district-wise number of 'One Stop Centres' currently functioning in Gujarat along with districts which have not been covered so far by above mentioned centres;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the reasons for not setting up such centres in the remaining districts so far; and

(c) the year-wise details of funds allocated and utilised for overall functioning of 'One Stop Centres' during the last two years along with amount remaining unutilised out of the allocated funds and reasons for such non-utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has given approval for setting up of One Stop Centers (OSCs) in all 33 districts of Gujarat under One Stop Centre Scheme of the Ministry. Out of these approved OSCs, the State Government of Gujarat has operationalised OSCs in 32 out of the 33 districts till now. The details of functional OSCs in Gujarat are given in the Statement-I (*See* below). As informed by the State Government of Gujarat, due to difficulty in finding a suitable site or premises for establishing the OSC, the same has not been operationalised in Gandhinagar district so far. However, State Government is taking appropriate action to operationalise OSC in Gandhinagar.

(c) The year-wise details of funds allocated and utilised for overall functioning of 'One Stop Centres' in Gujarat during the last two years along with amount remaining unutilised out of the allocated funds are given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

The State Government and district administrations are responsible for establishment and functioning of OSCs as well as for utilisation of funds released by the Government of India to them under the OSC scheme.

Statement-I

District-wise functional OSCs in Gujarat

Sl. No.	Districts
1	Ahmedabad
2	Amreli
3	Anand
4	Aravalli
5	Banaskantha

Sl. No.	Districts
6	Bharuch
7	Bhavnagar
8	Botad
9	Chhota Udepur
10	Dahod
11	Dangs
12	Devbhoomi Dwarka
13	Gir Somnath
14	Jamnagar
15	Junagarh
16	Kheda
17	Kutch
18	Mahisagar
19	Mehsana
20	Morbi
21	Narmada
22	Navsari
23	Panchmahal
24	Patan
25	Porbandar
26	Rajkot
27	Sabarkantha
28	Surat
29	Surendranagar
30	Tapi
31	Vadodara
32	Valsad

Statement-II

*Year-wise details of funds allocated, utilised and un-utilised
during the last two years*

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Districts	Year: 2017-18			Year: 2018-19		
		Fund Allocated/ Released	Fund Utilised	Fund Un- utilised	Fund Allocated/ Released	Fund Utilised	Fund Un- utilised
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Ahmedabad	11.91	0	11.91	9.00	0	9.00
2	Amreli	20.91	0	20.91	0	0	0
3	Anand	0	0	0	15.91	0	15.91
4	Aravalli	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Banaskantha	0	0	0	28.41	0	28.41
6	Bharuch	0	0	0	15.91	0	15.91
7	Bhavnagar	11.91	0	11.91	0	0	0
8	Botad	0	0	0	18.41	0	18.41
9	Chhota Udepur	0	0	0	9.41	0	9.41
10	Dahod	11.91	0	11.91	0	0	0
11	Dangs	0	0	0	6.91	0	6.91
12	Devbhoomi Dwarka	0	0	0	6.91	0	6.91
13	Gandhinagar	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Gir Somnath	0	0	0	18.41	9.81	8.59
15	Jamnagar	0	0	0	19.41	0	19.41
16	Junagarh	20.91	0	20.91	0	0	0
17	Kheda	0	0	0	19.41	0	19.41
18	Kutch	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Mahisagar	0	0	0	6.91	0	6.91
20	Mehsana	0	0	0	15.91	0	15.91

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21	Morbi	0	0	0	18.41	0	18.41
22	Narmada	0	0	0	15.91	0	15.91
23	Navsari	0	0	0	6.91	0	6.91
24	Panchmahal	0	0	0	28.41	0.04	28.36
25	Patan	20.91	0	20.91	0	0	0
26	Porbandar	0	0	0	19.41	0	19.41
27	Rajkot	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Sabarkantha	7.76	0	7.76	13.26	0	13.26
29	Surat	0	0	0	9.41	0	9.41
30	Surendranagar	0	0	0	18.41	0	18.41
31	Tapi	0	0	0	18.41	0	18.41
32	Vadodara	20.91	0	20.91	0	0	0
33	Valsad	0	0	0	28.41	0	28.41

**Funds allocated/used for BBBP
by Uttar Pradesh**

2072. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount of funds allocated and being actually used by Uttar Pradesh for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) during the last three years;
- (b) the number of activities covered under the scheme of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao;
- (c) whether Government has received some suggestions from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to improve coverage of BBBP Scheme; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The details of amount of funds allocated and being actually used by Uttar Pradesh for Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) during the last three years are as under:—

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds	Funds
		Allocated	Utilised	Allocated	Utilised	Allocated	Utilised
1.	Uttar Pradesh	-	0.00	601.76	103.13	1243.15	393.69

(b) The BBBP Scheme has two components namely, (i) Multi - sectoral interventions and (ii) Advocacy and Media Campaign.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested the Ministry of Women and Child Development for inclusion of 07 more districts of Uttar Pradesh namely, Amethi, Sant Kabir Nagar, Balrampur, Hapur, Shamli, Sambhal and Rampur under the BBBP Scheme. Out of these 07 districts, the 03 districts namely, Sant Kabir Nagar, Balrampur and Rampur are already covered under the Advocacy and Media Component of the Scheme.

At present, the BBBP Scheme is implemented in all 640 districts (as per Census 2011) of the country including 71 districts of the State of Uttar Pradesh. Out of these, 68 districts are covered under Multi-Sectoral intervention component and the remaining 03 districts i.e. Sant Kabir Nagar, Balrampur and Rampur are covered under Advocacy and Media Campaign.

Children in shelter homes not getting jobs

2073. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 40 per cent of children in the country who leave shelter homes are unable to find jobs, as per the study conducted by an NGO;

(b) if so, whether Government has made any study to find out the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the efforts made by various agencies to provide those children with vocational skills and career oriented courses to equip them to find jobs in the market; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (e) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has

conducted a Study on Education and Vocational Training of Children staying at Observation Homes and Special Homes. The study was conducted in 50 Homes in the 18 States/UTs, covering all the five regions, *i.e.*, East, West, North, South & North-East. These States/UTs are - Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry, Punjab, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The report has been uploaded on the website of NCPCR is available at <https://ncpcr.gov.in/showfile.php?lang=1&level=1&&sublinkid=1711&lid=1700>.

The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 provides for vocational training to children placed in various Child Care Institutions, for their rehabilitation based on the interest and aptitude of the child. The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme *i.e.* “Child Protection Services” (CPS) (erstwhile Integrated Child Protection Scheme) and providing financial assistance to State Governments/UT Administrations, with the primary objective of care and protection of children in distress conditions through institutional and non-institutional care. The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Model Rules, 2016 framed under JJ Act, *inter alia* specify standards for rehabilitation measures such as education, vocational training, counselling etc. Further CPS also provides for “After care” services after the age of 18 years to help sustain them during the transition from institutional to independent life. The Scheme provides for funds for managing the Aftercare Programme by the State Child Protection Society at the State level, based on the number of districts in the State *i.e.*

- (i) ₹15 lakhs to State with less than 15 districts.
- (ii) ₹ 30 lakhs to State with more than 15 and less than 30 districts.
- (iii) ₹ 45 lakhs to State with more than 30 districts.

The primary responsibility of implementation of the JJ Act and Scheme lies with the State/UTs.

Death of children due to malnourishment

†2074. SHRI RAMKUMAR VERMA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of children who died in the States of Delhi, Rajasthan, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh due to malnourishment during the last three years; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

- (b) the steps being taken by Government to prevent starvation?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) The data on number of deaths of children in the country is not maintained by this Ministry. Malnutrition is a multi-faceted problem and is not a direct cause of death but contributes to mortality and morbidity by reducing resistance to infections.

(b) Government of India accords high priority to the issue of hunger and provides foodgrains at highly subsidised prices to the targeted population through States/UTs under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in terms of National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) and Other Welfare Schemes (OWSs). NFSA, 2013, provides for coverage of upto 75% of the rural population and 50% of urban population, thus covering about two-third of the population of the country for receiving foodgrains @ of ₹ 3, 2 and 1 per kg. for rice, wheat and nutri-cereals respectively under TPDS. During the year 2018-19, the Government allocated a quantity of 612.18 lakh MT of foodgrains to the States/UTs under NFSA, Other Welfare Schemes and allocations due to natural calamities and festivals. Similarly, during the current year 2019-20, so far 603.88 lakh tons of foodgrains has been allocated under NFSA, OWS and additional allocations.

The Act also has a special focus on the nutritional support to women and children. Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers and children upto 14 years of age are entitled to nutritious meals, free of cost, as per the prescribed nutritional standards. In case of non-supply of entitled foodgrains or meals, the beneficiaries are entitled to receive food security allowance. The Act also contains provisions for setting up of grievance redressal mechanism at the district and State levels.

Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act

2075. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that administering injections, chemical substances or hormones to a child below 18 years to induce early sexual maturity and then force the child into sexual activity may soon become an offence under the aggravated sexual assault clause under Section 9 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012;

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

(c) whether this is one of the amendments that is part of proposal of the Ministry that also seeks to introduce stronger punitive measures against those in possession of pornographic material involving children?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act, 2019 has been notified on 06.08.2019 and made effective from 16.08.2019. Section 9 of the POCSO Act has been amended to include clause (v) which provides that whoever persuades, induces, entices or coerces a child to get administered or administers or direct anyone to administer, help in getting administered any drug or hormone or any chemical substance, to a child with the intent that such child attains early sexual maturity is said to commit aggravated sexual assault. The punishment for the offence of aggravated sexual assault has been laid down under Section 10 of the POCSO Act, 2012 which stipulates that whoever, commits aggravated sexual assault shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which shall not be less than five years but which may extend to seven years, and shall also be liable to fine.

Abandoned children living in children homes

† 2076. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether 90 per cent of the 11 lakh abandoned children happen to be girls and thousands of them are adopted every year, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the State-wise details of the abandoned children living in Governmental and non-Governmental children homes;

(c) whether Total indifference and corruption has transformed the process of adoption into a commercial transaction;

(d) if so, whether the Central Adoption Resource Authority (CARA) has failed in regulating the placement agencies and preventing the delay and recurrence of the process of adoption; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps taken by Government, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (e) As per provisions of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act), abandoned children are considered as children in need of care

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and protection. The implementation of the Act is the responsibility of States/UTs. As per information provided by Central Adoption Authority Resource (CARA), details (gender-wise) of number of children placed in In-country and Inter-country Adoptions during last three years and current year (upto November, 2019) are as under:

Year	In-country Adoption			Inter-country Adoption		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
2016-17	1295	1915	3210	148	430	578
2017-18	1333	1943	3276	198	453	651
2018-19	1397	1977	3374	232	421	653
2019-20 (upto November, 2019)	845	1159	2004	92	183	275

Source: CARINGS

These are the figures of adoption only under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. A large number of domestic adoptions happen under the Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act (HAMA), 1956, details of which are not maintained by CARA.

The details of children supported under Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme as informed by the States/UTs as on 28.11.2019 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

Adoptions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Adoption Regulations, 2017 are being regulated by State Adoption Resource Agency (In-country Adoptions) and Central Adoption Resource Authority (Inter-country Adoptions).

Under the Regulations, specified timelines have been stipulated for each process and the responsibilities of different agencies have been fixed. The process of adoption is executed with the help of an online application - Child Adoption Resource Information and Guidance Systems (CARINGS), in order to complete the process in transparent manner.

In case Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) do not subscribe to the provisions of Act or Adoption Regulations, penal provisions for taking actions against SAA have been prescribed under Sections 65 (4) and 66 (3) of JJ Act, 2015 and Regulation 25 of Adoption Regulations, 2017.

Details of complaints of illegal activities reported against SAAs are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State/UT-wise number of CCIs including children with special need under CPS Scheme as on 28.11.2019.

Sl. No.	State	Children Home	Beneficiaries	Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs)	Bene-ficiaries	Open Shelter	Beneficiaries
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	50	2667	14	140	9	262
2	Arunachal Pradesh	4	155	1	10	0	0
3	Assam	30	1633	23	69	3	51
4	Bihar	13	687	13	138	5	134
5	Chhattisgarh	43	1735	12	120	10	117
6	Goa	23	1188	2	16	3	378
7	Gujarat	42	1675	12	86	0	0
8	Haryana	20	1027	7	52	14	425
9	Himachal Pradesh	30	1236	1	15	4	91
10	Jammu and Kashmir	10	542	2	0	0	0
11	Jharkhand	25	576	15	93	5	141
12	Karnataka	62	2949	25	319	38	1084
13	Kerala	18	754	12	65	4	100
14	Madhya Pradesh	46	2301	26	243	8	348
15	Maharashtra	19	572	17	170	2	50
16	Manipur	37	1080	7	55	14	296
17	Meghalaya	41	912	3	6	3	159
18	Mizoram	26	989	5	50	0	0
19	Nagaland	25	506	4	5	3	60
20	Odisha	92	6561	23	223	12	244

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21	Punjab	7	274	0	0	0	0
22	Rajasthan	51	1955	24	99	22	401
23	Sikkim	9	300	4	20	3	60
24	Tamil Nadu	187	12450	20	200	11	275
25	Tripura	19	710	6	49	2	58
26	Uttar Pradesh	45	1754	25	247	20	517
27	Uttarakhand	7	317	2	15	2	50
28	West Bengal	59	3486	23	326	49	1226
29	Telangana	31	1017	11	320	0	0
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	10	401	2	10	0	0
31	Chandigarh	6	230	2	17	0	0
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Daman and Diu	1	25	0	0	0	0
34	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	National Capital Territory of Delhi	22	1137	3	72	13	380
36	Puducherry	25	1040	2	16	2	42
TOTAL		1135	54841	348	3266	261	6949

Statement-II

*Details of complaints of illegal activities reported against SAAs
(After enactment of the JJ Act, 2015 i.e. - w.e.f. 15th January, 2016)*

Sl. No.	Name of SAA	Remarks
1	2	3
2016-2017:		
1.	Naseema Nursing Home, Mysore District, Karnataka	Cases of alleged child trafficking and sale of children from Naseema Nursing Home in Mysore District, Karnataka. Action has been taken by the State Government.

1	2	3
2.	Joka Millenium Old Age Home, 24 North Pargana, West Bengal	Agency closed down after agency found to be indulging in promotion of illegal adoption.
3.	North Bengal's People's Development Centre, Jaipauri, West Bengal	Agency closed down by the State Government of West Bengal after agency found to be indulging in illegal adoption.
2017-2018:		
4.	Marwadi Charitable Trust, Jalgaon, Maharashtra	Illegal adoptions were reported. Agency closed down by Government of Maharashtra on the directions of CARA.
5.	Mahila Jan Shishu Kalyan Kendra, Bokaro, Jharkhand	The Agency was close down by the State Government of Jharkhand due to alleged illegal adoptions by the institution.
6.	Mahadev Shishu Greh, Mirzapur, U.P.	The SAAs were de-licensed by the State Government after numerous complaints were received against the agencies by the prospective adoptive parents and large numbers of deaths of children were reported. Further, inquiry by the State Government revealed irregularities and poor child care by the agencies which were run by the same person. The agencies have approached the High Court of Allahabad against the decision of the State Government.
7.	Shri Radha Krishna Shishu Greh, Varanasi, U.P.	The SAA was delicensed in February 2018 by the State Government based on the inspection conducted by the Officials of the State Government and the DPO. The major violations by the agency are as under:— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregularities in child care • The agency demanded extra fees apart from the Adoption Fees for completion of the adoption process Number of reported deaths of children in the agency
8.	Maa Vindhyavasini Mahila Prashikshan Evam Samaj Sewa Sanstha, Deoria, UP	The agency was delicensed by the State Government as they were involved in the irregularities, which was

1	2	3
		investigated by SIT under the directions of the High Court of Allahabad.
	2018-2019:	
9.	Pallishri Mahila Samiti, Kendrapada, Odisha	The SAA has been fined of ₹50,000/- under the Section 65(4) of the JJ Act, 2015 and received on 17/05/2019.
10.	Udaan (Kilkari), Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh	An inquiry was carried out against the agency and based on the recommendations of the Inquiry Committee report; Ministry has issued an order to Government of Madhya Pradesh recommending closure of the agency immediately. The SAA has taken a stay order against the said order from the Hon'ble High Court, Jabalpur, M.P. and inquiry related to the case is going on. The next hearing date is due on 09/12/2019.
	2019-2020 (upto 02/12/2019):	
11.	Snehankur Adoption Centre Ahmednagar, Maharashtra	A complaint received on 10/06/2019 from PAPs regarding payment of ₹ 29,700/- in cash and a donation of ₹ 10,000/- through cheque without name and also ₹ 40,000/- through cheque in favour of Snehalaya Sanchit Snehankur. Enquiry under process.
12.	Bal Vikas Mumbai, Maharashtra	A complaint received on 26/04/2019 from PAPs regarding payment of ₹ 10,000/- being charged by lawyer from SAA. After CARA intervention, SAA returned the said amount to PAPs. A warning issued by the State Government on intervention of CARA. Money refund to the PAPs.
13.	District Probation and After Care Association Ahmedabad, Gujarat	A complaint received on 26/06/2019 from a Single Male PAP regarding misleading information given by SAA for the adoption of Twin Child as Special Need, which was not specified by the SAA in CARINGS.

1	2	3
14.	Saraswati Shishu Greh Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh	A complaint received on 08/07/2019 from PAPs regarding ₹ 10,000/- being charged by lawyer from SAA.
15.	Ecovik, Gaya, Bihar	A complaint dated 18/09/2019 received against a child (Inter-country adoption case) regarding sexual abuse. The said SAA has been closed down by the State Government.
16.	Nivedita Kalyan Samithi, Rewa, M.P.	The complaint was received from AFAA in September, 2019 and further, a letter has been given to DGP Police, M.P. for conducting investigation and necessary action and the Ministry, SCPCR, NCPCR and State Government have been informed about the same. FIR has been done under POCSO, IPC and SC/ST Act and the child has been transferred to SAA- Sewa Bharti, Satna, M.P.

Vacancies in Rashtriya Mahila Kosh

2077. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the Total number of sanctioned posts in the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh;
- (b) the Total number of vacancies presently in the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh; and
- (c) the steps taken to fill the vacancies of posts?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) There are 37 sanctioned posts in Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), of which 23 are at present vacant. The Ministry is taking various steps for filling posts:—

- (i) Entrusting of Additional charge of Executive Director, RMK to a Joint Secretary in the Ministry;
- (ii) Deputy Director, RMK (on Deputation) has been authorized to function as General Manager (In-charge); and
- (iii) A proposal for revival of 14 posts, which were vacant since long, was sent to Department of Expenditure (DoE). On the proposal, DoE stated that a

review exercise of Autonomous Bodies of the Central Government was being conducted by NITI Aayog and returned the proposal till the NITI Aayog submits its final recommendations. The Final Recommendations of NITI Aayog are awaited.

Rise in crimes against children

2078. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that crimes against children are going up from 2011 onwards as per the NCRB;
- (b) if so, the details of crime against children during the last four years and the current year, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the reasons for rise in crimes against children and how the Ministry is planning to protect children from such crimes and also during judicial process;
- (d) to what extent the recently amended POCSO Act help in controlling this menace;
- (e) whether POCSO Act has been notified; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATISMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) and (b) As per National Crimes Record Bureau (NCRB) reports, the number of cases registered as crimes against children in the last four reports of NCRB is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The Government of India has legislated various child centric Acts such as the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act (CPCR) 2005, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 (JJ Act) for protection and promotion of child rights. While the JJ Act, 2015 ensures the safety, security, dignity and well-being of children, the POCSO Act, 2012 is a comprehensive law that provides protection to children from the offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography. It safeguards the interests of the child at every stage of the judicial process by incorporating child-friendly mechanisms for reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and speedy trial of offences through designated Special Courts.

However 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. The responsibility of maintaining law and order, protection of life and property of the citizens including children, rest primarily with the respective State Governments and UT Administration. The State Governments and UT Administrations are competent to deal with such offences under the extant provisions of laws. The Government has issued various Advisories for combating crimes against children.

(d) The POCSO Act has been amended in order to make it more effective in dealing with cases of child sex abuse in the country. It addresses the need for stringent measures to deter the rising trend of child sex abuse in the country on one hand and the menace of relatively new kind of crimes on the other hand. The following amendments have been brought under POCSO Act, 2012 through POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019:—

- (i) Section 2 (Definitions) amended to incorporate definition of child pornography;
- (ii) Section 4 (Punishment for penetrative sexual assault) amended to increase quantum of punishment from minimum 7 years to minimum 10 years, and minimum 20 years in case of child below 16 years;
- (iii) Section 5 (Aggravated penetrative Sexual Assault) amended to include penetrative sexual assault during natural calamity and similar situations and causing death of child;
- (iv) Section 6 (Punishment for Aggravated penetrative Sexual Assault) amended to increase quantum of minimum punishment from 10 years to minimum 20 years and introducing death penalty as an option;
- (v) Section 9 (Aggravated Sexual Assault) amended to include assault during situation of natural calamity and similar situations. Punishment stipulated for those who give any kind of chemical substance/hormone to induce early sexual maturity in a child for the purpose of abuse;
- (vi) Section 14 (Punishment for using Child for pornographic purposes) amended to increase the punishment to minimum five years and to synchronise with IT Act, 2000;
- (vii) Section 15 (Punishment for storage of pornographic material involving child) amended to introduce fine (₹ 5000/- on first occasion, ₹ 10,000/- on second occasion) for not reporting child porn material, which could be extended to

imprisonment if such material is propagated. If the material is used for commercial purposes, then the minimum punishment will be imprisonment for not less than three years which may extend to five years or with fine or with both and in the event of second or subsequent conviction with imprisonment for a term which may not be less than five years which may extend to seven years and also liable to be fine or with.

(viii) Section 34 (Procedure in case of Commission of offence by child and determination of age by special court) amended to establish consonance with the JJ Act, 2015;

(ix) Section 42 (Alternative Punishment) amended in order to acknowledge the amendment made *vide* Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018;

(x) Section 45 (Power to make rules) amended for consequential amendments in view of amendments in sub-section (1) and (2) of Section-15.

(e) Yes, Sir. The POCSO (Amendment) Act, 2019 has been notified on 06.08.2019 and made effective from 16.08.2019.

(f) Does not arise.

Statement

Number of cases registered as crimes against children in the last four reports of NCRB

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015	2016	2017
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Andhra Pradesh	2059	1992	1847	2397
2	Arunachal Pradesh	134	181	133	138
3	Assam	1385	2835	3964	4951
4	Bihar	2255	1917	3932	5386
5	Chhattisgarh	4358	4469	4746	6518
6	Goa	330	242	230	196
7	Gujarat	3219	3623	3637	3955
8	Haryana	2540	3262	3099	4169

1	2	3	4	5	6
9	Himachal Pradesh	467	477	467	528
10	Jammu and Kashmir	211	308	222	359
11	Jharkhand	423	406	717	1247
12	Karnataka	3416	3961	4455	5890
13	Kerala	2391	2384	2879	3562
14	Madhya Pradesh	15085	12859	13746	19038
15	Maharashtra	8115	13921	14559	16918
16	Manipur	137	110	134	109
17	Meghalaya	213	257	240	379
18	Mizoram	178	186	188	220
19	Nagaland	25	61	78	93
20	Odisha	2196	2562	3286	3185
21	Punjab	1762	1836	1843	2133
22	Rajasthan	3880	3689	4034	5180
23	Sikkim	93	64	110	190
24	Tamil Nadu	2354	2617	2856	3529
25	Telangana	1930	2697	2909	3580
26	Tripura	369	255	274	276
27	Uttar Pradesh	14835	11420	16079	19145
28	Uttarakhand	489	635	676	829
29	West Bengal	4909	4963	7004	6551
	TOTAL State(s)	79758	84189	98344	120651
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	50	102	86	119
31	Chandigarh	208	271	222	275
32	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	11	35	21	31
33	Daman and Diu	7	28	31	24
34	Delhi	9350	9489	8178	7852

1	2	3	4	5	6
35	Lakshadweep	1	2	5	4
36	Puducherry	38	56	71	76
	TOTAL UT(s)	9665	9983	8614	8381
	TOTAL (All India)	89423	94172	106958	129032

Source: Crime in India

Malnourished children in the age group of 0-6 years

†2079. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of malnourished children in the age group of 0 to 6 years in the country and the obstacles in the access of operational schemes;

(b) whether it is a fact that the physical development of children is being affected due to malnutrition;

(c) whether in view of the condition of malnutrition in children, the Ministry would more seriously ensure arrangements to make said schemes available to the affected children, so that malnutrition is eradicated from the country; and

(d) the scheme-wise and State-wise details of the expenses incurred to eradicate malnutrition during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) to (c) As per National Family Health Surveys (NFHS-4) conducted by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, 35.7% children under 5 years of age are underweight, 38.4% are stunted and 58.5% children are anaemic indicating a reduction from the previous NFHS-3 conducted in 2005-06, which reported 42.5% children under 5 years of age as underweight, 48% stunted and 69.5% as anaemic. As per the report of Comprehensive National Nutrition Survey (CNNS) (2016-18), prevalence of stunting, wasting and underweight among children is 34.7%, 17% and 33.4% respectively, which is a reduction from the levels reported by NFHS-4.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Malnutrition is a complex and multi-dimensional issue, affected by a number of generic factors including poverty, inadequate food consumption due to access and availability, inequitable food distribution, improper maternal, infant and child feeding and care practices, inequity and gender imbalances, poor sanitary and environmental conditions; and restricted access to quality health, education and social care services. Malnutrition, if not treated at the early age, adversely affects the physical development of children.

The Government has accorded high priority to the issue of malnutrition and is making serious efforts to eradicate malnutrition. Several schemes with direct as well as indirect interventions are being implemented across the country like Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG) and Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) under the Umbrella Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme as direct targeted interventions are being implemented to address the problem of malnutrition among women and children in the country. These schemes are universal and open to all the eligible beneficiaries.

Government has set up POSHAN Abhiyaan on 18.12.2017 for a three year time-frame commencing from 2017-18. The goals of POSHAN Abhiyaan are to achieve improvement in nutritional status of Children from 0-6 years, Adolescent Girls, Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers in a time bound manner during the three years with fixed targets as under:—

Sl. No.	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce Stunting in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among young Children(6-59 months).	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anaemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

The Abhiyaan aims to reduce malnutrition in the country in a phased manner, through a life cycle approach, by adopting a synergised and result oriented approach. The Abhiyaan

has mechanisms for timely service delivery and a robust monitoring as well as intervention infrastructure. The major activities undertaken under this Abhiyaan are ensuring convergence with various other programmes; Information Technology enabled Common Application Software for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Community Mobilisation and Awareness Advocacy leading to Jan Andolan - to educate the people on nutritional aspects; Capacity Building of Frontline Functionaries, incentivising States/UTs for achieving goals etc.

The Ministry has taken several initiatives to address bottlenecks in accessing the benefits of the schemes through convergence with various schemes/programmes. Further, the Ministry has taken initiatives for incentivizing States/Union Territories for achieving targeted goals; Information and Communication Technology enabled Integrated Child Development Services-Common Application Software (ICDS-CAS) for strengthening service delivery and interventions; Behaviour Change Communication, Awareness Advocacy and Information Education Communication; *Jan Andolan* through Community mobilisation to educate people on nutritional aspects and Training & Capacity Building of frontline functionaries etc.

(d) The year -wise details of the Total expenditure made under these schemes are given in the Statement-I, Statement-II, Statement-III and Statement-IV respectively.

Statement-I

*State/UT-wise details of funds released during last three
years under POSHAN Abhiyaan*

Funds released (₹ in lakhs)			
Sl. No.	State/UT	2017 - 18 + Unspent Balance of ISSNIP	2018-19
1	2	3	4
1	Andhra Pradesh	2572.41	8604.68
2	Bihar	7063.44	15001.67
3	Chhattisgarh	1668.12	9629.51
4	Delhi	945.95	2206.88
5	Goa	238.07	197.78
6	Gujarat	3036.66	11228.03

1	2	3	4
7	Haryana	400.97	5992.46
8	Jharkhand	2429.59	5110.45
9	Karnataka	3351.05	9870.89
10	Kerala	1273.37	6491.91
11	Madhya Pradesh	4067.2	15894.17
12	Maharashtra	2572.31	20989.28
13	Odisha	4600.46	10571.65
14	Puducherry	39.24	393.7
15	Punjab	819.51	6090.33
16	Rajasthan	4216.26	9680.99
17	Tamil Nadu	1340.51	12210.93
18	Telangana	1736.94	8595.7
19	Uttar Pradesh	8440.6	29582.87
20	West Bengal	5545.27	19294.11
21	Arunachal Pradesh	52.93	2663.35
22	Assam	2298.27	15492.36
23	Himachal Pradesh	1557.26	4153.15
24	Jammu and Kashmir	388.59	8343.52
25	Manipur	340.46	3865.37
26	Meghalaya	462.98	1713.27
27	Mizoram	119.38	957.65
28	Nagaland	163.74	1251.97
29	Sikkim	98.59	328.47
30	Tripura	277.91	3695.72
31	Uttarakhand	1866.25	4301.57
	TOTAL	63984.29	254404.39

UTs without Legislature

Sl. No.	UT without Legislature	Funds released (₹ in lakhs)	
		2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.22	416.89
2	Chandigarh	158.88	306.82
3	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	108.83	129.32
4	Daman and Diu	42.06	197.66
5	Lakshadweep	60	138.9
	TOTAL	469.99	1189.59

- POSHAN Abhiyaan approved w.e.f. 18.12.2017.

Statement-II*State/UT-wise fund released under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana**

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	163.08	41.13
2	Andhra Pradesh	7022.36	14101.75
3	Arunachal Pradesh	912.83	36
4	Assam	10448.26	817
5	Bihar	17351.38	1253
6	Chandigarh	290.41	248.08
7	Chhattisgarh	4382.58	2025.85
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	102.62	75.85
9	Daman and Diu (UT)	61.56	28.98
10	Goa	168.85	107.26
11	Gujarat	10186.87	5958.97
12	Haryana	4324.3	3674.84

1	2	3	4
13	Himachal Pradesh	1821.64	1793.84
14	Jammu and Kashmir	3137.84	828.42
15	Jharkhand	5622.7	1453.37
16	Karnataka	10248.81	6361.72
17	Kerala	5536.64	3514.27
18	Lakshadweep	27.82	4.44
19	Madhya Pradesh	12320.53	18581.47
20	Maharashtra	12821.1	11795.62
21	Manipur	1474.07	75
22	Meghalaya	1110.83	102
23	Mizoram	710.78	294.7
24	Nagaland	1035.06	52
25	NCT of Delhi	2008.9	795.75
26	Odisha	7143.33	383
27	Puducherry	331.68	63.53
28	Punjab	4648.73	1141.42
29	Rajasthan	11486.97	9605.43
30	Sikkim	354.33	21
31	Tamil Nadu	12087.85	658
32	Telangana	7196.4	385
33	Tripura	1845.49	96
34	Uttar Pradesh	33616.64	14216.71
35	Uttarakhand	2610.99	1425.66
36	West Bengal	10245.03	2938.72
TOTAL		204859.26	104955.77

* The PMMVY scheme (Pan India) has been implemented w.e.f. 01.01.2017.

Statement-III

State/UT-wise fund releared under the Angadwadi Service Scheme during last 5 years

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2014-15		2015-16		2016-17		2017-18		2018-19	
		SNP	General	SNP	General	SNP	General	SNP	General	SNP	General
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	Andhra Pradesh	31693.85	66728.10	36298.39	29903.77	31467.53	14590.85	31596.87	24629.79	37353.55	31895.05
2	Bihar	53875.44	61415.23	69357.73	31869.23	52520.17	32823.24	53741.97	35851.96	76987.83	35974.64
3	Chhattisgarh	11302.16	40143.85	32879.98	16188.12	22461.93	16921.47	25724.9	28345.16	24279.95	28735.52
4	Goa	515.46	2095.48	593.45	625.43	591.45	458.83	1011.2	585.64	859.5	778.06
5	Gujarat	18445.91	30113.17	30058.92	30862.36	36162.61	31788.45	38496.97	21581.54	32051.56	29206.4
6	Haryana	7424.01	23330.31	5545.06	10163.42	7131.04	12893.84	3945.75	13601.08	7305.22	13276.2
7	Jharkhand	20478.70	26107.87	15927.08	27300.88	28723.1	13325.75	25347.42	14879.45	29083.25	18797.43
8	Karnataka	40184.11	41873.19	59330.30	36236.35	33914.94	16235.33	56009.24	32177.98	43588.97	43506.22
9	Kerala	4917.75	19520.23	9411.98	18264.67	8305.96	24850.34	10976.6	20186.77	10785.38	17058
10	Madhya Pradesh	48462.49	73680.15	57366.69	47019.97	55779.33	43124.79	66775.88	46683.69	64088.78	49633.10
11	Maharashtra	37860.23	52412.65	37690.90	62704.71	32053.19	71393.73	41445.78	58469.85	106535.22	55705.39
12	Odisha	38610.37	48488.02	37421.34	24195.11	25519.58	38085.8	47316.24	34543.96	43450.56	33841.79
13	Punjab	5577.39	20162.52	3184.64	10120.80	3124.57	11246.52	5282.25	13998.21	3744.1	13411.95
14	Rajasthan	23837.65	49797.15	22694.59	25556.94	33045.65	25486.48	34931.86	30339.08	34950.74	29085.81
15	Tamil Nadu	26961.81	40377.67	27006.20	36251.13	26017.9	15731.91	33186.7	14394.25	37271.35	26488.7
16	Telangana	13088.78	32478.71	18292.97	18357.03	17418.86	9654.88	18130.74	18905.07	22045.61	21257.53

17	Uttar Pradesh	152371.18	119659.71	203927.22	69995.93	160784.24	95627.23	129353.52	80279.47	104579.08	84554.34
18	West Bengal	37687.47	58551.50	42524.56	35748.46	30462.46	27805.02	67697.94	27805.04	68046.87	53839.34
19	Delhi	4978.98	12720.37	6740.28	6723.78	7551.09	6560.79	4051.41	6560.53	3474.65	5457.19
20	Puducherry	182.37	1092.97	340.04	1333.23	1702.02	590.87	851.02	590.88	0	452.11
21	Himachal Pradesh	2839.15	14271.17	3707.29	15191.05	4662.06	18694.25	5795.63	14898.51	6976.21	24112.44
22	Jammu and Kashmir	5141.04	20722.25	4169.34	22849.90	4035.18	21105.03	4035.17	14383.93	2128.5	34361.46
23	Uttarakhand	6014.82	13651.18	21307.95	11491.10	4649.44	12043.25	15212.13	11666.46	13612.57	18465.2
24	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	147.23	740.85	267.67	1142.59	262.68	934.06	284.57	974.13	369.94	883.04
25	Chandigarh	341.99	654.19	535.56	884.69	190.49	571.7	592.09	471.88	769.72	634.14
26	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	123.48	157.83	62.38	148.59	203.8	365.81	129.89	182.9	168.86	354.23
27	Daman and Diu	67.34	128.43	4.24	93.31	174.12	133.84	130.83	139.28	170.08	97.13
28	Lakshadweep	46.96	91.20	68.31	86.54	68.32	78.63	85.35	39.46	100.26	245.2
29	Arunachal Pradesh	5032.15	10426.74	4194.48	8585.96	4052.72	7199.13	4035.02	8218.4	4411.4	7375.84
30	Assam	45517.33	56806.51	33637.97	56936.62	17921.03	44425.65	31554.71	37115.73	30597.01	49561.1
31	Manipur	3632.78	11178.22	1150.60	6766.17	500	7412.65	5244.2	10284.52	7134.08	8892.39
32	Meghalaya	9380.22	4953.03	7565.63	4720.59	11184.72	5370.85	12238.89	5466.89	12364.04	4996.77
33	Mizoram	2437.62	3185.37	1551.50	3618.97	2156.92	2172.8	1539.37	3416.45	1843.36	2493.46
34	Nagaland	5308.79	6864.94	1717.06	6982.73	10611.05	4469.91	7000.08	6816.95	8231.2	3721
35	Sikkim	734.59	2248.15	434.30	1551.68	644.34	768.68	481.21	1426.33	450.66	1500.366
36	Tripura	5969.31	8063.42	7870.18	9284.88	4010.56	7671.45	6456.59	6381.42	7781.78	9406.72
TOTAL		671190.91	975343.43	804872.78	689756.70	680065.05	642613.81	790689.99	646292.64	847591.84	760055.26

Written Answers to

[5 December, 2019]

Unstarred Questions

397

Statement-IV*State/UT-wise Fund released under the Scheme for Adolescent Girls**

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	States/UTs	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1	2	3	4	5
1	Andhra Pradesh	762.99	2259.52	1011.98
2	Arunachal Pradesh	126.25	87.96	0
3	Assam	1356.94	341.92	0
4	Bihar	2696.83	4003.74	25.54
5	Chhattisgarh	1389.69	2792.61	724.75
6	Goa	131.5	302.77	0.4
7	Gujarat	1443.18	2690.09	5092.44
8	Haryana	104.74	589.97	37.41
9	Himachal Pradesh	720.45	1129.42	0
10	Jammu and Kashmir	194.63	255.91	560.39
11	Jharkhand	145.57	1495.55	0
12	Karnataka	740.73	2466.93	923.76
13	Kerala	1057.73	692.91	289.74
14	Madhya Pradesh	5302.02	8641.18	5442.4
15	Maharashtra	5334.42	3995.68	3536.78
16	Manipur	49.65	170.28	0
17	Meghalaya	919.65	528.83	12.55
18	Mizoram	91.78	123.95	69.32

1	2	3	4	5
19	Nagaland	206.31	193.14	214.3
20	Odisha	2867.25	2442.6	866.77
21	Punjab	0	40.6	26.3
22	Rajasthan	0	39.38	0
23	Sikkim	32.54	15.42	0
24	Tamil Nadu	2655.26	3196.22	0
25	Telangana	572.39	81.4	107.49
26	Tripura	334.81	674.38	19.16
27	Uttar Pradesh	10932.99	4486.13	1000.35
28	Uttarakhand	43.02	3.3	0
29	West Bengal	40.41	282.47	101.85
30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	107.05	51.35	3.18
31	Chandigarh	12.11	12.68	2.33
32	Daman and Diu	14.14	14.14	4.53
33	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	16.44	16.44	4.94
34	Delhi	276.66	490.19	320.48
35	Lakshadweep	2.2	11.65	3.11
36	Puducherry	17.72	8.81	1.63
TOTAL		47700.06	44629.53	20403.88

*The scheme has been implemented for out of school adolescent girls in the age group of 11-14 years w.e.f. 01.12.2017 and extended to all the districts w.e.f. 01.04.2018.

Fund allocation under POSHAN Abhiyan

2080. SHRI AHAMED HASSAN: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that fund allocation under POSHAN Abhiyan has been reduced during the last three years;

(b) if so, the State-wise details of fund allocation under POSHAN Abhiyan during last three years;

(c) whether Government has decided to provide nutritious food under POSHAN Abhiyan including eggs; and

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

THE MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI): (a) Fund allocation under POSHAN Abhiyaan has increased in the last 3 years from ₹ 950.00 crore in 2017-18 to ₹ 3061.30 crore in 2018-19 and to ₹ 3400.00 crore in 2019-20.

(b) State-wise details of fund released under POSHAN Abhiyaan during 2017-18, 2018-19 and the current year are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) There is no provision under the POSHAN Abhiyaan to provide nutritious food. Providing Supplementary Nutrition is a part of Anganwadi Services scheme. POSHAN Abhiyaan ensures convergence of various nutrition related schemes/interventions of various line Ministries.

Statement

State-wise details of funds released under POSHAN Abhiyan during 2017-18, 2018-19 and the current year

(Amount ₹ lakhs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Released in FY 2017-18	Released in FY 2018-19	Released in FY 2019-20
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1284.63	8604.68	5582.52
2.	Bihar	6724.06	15001.67	10000
3.	Chhattisgarh	965.45	9629.51	0
4.	Delhi	945.95	2206.88	0

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Goa	238.07	197.78	0
6.	Gujarat	3036.66	11228.04	7531
7.	Haryana	400.97	5992.46	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1557.26	4153.15	2480
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	388.59	8343.52	0
10.	Jharkhand	1555.35	5110.45	0
11.	Karnataka	3351.05	9870.89	0
12.	Kerala	1273.37	6491.91	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3441.49	15894.17	17883
14.	Maharashtra	2572.31	20989.28	33061.47
15.	Odisha	4600.46	10571.65	0
16.	Puducherry	39.24	393.7	497
17.	Punjab	819.51	6090.33	0
18.	Rajasthan	2045.73	9680.99	0
19.	Tamil Nadu	1340.51	12210.93	0
20.	Telangana	1736.94	8595.7	7003
21.	Uttar Pradesh	8440.6	29582.87	0
22.	Uttarakhand	1866.25	4301.57	3696
23.	West Bengal	5545.27	19294.11	0
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	52.93	2663.35	0
25.	Assam	2298.27	15492.36	14171
26.	Manipur	340.46	3865.37	0
27.	Meghalaya	462.98	1713.27	1706.8
28.	Mizoram	119.38	957.65	902
29.	Nagaland	163.74	1251.97	1445.17

402 *Regarding a Matter...* [RAJYA SABHA] *...the Other House*

30.	Sikkim	98.59	328.47	544
31.	Tripura	277.91	3695.72	0
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.22	416.89	307.62
33.	Chandigarh	158.88	306.82	526.97
34.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	108.83	129.32	431.16
35.	Daman and Diu	42.06	197.66	446.98
36.	Laddakh	-	-	-
37.	Lakshadweep	60	138.9	126.75
TOTAL		58453.97	255593.98	108342.44

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Question Hour is over.

The House stands adjourned till 2.00 p.m.

The House then adjourned for lunch at one of the clock.

The House reassembled after lunch at two of the clock,

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

REGARDING A MATTER RELATED TO THE OTHER HOUSE

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to make one Observation. Shri Bhupender Yadav raised a point of order on 2nd December, 2019 under Rule 258 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha. Shri Yadav, while raising his point of order, mentioned that a leader of the other House had called the Prime Minister an infiltrator. Shri Yadav further said that use of such words against the Prime Minister was an insult to democracy. I gave my ruling on the issue that day itself stating that the point of order raised by any Member should be connected with the matters before the House, and since the raised issue by Shri Yadav was not pertaining to the Business of the House, I disallowed his point of order. However, on his insistence that this House on many occasions has condemned the Members who have violated the established Parliamentary norms and decorum and there are precedents of this nature, I had stated that I would get the precedent examined. I have got the record examined. There is no such precedent in which the House

took a *suo motu* cognisance of any violation of parliamentary decorum in a public statement by a leader or a Member of the other House. There are precedents of the nature when a Member of our House has said something against the persons in high authority in the House or when someone from outside has made certain derogatory remarks, which had reflections on the Presiding Officer or Members of our House. In the instant case, the person who has made the impugned statement is from other House. Besides, the matter was raised in the other House also. The issue squarely falls within the jurisdiction of the other House. It has been a well-established parliamentary practice that one House does not deliberate upon the proceedings of the other House.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Statutory Resolution and the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to be discussed together. Shri K. K. Ragesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR (Himachal Pradesh): Sir, I would like to bring to your notice. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): A girl was burnt. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर: सर, एक बहुत इम्पोर्टेंट इश्यू है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, Shri Elamaram Kareem to move the following resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing is going on record. Mr. Ragesh, please move your resolution.

SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: * ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... सिर्फ आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जायेगी। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Ragesh, you proceed. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I move the Statutory Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ragesh, you move it. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing else is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not allowed you. ...*(Interruptions)*... You cannot tell the Chair that the Chair should listen to you. ...*(Interruptions)*... You read it, Mr. Ragesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: While moving the Statutory Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, I can't. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Then, I will move on to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: No, no, Sir. I will speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... I can hear you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is State subject. ...*(Interruptions)*... Chairman Sahib has already told them. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am not going to. ...*(Interruptions)*... Just let me complete this. ...*(Interruptions)*... आपने सुबह यह मुद्दा उठाया था, माननीय चेयरमैन साहब ने इस पर अपनी राय दे दी है। श्री के. के. रागेश, आप बोलिए। ...*(व्यवधान)*... Mr. Ragesh, you speak; otherwise, I will move on to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: No, no. I will speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा (हिमाचल प्रदेश): *

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Rageshji, have you moved it or not?

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I am moving. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Have you moved it? ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Please ask the Members to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record except what Mr. Ragesh is speaking. ...*(Interruptions)*... You just move it. ...*(Interruptions)*... सिर्फ आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to move the Statutory Resolution. ...*(Interruptions)*... While moving, I take this opportunity to urge upon the Government to go through the debate between our first Speaker, Shri G. V. Mavalankar and our first Prime Minister, Shri Nehru on Ordinance Raj. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: *

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: *

श्री उपसभापति: रागेश जी, सिर्फ आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, Mavalankar had said that it is inherently undemocratic. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: *

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: *

श्री उपसभापति: रागेश जी, सिर्फ आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है। ...(व्यवधान)... You have moved it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: He had written to Nehru. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I quote, “The issue of an Ordinance is undemocratic and cannot be justified except in case of extreme urgency or emergency. We, as the first Lok Sabha, carry a responsibility of laying down traditions.” ...(Interruptions)...

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Ragesh, have you moved it? ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: No, no, Sir. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, I have to speak. I am the Mover of the Resolution. ...(Interruptions)... I have to speak but ...(Interruptions)...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: *

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: *

श्री उपसभापति: रागेश जी, आपकी बात रिकॉर्ड पर जा रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: I am being interrupted. ...(Interruptions)... I am sorry, I am being interrupted. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You move it. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: I am being interrupted. ...(Interruptions)... I am missing my flow. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)... Sir, let the House be in order. ...(Interruptions)... Please, Sir. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am requesting all the Members to take their seats. ...(Interruptions)... माननीय सदस्य जो भी कह रहे हैं, वे अपनी बात लिख कर दें, अगर माननीय चेयरमैन allow करेंगे, तो उस पर बहस होगी। ...(व्यवधान)... मैं ऐसे इजाज़त नहीं दे सकता। ...(व्यवधान)... रागेश जी, प्लीज़ आप move करें; otherwise, I will move. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, let the House be in order. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to move. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to move. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: *

श्री आनन्द शर्मा: *

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I am requesting time and again to Mr. Ragesh. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I have the right to move. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have to move. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am moving. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am moving but ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have moved it. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: No, no. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You have moved it. So, later on you will get an opportunity to. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I have to speak for two minutes. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, the House is not in order. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण, मैं आधे घण्टे के लिए सदन स्थगित कर रहा हूँ।

The House then adjourned at seven minutes past two of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty-seven minutes past two of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

SUBMISSION BY MEMBERS

श्री सभापति: मित्रो, जो विषय सुबह प्रो. राम गोपाल जी उठाना चाहते थे, वह विषय पहले हमारे संज्ञान में नहीं आया था, बाद में भी हमें इसकी कोई डिटेल्स मालूम नहीं पड़ी। इसके बाद में ...*(व्यवधान)*... राम गोपाल जी, मैं अभी आपको ही बुला रहा हूँ, शुरुआत आपसे ही होगी। मैं जस्ट शॉर्ट में बता रहा हूँ, इसके फैक्ट्स में नहीं जाऊँगा। जब यह विषय हमको मालूम पड़ा, तो हमने इसकी

*Not recorded.

जानकारी लेने की कोशिश की। मुझे बताया गया कि आज माननीय सदस्य इस इश्यू को उठाना चाहते हैं, तो इस विषय पर सबसे पहले प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव जी बोलेंगे, फिर श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर जी बोलेंगी, फिर श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण जी बोलेंगी और अंत में श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम जी बोलेंगी। इस विषय को समाप्त करने के बाद फिर हम बिल पर चर्चा करेंगे।

प्रो. राम गोपाल जी, आप अपना विषय प्रस्तुत कीजिए।

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): श्रीमन्, मैं एक बहुत ही दुःखद घटना की चर्चा करना चाहता हूँ। हालांकि यह पहली घटना नहीं है, क्योंकि इस तरह की घटनाएँ हम लोगों के सामने लगातार आ रही हैं। मैं संभल ज़िले से एम.पी. था, जहाँ कुछ दिन पहले एक लड़की को रेप के बाद जला दिया गया था। उसकी एफ.आई.आर. की स्याही अभी सूखी भी नहीं थी कि बिहार थाने के अंतर्गत, उन्नाव ज़िले के एक गांव में 12 दिसम्बर, 2018 को बलात्कार की एक घटना हुई, जिसमें तीन लोगों के खिलाफ रिपोर्ट नामदर्ज की गई। इनमें से कुछ बेल आउट हो गए थे। लड़की की जान को तो पहले से ही खतरा था, लेकिन कल जब वह अदालत जा रही थी, तो जो *accused* लोग हैं, उनके द्वारा उस लड़की को ज़िंदा जलाने की कोशिश की गई। अभी वह लड़की 90% जली हुई हालत में अस्पताल में है और अब उसके बचने के कोई चांसेज़ भी नहीं हैं। हम सभी लोग जानते हैं कि अगर कोई 60% से ज्यादा जल जाता है, तो उसके बचने के कोई चांसेज़ नहीं रहते हैं और वह तो 90% जल चुकी है। वह अस्पताल में है। अभी वह जिन्दा है या नहीं, यह कहा नहीं जा सकता। एक तो यह घटना है। कल ही की एक घटना है कि चित्रकूट में पुलिस की जो चौकी महिला सहायता केन्द्र के लिए है, वहाँ एक महिला गयी, तो पुलिस के ज़रिए उसके साथ रेप किया गया। ये ऐसी घटनाएँ हैं, जो दुखद घटनाएँ हैं। अतीत में भी जब कभी इस तरह की घटनाएँ घटी हैं, महिलाओं का अपहरण हुआ या उनके साथ बलात्कार हुआ, तो बड़े-बड़े युद्ध हो गये हैं, चाहे महाभारत हुआ हो या लंका पर कार्रवाई हुई हो। महिलाओं के ऊपर अनाचार हमेशा से असहनीय रहा है और कभी किसी को बरदाश्त नहीं हुआ है।

मुझे अफसोस यह है कि हम जिस राज्य से आते हैं — मैं यहाँ आरोप लगाने के लिए खड़ा नहीं हुआ हूँ और न ही आरोप लगाऊँगा, लेकिन फिर भी जिसके साथ रेप हुआ है, उसको बचाने की सरकार की और अधिकारियों की जिम्मेदारी बनती है, ताकि वह गवाही दे सके, उसकी सुरक्षा की व्यवस्था हो। सुप्रीम कोर्ट का आदेश है, इस मामले में सुप्रीम कोर्ट की गाइडलाइंस हैं। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अभी कुछ दिनों पहले हमारे राज्य के बारे में जो कहा, उससे हम सब लोग शर्मिंदा हैं। ऐसा नहीं है कि उससे गवर्नमेंट की ही बदनामी होती है, बदनामी हम सब की भी होती है। हम दुनिया में कहीं कहीं कि हम उत्तर प्रदेश के रहने वाले हैं, तो मुँह दिखाने लायक नहीं रह गये। इसलिए इस मामले को — जब मैं यहाँ आपसे मिलने के बाद आया, तब यह मेरी जानकारी में आया, मेरे पास एसएमएस और वीडियो आया और तब मैंने उसे उठाने की कोशिश की। वरना मैं सुबह ही आपकी जानकारी में यह लाता और आपने मुझे इजाज़त दी।

मेरी माँग यह है कि इसमें जो भी दोषी ठहराए जाएँ, जो *responsible* हों, उन सब के खिलाफ कार्रवाई तो हो ही और ऐसी कार्रवाई हो कि उन लोगों को *deterrent punishment* मिले कि अन्य लोग—अधिकारी इतने *alert* रहें कि अन्य जगहों पर इस तरह की कोई घटना *repeat* न हो सके। थैंक यू, सर।

श्रीमती विप्लव ठाकुर (हिमाचल प्रदेश): सभापति जी, आज कुछ कहने को, कुछ बोलने को मन नहीं कर रहा, क्योंकि यह एक ऐसी घटना हुई है, जो हम महिलाओं के ऊपर तो अत्याचार है ही, पूरे पुरुष समाज के ऊपर भी एक तरह का, मैं यह कहने से नहीं घबराऊँगी कि कलंक-सा है।

आज हम किस तरफ जा रहे हैं, यह मानवता कहाँ जा रही है, आज हमें सोचने की जरूरत पड़ रही है। एक महिला, जो पहले ही दुखी थी, जिसको वैसे ही मानसिक तौर पर इतना ज्यादा दर्द दिया गया था, दुख दिया गया था, वह अपने बचाव के लिए कोर्ट में आ रही है और ऐसे दरिंदे उसे जिन्दा जला देते हैं, ताकि वह कोर्ट तक ही न पहुँचे, तो न्याय कहाँ रहा? समाज की बुनियादें कहाँ हैं? वे हिल चुकी हैं। आज हमें सोचना है, हरेक को सोचना है, चाहे वह पुरुष है या वह महिला है, कि हम इस समाज को, इस भारत को कहाँ ले जा रहे हैं?

रोज ऐसी घटनाएँ हो रही हैं, रोज ऐसी बातें हो रही हैं। जिस प्रदेश में यह आज सुबह हुआ है, उस प्रदेश में तो दिन-रात law and order खत्म होता जा रहा है। इसलिए मैं यह कहूँगी कि इसमें सख्त से सख्त action होना चाहिए और मानवता को अगर जिन्दा रखना है, तो हमें एकजुट होकर इसकी भर्त्सना करनी चाहिए, इसको कोसना चाहिए, इसके लिए सब को खड़े होकर एक ही आवाज़ में बोलना चाहिए कि ऐसा समाज नहीं चाहिए, जहाँ औरत जिन्दा जलायी जाती है। बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN (Maharashtra): Sir, I made a request that I wanted to speak but I have to honestly say that words fail me after listening to today's incident. It is a chilling and really heart-breaking incident that has happened today. Day in and day out, we are listening about girls being raped or women being raped all over the country. But today's incident is the worst where a girl, a rape victim, going to Court has been burnt alive. What can be worse than this? Women have to be safeguarded. Here, I remember, I, along with some other MPs, had been to the Princeton University in the US and we had a question/answer session with some of the students. I still remember one of the young girls asking us, "When will India be safe for me?" This girl was harassed in college and because she was harassed, her parents had sent her to Princeton. How many people can afford this? So, basically we have to make sure that our country is safe for women. Sir, I would like to make one more suggestion here. In Maharashtra, in my own city Pune, there was a scientist, a lady, who was travelling with her husband and her child, a boy. She was pulled out of the car by four miscreants and they raped her. Her husband was beaten up by the rapists. And, when she came back, Totally stripped, her son, when he saw the state of his mother, took to drugs and he met with an accident. Today, he is Totally paralysed. But, the Maharashtra Government provided full security to the rape victim till the case was heard. Sir, I make an earnest request to you that wherever the victim is under such threat, she, and, in fact, all the victims have to be provided with security. The VIPs probably don't need it. It is these rape victims, our daughters, our girls who really need it. Thank you, Sir.

श्रीमती कान्ता कर्दम (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, इस तरह की जो घटनाएं हो रही हैं, इनसे सदन के सारे लोग और जो लोग सदन से बाहर हैं, सभी को बहुत दुख है। यह कोई राजनीतिक विषय नहीं है। घटना चाहे आन्ध्र प्रदेश में हुई हो, चाहे राजस्थान में हुई हो, चाहे हरियाणा में हुई हो, चाहे उत्तर प्रदेश के उन्नाव में हुई हो, यह बहुत दुखद है। इस तरह की घटना होनी भी नहीं चाहिए, लेकिन इन दरिन्दों की न कोई जाति, न कोई भाषा और न कोई मजहब होता है। जब दरिन्दे अपनी दरिन्दगी पर आ जाते हैं, तो वे कैसा भी कदम उठा सकते हैं। आजकल इस तरह की जो घटनाएं देखने को मिल रही हैं, ये बहुत निन्दनीय हैं और इस तरह की घटना नहीं होनी चाहिए। हमारी सरकार, हमारी पार्टी इस बात की निन्दा करती है। इस तरह की घटना को अंजाम नहीं दिया जाना चाहिए और जो घटना हुई, उसकी हमारी पार्टी निन्दा करती है। हम सब उन लोगों के साथ हैं, जो पीड़ित परिवार हैं, जिनके साथ इस तरह की घटना हुई है। हमारी पार्टी और हम सब उनके साथ हैं। आगे इस तरह की घटना न हो, हम लोग, जो यहां पर हैं और जो बाहर हैं, अगर हमें आसपास इस तरह का कुछ दिखाई भी देता है... एकतरफा प्यार की जितनी घटनाएं देखने को मिलती हैं, अगर इस तरह की बात जानकारी में आती है, तो हमें उसका संज्ञान लेना चाहिए और उसके लिए कड़ा कदम उठाना चाहिए, जिससे कि इस तरह की घटना न घटे, धन्यवाद।

श्री सभापति: धन्यवाद, कान्ता जी। The entire House condemns the incident. After Shrimati Vandana Chavan and Jaya Bachchanji came to me and told me about the incident — because I could not hear what Ram Gopalji was saying in the morning as too many Members were trying to raise the issue — immediately, I got in contact with the Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh, trying to know the fact. He has explained to me that some incident happened like this in the early hours of today morning, around 4.30 a.m. Then, by the time, I reached here, he reported back to me, saying that the persons have been arrested. What is needed is not mere arrest in any case. As everybody said, we must send out a signal to the entire country, to the society, that on such incidents, action should be taken promptly, swiftly, adequately so that similar things do not recur.

Now, as on the other day, when we discussed the issue at length, I am not allowing a general discussion now and we will close it here with a caution to all concerned to act immediately, swiftly, and also with an appeal to the society to isolate such people and stand by the victims, and also stand by the administration whenever they take immediate action and bring pressure on the persons concerned that they cannot get away with such incidents and all. Now, we will be taking up the Bill.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, we all associate ourselves with this issue.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION***Regarding Disapproving the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019****And****GOVERNMENT BILL*****The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, the Statutory Resolution and the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019 to be taken up together. The Minister is here. Now, Shri K. K. Ragesh to move the Statutory Resolution disapproving the Ordinance.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I move:

“That this House disapproves the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (No.15 of 2019) promulgated by the President of India on 20th September, 2019.”

Sir, while moving the Statutory Resolution, I take this opportunity to urge upon the Government to go through the debate of the first Speaker of the Lok Sabha, G. V. Mavalankarji with our first Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru on the Ordinance Raj. G. V. Mavalankar was of the opinion that the Ordinances are inherently undemocratic. He had written to Nehru, and I quote, “The issue of an Ordinance is undemocratic and cannot be justified except in case of extreme urgency or emergency. We, as the First Lok Sabha, carry a responsibility of laying down traditions.” He had further stated, “Unless Ordinances are limited to very extreme and urgent cases, the result may be, in future, that the Government may go on issuing Ordinances, giving the Parliament no option but to rubber stamp the Ordinances.” I want to know from the Government whether they are limiting the Parliament, this august House, to rubber stamp the Ordinances. I am asking this because we are witnessing repeated issuance of Ordinances. The position taken by G. V. Mavalankar was also reiterated by the Supreme Court in 1986, and the apex Court held that Ordinance Raj cannot be permitted. Here, we are going to discuss the Finance Bill. The Finance Bill was passed on 1st of August. And, within a very short span of time, that is, within 48 days, the Government went for another Amendment in the Finance Bill and that also through an Ordinance.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, you have moved the Resolution.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, one minute.

*Discussed Together.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get an opportunity to speak during the discussion.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I am the mover of the Resolution. Please allow me.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not stopping you. I am saying that you can move it and later, you will get an opportunity during the course of the discussion. That has been the practice. You have made your point that the Government should not resort to Ordinances.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I will take only one more minute. That Ordinance was also issued for providing huge concessions to the corporates. So, was any financial emergency imposed? We always talk about making India a five trillion dollar economy by 2024, and we always claim that we are among the five largest economies in the world. During the time of the Budget discussion itself, the Opposition had raised various concerns on the state of the economy and we discussed the imminent economic crisis, but, unfortunately, the Government did not accept that. The Government did not come forward with any measures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can mention these things during the course of the discussion.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: So, I am requesting the Government and move the Statutory Resolution. With these words, I conclude my speech.

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): सर, इस हाउस में फाइनेंशियल मैटर के लिए प्रोसीज़र रूल 181 से 186 तक है और रूल 181 से 186 में जो प्रोसीज़र है, उसके अनुसार फाइनेंशियल मैटर के लिए कोई वोटिंग ही नहीं है, तो क्या फाइनेंशियल बिल में Resolution ला सकते हैं? आप अपनी रूलिंग दीजिए।

श्री सभापति: Resolution लाना हरेक का अधिकार है, मगर हाउस में उस पर वोटिंग करना, नहीं करना, यह हम तय करेंगे। Now, Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman to move the motion.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE; AND THE MINISTER OF CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN): Sir, I move:

“That the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961 and to amend the Finance (No.2) Act, 2019, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration.”

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you want to say something in the beginning?

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: No, Sir, I can say it a bit later.

The questions were proposed.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I rise to speak on the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019, and I would make my comments in three parts - there is a sub-text of this Bill; there is the text of this Bill; and, there is the context of this Bill. So, I am going to first talk about the sub-text of the Bill. This Bill really gives legislative sanction to an announcement made by the hon. Finance Minister on the 20th of September, 2019, during the course of a meeting of the GST Council in Goa. She had presented her maiden Budget on the 5th July, 2019. But, within 77 days, major changes were made to the corporate tax regime and that too through a big bang announcement in Goa. The changes were welcomed. But, the timing was quite extraordinary. Sir, two days later, there was the 'Howdy, Modi' event in Houston. Prime Ministers always like to go on foreign trips accompanied by major policy announcements. I think, what happened on 20th September, 2019 was a curtain raiser for the event that was to follow in Houston. Otherwise, after presenting a maiden Budget on the 5th July, within 77 days, the Finance Minister would not make such an announcement normally. The GST Council is a council in which items are discussed through a process of consensus, but, this was a unilateral announcement, a bold announcement and an aggressive announcement, no doubt, but, a unilateral announcement on the part of the Finance Minister.

Sir, let me now come to the text of the Bill. The text of the Bill is very simple. The Finance Minister has explained it repeatedly. The headline rate of corporate tax comes down from 30 per cent to 22 per cent, and for manufacturing companies, who set up shop after the 1st October, 2019, the corporate tax rate is reduced to 15 per cent. Sir, when, late Shri Arun Jaitley, presented his Budget in the year 2015-16, he announced a four-year phased reduction programme in the rate of corporate tax from 30 per cent to 25 per cent. The announcement of hon. Finance Minister in Goa, I take it, was in the tradition of what Shri Jaitley had announced. But, he had not followed through along the lines which he had perhaps anticipated when presenting the Budget. So, headline rate of 30 per cent comes down to 22 per cent, and the manufacturing companies will attract a rate of tax of 15 per cent. The hon. Finance Minister is also on record as having said that if companies do not make use of any rebates or allowances, the rate of tax would be 25.17 per cent. Sir, this 25.17 per cent is compared to what? You have a nominal rate of tax, and you have an effective rate of tax. In the year 2017-18, the effective rate of tax was slightly over 28.5 per cent. Sir, my question to the hon. Finance Minister is that 30 per cent to 22 per cent looks very grand, but, 28.5 per cent effective rate of taxation to 25.17 per cent, does not look all that grand as compared to what the announcement was made. Sir, further, the Finance Minister also announced in Goa, and I compliment her for being fully transparent, that the economy will lose about ₹ 1,45,000 crores on account of these corporate tax reductions. Now, when you

3.00 P.M.

look at the structure of people who are paying the corporate tax, only about 850 odd companies are paying an effective rate of taxation of more than 30 per cent, and these companies account for about 16 per cent of the Total corporate tax collection. So, this amount of ₹ 1,45,000 crores, according to my calculations, will benefit largely these 850 odd companies. But, this is a very big benefit that we are giving. We are giving ₹ 1,45,000 crores in the hope that capital expenditure will actually increase. Now, Sir, when an Ordinance is issued, and a Bill comes after the Ordinance, usually the Bill sanctifies the Ordinance. But, I wish to point out that there are significant differences between the Ordinance that was issued following the announcement of the Finance Minister and the Bill that we are discussing today. There are three very significant differences. Most important difference between the Ordinance and the Bill is that the effective rate of MAT, Minimum Alternative Tax, was, according to the initial announcement of Finance Minister, to be made applicable from the financial year 2019-20 but, according to the Bill, it will be made applicable from the financial year 2020-21. Sir, I do not want to make a big issue out of it because obviously the Finance Minister will come back and say, 10 years ago, this happened; 15 years ago, this happened. It is quite possible that it may have happened but normally Members of Parliament operate on the assumption that a Bill brought after an Ordinance converts the Ordinance into a law. But I wish to point out that in this Bill, there are three very significant differences between the Ordinance and the Bill. One of the differences, which I have pointed out, relates to the Minimum Alternate Tax. Sir, no Government should take Parliament for granted. When an Ordinance is issued, the Bill must reflect the Ordinance. If changes are made following the issuance of Ordinance, it reflects poor staff work, poor home work on the part of the Government in power. I am not casting any aspersions on anybody but I do wish to say that normal Parliament practice is that the Bill is the hundred per cent mirror image of the Ordinance that is issued. Sir, the corporate tax reduction involving a loss, not a loss but revenue foregone of ₹ 1.45 lakh crore, is slightly over 5 per cent of the Total revenue that the Finance Minister had budgeted for in her maiden Budget of July 5th, 2019. The assumption here is that companies will have more cash, this cash will convert into increased capital expenditure and this increased capital expenditure will fuel economic growth.

Now, I come to the third part of my presentation. After the sub-text, text, I want to come to the context of the Bill. What is the context of the corporate tax reduction? There used to be a very famous Hindi film, QSQT. We are living in a new era of QSQT. It is not *Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak*, but *Quarter Se Quarter Tak*. Let us look at QSQT. Sir, starting

[Shri Jairam Ramesh]

from January-March, 2018 quarter, it is 8.1 per cent, 8.0 per cent, 7.0 per cent, 6.6 per cent, 5.8 per cent, 5.0 per cent and the latest is 4.5 per cent. I am not a great believer in QSQT by the way because economies grow on long-term growth trends but when you have six consecutive quarters of GDP decline — it is not a recession by classic economics textbook definition — it is a cause for worry.

These are not statistical declines, these are not statistical aggregates. Please look at it. To come from 8 per cent to 4.5 per cent requires extraordinary effort on the part of the Government in power, and, I wish to say that the Government in power has worked very hard to achieve six consecutive quarters of GDP decline.

Sir, we have had a very extensive discussion on the state of economy. Hon. Minister had responded equally extensively but I do wish to make a point that the assumption governing this Bill that companies will have more cash, cash will lead to more capital expenditure and capital expenditure will lead to more growth, is fundamentally flawed because what is lying at the root of the economic problem today is consumption.

Sir, India has faced economic crisis over the last seventy years and every economic crisis can be traced to one of the five Fs. This is the 5F theory of economic crisis. What are these five Fs? These five Fs are, food, fuel, foreign exchange, fiscal deficit and financial crisis. Sir, I am also learning from you how to alliterate to make a dry subject like Economics a little more interesting. Sir, if you look, from 1950 whenever India has had an economic crisis, we have had shortage of foreign exchange, or we have had a failed monsoon, or we have had a ballooning fiscal deficit or we have had increased oil prices or we have had international financial crisis. This is the first economic crisis in India when macro economic variables look very healthy. India is sitting on 450 billion dollars of foreign exchange reserves. Consumer price inflation is less than five per cent. Inflation is low. Fiscal deficit is not very, very high as compared to what it used to be many years ago. This is a remarkable situation. I think we need to understand this. Food is not a problem. Foreign exchange is not a problem. Fiscal deficit does not seem to be that much of a problem. Financial crisis is certainly not a problem. Foreign exchange is not a problem. So, what is the problem? Why is the economy so healthy on the one side and showing decline quarter after quarter after quarter for six quarters? My request to the Finance Minister is that economics textbooks do not teach us anything for this situation that India finds itself in. Most countries in crisis have no foreign exchange. Most countries in crisis have problems with their fiscal deficit. Most countries in crisis face ballooning inflation. We are not in that situation. But yet our situation is one of continuous economic deceleration. I come back to the point — sentiment.

Sentiment is subdued. Sentiment is negative. Sentiment is not positive. This corporate tax reduction helped markets balloon for 24 hours or 48 hours, but did nothing to address the long-term issues of sentiment, long-term issues of consumption and long-term issues of investment sluggishness. The hon. Finance Minister will get this Bill passed. Corporate India has welcomed this Bill. Any reduction in tax rates today, Sir, is welcomed by everybody and that is the new fiscal sociology that we have. We used to have a Finance Minister in the 50s, the great T. T. Krishnamachari (TTK) who used to present Budgets. Every time he presented a Budget, a Member would get up and say TTK stands for 'Tax, Tax and Kill'. But that 'Tax, Tax and Kill' era is over. Now it is 'reduce tax, reduce tax and reduce tax'. I wish to suggest to you that this Corporate Tax reduction is good atmospheric, good headlines and good PR, but is not going to address the structural problems of the economy that are born out of falling consumption and declining investment.

With these words, Sir, I wish to extend my support to the amendments with a request that the Finance Minister in future when she comes with an Ordinance does not make changes after the Ordinance is issued, brings a Bill in consonance with the Ordinance and as far as possible avoids major economic policy pronouncements via the Ordinance route. Thank you, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Ramesh ji. Hon. Members, we have three hours for this Bill. We started late but we have to conclude it by 6 o'clock and then take up Special Mentions also and that will be including the Minister's reply. We should complete it today. Now, Shri G.V.L. Narasimha Rao. Mr. Ragesh, you will get an opportunity to speak before the Minister's reply. That is why I am not calling you. Some other Members have given their names late. Depending upon the availability of time, they will be given a chance. Otherwise, as per the names given, time has been allotted and it will go on.

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN - *in the Chair*)

SHRI G. V. L. NARASIMHA RAO (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, when the senior parliamentarian, Shri Jairam Ramesh, started speaking on this debate, I thought there was possibly a split in the Congress Party because his initial observations on welcoming the tax proposals appeared to be directly opposite to the views expressed by the Deputy Leader of the Congress Party, Shri Anand Sharma, on the discussion on the economy only last week. Both of them had served, if my memory is right, as Ministers for Commerce in the same UPA Government. Towards the end, he began to raise possibly some questions. His initial problem was only with the timing and why these announcements were made on the eve of the hon. Prime

[Shri G. V. L. Narasimha Rao]

Minister's Howdy Modi event. He had not gone there for Howdy Modi event. I think possibly you have a little problem that wherever he goes, he addresses thousands and lakhs of Indians overseas. But, certainly, there was a context to this announcement. The context to this announcement was, a lot of economic agenda was on the hon. Prime Minister's itinerary. He was meeting several global investors and global CEOs in Houston and New York. Also, the global context is something which all of us know about. But I would still like to allude to it. You have seen over the past few months how India today faces and looks at the possibility of new investment opportunities in the wake of a global slowdown and in the wake of decisions by many overseas manufacturers, corporates and global corporations to look for an investment destination beyond China. Therefore, it was certainly imperative for us to really make ourselves tax competitive with the rest of the competitors and compete in the global economy, particularly with many of these Asian countries. I would call this one of the major, or possibly the most important, tax-related announcements since Independence because it is a huge cut at one level. This was not something to be discussed in a GST Council. My understanding is that GST Council is meant to discuss taxes related to goods and services, and not to discuss corporate tax and personal income taxes. Therefore, I don't think it was really mandatory to discuss it in such a forum. With 15 per cent as the tax rate for the new manufacturing companies, we have certainly brought ourselves on par with the best in the region. We are more attractive than many other countries like Indonesia, Philippines, Taiwan, etc. We are more attractive than them. So, this was to seize an opportunity that was available to India. Make-in-India is not just a slogan, it is a dream and it is something which we shall achieve.

As far as the slowdown in our economy is concerned, I think, all of us know that the global growth rate, which was 3.8 per cent only two years ago in 2017, is projected to be three per cent this year. So, that is a huge decline. One can see this kind of a decline affecting economies around the world. So, we are certainly not facing a reverse trend in India. This is certainly in keeping with the global trends. But, this is also an occasion for us to make use of the opportunity to emerge as a winner. If you look at it, it is not just in terms of tax. Over the last five years, a series of reforms has been introduced and a series of reforms has been unleashed to make India a favoured destination for the foreign investors and also to make India as the best place to invest even for the domestic investors.

Now, I would talk about 'Ease of Doing Business' ranking. We were at 142 in 2015. Several Governments have been in office, but not any Government has been able to achieve the kind of a remarkable progress that this country has achieved in five years due to the

initiatives of the hon. Prime Minister and his Government. From 142 in 2015, in just a matter of four years, we have jumped to 77th rank. So, a gain of 65 places is historic. Therefore, it is not just a step of lowering the corporate tax. It is not an isolated step. It is only in a series of path-breaking reforms that have been taken up in this country which is making India a very attractive destination. Look at FDI inflows. From 36 billion dollars five years ago, they have climbed to about 64 billion dollars. It is a 78 per cent hike in a short span of four to five years. On the Global Innovation Index — it is important for any economy to be leveraging on innovation to really achieve high growth levels in the long run — we have jumped from 81 in 2015 to 52 in 2019. We certainly hope to be among the top 25 in the next few years.

If you look at our overall performance, the Opposition has been trying to really paint this entire economic situation in a very, very negative manner. There are attempts actually to talk down the economy, to create a panic atmosphere in the country. But, I think, I would like to draw upon the historic experiences to tell how this situation is far superior to the time when they were in Government. A question was asked and repeatedly being asked is whether this is a structural decline, whether this is a cyclical decline. And, mockingly, they now want to ask whether this is a seasonal decline. We know, they have great economists with great degrees, but we would like to ask them. What was the nature of decline when the UPA-II was in power? I would like to give you the figures. From the year 2010-11 till 2013-14, the GDP growth rate declined from 10.3 per cent to 6.6 per cent to 5.5 per cent and eventually ended at 6.4 per cent. So, a 4 to 5 per cent decline in GDP, was that a structural decline or was that a seasonal decline? Or was that a result of a corruption decline? I think these great economists, who are able to comment on the present situation, if they could really reflect on the past and really analyze the situation, that would be a very good introspection for them and it would be learning for us as well.

I would like to draw your attention to a poverty report of the Brookings Institute. This Report was published only a few weeks ago. This Report talks about how India has achieved a huge decline in poverty, away from the stigma of having the largest number of poor people in the country. In 2018, for the first time, we are not the country with the stigma of having the highest number of poor people. We have failed as Governments in the past but, certainly, in 2018, under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister, India's poor have declined gradually, drastically to really help us, really get off this particular tag of being the country with the largest number of poor people. This is the Sustainable Development Goal number one, to say, the foremost Sustainable Development Goal, the Global Goal, and, I think, India

[Shri G. V. L. Narasimha Rao]

has, certainly, achieved a huge gain under the leadership of hon. Prime Minister. This is something for this country to cheer about.

If this is the kind of arrogance saying that we know how to fix economy, you guys do not know, we are the people who can teach you, I think, this kind of an arrogance is inversely proportional to the public support that you get in this country. People expect every political party and leader to show a modicum of modesty. But this arrogance is not backed by performance. Let me give you some more statistics. Let us look at the kind of cost that poor people of this country have paid under successive Governments in the past. In the last five years, under Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the average rate of inflation was only about 4.4 per cent, well below the RBI mandated level of 5 per cent. In Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Government — that was another full term of five years when Atalji served as the Prime Minister — the average rate of inflation was below 3 per cent. But, let me tell you the five years of the Government that preceded our Government, the UPA-2, the average rate of inflation was 10.3 per cent. So, what are you boasting about? You are claiming to be great deliverers in terms of growth but at what cost? What were the causes of decline from 2010-11 to 2013-14, the effects of which the country is still facing? That was also the period when there was a profligacy of lending money indiscriminately; that was also a period this country had witnessed some of the worst scams in the country. Today, they are talking about power sector in difficulty. It is in difficulty because of the Coalgate Scam. It is because hundreds of licences were cancelled because of the considerations of crony capitalism. The telecom sector suffered because of the 2G Spectrum Scam. Lakhs of crores of public money have really gone disappearing. So, you compare with us when you claim to be greater doctors of economics; I can also give you the inflation levels during the 70s. If you look at the 80s, from 1980-81 till 1983-84, the average rate of inflation was 10.75 per cent. From 1972-73 to 1976-77, it was 12.7 per cent. So, you claim to be a party that is there to remove poverty but you literally forced people into poverty. To whom does the CPI inflation; to whom does the Inflation price-rise cost the most? It is the poor. So, it is because of your flawed policies; because of your crony capitalism and your pro-industrialist policies, the poor people of this country have paid a huge price and they have suffered for decades, and only under Prime Minister Narendra Modiji, they see a ray of hope. It is because this Government has not only focussed on growth, it has indeed focussed on eradicating poverty and in improving the quality of life of the poor.

Also, all the time, you talk about demonetisation. Demonetisation has done this; demonetisation has done that. We are great experts in economy. Why don't you come and

take a lecture from us? I think what kind of a devastation you brought to the economy is evident from the numbers I presented. You have destructed India's poor and their economy and then you claim to be the great performers or miracle-makers. Let me tell you what has been the impact of demonetisation in this country. It has led to a formalization of economy; it has led to digitisation of economy; it has brought money directly into the accounts, into the pockets of the poor, where a Prime Minister said only one-sixth of the money that we sent from Delhi reaches the pockets of the poor for whom it is meant. Today, we have delivered more than ₹ 7.8 lakh crores. In 2018-19, ₹ 7.8 lakh crores of money was directly delivered, *via*, the DBT. This has led to a savings of ₹ 1.24 lakh crores. So, whatever our Government has done is in terms of delivering lakhs of crores of money directly into the pockets of the poor which has helped alleviate them from poverty. But, what you have indulged in is, I think, whatever scams I alluded to, they refer to lakhs of crores of evasion of public money rather loot of public money.

Now, through the BHIM App, which was actually designed in honour of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, it is named after him, in 2018-19, ₹ 8.71 lakh crores of money was transacted. These are staggering numbers. The world is taking note of it. The World Bank or all other international organisations are highlighting India as a success story.

You have 37 crore *Jan Dhan* accounts where this money has been directly deposited. What the hon. Prime Minister has done in five years is to completely transform India's economy and to ensure that every penny of India's money reaches the poor people of this country. It, certainly, does not sound music to the ears of certain interests. They certainly have enjoyed a phone banking facility in the past. There was a lot of facility available where a lot of licences can be issued through personal contacts, personal conversations. This Government has ended all such regime. Today, allotment happens on a transparent basis. There is absolutely no room for any kind of *hera pheri*, and this is certainly hurting a lot of interests. So it is time that the people of India have got used to this new system. They have got used to the new digital systems. They have got used to operating *Jan Dhan* accounts. They are living in the most honest way. I would like to urge all those, who may have benefitted from the earlier systems, from a lot of flaws in policy, please be ready, please know how to work in the new India because in new India, everyone will have an opportunity to earn money, but it has to be in the most legitimate manner. Jairam Ramesh ji referred to some Hindi film title. I will refer to a Hindi film song. There are some people in the Opposition, who keep saying all the time, 'I am the best, I am the best, I am the best.' Many party leaders also sing in chorus, 'You are the best, you are the best.' I think you will only be considered

[Shri G. V. L. Narasimha Rao]

best not by commenting against others, but by showing how you have delivered a better performance in the past and not by making stinging allegations and comments.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray.

SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY (West Bengal): Sir, on 20th September, the Ordinance was promulgated announcing a reduction in the country's effective corporate tax rate from around 35 per cent to 25 per cent. For companies that do not avail of any other incentive or commission, the effective tax rate would be just 22 per cent. The move which involves forgoing ₹ 1.45 lakh crores in annual revenue, will widen the Government's fiscal deficit — the difference between revenue and expenditure — from the current target of 3.3 per cent to 4 per cent of GDP this financial year. The rationale behind giving deficit targets a miss is that it will incentivise the private sector to invest more, as companies can now expect higher profits. This will eventually lead to, it is hoped, an economic revival. Whether the revival will happen or not, that is to be seen in the coming months. But when the Ordinance was promulgated, it occurred to me that this was a panic reaction on the part of the Government. The reason I am saying so is, there had been multiple indicators in the recent months; be it the 4.3 per cent contraction of factory output for September, the shrinkage of merchandise exports in the successive months from August, that is, minus six per cent, and in September, minus 6.6 per cent, and then the RBI survey suggesting that the consumer confidence dropped to a six-year low in September. No doubt the Government tried to avert the crisis. There is no doubt about it. First it withdrew the super-rich surcharge levied on foreign portfolio investors and then rolled out a series of measures including corporate tax rate as I have said, and a proposal to set up a ₹ 25,000 crore fund to revive the realty sector. Several measures have been taken but even though, this had no impact on the overall economy of our country. That is why, out of this panic reaction, the Ordinance was promulgated. As I have said, the lower corporates can stimulate growth. Yes, it depends. No doubt that lower corporates stimulate growth but depending on what the companies do with the taxes they have paid. That is the moot question. What the companies will do? Given the nature of the current slowdown, which is mainly due to weak consumer demand,— everybody has said that—there is no reason to imagine that private companies will invest more if their tax outgo decreases. If consumers are not spending in the first place due to high unemployment and diminishing wages, then, additional money spent, becomes risky. There may not be many avenues for companies to invest anyway. For instance, I am giving one example. Would lower corporate tax rates encourage the auto companies? There is a serious crisis in the automobile sector. There may be such crisis in other companies also.

But, in the automobile sector, it is very much visible, and thousands of workers have already been retrenched. I would like to know whether they will go to invest more in the automobile industry. That is the question.

Sir, the current corporate rate tax cuts are more likely to impact the distribution of income than growth or employment. Companies will now get a larger share of profits from existing investments, while the economy remains in the slow lane, and there is a very real danger that this would result in inequality. Our economy always advances the inequality in the society, financial inequality, and for decades together, several steps have been taken by the successive Governments at the Centre, but, the things have not improved to the extent it was targeted.

Now, Sir, all of us know that the Centre has scrapped the all-India survey on household consumption expenditure conducted by the then National Sample Survey Office. A few months ago, the Government had refused to make public the official survey conducted on employment in India, and after over 108 reputed academics signed a petition to get the document officially, it was released, and that too, after the election only. This time also, more than 200 economists and statisticians have signed a petition requesting the Government to release the survey report. The information about the results of the survey that were leaked to the press showed that for the first time in more than four decades, consumption expenditure had actually fallen with an increase in poverty and a dip in food consumption by the poor. And all of us know that two-thirds of our population live in the rural areas, and spending on housing, food, cereals, is declining in the rural sector each and every day, if not every month. There has been no external shock that could be the cause of this worsening state of affairs. There is no war or aggression, no economic barrier, no sanction of any country against us. Therefore, there is no external factor for this problem. So, whatever has been caused is due to the internal factors, which must be taken care of by the Government. That is my humble request to the hon. Finance Minister to look into that. The Government must understand that this kind of arbitrary refusal to publish the statistics will give rise to authoritarianism. In a democratic society like ours, this is not at all admissible. Our Constitution does not prescribe that, and when we have enacted the Right to Information Act, then, the citizens should not be denied of information concerning their daily life. That is my humble request to the Government and the Government should take note of this.

Sir, now, I have already stated that two-thirds of the Indians who live in rural areas spending on food, clothing, education and cereals are declining, and almost struggling with debt, and farmers suicides are reported almost daily from different parts of the country

[Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray]

everywhere. So) many measures have been taken, but, the things have not improved. Now, how far this Taxation Amendment Bill will help to boost the economy as a whole is a serious question that should be debated again and again so that the corrective measures are taken at the right time by the Government. Sir, now I would like to quote one or two lines, with your kind permission, of what the experts say. Forget about what we say or what the Opposition says. What do the experts say? One of the former Economic Advisors to the Government, I am not naming him, said, “Besides monetary easing by the Reserve Bank of India, the Government needs to simplify the Goods and Services Tax and introduce a new Direct Tax Code to clear the tax jungle created by our ancient Income Tax laws and rules.” This is the opinion of an expert. Another expert, the former Industry Secretary said, “The Government must release two instalments of PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, that is, ₹ 4,000 at one go as well as increase the MNREGA allocation to spur rural demand so that the people have enough money to purchase, to consume.” That will boost the economy.

I request the hon. Finance Minister to consider, when I have talked about the GST, the fact that four-five States, including my State of West Bengal, appealed to the Government to clear the pending compensation on account of GST, which has not yet been cleared.

Lastly, the Cyclone Bulbul, in my State has recently caused serious destruction. Although the hon. Prime Minister announced that adequate compensation would be provided for, nothing has been provided so far. My humble request to the hon. Finance Minister is to consider this. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, thank you for the opportunity given to me to speak. I would like to remind the Members of the August House to remember and respect our beloved leader Puratchi Thalaivi Amma, who left us in deep grief and sorrow on the very same day in 2016. With the introduction of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019, India has tried to bring its tax rate in line with other countries and has given domestic companies a level-playing field.

The object of the Bill is to provide a sort of fiscal stimulus to the companies by reducing tax rate. It is a welcome measure. The domestic companies can opt for the new tax rates in the financial year 2019-20, that is, assessment year 2020-21 or in any other financial year.

Keeping in mind that the trade war, that was going on, which continues to go on even today, between the United States and the People’s Republic of China with indications that many of these corporates, multinational companies would want to get out of China, it was

necessary to reduce the corporate tax. The corporate tax for both the existing companies are reduced and also for those new companies which would want to start business in India. An option was provided. An option was provided to all the existing domestic companies to pay tax at 22 per cent which will have an effective *rate of 25.17 per cent after including the surcharge of 10 per cent and the cess of about four per cent*, as against the existing highest effective corporate tax of 34.94 per cent, subject to the conditions that it does not claim any tax exemptions or deductions. So, for the existing companies, the option was provided. These companies were also exempted from payment of Minimum Alternate Tax.

So, through the Ordinance, when the reductions in corporate rate were brought in, even for the new companies, on the Minimum Alternate Tax, the Government had given an exemption that the new companies, those who start from 1st October and those who actually start manufacturing before 2023, will be Totally exempt from the Minimum Alternate Tax.

Sir, in respect of 8.4 lakh companies that filed income tax returns for the financial year 2017-18, it is found that around 29 per cent of 8.4 lakh companies paid tax at an effective rate that was higher than 25 per cent. The revenue losses due to lower tax rates and other measures under the Ordinance includes exemptions to capital gains of certain investors from increased surcharge rates which stood at ₹ 1,45,000 crore. This is equivalent to 5.2 per cent of the Government revenue estimate in 2019-20. If all other parameters remain the same, this could increase the fiscal deficit for the year 2019-20 from 3.3 per cent of the GDP to four per cent of GDP. The Corporate Tax cut will result in further loss of ₹ 1.45 lakh crores.

Sir, whether the Government accepts or not, our economy is under deep stress. The growth was mainly dragged due to deceleration in the manufacturing output. The Government is targeting about five trillion dollar economy. Five trillion dollar economy is simply an herculean task now considering the prevailing economic crisis. Between 2018 and 2019, the size of the economy was 2.7 trillion dollars. To reach five trillion dollars by 2025, we need the growth rate of 12 per cent in nominal terms and nine per cent in real terms.

Sir out of a Total of seven crore taxpayers, only 11.86 lakh, *i.e.* 3-4 per cent are corporate taxpayers. Out of the Total companies incorporated in India, just 0.7 per cent of companies have a Total turnover of more than ₹ 400 crores and the rest 99.3 per cent companies are already paying tax at the rate of 25 per cent only. So, there are just 50,000 to 80,000 domestic companies which are going to pay tax at the rate of 30 per cent and are the most benefited by this Amendment. The companies having a turnover of ₹ 400 crores, will be taxed ₹ 25 crores with the reduction of 5 per cent from 30 per cent. Almost 99.3 per cent

[Shri A. Vijaya Kumar]

have already been covered under this taxation. Now, by giving another deduction of 22 per cent, I think that 100 per cent has been covered by the Act. In that sense, it has to be welcomed.

Sir, there is no timeline for domestic companies to choose a lower tax rate under Section 115(b) (aa). But once a company exercises this option — this is very important — the chosen provision will apply for all subsequent years and such option cannot be withdrawn for some or subsequent years. There is an anomaly in this. I would suggest that the option be open. Why should the Government be so stringent that once the option is closed, one cannot revert again? This aspect needs to be reconsidered.

Section 15 (b) (ab) is available to only new companies which have been set up or registered on and after October 01, 2019. If the Government brings in this provision, then the benefit is not available to the existing companies even if they set up a new unit for manufacture or production. So, I urge the Government that the time bar should be removed because the existing companies must also have the option and permission to avail of this facility.

Most of our businesses are struggling because of compliance and harassment which is being created by implementation of laws. There are mainly two reasons why they are suffering. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... They are suffering because the Government is rigid to come out with clear guidelines. The Government still keeps certain laws which officials can misuse. Thank you, Sir.

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा (उत्तर प्रदेश): सर, मैं आपका आभारी हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस विधेयक पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है।

सर, यह जो चर्चा चल रही है, इसके पीछे एक संदर्भ है, जिसमें कॉरपोरेट सेक्टर के टैक्सेज को कम किया जा रहा है और ये बातें अभी कही जा चुकी हैं। यह बड़ी अजीब-सी चीज़ है। चूँकि जैसे ही बजट आया था, उसके कुछ दिन बाद ही ये नये प्रपोज़ल्स आये थे और वे क्या संदर्भ थे, हमारे पूर्ववर्ती वक्ता आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी बता चुके हैं। मैं उनको नहीं दोहराऊँगा। लेकिन आज अर्थव्यवस्था की जो स्थिति बन रही है, *literally panic* की stage है। चूँकि जब यह भरोसा टूटने लगता है कि हम कहाँ हैं, कहाँ जा रहे हैं, तो सरकार के सामने एक *steering problem* आती है कि कैसे चलें, किस दिशा में जायें और कैसे *smooth way* में हम *steer* करें। हम ऐसे रास्ते में पड़ गये हैं, जहाँ बहुत सारे गड़ढे हैं और दिक्कत सबको ही महसूस होने लगी है। मुझे उस दिन बहुत डर लगा, हमारे एक विद्वान अर्थशास्त्री जी यहाँ हैं, आज वे यहाँ पर नहीं हैं। उनका हम ट्वीट देख रहे थे। उन्होंने इस बात से अवगत कराया कि GDP में आर्थिक विकास की जो दर है, वह 1.5 परसेंट या उससे भी नीचे आ गयी है। जिस दिन चिट फंड बिल पर बहस चल रही थी, उस दिन हम लोगों ने इस बात को कहा था कि यह बहुत ही *critical stage* है। यह चुप रहने की stage नहीं है। इस पर तो अब सबकी, पूरे देश

की सहमति बनाने की जरूरत है। अब यह सिर्फ ऐसा नहीं है कि आप ही के सिर पर यह बोझा है कि आप देश को अंधेरे से बाहर निकाल लायेंगे, हर आदमी जो घर में रहता है, घर के प्रति जिम्मेदार है और अपनी जिम्मेदारी को महसूस करता है, अब यह उसका दायित्व बन जाता है कि इस गड्ढे से, इस अंधेरे से हिन्दुस्तान को, उसकी अर्थव्यवस्था को निकालने के लिए सब लोग मिल कर commitment करें।

सर, कभी-कभी लोगों को लगता है कि चुनाव एक चुनौती है और सरकार बनाने के लिए, चुनाव लड़ने के लिए पूँजीपतियों से सम्बन्ध बनाया जाए, तो अच्छा होगा। लोगों को ऐसा लगता है, लेकिन सर, मैंने तो देखा है कि जब कभी भी जनता के लोगों ने बड़े सरमायेदारों और पूँजीपतियों से दोस्ती की है, उन्हें इसकी कीमत देनी पड़ी है और जो कुछ हो रहा है, वह exceptional नहीं है। जिन लोगों को छूट दी जा रही है— अभी जिक्र आया कि आप छूट देंगे, तो लगभग 1 लाख, 45 हजार, यानी 1.5 लाख करोड़ रुपये के आसपास आपको revenue shock लगेगा। जिनको यह पैसा बचेगा, मुझे नहीं लगता कि आपकी अपेक्षा के अनुसार वे उसको दोबारा invest करेंगे, क्योंकि हालात कुछ और भी हैं, जिनके बारे में मैं आपको बाद में बताऊँगा। लेकिन यह तो निश्चित है कि पहले से जो यह uncertainty और panic की stage बनी हुई है, इससे कैसे बाहर लायेंगे? कभी-कभी समय आता है, जब वाकई एक लीडर की जरूरत होती है। एक ऐसा लीडर, जिस पर पूरा देश आँख मूँद कर विश्वास करे कि नहीं, अब हम जिस आदमी के साथ में हैं, वह हमें सही दिशा में ले जायेगा। Emergency के हालात हैं। हमें उसके अन्दर अपना trust invest करना है। सर, मुझे बार-बार यह लगता है कि जिन हालात में हम लोग चल रहे हैं, वे एक बड़े भयानक political vacuum की ओर हमें ले जा रहे हैं। बल्कि कल कहीं जिक्र भी हो रहा था। हमारे एक पूर्ववर्ती मंत्री जी भी हैं, मैं उनका नाम नहीं लूँगा। वे तो कह रहे थे कि लगता है कि हिन्दुस्तान अब disintegration की तरफ बढ़ रहा है। यह अंधेरा बहुत बड़ा है। आपको assure करना होगा कि वाकई हम उस स्थिति की ओर नहीं जा रहे हैं और हम उससे अपने देश को बचा कर ले आयेंगे।

ऑर्डिनेंस की जो बात कही गयी, आपने बजट भाषण दिया था, सारे प्रावधान elaborate किये थे। हमें यकीन है कि आपने पूरा homework किया होगा। लेकिन अचानक फिर आपको यह लग रहा है, तो इसके मायने ये हैं कि जो indicators हैं, बहुत संगीन हैं, consumption को लेकर, investment को लेकर, export को लेकर, जो भी basic drivers कहलाते हैं। आज हालत यह है कि आप ही नहीं, facebook के माध्यम से अब तो पूरा हिन्दुस्तान इन चीजों को देख रहा है। नयी उम्र के बच्चे, जिनकी तादाद अगले census तक 85 सैकड़ा होने जा रही है, वे भी देख रहे हैं, लेकिन opinion क्या बना रहे हैं? Opinion positive बन रही है या negative बन रही है? सरकार के हक में है या हक में नहीं है? आखिर वह कहाँ जा रहा है? मुझे लगता है कि आगे आने वाला समय जो बड़ी अनिश्चितताओं से भरा हुआ है, उस पर इस बात का फर्क पड़ेगा।

सर, एक बात मैं आपको और बताना चाहता हूँ कि corporate sector में भी change आया है। सर, पहले तो लोग fair business करते थे, इसलिए कभी दिक्कत नहीं होती थी कि किसकी गवर्नमेंट आई, किसकी नहीं आई, लेकिन अब धीरे-धीरे एक तबका ऐसा आ गया है, जिसको लगता है कि अगर

[श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा]

हिन्दुस्तान में बिजनेस करना है, तो सरकार के साथ में रहना जरूरी है। तिकड़म करके, चाहे कैसे भी सरकार के साथ में रहना है और सरकार की पॉलिसीज़ को influence करना है, जिससे बजाय बिजनेस के, खाली पॉलिसीज़ बदल कर ही अपना मुनाफा, अपनी पूंजी बढ़ाई जा सके। बढ़ी भी है, ऐसा नहीं है... चूँकि समय बहुत कम है, इसलिए मैं बहुत लंबी बात नहीं करूंगा, लेकिन मेरे पास evidences हैं। सर, जिस दिन खबर आई थी कि एक खास कंपनी की पूंजी ढाई गुना बढ़ गई है, उस दिन मुझे एक आदमी दिखाई दिया, वह साइकिल पर आ रहा था और वह बड़ा खुश था। मैंने उनसे पूछा कि क्यों खुश हो भाई? वह बोला कि हमारे देश का उद्योगपति धरती के सबसे बड़े रईसों में गिना जाने लगा है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मैंने पूछा कि इससे तुम क्यों खुश हो? इससे तुम्हें क्या मिला? न कोई नौकरी देनी, न कोई नया कारखाना लगाना, न कहीं इन्वेस्टमेंट करना, न उत्पादन बढ़ाना, न गवर्नमेंट को रेवन्यू देना, पूंजी का बढ़ जाना और सबका खुश हो जाना, मुझे लगता है कि यही चमत्कार है, जिसके सहारे यह देश चल रहा है।

सर, जनता की क्रय शक्ति बढ़ना बहुत जरूरी है। हम मज़ाक उड़ा सकते हैं, कहां गए हमारे जी. वी. एल. नरसिंहा राव साहब, लेकिन पिछले 70 वर्षों में प्लानिंग कमिशन और सरकारों ने केवल और केवल क्रय शक्ति बढ़ाने पर ही काम किया था। ग्रामीणों की क्रय शक्ति बढ़ी है, उससे consumption बढ़ा है, उससे इन्वेस्टमेंट बढ़ा है, उससे production बढ़ा है। यह जो नौकरशाही है, यह भ्रष्ट नौकरशाही है, क्योंकि अगर कोई किसी enterprise में कोई भी नया काम खड़ा करना चाहे, आप भी खड़ा करके देख लीजिए, यह बिना पैसा लगाए हुए चवन्नी का पार्टनर माना जाता है। यह वह चीज़ है, जो आपको खा रही है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति: रवि प्रकाश जी, कृपया आप conclude करें। आपने already अधिक समय ले लिया है।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, मैं conclude कर रहा हूँ।

सर, ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में और मध्यमवर्गीय परिवारों में पूंजी निर्माण की प्रक्रिया चालू कराइए, इससे यह काम होगा। लेकिन जो foreign firms यहाँ पर काम कर रही हैं, आपने उनको जो exempt कर दिया है, इस पर भी बहुत सवाल उठेंगे। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति: रवि प्रकाश जी, कृपया आप conclude कीजिए। आपने already एक मिनट ज्यादा समय ले लिया है।

श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा: सर, अभी आदरणीय जयराम रमेश जी five Fs की बात कर रहे थे, लेकिन एक छठा एफ और है और वह है fear यानी दहशत। अभी कई लोगों ने इस बात का जिक्र किया है। हम इसके बहुत डिटेल में नहीं जाएंगे, लेकिन बाज़ार में दहशत है और इसके कारण यहाँ से उद्योगपति अपना कारोबार लेकर विदेशों में शिफ्ट हो रहे हैं। आप इस पर गौर कीजिएगा। आप सब कुछ कर डालेंगे, अगर दहशत खत्म नहीं हुई, तो रास्ता नहीं निकलेगा, यही आपसे कहना था, धन्यवाद।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I have looked at this Bill from a perspective of short-term, medium-term and long-term. In the early 90s, the Chelliah Committee recommended bringing down the corporate income tax from between 51.75 and 57.5 per cent to 45 per cent. It was brought down to 40 per cent, and then, further to 35 per cent in 1997-98. Then, the Shome Committee in 2001 and the Kelkar Committee in 2002, in their recommendations, brought it down to 30 per cent. Subsequently, it has been brought down to 25 per cent. And, now, the hon. Finance Minister has brought it down to 22 per cent. In the case of manufacturing, it has been brought down to 15 per cent. So, contrary to what Jairam Ramesh ji said, I think the long-term movement is in line with the policy that we have been following in this country, that the corporate income tax has to come down. As far as the timing is concerned, to take advantage of the trade war between India and China, if it has come a little too earlier— if the Finance Minister was probably thinking to bring it later — I think it could have been done probably even earlier, during the Budget Session itself. So, in terms of the long-term stability, I think this is the right thing that we have done in terms of bringing forward this Bill. But, as far as fiscal stimulus is concerned, whether it would prop up the economy and will boost the demand, I think, I will come to that later. I just have a quarrel about the exclusion from application of the provisions, the reduced tax rates, to the mining sector which contributes about 2.39 per cent of the GVA in 2015 as per the CSO data. I am concerned because most of the Odisha's economy is dependent on this particular sector. If there is a spurt in the mining activity, I think the economy of the State would greatly get impacted. So, my request would be to probably include this in the manufacturing sector to get the benefit of 15 per cent. Also, why this has been excluded is not mentioned in the Statement of Objects of the Bill. Sir, now I will come down to the companies who are going to get benefit in terms of the effective tax rates. Sir, a calculation of the effective tax rate after deductions rightly shows that 69 per cent of the Total income tax is paid by 29 per cent of the 8.4 lakh companies, and they would get the benefit. But then there are about five per cent of the companies who contribute 22 per cent to the share in the Total tax paid. They are currently paying 20 per cent to 25 per cent. They are not likely to shift to the new regime because their effective tax rate is anyway lower than 25.17 per cent that they are going to pay.

Sir, the concerns about the New Tax Bill are these that because of this, the MSMEs may be left out. Then the second, the demand side has not been addressed, the consumption side not addressed, pump-priming the economy by increasing Government expenditure on roads and houses and other things probably could have been thought of as an additional

[Dr. Amar Patnaik]

thing to fiscal measures. Therefore, I would say that in the immediate and the short-term, maybe, it will not help to prop up the economy. I am sure that with the lag effect gone in the future quarters, the impact would be seen in terms of improving the economy.

Another concern of our State is that if the divisible pool of taxes will come down, then the allocation to the States would come down and the States like Odisha would be greatly affected. The cess and the surcharge which are now not a part of the divisible pool, the hon. Finance Minister is requested if she could consider bringing it under the divisible pool given the circumstances that the tax collections overall will not be improving in 2019-20, or, even for that matter, 2020-21. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Sir, one minute.

Sir, the fiscal deficit target, many people have said that it would be offset by about 0.7 per cent. But I have a feeling that the forgone tax, whatever deductions in the form of deductions would have been forgone, would have been ₹ 1.13 lakh crores. So, the impact on the fiscal deficit would not be much. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

On the States, as I said, I would probably request that in case of disaster-prone States like Odisha, despite whatever happens in the economic situation, the transfers should continue despite the collections. Thank you so much.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। अभी श्री जयराम रमेश जी बोल रहे थे। हमारे श्री रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी भी बोल रहे थे। आपने पाँच एफ का नाम तो लिया, लेकिन छठा एफ फियर नहीं है, छठा एफ फेथ है। जो हमारा बेसिक सिस्टम है, अपने हिन्दुस्तान का जो बेसिक सिस्टम है, उस पर भरोसा करिए, उस पर विश्वास करिए और पूरे के पूरे indicators, जिनको आप खुद बता रहे थे, वे सब अच्छे हैं और हमारा देश आगे बढ़ेगा। आज इनके द्वारा पूरे के पूरे टैक्स में जो डिडक्शन किया गया है, यह बात ज़रा समझने की चीज है। आप अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर भी देख लीजिए। आज हमारा जो टैक्स स्ट्रक्चर है, वह दुनिया में सबसे नीचे है। आप बोल रहे थे कि पहले सिर्फ बढ़ाया जाता था, अब सब टैक्स कमा रहे हैं। आप देखिए कि 1980 के दशक में दुनिया में एवरेज टैक्स 38.86 परसेंट था और आज 23.03 परसेंट है। यानी टैक्स में 5 परसेंट का डिडक्शन आया है, तो स्वाभाविक है कि आज जब हम लोग हमारे देश में 22 परसेंट पर हैं, तो यह एक अच्छा indicator है। हम internationally competitive हो गए हैं। हमारे यहाँ जो भी लोग बाहर से आना चाहते हैं — अभी चाइना की बात हो रही थी, आप चाइना को ही ले लीजिए, वहाँ 25 परसेंट है। अमेरिका को ले लीजिए, 27 परसेंट है। ब्राज़ील हम लोगों से compete करता है, उनका भी 34 परसेंट है। आप फ्रांस में भी चले जाइए, उनका भी 31 परसेंट है। जर्मनी में देखिए, 30 परसेंट है, तो

4.00 P.M.

इन्होंने अभी हमारा जो बेसिक लिया है, इससे आगे चलकर हमको फायदा होगा और निश्चित रूप से इससे हमारे पूरे के पूरे प्रोडक्शन में बढ़ोतरी होगी, लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा। हम लोगों को हमेशा ज़रा positive भी सोचना चाहिए। यह सही है कि हमारी जो सप्लाई साइड है, वह बढ़ेगी। लेकिन जब डिमांड और consumption की बात आती है, तो टैक्स के बारे में भी मैं एक बात रखना चाहूँगा। आप सब जानते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में सन् 1922 में इनकम टैक्स आया और वर्ष 1964 में इनकम टैक्स ऐक्ट आया। जब हम इनकम टैक्स में ट्रेनिंग लेते थे, तो मुझे बताया गया कि वर्ष 1961 में जब यह ऐक्ट बना, तो उसके बाद इसमें बहुत सारे अमेंडमेंट्स हुए। जिस तरह, एक बच्चा जब पैदा होता है, तो उसका चेहरा बहुत साफ होता है, लेकिन जब उसी बच्चे को स्मॉल पॉक्स हो जाते हैं, तो उसके चेहरे पर तरह-तरह के scars हो जाते हैं, उसी तरह इन 58 सालों में इस ऐक्ट में इतने अमेंडमेंट्स हुए हैं कि आप वर्ष 1964 के ऐक्ट को पहचान भी नहीं सकते हैं। इसीलिए जो यह डायरेक्ट टैक्स कोड बन रहा है — अभी ऐसी खबरें आ रही हैं कि शायद चेयरमैन ने उसकी रिपोर्ट भी दे दी है, तो मैं वित्त मंत्री जी से यह अनुरोध करूँगा कि जो डायरेक्ट टैक्स कोड है, उस पर जल्दी कार्रवाई हो। जो छोटे निवेशक हैं, जो पर्सनल इनकम टैक्स वाले लोग हैं, उनको उसमें भी रियायत मिलेगी और हमारे टैक्स का जो पूरा का पूरा स्ट्रक्चर है, उसको इससे निश्चित रूप से फायदा होगा। यह सप्लाई साइड की बात हुई, अब हम डिमांड साइड पर आते हैं।

इसमें सबसे बड़ी बात इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर की आती है, जिसमें काफी इन्वेस्टमेंट्स हो रहे हैं। खासकर, रेलवे या एयरपोर्ट्स में ऐसे कई last mile projects होंगे, जिनमें अभी काम चल रहा होगा, इस तरह के हमारे जो बहुत सारे इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर के हमारे जो रूरल प्रोजेक्ट्स हैं, उनमें जितना ज्यादा इन्वेस्ट किया जाएगा, उतना ज्यादा उससे लोगों को रोजगार मिलेगा। उससे लोगों के पास पैसे पहुँचेंगे और जब उनके पास पैसे पहुँचेंगे, तो वे निश्चित रूप से उसे खर्च करेंगे।

इसके साथ ही, मैं एक और बात जरूर कहना चाहूँगा। प्रधान मंत्री जी द्वारा एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण स्कीम लाई गई है, जिसके अंतर्गत किसानों को 6,000 रुपये दिए जा रहे हैं। वित्त मंत्री जी, आने वाले बजट के लिए हमारा एक सुझाव है। आप उसमें एक चीज़ जरूर रखिएगा कि इस स्कीम में हमने किसान की जो परिभाषा दी है, उसमें केवल वे ही किसान सम्मिलित हैं, जिनके नाम से जमीन है। लेकिन अगर आप उत्तर भारत और पूर्वी भारत में देखें, तो वहाँ के बहुत सारे प्रदेशों में sharecroppers होते हैं, जो बँटाई की खेती करते हैं, उनको इसका लाभ नहीं मिलता है। अगर इसका लाभ उनको भी मिलेगा, तो निश्चित रूप से ग्रामीण इलाकों में रहने वाले लोगों के पास पैसे आएँगे। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... हम लोगों का यह प्रयास होना चाहिए कि हमारी इकॉनमी इस प्रकार की हो कि उससे ज्यादा से ज्यादा ग्रामीण इलाकों में रहने वाले लोगों के पॉकेट में पैसे बचें, उसे वे खर्च करें, ताकि हमारी इकॉनमी बढ़े और हम दुनिया के विकसित देशों में शामिल हो सकें। अंत में, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I am not going into the changes made in the tax laws because this has been periodically done. In every Budget, the Governments announce some concessions to some sections of the society, but the Ordinance route, as I have mentioned many times, is wrong.

Sir, in a civilized society, a good Government should ensure socio-economic protection to all its citizens, underline the words 'all its citizens', but this Government looks at only one side. They help and support the rich, the industrialists, but on the other side, as reported in a NSSO survey, domestic consumption has come down. What support is the Government going to give? What kind of a concession is this Government going to make for the poor? Unfortunately, today, even insurance premia are being taxed. GST is being levied on insurance premia. It is a kind of saving, but this Government has levied GST even on insurance premia. When the Income Tax Department itself has considered it as a saving and exempted it from tax in the tax structure, this Government has levied GST even on insurance premia.

Sir, our founder leader, C.N. Annadurai, respectfully called *Arignar Anna*, used to say that a good economic policy should be to tap the rich and pat the poor. Here, this Government is tapping the poor and patting the rich. That is what is happening here. My hon. colleague, Shri G. V. L. Narasimha Rao, very strongly supported the Government. I was listening to his speech carefully. I have even read his book on EVMs earlier. He has always been strong in his arguments. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please.

SHRI T. K. S. ELANGO VAN: I do not want to go into the text of the matter. I only say that he is very strong in his opinions and views. Sir, what kind of a social security or socio-economic security do we have? On the social side, there is mob lynching. People are advised as to what they should eat. On the economic side also, the Government has not provided anything to the poorer sections of the society. What is the role of this Government when they want the industries to come up? What is the role of this Government in increasing employment when the Prime Minister himself promised the creation of two crore jobs every year? But what has happened? You can give rosy picture and statistics. I do not believe in GDP being related to the economic development. I don't consider it so because GDP has many factors. Actually, what is the position of job creation by this Government during the last five years? Why has the domestic consumption gone down? Why does the poverty remain the same? Poverty remains the same and there is no change in poverty because this

Government has considered welfare of about 15 per cent or 20 per cent of the population and the remaining 80 per cent are left out. I don't want to go into the tax structure because it is periodic and is revised. The Government changes the tax structure in every Budget. Has the Government real concern for the economic development of this country as a whole? Has the Government plans to support the farmers whose produce contribute 20 per cent of the GDP, about the labourers and other sections of the people who are really affected? These are my questions.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV (Nominated): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to wholeheartedly support the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019. At the present juncture, policy intervention such as the corporate tax reduction is imperative for India to strengthen its foothold in the global market and to become a favourable destination for manufacturing units. Let me explain why. First, the corporate tax rate cut is a crucial move towards incentivising domestic investment and to further the objectives of 'Make in India'. It would certainly boost domestic entities to set up new manufacturing units. Second, corporate tax rate cut would also serve as an important catalyst to attract Foreign Direct Investment in the manufacturing sector and will encourage multinational corporations to shift their units to India. It is expected that several existing industries will benefit from this move, especially the auto industry. Third, with an effective corporate tax rate of 25.17 per cent, India would now join the League of Asian nations which offer attractive corporate taxes favourable to manufacturing activities, namely, China, South Korea and Bangladesh, where the corporate tax rate is 25 per cent. I am delighted to note that my friend and hon. Member, Shri Jairam Ramesh, agrees that the fundamentals of the Indian economy continue to remain strong and I agree with Shri Jairam Ramesh that the current slowdown — we must recognise this without giving it any political colour because six quarters of decline is unprecedented — is not arising from the five 'Fs', but it is emanating from the deficiency of aggregate demand.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

DR. NARENDRA JADHAV: Sir, I will take only thirty seconds. While commending the hon. Finance Minister for bringing this Bill, I must also point out that the corporate tax cut does not address the critical issue of falling demand. The economic slowdown calls for consumer optimism and a demand boost. This can be done only by putting purchasing power in the hands of people, the general public. Given the difficult situation that the Indian economy is in, the fiscal discipline could be relaxed for the time being and personal taxes may be reduced in the forthcoming Budget, especially for the lower and middle-income strata. With these remarks, I commend the Bill for passing.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे कराधान विधि (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2019 पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, उसके लिए मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता हूँ। महोदय, माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी द्वारा दिनांक 20 सितम्बर, 2019 के अध्यादेश को जो संविधान के आर्टिकल 123 के अधीन है, कानूनी रूप देने का प्रावधान है। विशेषकर सरकार इसमें कॉरपोरेट टैक्स को कम करने और उसे 30 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 22 प्रतिशत करने जा रही है। महोदय, वर्तमान में कॉरपोरेट जगत के लोग जो नई कंपनियां स्थापित करेंगे, उनको 5 प्रतिशत तक टैक्स देना होगा।

सर, सरकार कॉरपोरेट जगत का टैक्स कम करे, इससे हमें कोई एतराज नहीं है, किंतु हमारे देश में जो छोटे व्यापारी हैं, किसान हैं, सरकारी कर्मचारी हैं और पेंशनभोगी हैं, इनसे तो आप लगभग 40 प्रतिशत कर वसूल कर रहे हैं, लेकिन उद्योगपतियों से, प्राइवेट जगत से आप कम कर वसूल कर रहे हैं। मेरा मानना है कि आप इन गरीबों की तरफ भी ध्यान दें। आज महंगाई इतनी बढ़ गई है कि जीवन में रोजमर्रा के इस्तेमाल में आने वाली वस्तुओं की कीमतें बहुत बढ़ गई हैं - जैसे प्याज के दाम आज आसमान को छू रहे हैं, जिसकी वजह से इनका बजट गड़बड़ा गया है, तो सरकार को उद्योगपतियों के साथ-साथ इस ओर भी ध्यान देना चाहिए।

महोदय, हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है। हमारे देश की 70 प्रतिशत जनता कृषि पर निर्भर करती है। सरकार ने जो वायदा किया था कि हम किसानों की आय दुगुनी करेंगे, वह वायदा पूरा नहीं हुआ। एक तरफ सरकार उद्योगपतियों का लगभग दो लाख करोड़ रुपया माफ कर देती है और दूसरी तरफ किसानों की तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। आज हमारे देश में किसान सबसे ज्यादा परेशान हैं, वह आत्महत्या कर रहा है। महोदय, हमारे देश की तरक्की गांव, किसान और खेत से होकर गुजरती है। यदि गांव खुशहाल है, तो शहर खुशहाल होगा और शहर और गांव दोनों खुशहाल होंगे, तब हमारा पूरा देश खुशहाल होगा। हमें गांवों की तरफ ध्यान देना चाहिए, किसानों की तरफ भी ध्यान देना चाहिए, तभी हमारा देश तरक्की की तरफ बढ़ेगा। महोदय, आज जी.डी.पी. घटकर 4.5% रह गयी है और सत्ता पक्ष के एक सदस्य ने तो यहां तक कहा कि 1.5% ही रह गयी है। वर्ष 2013 से यह सबसे कम जी.डी.पी. रही है। सरकार ने जी.एस.टी. बिना तैयारी के लागू किया, नोटबंदी बिना तैयारी के लागू की, यह सब उसी का परिणाम है। मैं आज बताना चाहूंगा कि सरकार का मानना है कि इस कदम से निजी क्षेत्र में निवेश बढ़ेगा और राजस्व और आर्थिक वृद्धि को बढ़ावा मिलेगा, जिससे प्रतिस्पर्धा और रोजगार के अवसर सृजित होंगे और पूंजीगत लाभ में वृद्धि होगी। सरकार की मंशा तो ठीक है, किंतु उसका अनुपालन होना चाहिए। उसका अनुपालन नहीं हो रहा है। आज रोजगार समाप्त हो रहे हैं। सरकार ने वायदा किया था कि जो बेरोजगार युवा हैं, उनको हम एक साल में दो करोड़ नौकरियां देंगे। वह वायदा पूरा नहीं हुआ है। आज प्राइवेटाइज़ेशन हो रहा है और प्राइवेटाइज़ेशन में जो सरकारी विभाग हैं, उनको प्राइवेट उद्योगपतियों को बेचा जा रहा है। जैसे परम पूज्य डा. भीमराव अम्बेडकर साहेब ने भारतीय संविधान में आरक्षण की व्यवस्था की थी, तो आज प्राइवेट सेक्टर को देते समय आरक्षण की व्यवस्था नहीं की जा रही है। आज अनुसूचित जाति, जनजाति और पिछड़ी जाति के लोग आरक्षण से वंचित होते चले जा रहे हैं। **...(समय की घंटी)...** माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपके माध्यम से मेरा निवेदन है कि उस वायदे की तरफ भी सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए और दो करोड़ युवाओं को रोजगार

देना चाहिए। आज हमारे देश में जो कंपनीज़ बंद हो रही हैं, उससे हमारे युवा बेरोजगार होते चले जा रहे हैं, यह बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। मैं तो यही कहूंगा कि हम उद्योगपतियों और कॉर्पोरेट जगत को तो बढ़ावा दें। लेकिन इसके साथ-साथ हमें किसान, मज़दूर, छोटे व्यापारी - इनकी तरफ भी ध्यान देना चाहिए। ...**(समय की घंटी)**...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, वीर सिंह जी।

श्री वीर सिंह : महोदय, जिस तरह से आज सरकार उद्योगपतियों को बढ़ावा दे रही है, उससे यह सिद्ध होता है कि यह सरकार उद्योगपतियों की है, गरीबों, किसानों, मज़दूरों और छोटे व्यापारियों के हित में नहीं है, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy, not present. Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): धन्यवाद उपसभापति महोदय, इस बार जब हमारे एन.डी.ए. और भाजपा के साथी दोबारा चुनाव जीतकर आए हैं, तो छोटी-मोटी आलोचना पर भी वे नाराज़ हो जाते हैं। हम चाहते हैं कि वे नाराज़ न हों, सदन नाराज़गी की जगह नहीं है। सर, जैसा कहा गया :

“माना कि तेरी दीद के क़ाबिल नहीं हूँ मैं, तू मेरा शौक़ देख, मेरा इंतज़ार देख।”

I begin by referring to para 2 of the Statement of Objects and Reasons. In this context, I think, it should have been better framed. Anyway, that is their choice. It states, “Therefore, it was felt that a fiscal stimulus through reduction of corporate income-tax rate...”. It states that fiscal stimulus was required.

सर, खेत में खड़ा किसान टकटकी लगाकर आपकी ओर देख रहा है, वहां भी stimulus चाहिए। असंगठित क्षेत्र के रेहड़ी-पटरी वाले भी आपकी ओर देख रहे हैं कि कुछ stimulus इधर भी हो। मानता हूँ कि पूंजी के सरोकार बहुत बड़े हैं, लेकिन ऐसा न हो जाए कि श्रम हमेशा पूंजी के आगे शरणार्थी की मुद्रा में खड़ा रहे - उस प्रक्रिया को बदलिए, वह आवश्यक है। सर, 24 फरवरी, 1848 को लंदन में 23 पेज का एक pamphlet आया था, उसमें कहा गया कि Modern industry has revolutionised everything. Gothic cathedrals से बढ़िया चीज़ें हो गयी हैं, Egyptian Pyramid से ज्यादा अच्छी चीज़ें हो गयी हैं। The reference was to the progress in the industry. 23 पेज के इस pamphlet का नाम था, ‘Communist Manifesto’ और उसमें कहा गया था कि wealth का बहुत creation हुआ है, लेकिन 1848 से उस आलोचना की कहानी को अगर आज मैं यहां देखूँ, अपने समय में, अपने समकालीन संदर्भों में, तो मुझे लगता है कि हम यहां बैठकर मुहर लगाते हैं कि पांच प्रतिशत हाथों में ही तमाम सत्ता और संसाधन बने रहें। सर, मेरा विरोध सैद्धांतिक है। मैं जानता हूँ कि हम बहुत कमज़ोर हैं। मैं जानता हूँ कि हमारे अधिकांश सदस्य - मैं तो जानता हूँ कि वित्त मंत्री साहिबा भी अगर दिल से सोचेंगी तो वे भी यही सोचेंगी, लेकिन क्या करें, हमारी सोच पर भी किसी की बंदिशें हैं। Anyway, मैं दूसरी

[प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा]

चीज़ कहना चाह रहा था। I would request the hon. Finance Minister, when she responds, to explain as to what were the conditions. In the words of Jairam Rameshji, what was the context, the unprecedented crisis? And, I would use three Ts - tone, tenor and tune. The three Ts underline very different things when we look at these concessions. Frequent roll backs don't speak well about our kind of policies or the kind of priorities we are setting for us. Shock and awe tactics have never worked for anyone, neither for them nor would it work for you.

Now, I come to the third point. Do we understand that the tax breaks to the corporates will result in a more egalitarian Indian society? I don't know why we don't look at our policy framework through the Preamble. That should be the lamppost under which all of us should read any policy. At the same time, I am also sure that the kind of concession you are providing to the corporate houses, I can vouch for the fact that they will not pass on the benefits either to the consumers or to their lower-level employees. Please keep that in mind. I am told that this is the biggest tax break in the last 28 years. सर, 70 साल के बारे में हम बहुत सुनते हैं, तो मैं भी कहूंगा कि 28 साल में पहली बार इतना बड़ा tax break आपने दिया है - आपकी क्या मजबूरियां रही हैं, वह नहीं पता, क्योंकि बिना मजबूरियों के कोई बेवफाई करता नहीं है। सर, सितम्बर में Ordinance आया। तकरीबन तीन-साढ़े तीन महीने हो चुके हैं - क्या बदलाव आया? नया निवेश? कुछ तो हुआ होगा? अगर तीन-साढ़े तीन महीने में कुछ नहीं हुआ तो कोई गारंटी नहीं है कि इस concession के बाद भी निवेश बढ़े या इसका फायदा हो। We are told 'n' number of times that we don't have money to spend on education. We don't have money to expand the scholarship base. We do not have money to protect the idea of public-funded education, - we do not have money to make sure that the farmers do not live in perpetual fear and commit suicide; we do not have money to build modern-class public hospitals, but, then; we do have the political will and elbowroom to give all kinds of support to a class which is in the traditional Marxist sense, things have not changed, they do what they know the best; profit and loss and profit at the cost of anything. Sir, this break also does not explain to me, when the Government of India's position on tax revenue collection is very poor. ...*(Time-bell rings)*... In fact, I was shocked to find that India's tax to GDP ratio — Sir, it is alarming — is much lower than many developing countries. We are even behind Nepal on this. हम नेपाल से भी पीछे हैं। सर, मेरे यही कुछ मुद्दे थे और मैं आपके through मैडम फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहिबा से, बस एक टिप्पणी करके यहीं समाप्त करूंगा। Madam, today, I know, you have the majority, the Bill will get passed, but, Madam, when we talk about something, let us look at the fact that how history shall judge us, and I can tell you that whichever regime has succumbed to the pressure of corporate, they have done harm to the people, to the society, you might not agree with me today, but, maybe when we meet there up in the heaven, you will tell me that you were right. Thank you, Sir.

SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA (NCT of Delhi): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to speak on this Taxation Laws Bill. Sir, since 1961, I have watched that thousands and thousands of amendments have been brought under the Income Tax Act, and those are in the name of simplification, rationalization and just to make it simple. But, every time, with more and more amendments, we are making it more and more complicated, and every time we are adding more and more sections, explanations, proviso into the Act. This Amendment, which was proposed, through the Ordinance, on 20th September, 2019, it was under Government of India's Transaction of Business Rules, 2019. When the Government come out with an Ordinance, it needs the approval of the Cabinet. But, here, it was ignored. The reason given was that there was an emergency, but it has not been explained anywhere as to what was the emergency. After the promulgation of the Ordinance, there are ten more Amendments added in that Ordinance. I will say रात के अंधेरे में यह ऑर्डर हुआ कि इसको आप President के पास भेजिए और कल पार्लियामेंट में पेश करना है और ऑफिसर, जो इसमें काम करते हैं, उनको proper time नहीं दिया गया, they could not apply their minds. It was presented in a hurry, and further ten Amendments दी गईं। I will limit myself because you have given only three minutes. There is a claim made by the hon. Finance Minister that we are giving a stimulus of 1.45 lakh crores to the assesseees. The reason given was that it is to bring economic growth, to attract investment and to generate employment. I sent a question to the hon. Finance Minister in this Session itself as to what is the result we have out of this. As my colleague has rightly said that nothing has happened or rather the GDP has come down. This is the position. Now, Sir, I want to say something about ₹ 1,45,000 crores. I have got a copy of Union Budget 2019-20 from the website of the Department. The tax rate has been reduced from 30 per cent to 22 per cent and from 25 per cent to 15 per cent. This benefit will be near to ₹ 1,45,000 crores. But, he will have to ignore so many incentives. I would like to read those incentives which one will have to forgo. Sir, these are ten incentives, which one will have to forego, and, what is the loss he will have to suffer? I have taken this from the department's website. In 2017-18, the TOTAL benefits through these incentives were ' 1.17 lakh crore. In 2018-19, it was ₹ 1.36 lakh crore, and, for the year 2019-20, it is my assessment as per the previous trend, it will be ' 1.55 lakh crore. Why would one like to opt for these benefits? There is a mention in the Amendment Bill that if you want to go for this new provision, you will have to forego all these benefits. Who would like to forego these benefits? The loss may be to the tune of ₹ 1.55 lakh crore whereas the benefits will be of ₹ 1.45 lakh crore. This is the stimulus, Sir!

[Shri Narain Dass Gupta]

Sir, I also sent a question and the answer which I got is that it is a process and it will take time. I do not know how much time it will take. When the Budget was presented by the hon. Finance Minister in July, it was claimed that by 2024, India will be a 5-trillion dollar economy. I request the Finance Minister to please provide to this nation your roadmap as to how you will achieve this target.

Sir, the GDP has come down to 4.5 per cent. As per a calculation, unless and until we have 8 per cent GDP growth, we cannot achieve the target of 5 trillion dollar economy. Sir, now I come to the point raised by Shri Jairam Ramesh regarding five factors. One friend mentioned about six factors. Sir, there is only one factor. Fear is the only one factor. There is no doubt that on macro level, we have a strong economy but still we are not progressing. I read a poem and I would like to read the same here.

राजा कहता रात है, रानी कहती रात है,
मंत्री कहता रात है, संतरी कहता रात है,
प्रजा कहती रात है, लेकिन यह सुबह-सुबह की बात है।

This is the position today, Sir. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Sir, my only submission is that it would be better, if the hon. Finance Minister re-visits this Bill and comes out with a proper amendment. Otherwise, there will be no benefit and it will be merely a futile exercise. Thank you.

SHRI ASHWINI VAISHNAW (Odisha): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019. Sir, in my statement, I would like to focus on the tax structure as to how this will be very good and helpful for structural change in the Indian manufacturing sector. I welcome this bold and timely step. This step of reducing or rather rationalising the tax structure will increase the competitiveness of Indian industry. It is also a fiscal stimulus and it will also develop the capital base of the Indian industry. A question has been asked as to what is the structural improvement that this step will make. Yes, there is a structural improvement. As we all know, the Indian industry has been dependent on debt as the primary source of capital.

[THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY) *in the Chair*]

The equity base is a very low base in the country for various reasons. The primary reason has been the distortions which have been introduced by the tax policy. The first

distortion has been a very high and complex corporate tax structure and the second distortion has been the Dividend Distribution Tax. Because of these two distortions, the equity base has always remained very, very low. Most of the projects, most of the industries and everybody has been dependent on debt as the primary source of capital. It was a very sustainable form as we have seen in the last 10 - 15 years, that debt bubble crashed and gave us the pain that we are right now in. So, this particular rationalisation of tax structure will help the corporates to de-leverage and increase the retained earnings and reserves and surplus. This will basically once again get back into the equity base of the industry, which will lay the foundation of the structural growth of the economy. This is the fundamental reason that I would like to support this very strongly. I would like to thank all the Members across the political spectrum who have supported this tax rationalisation inside the House, outside the House and in the other House of the Parliament. There was a phase when practically the entire manufacturing industry base of the world shifted towards China. Because of certain apprehensions which were caused because of the actions taken by the industry there and supported by the Government in China, the IP rights were not fully protected. There were apprehensions among the global industry whether the IP rights would be protected or not.

Secondly, the labour cost, over a period of time, increased in China. So even before the trade war started, there was a flight of industry, especially the manufacturing sector, which had started moving out of China. That is the base which will generate hundreds and hundreds of employment opportunities in other countries like India, Indonesia, and the entire South East Asian countries. That is one factor which country after country has been looking at and trying to attract those manufacturing industries. Many of them, like Vietnam, have successfully done it. I am glad that our Government has taken a bold step of removing that distortion and creating a base by which the industry, which is migrating out of China, can come in and set up their base here.

What are the key factors that industries look at when they want to shift from one base to another base? First and foremost is the political stability. We are glad that we have a democracy which is vibrant. Here anybody can have a say. Here people can criticize and take potshots at others. And at the end of the day, we find a way by which we change Governments or re-elect our Governments based on their performance. That kind of democratic set-up gives a very strong vote of confidence to the global industry.

[Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw]

Second is the dispute resolution system in a country. Every contract and everything will have some way and some disputes will arise. Is there a proper judicial system? Is there a proper dispute resolution system? I am very glad that this Government has brought out a very good Arbitration Amendment Bill very recently which is changing the way the entire world looks at our dispute resolution mechanism.

The third and the most important is the tax regime. That is where the lacuna was still there. By converting this Ordinance into a Bill, which will be converted into a law, the tax regime distortion will be significantly, at least 50 per cent of it will be reduced. I am very thankful to the hon. Finance Minister. In a wise way, she has kept the provision that if you want to take the reduced tax rate, then you have to give up all the exemptions which were there. I think we have debated it in Parliament and outside Parliament multiple number of times that the plethora of exemptions, which are there, have to be reduced. By this single, very wise move, the exemptions will take a sideline and people will focus more on productivity and less on tax planning. I think that is a very major structural change which is happening in the minds of the people.

Sir, the tax rate reduction is not an isolated phenomenon in India. I would like to give a picture from 1980s onwards how the tax rates have been reduced globally. In the 1980s, the median corporate tax rate used to be globally between 40 per cent and 45 per cent. In 2000s, it came down to 30 per cent. And as in 2018, the median tax rate globally is 20-25 per cent. We are very well within the global trend and it is needed for the country to attract the manufacturing industry. That is why this was a very timely move, a very bold move for which I really commend the Government of taking this action.

Sir, there has been a criticism whether this will increase the fiscal deficit. Yes, by a very small percentage. For an economy of ₹ 200 lakh crore, this will be just about 0.7 per cent. In my opinion and in my calculation of the Indian economy, this is definitely a space which is available to us and we should be utilizing more of the fiscal space. Sometimes a fear is created that the rating agencies will hammer us. No, Sir. It will not hammer us. For ten years, we had been in the BBB family. So even if we go upto 4 or 4.5 per cent of fiscal deficit, I think we have a very comfortable space that we are in. Whenever there was a recession or a downturn or a slowdown, country after country had used the fiscal space. During the

recession of 2008-10, France had 7.2 per cent to 5 per cent of fiscal deficit. Japan had 10.5 to 7.9 per cent fiscal deficit. UK actually had double-digit, 10.1 to 7.5 per cent. US had 13.2 per cent to 8 per cent fiscal deficit. So, our Government is very, very conservative and very concerned that it should not cause any inflation. Inflation has been contained. But, I would request the hon. Finance Minister to use the fiscal space available to us and don't fear the bond ratings. Definitely we have a space which can be used to bring the economy back to a double-digit growth rate.

Sir, the manufacturing sector is very important. Although it has been debated and it is very well known, I would just put forward some data and facts based on my experience and studies. Re.1 invested in manufacturing sector will bring the highest multiplier possible compared to any other investment that we make. A demand of ₹100 created in the manufacturing sector creates a downstream demand of ₹192. So, that is the kind of impact manufacturing has and that is precisely the reason why country after country has been welcoming the manufacturing sector and bringing them because that is where the employment is generated. My estimate is, if you remove the dividend distribution tax, we might forego ₹ 41,000 crore as tax revenue, but we will be attracting at least ₹ 5,00,000 crore to ₹ 7,00,000 crore extra investment which will, in turn, generate extra revenue of ₹ 55,000 crore and it will generate employment opportunities of about 28 lakh. So, by removing one distortion, we have really taken a very big step forward. By removing the second distortion in tax, we can really take the economy on a Totally new level. That is my request.

A very small comparison of the tax rates in different countries will explain why it was important and why this timely action was taken. Tax rate in China today is 25 per cent; in South Korea, it is 25 per cent; in Taiwan, it is 20 per cent; in Vietnam, it is only 20 per cent; in Indonesia, it is 25 per cent; in Singapore, it is only 17 per cent. These are the East Asian countries. Look at the developed world. European average is 21.5 per cent; EU average is 21.5; in USA, it is just about 27 per cent. So, that is the scenario in which we are today. I commend the Government for taking a very clear, timely and bold decision. We all must support this. This will lay the base for structural growth of the economy, for employment and for creating jobs, which are really, really needed for the next generation of our country. Thank you. With that, I support the Bill.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, actually, I support the Bill and congratulate the hon. Finance Minister for having taken this step of bringing down tax from 25 per cent to 22 per cent and to 15 per cent for domestic manufacturing. What I could see is, even though we crystallize so many things, the economy is in a slump and there are so many issues, still we have to appreciate the efforts made by the Finance Minister. She keeps asking us also, whenever we meet, about the guidelines which we need and she says that she has an open mind. I really appreciate that. The most important thing is that the Indian economy depends on infrastructure, manufacturing, agriculture and all other sectors. In various speeches like President's Speech, speech of the hon. Prime Minister and everywhere, high-end infrastructure is to be given top priority. That is the reason why recently the Finance Minister and the hon. Prime Minister have done a lot of improvements about how best we can settle the arbitration awards in the construction sector. Here, one thing I want to bring to her notice. Previously, under Section 80-IA of the Income Tax Act, they used to give exemption in respect of profits to industrial undertakings engaged in infrastructure development. Even though ten years have been given to encourage the infrastructure sector, infrastructure sector today is in serious problems. You know that so many infrastructure projects are facing serious issues. So, my suggestion is, you please examine this and continue this facility of giving tax exemption for infrastructure development for some more time. Now, you have actually removed that facility, which was given, two years back. I would like to say that in his 2016 Budget speech, the then Finance Minister, late Arun Jaitley ji, said that construction of toll roads, seaports, airports, bridges, railway systems, highway projects, water supply, irrigation projects come under Section 35-AD of Income Tax Act that allows deduction of capital expenditure incurred on these activities from the earnings, while calculating taxable income in the subsequent year. Therefore, what I have seen is this. Even the previous Governments, or this Government also, have been doing their best to improve the economy. And, particularly, it is the construction sector, infrastructure sector, manufacturing sector and agriculture sector, which are the main things. So, I would like to draw your attention to examine this point.

Hon. Minister recently acknowledged the fact that the entire country is reeling under economic slowdown. It is a known fact. There is no point in debating and finding fault with each other. It is a fact that today no new industry is coming in the country. No new manufacturing industry is coming. Why? It is because the most important thing is investment.

How investment comes? Investment would come either by borrowing from banks or raising the money through the capital market. Here, capital market has crashed virtually since two years. So, I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister to make an effort on — of course, I know, you are doing it — how best you can raise the capital market.

Also, my next point is about banks. Banks are suffering from a terrible fear. They say that if they take a decision, even after retirement, they may be questioned by CBI or Vigilance, and hence why they should take a decision, and they are not bothered. This is number one. Secondly, what I find is this. Even though we feel proud about it — Indian banking system is really very honest and committed — but because of some stray cases, where things went wrong, a severe action has been taken and the entire banking system is shattered. There is nobody. Therefore, I would suggest to the Finance Minister to give them courage. They need not be afraid. Be conscious, cautious and judicious. If you are convinced, come and go. So, today, the banking sector is very bad. You cannot think of growth of Indian economy unless manufacturing industries and new industries come. Employment would also be affected naturally. Today, there is no point in criticising you or Government or anybody. Why employment is not coming? It is because the industry is not growing. Why industry is not growing? It is because there is no investment. No foreign country is ready to invest in India because so much fluctuation is going on. Therefore, these were the factors.

There is one more thing which I would like to suggest. You always have an open mind which I really appreciate, that you say, ‘Yes, please come.’ Therefore, I do not believe in merely criticising. You must come, given the opportunity to you, given the guidelines, and if you do not follow, perhaps, then we can say why you have not done.

Then, there is one more thing. I also agree with various clauses of the Bill but merely bringing down the Corporate Tax would not serve the purpose. Strong measures should be taken to take fiscal measures to boost the investment and growth of the economy in the country. So, I welcome the measures to reduce the Corporate Tax but still you must bear in mind, how to improve the overall situation. Sir, recent cuts have taken place in South East Asian nations. Particularly, in Thailand, Vietnam, they have reduced the Corporate Tax to 20 per cent. Singapore was 17 per cent. Timor, which is a Republic, has reduced it to 10 per cent and other countries are seriously contemplating it. So, I am happy that you are bringing it

[Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy]

to that level as Corporate Tax across the globe is declining. With introduction of this Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019, India has tried to bring tax rate in line with other countries and has given the domestic companies a level playing field, which we really appreciate.

Now, another most important point is about investigating agencies. Though all the investigating agencies are not under you but major ones are. Investigating agencies are creating a scare in the minds of the Government institutions, not only banks but even public sector undertakings also. They fear that if it takes a decision, what will happen to me? So, why should I bother? Let me retire happily. So, this is what actually they are feeling. Therefore, I suggest to the hon. Finance Minister to bear in mind, discuss with other colleagues also, and bring it to the notice of the hon. Prime Minister as to how best to reduce the interference of the investigating agencies which is there in a very ferocious way. If there is any mischief done by some particular companies or particular sectors or particular agencies, you can take action; maybe it is always welcome. But, it does mean that everybody is afraid, everywhere they give notices, and even RBI also interferes and frightens them by saying 'that come on, if you take decision, RBI will break it.' Recently, I happened to have a discussion with the RBI officials also. I said that you are creating a scare among the institutions, in the banks, and they are saying that 'no, no, RBI will find fault with us and no, we will not do it.' So, this is all going on. Therefore, in conclusion, what I suggest is, number one, public sector undertakings and banks should be given a courageous mind, courageous hand, iron backbone that, yes, Government is there, and you do it consciously, don't turn back; as long as you are honestly doing it, we are with you; that kind of back-patting needs to be given. That is number one. Number two is how best you can create the international atmosphere, international inspiration to participate and invest in India? Now, today, people are afraid to come and invest in India. It is one of the major set-backs for us. This is an economic slowdown. Foreign investors are saying, 'no, no, why should we do it?' Now, so many sectors are crashing; infrastructure is crashing; manufacture is crashing; steel sector is crashing; sugar sector is crashing and textile sector is crashing. Then, why should we bother? Like this, they are not investing. Previously, about four years back, if anybody wanted to start a new industry, they used to call for a public issue, raise the money and invest the money. But, for the last two-and-a half years, there is no chance to

raise any money in the public sector; there is no public investment. I draw the attention of the Finance Minister to focus on how best we have to again encourage the investment sector in growing steadily and also internationally to do it. This is also a very important point.

So, in conclusion, once again, I remind you that for infrastructure, let us have the same policy what we had for the last ten to twelve years, and do not again discontinue it. You examine this point. You may again re-do it, which will give some strength to the infrastructure. Thank you so much.

श्री रामकुमार वर्मा (राजस्थान): आदरणीय उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आपने मुझे इस बिल पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदया को भी बहुत धन्यवाद देना चाहूंगा, क्योंकि economic and financial sector में global level पर जिस तरह का crisis रहा है, उसी को देखते हुए आज यह 'The Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2019' लाई है। पहले सितम्बर, 2019 में Ordinance के रूप में इसको लाया गया था, हालांकि उस समय Ordinance लाने की बहुत जल्दबाजी नहीं थी। हमारे पूर्ववक्ताओं ने जिस तरह की बातें कही, मैं उनमें नहीं जाना चाहता, जुलाई, 2019 में हमारे बजट में, चाहे direct taxation हो या indirect taxation हो, लेकिन financial sector में बहुत सारी छूट और राहत दी गई थी। आज पूरे विश्व के आर्थिक जगत में जिस तरह का वातावरण पैदा हुआ है, उसके कारण developed countries के अंदर, विशेष रूप से यू.एस.ए. और चीन के अंदर एक तरह का trade war शुरू हो गया है। इसके कारण अलग-अलग देशों ने अपने यहां corporate tax का deductio किया है, उनको कम किया है। हम भी अपने यहां उसका असर नहीं चाहते थे। हमारी माननीय वित्त मंत्री महोदया ने और माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने— मुझे यह कहते हुए गर्व महसूस होता है कि जब-जब देश के अन्दर इस तरह की स्थिति आयी, किसी तरह का संकट नहीं आया, लेकिन ऐसी परिस्थिति उत्पन्न हो जाती है, तो देश के अन्दर उसका कहीं भी कुप्रभाव नहीं पड़े, ऐसी परिस्थिति उत्पन्न नहीं हो, उसी के मद्देनज़र हमारी यह सरकार protection के लिए, safety के लिए, precaution के रूप में ऐसे steps लेती है। उसी रूप में यह 20 सितम्बर, 2019 को Ordinance लागू किया गया। इसे लागू करने का उद्देश्य यही था कि आर्थिक क्षेत्र में international market में, जो international trade market है, उसमें हम competitive स्थिति में रह सकें। इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि जब आर्थिक क्षेत्र में किसी तरह का economic slowdown पूरे विश्व में हो रहा था, इससे हम भी प्रभावित रहे और प्रभावित रहने के कारण वह प्रभाव बहुत negative नहीं पड़े, इसके चलते Corporate Tax, विशेष रूप से Income-tax Act, 1961 और Finance (No.2) Act, 2019 के अन्दर कुछ amendments करके Ordinance लाया गया और आज उस Ordinance को replace करने के लिए इस बिल को लाया गया है। मैं इसका मोटा उद्देश्य यही कहूंगा कि हमारे देश में

[श्री रामकुमार वर्मा]

internal और external investment attract हो, आकर्षित हो, वह यहाँ आये। जब investment आयेगा, तो corporate को उसके capital में राहत मिलेगी। अगर उसको tax में rebate मिलती है, तो इसमें कोई दो राय नहीं है कि उसका जो capital है, उस capital और पूँजी को वह अपने manufacturing के अन्दर काम में लेगा, उसको अन्य यंत्र इत्यादि खरीदने में लेगा, उससे उसका production बढ़ेगा। जब उसका उत्पादन बढ़ेगा, तो निश्चित है कि वह demand की पूर्ति भी करेगा और उसके लिए एक बड़ी भारी राहत मिलेगी। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बिल के आने से, जो एक्ट के रूप में परिवर्तित होगा, उसके कारण यह तो होगा ही। हमारे इस एक्ट के जो provisions हैं, IT Act के Section 115 के various provisions या BAA, BAB, JB और इसी तरह से हमारे Finance Act और उसके तहत जो कुछ चीज़ें हैं, उनमें amendments करने के बाद बहुत सारी राहत हमें मिलेगी। इसके कारण देश के अन्दर, corporate जगत के अन्दर, manufacturing क्षेत्र के अन्दर बढ़ोतरी होगी। जब manufacturing sector के अन्दर बढ़ोतरी होगी, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उससे उनकी income generate होगी और जब income generate होगी, तो जो डर रहता था— बहुत सारे corporates इस डर से कि मुझे टैक्स देना पड़ेगा, कर की चोरी के लिए वह कई बार बहुत ज्यादा निराश होता था, उसको एक राहत मिलेगी।

मैं मुख्य रूप से इस एक्ट से जो फायदे होने वाले हैं, वह बताता हूँ। इससे हमारे private sector में, corporate जगत के अन्दर investment बढ़ेगा, capital बढ़ेगी तथा बैंकिंग, automobile sector के अन्दर भी इससे लाभ मिलेगा। पूँजी लाभ, कैपिटल लाभ भी मिलेगा। उसको tax rebate मिलेगी, तो उससे उसे फायदा मिलेगा। साथ-साथ, इससे जो equity share वगैरह है और उसके अन्दर जो capital gain होता है, उसमें भी राहत दी गयी है। उससे भी एक बहुत बड़ी राहत मिलेगी। इससे Non-Banking Finance Companies को भी लाभ मिलेगा। South Eastern देशों के साथ हमारी जो प्रतिस्पर्धा होगी, तो निश्चित है कि आने वाले समय में जैसे अमेरिका और चाइना के अन्दर जो trade war चल रहा है, जिस तरह का मामला चल रहा है, तो इसमें दो राय नहीं हैं कि विश्व के जिन देशों में fastest economic growth हो रही है, उसमें हमारा देश है। उसके लिए market मिलेगी और विकल्प के रूप में हमारा देश होगा, जिससे हमारी economy को, जो international कारणों से एक slowdown आया है, उसका लाभ मिलेगा। इसी के तहत कॉर्पोरेट जगत पर minimum alternative tax का जो एक भार था, उसको भी इन्होंने कम किया है। जिस तरह के रेट्स हुए हैं, अगर उनको आनुपातिक दृष्टि से देखें, तो पाएंगे कि 22 परसेंट वाला कुल मिला कर 25.17 पड़ रहा है। इसी तरह से नई कंपनियों के लिए जो एक बहुत बड़ी राहत दी गई है, उसके तहत यह 15 परसेंट यानी कुल मिला कर लगभग 17 परसेंट से ज्यादा भार नहीं पड़ेगा। यह भी मौका दिया गया है कि अगर नई कंपनियां 1 अक्टूबर, 2019 के बाद या उस दिन से लेकर 31 मार्च 2023 तक, उसकी घोषणा करने तक, अपनी manufacturing चालू करती हैं, तो उनको इसका लाभ मिलेगा। इससे भी उनको बहुत बड़ी

राहत मिलेगी। एम.ए.टी. से भी उनको exempted रखा गया है, इससे भी उनको बहुत बड़ा फायदा होगा।

उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे पूर्व सम्माननीय वक्ताओं ने अभी बताया, मैं यह कोई आलोचना करने के लिए नहीं कह रहा हूँ, लेकिन मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन को अवगत कराना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा उद्देश्य इस तरह का है कि हमारा manufacturing सेक्टर भी बढ़े ताकि consumers को उनकी डिमांड के अनुसार वस्तुएं मिलें। इसके साथ ही साथ देश का वातावरण ऐसा हो कि हमारा जो external investment है, FDI भी है, वह भी आए। आज कुछ वक्ताओं ने बड़ी निराशा के साथ कुछ कहा, लेकिन मुझे खुशी है कि पूरे सदन ने इसके लिए सराहना भी की है और इसके लिए सहमति भी प्रकट की है। कुछ वक्ताओं ने कहा कि इससे बहुत बड़ा फायदा नहीं होगा, क्योंकि सरकार ने समय पर स्टेप्स नहीं उठाए। मैं कहता हूँ कि हमारा उद्देश्य प्रत्येक क्षेत्र में, चाहे वह आर्थिक क्षेत्र हो, चाहे अन्य कोई और क्षेत्र हो, विशेष रूप से financial sector के अंदर जिस तरह के स्टेप्स लिए गए, उन स्टेप्स के माध्यम से हमने शुरुआत से यह कोशिश की है। 2004 से 2013 तक जो स्लोडाउन आया, उसमें हमने देखा कि इससे हमारी इकॉनमी में किस तरह की दिक्कत आ रही है। उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहूँगा कि यह एक सिद्धांत है कि कॉरपोरेट जगत के अंदर उसका एक शेयर मनी और उसकी खुद की कैपिटल होती है, जो 20 परसेंट होनी चाहिए। वह 80 परसेंट कैपिटल ऋण के माध्यम से या अन्य स्रोतों से जुटाता है। हमारा भी रेश्यो यही रहा, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य की बात यह है कि इस संबंध में पब्लिक सेक्टर बैंकों के द्वारा दिए गए ऋण का जो रेश्यो कम रहना चाहिए था, वह रेश्यो 86 परसेंट तक भी चला गया। इसके माध्यम से जिन प्रोजेक्ट्स के लिए ऋण लिया गया, उन प्रोजेक्ट्स में ऋण का यूज न करके अन्य कार्यों में किया गया, जिससे एन.पी.ए. बढ़ता गया। इसके कारण आज एन.पी.ए. लगभग 6 लाख करोड़ रुपए से भी अधिक हो गया। इसका हमारी इकॉनमी पर reverse effect पड़ा।

सर, अगर हम उस समय का दौर देखें, तो पाएंगे कि अब बैंकिंग इंडस्ट्री के लिए सरकार के द्वारा स्टेप्स उठाए गए, जिनमें 70 हजार करोड़ रुपए का inclusion, बैंकों को मर्ज करके उनकी स्थिति को सुदृढ़ करना है, यह बहुत बड़ा कदम है। इसी के साथ माननीय नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में सरकार का यह लक्ष्य रहा है कि देश हर तरह से सुरक्षित रहे, हर क्षेत्र में संपन्न रहे, लेकिन इसके साथ ही sustainable development की जो बात है, विश्व भी चाहता है, बहुत सारे कंटीज चाहते हैं कि हम इसको भी maintain करें। इसको maintain करने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि हमारे 130 करोड़ व्यक्तियों का जीवन, उनकी efficiency बढ़े, उनका स्वास्थ्य ठीक रहे, उनकी जो बेसिक सुविधाएं हैं, वे उनको मिलें ताकि वे स्वस्थ दृष्टि से देश की अर्थव्यवस्था में अपना contribution कर सकें। फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम में जो लीकेजेज थे, 2014 से पहले जिस तरह का वातावरण था, उससे फाइनेंशियल सिस्टम में एक के बाद एक लीकेजेज हुए, घोटाले हुए, करप्शन हुआ, बैंकिंग इंडस्ट्री को नुकसान हुआ और हमारे

5.00 P.M.

[श्री रामकुमार वर्मा]

आम उपभोक्ताओं को कमाई का नुकसान हुआ। उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, सरकार ने उनको रोकने के लिए जो कदम उठाए, वे मैं बताना चाहता हूँ। उनके लिए एस.आई.टी. का गठन किया गया, बेनामी संपत्ति का एक्ट लाया गया, भगोड़ा कानून लाया गया और *insolvency and bankruptcy* जैसे एक्ट्स लाए गए। चाहे ईज़ ऑफ़ ड्रूइंग बिज़नेस हो या लोगों के डिस्प्यूट्स का सॉल्यूशन हो, उनमें इनका फायदा मिला। आपने देखा कि जिस तरह का *irregular deposit* था, उसके लिए एक्ट लाकर, जिस तरह के *illegal transaction* हो रहे थे, उनको रोका गया। उनको मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग के एक्ट को मजबूत करके रोका गया। चिट फंड का एक्ट लाया और इसके साथ-साथ हमने बैंकों की *strengthening* के लिए भी काम किया।

उपसभाध्यक्ष जी, आर.बी.आई. का जो पैसा लिया गया, यह आपके माध्यम से सदन को मालूम होना चाहिए कि वह आर.बी.आई. एक्ट के तहत लिया गया। मैं आपके माध्यम से बताना चाहता हूँ कि उसका प्रॉफिट हमें मिलता है और जिस रिज़र्व फंड से वह पैसा लिया गया, वह *idle* था। इसमें कहीं भी आर.बी.आई. की *monopoly, autonomy* डिस्टर्ब नहीं हुई, लेकिन कई बार इसको तूल दिया गया। हमारी इकोनॉमी को *strengthen* करने के लिए और हमारी स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए वह भी एक स्टेप था। आज की मार्केट में बैंकों की *liquidity* बढ़े, उनको लोन सस्ता मिले, उसके आधार पर मार्केट में लोगों को लोन और एडवांस सस्ते मिलें, इसको देखते हुए हमने स्टेप बाई स्टेप रेपो रेट को भी डाउन किया गया है।

इसी के साथ, मैं जी.एस.टी. के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। जिस तरह का *taxation* का भार था - कुछ लोगों ने कहा कि जी.एस.टी. बहुत बड़ा है, लेकिन जीएसटी के जो रेट हैं, आज हम देखते हैं कि अधिकांश वस्तुओं पर जी.एस.टी. कम से कम रेट पर आ गया है और वह भी आम सहमति के आधार पर। यह हमारी भारत सरकार, केंद्रीय मंत्री महोदया और हमारे पूर्व मंत्री जी का बहुत बड़ा स्टेप था, जिसके कारण आज हम सेफ हैं। मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि आज की तारीख में और आने वाले समय में जो स्टेप्स लिए जा रहे हैं, आज जिस तरह का स्टेप कॉरपोरेट टैक्स को लेकर लिया गया है, इसी तरह अन्य स्टेप्स भी लिए गए हैं, मैं समझता हूँ कि उनसे हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को कहीं भी कोई चिंता करने की जरूरत नहीं है। ...**(समय की घंटी)**... मुझे इस पर पूरा विश्वास है, क्योंकि हमारा नेतृत्व मजबूत है।

मैं आदरणीय रवि प्रकाश वर्मा जी को धन्यवाद दूँगा कि उन्होंने चाहे जिस सेंस में भी कहा हो, लेकिन मैं उसको *positively* लेता हूँ। उन्होंने कहा था कि देश का नेतृत्व अगर मजबूत है, साफ-सुथरा है, तो देश प्रगति करेगा। आज देश गर्व के साथ कह सकता है कि नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में यह सरकार और उनका नेतृत्व साफ-सुथरा है। उनमें एक विल पावर है, स्ट्रॉंग डिसीज़न लेने की क्षमता है और वे लिए गए हैं, उनके रिज़ल्ट भी बहुत अच्छे आए हैं। न केवल भारत के लोग, बल्कि विश्व के लोग भी नतमस्तक होकर *salute* करते हुए यह मानते हैं।

इसी के साथ, मैं कहता हूँ कि यह जो विधेयक लाया गया है, यह कानून बनेगा और इससे हमारे उद्योग जगत को फायदा होगा। यह छोटे-बड़े सभी को एक समान लाते हुए किया गया है, इससे बहुत बड़ा फायदा होगा। इसी के साथ, मैं पुनः हमारी वित्त मंत्री महोदया को बहुत-बहुत बधाई और धन्यवाद देता हूँ और सभी से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि जिस तरह की आम सहमति बनी है, उस तरह से इसे पास किया जाए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRI SUKHENDU SEKHAR RAY): Shri Binoy Viswam, Mr. Deputy Chairman has given you permission to speak. But, henceforth, you should give notice before the Bill is taken up for consideration. Otherwise, your request may not be entertained in future.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Mr. Vice-Chairman, Sir, I thank you for this permission. I personally always feel that the Finance Minister is an active woman of eagerness and dedication and I do respect that. But, with all this eagerness of hers, the crisis, in which the economy is in today, can't be saved. All the panacea that she prescribed has failed, one after another. In July, she came with the Budget, in August with a mini-Budget, in September she came with tax-cuts. But what happened? The country is in a very bad situation. Sir, GDP, as everybody knows, is at 4.4 per cent. Private consumption expenditure fell down from 11 per cent to 3 per cent. Gross value addition in manufacturing sector is only one per cent. Consumer price index arose from 5.11 per cent in September to 7.89 per cent in October. Eleven millions jobs have been lost. Unemployment rates from January to March were 22.5 per cent in the age group of 15 to 29 years. This is the India that we live today. I request the Finance Minister to please think seriously about this. All the emphasis was on the corporate and on the FDI. In this regard, I would like to cite a small quote from Karl Marx. It may not be very friendly for you, but I am sure your friends in the Swadeshi Jagran Manch will agree to it. I quote: "With adequate profit, capital is very bold. A certain ten per cent will ensure its employment anywhere; 20 per cent certain will produce eagerness for capital; 50 per cent positive audacity; 100 per cent will make it ready to trample on all human laws; 300 per cent of profit and there is not a crime which it will not scruple, nor a risk it will not run, even to the chance of its owner being hanged."

(MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*.)

This is in Capital, volume I. Marx was quoting from Mr. T. J. Dunning, a renowned economist of those days. Sir, this is true even today. Capital is on the pursuit of profit everywhere. In India too, they are doing that. Our Finance Minister who represents an ideology talks a lot about Swadeshi movement, Swadeshi goods and Swadeshi slogans.

[Shri Binoy Viswam]

Nationalism is your affectionate word and national sentiments are at risk here today. I have told in this House earlier also that in no country in the world foreign capital have rescued the nations or the economy. But, unfortunately, our Finance Minister is following that path and that path is not going to serve the purpose. Sir, I have only one request. Think about the common man in this country. Help the MSME's. Try to improve their purchasing capacity. They are in crores and crores. Instead of giving concessions to the corporate and the super rich, think about the middle class, the workers, the peasants, the poor. Improve their purchasing capacity. That will give a new energy to the economy. Please try that. All these measures that you have taken have failed. So, I request the Finance Minister with all earnestness and sincerity to please try to think in a new term, supporting the poor of the country and the middle class and the MSME's. I hope it will help you. Sir, the economy is in deep crisis. I don't know why my friends in the Congress were so positive to the crisis of the economy. It may be because of class interest, but the majority of the Indian people feel that this crisis is structural. This structural crisis cannot be saved by easy medicines. The medicines also need to be structural. So, I request the Finance Minister, with all humility, to please try to think in new lines. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri R. K. Sinha. Not present. Now, the mover of the Resolution, Shri K. K. Ragesh, will speak.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH (Kerala): Thank you hon. Deputy Chairman, Sir, for giving me this opportunity.

Sir, as many hon. Members have already stated, we are on the verge of severe economic crisis. At this juncture, I would like to ask the hon. Minister: What happened to the GST compensation supposed to be given to some States, like Kerala? Kerala had to tackle the post-flood situation. The State has been requesting for increasing the borrowing limit. But, unfortunately, the Government is not accepting this proposal and, at the same time, pushing the State into a severe crisis by denying on-time payment of GST compensation. So, I am requesting the hon. Minister to consider that.

With due respect to the hon. Minister, I take this opportunity to say that the Government is taking this financial and economic crisis as an opportunity to aid corporate. You are giving huge concessions to the tune of ₹ 1.45 lakh crores to corporate in the form of tax concessions! Sir, it is nothing but a scandal. It is the outcome of unholy nexus between the ruling politicians, top level bureaucrats and corporate. Sir, cronyism is at its worst. The Government had already snatched ₹ 1.76 lakh crores from the RBI. It is to fill the

gap as a result of tax concession! In effect, money that has been snatched from the RBI is getting transferred to corporate!

Sir, you are selling PSUs! Sir, 33 PSUs in our country are decided to be sold and proceeds that you get from this, in effect, would be transferred to corporate in the form of tax concessions!

Sir, our banks are in crisis. We are witnessing the mounting NPAs accumulated in public sector banks of our country. During the last fiscal alone, you had written-off ₹ 2.54 lakh crores! ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Sir, we are the Left.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We have time constraint.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: There is plenty of time. I am mover of the Resolution. My party was not given time and you are also not allowing me to speak! What is this, Sir?

श्री उपसभापति: जो समय निर्धारित है, सदन के नियमों के तहत वह आपको मिलता है। मैं उससे अधिक समय नहीं दे सकता। Please conclude now.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I wanted to know from the hon. Minister how many lakhs of crores have been written-off in the banks. You are giving concession in every Budget. Sir, Wealth Tax has already been abolished. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... This policy of aiding corporate, neoliberal policies is the root cause of economic crisis. Under the pretext of addressing the economic crisis, you are again giving a lot of concessions to corporate. Sir, crisis is not at the supply side; crisis is at the demand side. So, what steps the hon. Minister is taking to improve the purchasing power of people? You are not taking any steps. But, at the same time, whatever policy decisions that you are taking are leading to purchasing power of the people. ...(*Time-bell rings*)... Look at the unemployment status. It is an all-time high. ...(*Time-bell rings*)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You conclude now. I am calling the Minister.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, in BSNL alone, one lakh people are going to be out of BSNL. They are going to be retrenched!

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ragesh, please conclude now.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, look at how many jobs we have lost. I request the Government to consider all these aspects. Sir, labour laws are amended to loot workers by corporate.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I am calling the Minister.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I would like to know what steps the Government is taking to resolve all these issues. I am requesting the Government to take up these issues and, unfortunately, the hon. Minister is not dealing with the real issues to resolve the economic crisis. Thank you.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank each and every hon. Member who has gone into great detail to see what the Government has proposed in this Bill, and also placing it in the context of the Ordinance which is required to be replaced by a Bill, and, for which this Bill has been brought. In this list of speakers, there are about 17 or 18 hon. Members who have spoken. I wish to thank each one of them — Shri Jairam Ramesh, Shri G. V. L. Narasimha Rao, — not in any particular order — Shri Sukhendu Sekhar Ray, Shri A. Vijayakumar, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma, Dr. Amar Patnaik, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Shri T. K. S. Elangovan, Dr. Narendra Jadhav, Shri Veer Singh, Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, Shri Narain Dass Gupta, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, Shri Ramkumar Verma, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K. K. Ragesh. I thank each one of the Members. My response would be largely in two silos. I want to set the context in which this Bill has come to the House, trying to replace the Ordinance which was brought in September, and, then, get into speaking in response to each Member, wherever I could, bringing in specific points that they have raised and answer those as much as I can. Finally, I would also broadly respond to the general allegations rather than a criticism which I can learn from. I will try to address some of them because the context is relevant. I was very amused that three hon. Members, in fact, four of them, placed it in the context of the four Fs, the five Fs, the six Fs. But, whilst not disagreeing with the list of the Fs that Jairam Ramesh ji spoke about because these are going to indicate as to how well the economy is, whether you are talking about the price of food or the fuel, all that is very relevant F, and Shri Ramesh himself conceded that macro-economic fundamentals are fairly strong, quoting the figures of foreign exchange reserves that the country holds and so on. But I was glad that Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh countered the argument that there is a sixth F, which is fear. I want to draw the attention of the hon. House to what Ram Chandraji said. It is actually, as Ram Chandraji has very rightly said, the 'Faith', faith in the leadership, faith in the way in which this party has handled the economy all the while, and it is that faith which brought us back in the Lok Sabha elections in 2019 with a resounding victory and the numbers that we won with, actually, speaks of the popular support that we have got and for which मैं सिर झुकाकर इंडिया के वोटर्स को नमन करती हूँ। Because that victory gives you a certain kind of responsibility. It humbles you down to say what service you have to do during the period in which you are going to be in tenure. As a result, I think, the Prime Minister who has taken initiatives one

after the other, not waiting typically that we have to wait for another Budget, and, therefore, no fiscal measures are possible till then. No. On the contrary, based on the developing situation which is what we have very clearly explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons while bringing this Bill, looking at the situation which is developing and not waiting for another Budget which could have been easily an excuse for us to give, rapidly, a lot of consultations happened not just in Delhi but all over the country. I have gone to various destinations to meet with industry leaders, with trade bodies, with associations which deal with business, with general public who wanted to tell us as to what are the kind of difficulties and challenges that they are facing. Collecting all of which, I have come back, and almost every fortnight I have come up with measures some of which, of course, people have chosen to say, 'You had a Budget in July but you came up with Budget after Budget before the next Budget is due.' I am not worried about those criticisms. I understand them. I am not ignoring those criticisms but these are the ways in which a responsive Government, a sensitive Government would come with measures to make sure that we address challenges which are developing, and, therefore, I would think the Statement of Objects and Reasons is very important for us to read, not just to read as a part of the Bill but that is the context in which I go back to quoting, Shri Jairam Ramesh, 'subtext, text and context.' All three are absolutely open and transparent. There is no subtext there. It so happened that I was in Goa before the GST Meet and by which time we had worked what can be possibly done in the corporate tax. And, after all, these are not done with a magic wand. The system has to understand what its implications are, tax forgone. Then the Legal and Legislative Department has to work on it. There has to be a concurrence, and, of course, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet will also have to be later taken on board although you brought in an Ordinance and through Rule 12. It means the machinery in the Government has all got to be applying its mind and only then clearing it. So, there is no other subtext. I want to assure the hon. former Minister, the hon. Member, that this subtext is more in the context of what the Government felt was important to respond to the developing situation. Considering that the trade war between the US and China was looming large, everybody was speculating. There were several companies which were likely to come out of being in China. Even if they kept their operations there, largely they wanted to shift and there was this feeling that countries like Vietnam and Thailand were all coming up with tax concessions and should India be waiting for a golden moment to bring in this kind of a concession instead of getting it sooner rather than later and drawing these companies to come to India and invest. Therefore, that is the subtext and there is no other; and that has been explained in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

Now, as I said, therefore, 'faith' is the important thing and because of faith, we had the mandate. We also understand the responsibility. There was also this — again playing on words by Manoj Jhaji — tone, tenor, tune, frequent rollbacks. Rollbacks are not wrong *per se*; and I don't want to play a game here to say how many rollbacks had happened earlier. Enough reasons, enough justifications, enough lessons learnt from those rollbacks are all with me. If you are interested, I can very quickly identify those specific rollbacks, which I would think, this rollback, if some of the rollbacks which I have done post-July, at least, is in response to what has happened in the ground and in the global trading arena. But if I can have the luxury of quoting the earlier rollbacks, it will be just a little education for me as a Finance Minister; and it is important for me to recall. Fringe Benefit Tax, 2005, introduced by one of the former Finance Ministers, now in the Opposition, was rolled back by another of that Party's own Finance Minister. In 2005, it was introduced; in 2009, it was rolled back. Then you had Banking Cash Transaction Tax. Sir, I wish to recall the kind of criticisms that we had to face. 'You are stopping people from drawing their money back from their accounts when there was just a withdrawal of some of the notes.' Again, what was the tax proposed in 2005? It was the banking cash transaction tax, and what did that mean? It meant that for drawing money out of your accounts, tax was going to be levied. This was in 2005 and, again, by one of the former Finance Ministers, who is a scholar in Economics and talks about finance with a great authority. He introduced it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I have not taken anybody's name. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please; not allowed.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I have not taken anybody's name. All right, Sir? ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Sitting and commenting from your seats is not proper. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please; sitting and commenting is not proper.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: No; I have not spoken about anyone in particular, but I am mentioning some names. ...*(Interruptions)*... It can't be some people's right to go on referring to issues.

Sir, banking cash transaction tax was brought in 2005, taxing people for withdrawing cash from their own accounts. It was withdrawn in 2008. So, rollbacks have happened and

we have learnt a lot of lessons from them. I just want to put it in context that rollbacks do happen, but when it happens in response to the ground feedback and to help the people of this country, I think all of us can welcome it. This rollback, therefore, of the surcharge which was put in the Budget, in July, 2019, was withdrawn and I can explain the reasons for it. So, I fully take your comments, Shri Manoj Jha, on rollbacks, the tone, tenor and everything else. After all, we are all from the same University league. Will I forget the University loyalties?

Then, Sir, the comment was 'not as per the Ordinance'. It is a very valid point to raise and I am very thankful to Shri Jairam Ramesh for having said that, but I want to draw your attention to the fact that this Bill is exactly the Ordinance except for the fact that there were definitely typos which had crept in, which is one of the things that the hon. Member had quoted, saying, you said that the MAT is going to be applicable when you announced it, that it is going to be applicable from 2019-20 itself, whereas this Ordinance, or the draft Bill, said it was from 2021. No; that is a typo. I am correcting that in this Bill. What I announced is what is there in the Bill today. So, there is no change at all except that there are additions, which are provisos, which we are bringing in from the point of view of giving greater clarity. So, modifications proposed in this Bill, are different from, or in addition to, what has been said in the Ordinance. I just want to very quickly run through them, Sir. Again, the presence or absence of a particular word had caused some confusion when we brought in the Ordinance. So, the Ordinance remains, everything about the Ordinance continues in this Bill, but the additions which we are bringing here are largely clarificatory additions. One thing which had been said in the Budget of July was about grandfathering of buybacks, which I had announced in the July Budget. So, in that context, the proviso that we are bringing here is a clarificatory proviso, for providing relief to the buybacks announced on the day of the presentation of Budget. It is proposed to clarify that the buyback tax shall also not be applicable for announcements made on 5th July, 2019. So, it cannot be that you heard the Budget and after that went and announced a buyback and, therefore, you want the concession. That shall not be entertained. That is the clarifactory note that we have brought in here. Again, we announced the corporate tax reduction for those who are existing in today's scheme, the manufacturing units that exist today, but those who are going to start their business from October 1st, 2019, the new units, and who, by rule, will have to show that their production has commenced before 2023, will have the lowest rate given to them. But for those, both these cuts are referring to manufacturing only. And then the confusion comes about what 'manufacturing' is and who will benefit or what is not 'manufacturing' and who will not benefit. So, we want to give a negative list by giving a

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

description of what does not constitute ‘manufacturing’. In order to provide certainty and to avoid future litigation, it is proposed to clarify that certain activities, which are not in the nature of manufacturing such as development of computer software, printing of books, mining, etc., shall not be treated as manufacturing for the purpose of allowing lower taxation regime available to new manufacturing companies, which will benefit by the 15 per cent basic rate. So, we had to bring in that clarity. That is a proviso which is getting added.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: I don’t want to interrupt you, but you have included “any other business as may be notified by the Government from time to time.” That is a bit of an open-ended clause. I request you for clarity on that.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I thought, that is one which is going to give us clarity so that, every now and then, if there are questions we will be able to, at least, come out with the notification to say that. But I am not sure, removing it gives clarity to everybody outside, but, maybe, not to the Government itself. So, I will have to think about it. Thank you for highlighting it.

The other one, where again a proviso had to be added, was consequences of failure to satisfy conditions, which are laid. These are normal conditions. It is proposed to provide that a new manufacturing company under 15 per cent taxation regime shall have an option to shift to the 22 per cent taxation regime in case of failure to satisfy the conditions specific to it such as the use of second-hand plant and machinery. So, just as we allow an option for those who are under the existing regime with all the exemptions and everything else to shift from there to the new regime by foregoing all the exemptions that they are enjoying now or by exhausting all the exemptions that they are enjoying now and to move to the new regime, we are also telling those who are coming under the new regime, the new manufacturing companies, who are coming under the 15 per cent taxation rate, to have an option to shift to the 22 per cent taxation regime, which is also under the newer September 20th announcement, just in case they fail to satisfy the conditions specific to it such as the use of second-hand plant and machinery instead of Totally new ones. That is the clarity. So, similar clarificatory provisos are getting added to this Bill which are over and above this Ordinance. One other point which I would like to elaborate here is, again, the grandfathering of unabsorbed additional depreciation. It is also proposed, through this proviso, to provide for grandfathering of unabsorbed additional depreciation upto 31.03.2019 to the companies opting for lower rates of taxation. So, that is the elaboration. The Ordinance now becomes a Bill. In addition to what has come through the Ordinance, there are a few such provisos for clarificatory purposes which are being added. I can go through each one of them, but, I am sure, you have seen the Bill itself and, therefore, I won’t elaborate further.

Sir, cutting down the corporate tax is not just good for headlines; it is not just good PR; it is not just good atmospherics, but it is a good reform, and this Government, under our Prime Minister, now, in the second term, after taking up a lot of reformatory steps in the first tenure, is further committed to doing a lot of reforms and this step has come very quickly depending on the global trade environment and the investment climate in India, and further reforms shall continue. So, it is not just atmospheric, it is not just headline; it is also a good reform that we want to go ahead with. Sir, about Ordinances, quite a few Members have asked as to why we need Ordinances; why we can't go straight away with the Bill. As I said, waiting for the next Budget is by itself a delay which we did not want considering the environment which was prevailing all over the world. We wanted to attract investment at the earliest. So, we did come out with an Ordinance. But, are Ordinances new? Particularly, those related to finance, are they new; are they rare; are they never done before? I will just want to explain by giving some data. Finance-related ordinances have been there before. The Governments have used them because there is a reason. When the Parliament Session is not on and the urgency is felt, the Governments do have the discretion and the Governments choose to use Ordinances. Between 2004 and 2009, under the UPA-1, a Total of 36 Ordinances were passed of which 10 were finance-related Ordinances. Between 2009 and 2014, a Total of 25 Ordinances were passed, six of them were related to finance. So, it is not a thing that never happens. It is completely the discretion of the Government to feel what is developing on the ground and if they think that is necessary, even finance-related Ordinances have been used. I just want to put that in context. Sir, now, I go to addressing the specific issues raised by hon. MPs, there again, not in any particular order. I think, I had already referred to Dr. Amar Patnaik, talking about mining. The new rates do not apply to mining because they are not manufacturing. Mining may deserve a lot more support but then, this support is not for mining. Then, Shri Ravi Prakash Verma had asked as to why is this only for foreign companies. The concessional rates provided in the Ordinance, and, now, in this Bill, are applicable only to domestic companies. We are not giving to foreign companies at all. Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh had asked about the Direct Taxation Code. It is a very important point. The report of the task force has been submitted. We are certainly looking into it and it is under the examination of the Ministry. Then, Shri Vijayakumar asked as to why this 15 per cent is not being given to existing companies. Sir, the idea of giving a lower tax rate for new manufacturing companies is because we want fresh investments to come in. It should not happen that a whole lot of existing production capacities and investments just transfer to the new one with no additional new investments coming in. So, the objective itself is to draw new investments. Therefore, we had taken a

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

conscious call on them. Again, Dr. Amar Patnaik had said, 'this would not benefit MSMEs.' No, it will certainly benefit because when we have said this concessional rate of 15 per cent is being offered to manufacturing companies, all companies, big, small, medium, micro, all of them will get this rate. So long as you are a part of the Companies Act, the small ones, the medium ones, all of them will benefit out of this. Then, there was also this question about consumption rate. A lot has been said about declining consumption. I want to just give some statistics. Private consumption during UPA-2 was 56.2 per cent of the GDP. This increased to 59.0 per cent during the NDA-I. Even in the first half of 2019-20, that is, this year, private consumption was 58.5 per cent of the GDP, still about 2.2 percentage points higher than what it was during the UPA-II. So, I just want to underline that decline is there between the first and second term of NDA, but when you compare it, we are very clearly, at least, two percentage points higher than what we were during the UPA times.

Sir, I would like to give a bit of an elaborate answer for one particular issue raised by the hon. Member, Shri Veer Singh. This is about personal Income-Tax. Other than the fact that the Direct Tax Code is under examination, other than the fact that I have had quite a few inputs coming from people who think it is time now that Income-Tax cut has to be considered, I am not commenting on it, but I would want to draw the attention of the House that a lot of personal Income-Tax related steps have been taken. I just very quickly want to highlight the fact that in the past five years, the Government has provided Income-Tax relief and I want to mention a few steps. Under the Finance Act of 2014, the basic exemption limit was enhanced from ₹ 2 lakh to ₹ 2.5 lakh. Further, the said Act also increased the limit for claiming deduction under Section 80C of the Income-Tax Act, from ₹ 1 lakh to ₹ 1.5 lakh. That was done as a step in the personal Income-Tax arena. Again in 2017, the rate of Income-Tax on individuals, whose TOTAL income was between ₹ 2.5 lakh to ₹ 5 lakh, was reduced from 10 per cent to 5 per cent. Standard Deduction of ₹ 40,000 was introduced for salaried tax-payers, as well as pensioners, again in 2018. It was further increased to ₹ 50,000 in 2019. Lastly, in 2019, we also provided for full tax rebate for individuals having a taxable annual income up to ₹ 5 lakh under Section 87A of the Income-Tax Act.

Sir, I must thank the hon. Member, Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy, because he has, every now and then, given us a lot of constructive and good suggestions in order that we handle the taxation-related matters. Here, I would underline the point he had raised, the issue of allowing tax exemption for infrastructure sector. I just want to convey the point that the policy of the Government is to phase out all exemptions and to reduce the tax rates. However, considering the importance of infrastructure sector, investment-linked benefit under Section

35AD is allowed to infrastructure sector and has not been phased out. It is still intact for the companies which opt to remain in the old tax regime. Under the new reduced corporate tax regime, we are talking of an option for the companies to remain in the old regime. For them, that still continues.

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: For new infrastructure projects, the exemption has been removed over the last two years. Please examine this point. For infrastructure projects, even the Government policy is not to give exemptions and allow only reduction of taxes. That is welcome, but, at the same time, since you accept that infrastructure is facing very serious problems, please examine whether it is possible to do it again for the new projects.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: I think, under Section 80-IA, being a profit-linked deduction, that has been phased out even in the old regime. Probably, that is what the hon. Member is referring to. Even in the old regime, what has been removed is the...

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Under Section 80AR, exemption was given to infrastructure for ten years. Only during the last two years, it has been removed. The industry is crying. Please examine this.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, however, 35-AD, investment linked deduction for specified sectors including infrastructure has been retained in the old regime. I just wanted to underline that. Sir, a very relevant point is being raised about how the rural areas do not seem to have investment capital, Shri Ravi Prakash Vermaji has raised the issue saying *Gramin Punji*. He also mentioned about the rural consumption. I just want to respond to him, by saying, that when the feedback that I had received gave me a picture, that liquidity is not moving towards the rural areas, other than increasing the outlay for MGNREGA, which is actually the wage which is going into the hands of the people, which is doubled—I can give you the data—we also wanted to make sure that liquidity reaches them either through the banks or through the NBFCs, so that, they can buy whatever things they wanted to buy, whether it is FMCG goods or buy a tractor component or a motor bike or a scooter or a loan for building house, for education, for farming, or MSMEs. We made sure that we had the banks. First of all, we established that there is no liquidity problem with the banks. Then, we wanted that to be given further to the NBFCs, and, the banks themselves to go to the hinterland and not just to the cities like Mumbai, Delhi or Kolkata. So, we said that all the banks and the NBFCs would go to 400 Districts and make sure that all kinds of loans are provided for people who approach them by following every prudential norm. We were not violating; we were not doing the old-fashioned loan mela. I

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

would like to present before this House that just in October, under various headings, *i.e.*, home loans, vehicle loans, education loans — for each one of them, I can give the figures separately, but I am just reading very quickly — other personal loans, MSME loans, agri loans, NBFC loans and NBFCs for onward lending, all put together, ₹ 2,52,000 crores have been distributed, and strictly for NBFCs alone, we have given ₹ 19,627 crores so that they can carry on with the onward lending. Sir, in November, the TOTAL outreach programme dealing with MSMEs, NBFCs, retail, agricultural sector borrowers, ₹ 2.39 lakh crores have been distributed just in November. Specifically to the MSME sector, out of the Total, the public sector banks alone have distributed ₹ 35,775 crores just in November, raising the Total customer outreach credit disbursed to MSME, both in October and November put together, to ₹ 72,985 crores. We have also done more on NBFCs in the month of November also. So, the point about, are we missing out on rural areas; are we missing out on agriculture; are we missing out on MSME; no. I wish to tell the House honestly that each one of them has been approached, and, I am presenting before you the outcome of outreach programmes for the months of October and November. Sir, other than this, I have made sure that Central Government Departments or agencies under the Central Government, whether they are Public Sector Enterprises or CPSUs, any dues to the MSME, should all be cleared. I must say that from October till 1st November, we had cleared a due of ₹ 61,000 crores which was all pending with the Government to the MSMEs, who had rendered goods or services to the Government of India. Even that was cleared from our side. Sir, we are asked repeatedly, why is this situation; why do you have to fund money; why do you have to give money to the banks? Sir, I would only recall, two things were inherited by us, and, that is very important to understand the background of this entire debate. Sir, a lot of burden on the election eve was passed on to the next Government in 2014. I am compelled to say this here. For containing the fiscal deficit before 2014, before the new Government came within the budgeted 4.8 per cent of the GDP then, the then Government, UPA-II Government left a huge burden of unpaid bills for the next Government. So, we had to inherit it. What was the size of those unpaid bills, which were left for us and which we had to take up? The under-recoveries of the oil market companies alone were said to be over 1.4 lakh crore of rupees. These were the under-recoveries and it was left without even a mention. When we inherited, we inherited that on our head and that payment had to be made by the new Government. The fiscal deficit figure was all fine for the UPA-II Government when they left the Government. That is one thing which has to be openly recognised.

Second thing which has to be recognised is that the gross advances which were given out by the banks during the UPA-II Government. We have heard a lot of people

talking about it. In the Lok Sabha, hon. Prime Minister spoke about how much had happened during that phase of phone banking.

Sir, upto March, 2008, gross advances of commercial banks were ₹ 25 lakh crores. By March, 2014, before the new Government could come, before the NDA-I could come, before Prime Minister Modi could come, that number rose from ₹ 25,03,431 lakh crore to ₹ 68,75,748 crore. Money was lent to every Tom, Dick and Harry, to Jija, Bhatija, everybody and many of them are NPAs today. It is not just that on that morning, they became NPAs. It happened gradually, in two years, in three years, in the last five years. To remove the toxic NPA number, banks had to be given infusion of equity and, Sir, between 2008 and 2014, it was a 275 per cent increase in bank lending which, I think, nobody in banking sector can justify. Banks mean a lot of conservatism; here is outlandish lending which happened during that phase, and, therefore, if we are managing the twin balance sheet problems, banks and the corporates' balance sheet have all got to be healthy, and, then, investment has to come in. This is where we have committed ourselves for keeping up the public investment going particularly in sectors like infrastructure. Otherwise, money is not going to go down, banks may sit with the money that they have, the liquidity that they have and would not lend. Hon. Members who spoke about fear factor should please now answer. I am not saying that every harassment is right. In fact, I am going around and meeting with tax administrators all over the country and saying, to reach the target, you do what is due. In fact, we were the ones to bring in faceless assessment so that no face-to-face interaction happens with tax authorities. But that does not mean that if there have been wrongdoings, the Government cannot take action. Legitimate action is to be taken. I am not justifying harassment; no harassment should take place anywhere. I am closely following every tax administrator in that sense. If harassment is happening, I will be quite keen to address it so that it does not happen. If people are being followed for wrong things, and, there is an element of harassment there, I condemn the harassment even there, but then, people cannot be left off. Money is being brought back, Sir. That is public money. I need to confiscate the assets of those people who have left the country after having enjoyed this largesse. Those properties are being attached. Proper legal action is being taken. Those moneys are coming back to the account and that is why, I am sure, this House recalls my or MoS, Shri Anurag Thakurji's answers in the Parliament... ..saying the NPAs have come down from ₹10 lakh crore to ₹ 8 lakh crore because we have been after them for getting the monies back to give it to the banks. That action is also happening. I just want to be sure that when people criticize this Government for the economy, they are welcome. Please do criticize it. We will learn from

[Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman]

what you are telling us. We will certainly hear the criticism. But to digress from the facts like, today, from my debate in the Lok Sabha — of course, I can't read it now nor can I refer to the debate there — and cull out what is convenient and say, "Oh, she said, 'she does not eat onions'." If only people understand what I said in the debate. In answer to a particular question about 'Do you eat it?', I instinctively said, 'I don't eat or my family does not give so much importance to onion.' That becomes a major criticism of this Government. This is when I have spent more than 20 minutes talking about what kind of steps this Government has taken for better management of onion distribution, for the use of public money to have greater storage of onions and also making sure that urgent purchases are happening from Rajasthan. Truckloads are going to Jharkhand. Truckloads are going to Bihar. I have given all the data. But no, "Oh, she is an elitist. She talks about not eating onions. Oh, she is this. Oh, she is that." I just want to state one thing, Sir.

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH: Nobody has said that.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: You may not have said it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I want to say ...*(Interruptions)*... Thank you. ...*(Interruptions)*... Therefore, Sir, I want to take this opportunity to say that when criticism inside one House is very different from criticism in another House, when criticism inside this House is very different from criticism outside the House by the same dispensation, the same party, I really am tempted to take it up. Maybe those few who have chosen to be here till my reply happens may not have said it. But after all it is the same political party. Does it stop me from responding to it?

DR. AMEE YAJNIK (Gujarat): Not here.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: You don't choose the place, Madam. I will do it. I will choose the place. If I have not named anybody, I don't think anyone should have an objection to it because it is a criticism on the economy. It is a criticism on the economy and I have every business to answer because this Government is continuously responding to steps that are being taken. You may like it or you may not like it. You may think it is adequate. You may think it is not adequate. I am quite willing to buy that. But when you throw an allegation that this Government is elitist, I have to say this. *Ujjwala Yojana*. Is it for elitist? *Jan Dhan Yojana*. Is it for elitist? *Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana*. Is it for elitist? *Ayushman Bharat*. Is it for elitist? Are we elitist? Is it so?

I want to recall a statement made by one former Finance Minister when price rise was the issue then. Hon. Members, I am referring to 2012. Kindly hear me patiently. In 2012, all of us know what price rise was at that time. Food price inflation was touching the sky and general inflation was beyond control. What was it? India was a 'fragile five' then. What was the statement given by people who accuse me of being elitist? I am talking about onions

6.00 P.M.

being sent by the Government's efforts to all the States. What was the statement given then in 2012 when price rise was high? I am quoting it here. The statement was, "When the urban middle-class can buy a bottle of mineral water for ₹15 and an ice-cream for ₹20, why do they make so much noise about price rise?" When the urban middle class can buy a bottle of mineral water for ₹15 and ice-cream for ₹ 20, why do they make so much noise about price rise?" And these are the people accusing me and this Government of being elitist? I absolutely condemn this approach. Yes, yes, you are talking about taxation and onions.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, एक मिनट। ऑनरेबल मेम्बर्स, 6 बज चुके हैं, लेकिन इस बिल के डिस्पोज़ल होने और स्पेशल मेंशन खत्म होने तक हाउस के बैठने की आम सहमति है।

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Therefore, Sir, I hope, I have responded to most Members and their questions related to corporate tax reduction and the timing. It was important that India remain competitive in the global scenario. We are making specific attempts to talk to corporate sector captains all over the world to make sure that they come and invest in India, thereby create a greater momentum and opportunities for greater job potential. So, with all these in mind, the corporate tax reduction Ordinance was brought in and the earliest session being this Session, we are bringing forward this Bill. I seek support of all the hon. Members who are here. Thank you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall, now, first put the Resolution, moved by Shri K. K. Ramesh, to vote. The question is:

"That this House disapproves the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2019 (No.15 of 2019) promulgated by the President of India on 20th September, 2019."

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall, now, put the motion, moved by Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961 and to amend the Finance (No. 2) Act, 2019, 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.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 4, there is one Amendment (No.1) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, there is no timeline for domestic companies to choose a lower tax rate under Section 115BAA. But, in sub-clause 3 of Clause 4, while calculating depreciation, once a company exercises it, the chosen option will apply for all subsequent years and such option cannot be withdrawn for some or in subsequent years. There is an anomaly in this. I would request the option to be open. Why should the Government be so stringent that once the option is closed, one cannot revert back again? As it will be examined, I am not moving.

Clause 4 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 5 and 6 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: In Clause 7, there is one Amendment (No. 2) by Dr. T. Subbarami Reddy. Are you moving it?

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Sir, I am not moving it.

Clause 7 was added to the Bill.

Clauses 8 to 10 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

SPECIAL MENTIONS

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Special Mentions. Shri Vijay Goel; not here. Now, Shrimati Shanta Chhetri.

Demand to include Nepali language as a subject at Senior Secondary level

SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI (West Bengal): Sir, on 20th August, 1992, the Constitution of India gave recognition to Nepali language in the Eighth Schedule of the Indian Constitution. Ten million Gorkhas throughout India celebrate 20th August as 'Nepali

Bhasha Manyata Diwas'. The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS), under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, aims to provide for sustainable inclusive learning with universal and flexible access to quality school education and skill development. Our Nepali speaking people residing all over India lack the facility to study Nepali in NIOS at the Senior Secondary level. As a result our people, who wish to opt Nepali as second language through NIOS, do not get this benefit. Even though our Nepali language is recognised in the Eighth Schedule, it has not been introduced in NIOS as the second language thereby compelling our Gorkha people to abruptly stop higher studies of Nepali language.

I would request the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development to introduce Nepali as second language in NIOS for the benefit of the Gorkha people. This would immensely help those who wish to study further through NIOS in Nepali as second language thereby fulfilling their dreams of continuing higher studies. Thank you, Sir.

**Demand to give relaxation in taxation to
cooperative societies**

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Sir, cooperative societies are an essential part of the rural economy in India. As institutions that allow common people to come together in the pursuit of economic activity, their role in empowering millions of people, especially women and underprivileged, cannot be understated. Cooperative societies are key contributors to the economy of the country and allow for employment opportunities to millions across India. However, the recent economic slowdown has impacted these cooperatives as well, causing great losses to the common persons associated with them. While the Government has made drastic cuts in corporate taxes, cooperative societies have seen no such measures taken for their benefit and sustenance as they continue to pay a tax rate of 34.94 per cent. The recent steps taken by the Government do not appear to take into account the value of these institutions and given their importance and vitality to the Indian economy, I urge the Government to take steps to ensure the survival and competitiveness of these cooperatives. Thank you, Sir.

**Demand to implement Old Pension Scheme in place of New Pension
Scheme for Government employees**

श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, देश के 33 लाख चतुर्थ श्रेणी कर्मचारियों से लेकर ऊपर के समस्त कर्मचारियों तथा लगभग सवा करोड़ उनके परिवारजन नई पेंशन योजना के कारण अवकाश प्राप्ति के पश्चात् अत्यंत असुरक्षित तथा तनाव के वातावरण में जी रहे हैं और समय-समय पर अपने मन की व्यथा को सरकार के सामने प्रकट भी करते हैं।

[श्री हरनाथ सिंह यादव]

महोदय, सरकार व प्रधान मंत्री आदरणीय मोदी जी ने अपने छोटे से कार्यकाल में किसान, मजदूर, दलित, पिछड़ा, गाँव, गरीब, छोटे, मध्यम, व्यापारी आदि आम जन की समस्याओं को अत्यंत संवेदनशील ढंग से सुलझाने का सार्थक प्रयास किया है और देशहित तथा आम जनों के हितों हेतु अनेक कठोर व ऐतिहासिक फैसले लेने में कभी संकोच नहीं किया है, जिसके लिए देशवासी, आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी व उनकी सरकार को सदैव याद रखेंगे।

मान्यवर, सरकार व सरकारी कर्मचारी का अटूट संबंध है, अतः उसके वर्तमान व भविष्य के हितों के संरक्षण का दायित्व पूरी तरह सरकार का है। महोदय, नई पेंशन योजना लागू होने से सरकार तथा कर्मचारी दोनों को हानि हो रही है। सरकार का 14 प्रतिशत व कर्मचारी का 10 प्रतिशत अंशदान निजी सेवा प्रदाताओं के पास जा रहा है। कल को निजी सेवा प्रदाता की नीयत में कोई खोट आ जाए, उसके व्यापार में कोई व्यवधान आ जाए, तो उसके दुष्परिणाम आपके कर्मचारी को ही भुगतने पड़ेंगे। अतः मैं सदन के माध्यम से सरकार व माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी से पुरजोर शब्दों में मांग करता हूँ कि आप अपने 33 लाख कर्मचारियों के हितों के प्रति संवेदनशील होकर नवीन पेंशन योजना को समाप्त कर पुरानी पेंशन योजना लागू करने के लिए आवश्यक कदम अविलंब उठाने का कष्ट करें।

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Prashanta Nanda. Will you lay or read?

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: I will read it.

**Demand for higher contribution of Centre towards capacity building of
Civil Defence in the State of Odisha**

SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA (Odisha): Sir, the Civil Defence Organisation is functioning under the direct supervision of D.G. of Police, Fire Service and Commandant General, Home Guards who is also the Director of Civil Defence. Civil Defence Organisation takes up massive training programme for community in disaster response activities. Awareness Programme in schools and colleges are also being organised regularly to sensitise children.

Civil Defence Volunteers of the State have been honoured with President's Distinguished and Meritorious Service Medals for their outstanding contribution to the society. For exemplary performance in disaster management initiative and response, Civil Defence has also been awarded with Certificates of Appreciation continuously for the year 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 by the hon. Chief Minister for outstanding contribution in disaster management in the State. During and in the aftermath of extremely severe cyclone "Fani", contribution of Civil Defence Volunteers was highly appreciated.

As per the Financial Policy, expenditure on some broad items is poolable and shareable by the Central Government, as laid in Para 4.1 and 4.2 of Compendium of Instructions of

Civil Defence. However, expenditure on all authorised items are first incurred by the State Government and thereafter reimbursed in the form of grant-in-aid to the State Governments in a ratio of 25:75 between Centre and State respectively. This ratio should be revised by enhancing the Central share of assistance to 50:50 as was in practice before 1996/97.

Hon. Minister may kindly consider for granting a package/Grants-in-Aid towards Capacity Building of Civil Defence in the State and to enhance the Central share of assistance in respect of Civil Defence from 25:75 to 50:50 between Centre and State. Thank you.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Prashanta Nanda.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahesh Poddar; not present. Now, Shrimati Sarojini Hembram.

Demand to take measures for conservation of

Konark Sun Temple

श्रीमती सरोजिनी हेम्ब्रम (ओडिशा): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं ओडिशा के कोणार्क सूर्य मंदिर के संरक्षण के संबंध में बोलना चाहती हूँ। इस मंदिर को देखने के लिए देश-विदेश से पर्यटक आते हैं, लेकिन मंदिर में अभी खारे पानी तथा जल-भराव इत्यादि समस्याएँ देखने को मिल रही हैं। इस मंदिर के रख-रखाव का जिम्मा सन् 1939 से Archaeological Survey of India के पास है। सन् 1984 में यूनेस्को ने कोणार्क मंदिर को world heritage घोषित किया था। इस मंदिर के संरक्षण के उद्देश्य से वर्ष 2010 में एक conference भी आयोजित हुई थी। इसके लिए एक Steering Committee का गठन किया गया था, जिसके द्वारा इस monument के संरक्षण के लिए कई सारे कदम उठाने की सिफारिश की गई थी।

महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूँ कि विश्व प्रसिद्ध इस मंदिर की सुरक्षा और संरक्षण के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं और Steering Committee की सिफारिशों के अनुसार आज तक कोई कार्रवाई हुई है या नहीं? मैं इस बारे में यह बताना चाहती हूँ कि उन सिफारिशों के अनुसार, Archaeological Survey of India की ओर से वहाँ के रख-रखाव के संबंध में जो काम होना चाहिए था, वह आज तक नहीं हुआ है। इसके अलावा, मेरा यह अनुरोध है कि कोणार्क सूर्य मंदिर का संरक्षण सुनिश्चित करने के लिए Archaeological Survey of India द्वारा एक मास्टर प्लान भी प्रस्तुत किया गया है, जिस पर शीघ्र ही आवश्यक कार्रवाई की जाए। महोदय, आपने मुझे इस मुद्दे पर बोलने का अवसर दिया, इसके लिए मैं आपकी आभारी हूँ, धन्यवाद।

SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH (Karnataka): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shrimati Sarojini Hembram.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shrimati Sarojini Hembram.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shrimati Sarojini Hembram.

**Need for reforms against forceful acquisition
of agricultural land**

SHRIABIR RANJAN BISWAS (West Bengal): Sir, large stretches of agricultural land are converted for non-agricultural use every year. This is done through acquisition of land for supposed public interest. Most States have bypassed the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act and implemented their own Acts leading to watering down of the rights of rural landowners. In 2006, the West Bengal Government decided to acquire 997 acres (initially 1,013 acres were asked for) for a car company in Singur of Hooghly district. On this day, 4th December, 2006, Mamata Banerjee had begun her hunger strike, as part of the Singur Movement, to protest this acquisition. In 2011, Mamata Banerjee became the Chief Minister of Bengal and announced in her first Cabinet meeting that they will return the 400 acres land to the unwilling farmers of Singur. The historic Singur Land Rehabilitation and Development Bill passed in the Assembly to this effect. Since then, Bengal has brought numerous land reforms to save agricultural lands and the rights of the rural landowners. These initiatives include digital upgrading of record rooms; distribution of about 1,281 Nijo Griha Nijo Bhumi (NGNB) *pattas*; updating of more than 99 per cent of the land maps; delivery of digitally-signed certified copies of Record of Rights (RoR) in 344 administrative blocks; rehabilitation of 647 refugee families through the Bonhooghly Housing Project. The Centre should implement land reforms on the line of Bengal model to protect agricultural lands.

**Demand to settle service matters pertaining to the Central
Institute for Buddhist Studies, Leh-Ladakh**

श्री अमर शंकर साबले (महाराष्ट्र): आदरणीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से लेह-लद्दाख के केंद्रीय बौद्ध अध्ययन संस्थान के संदर्भ में सदन का ध्यान एक अत्यधिक महत्वपूर्ण विषय की ओर आकर्षित कराना चाहता हूँ जिससे कि हम सभी अनभिज्ञ हैं, किन्तु यह हमारे देश के लिए एक गौरवमयी विषय है। देश के केन्द्र शासित प्रदेश लेह-लद्दाख के अंतर्गत केंद्रीय बौद्ध अध्ययन संस्थान में पिछले कई वर्षों से उपकुलपति का पद रिक्त है जिसके विषय में नियुक्ति हेतु मेरे द्वारा गत लम्बे समय से संबंधित मंत्रालय को समय-समय पर अवगत भी कराया गया था, किन्तु न तो संबंधित मंत्रालय ने इस विषय में कोई ध्यान दिया एवं न ही मेरे द्वारा प्रेषित पत्रों का कोई उत्तर प्रदान किया। महोदय, मुझे यह

बताने में बहुत खुशी हो रही है कि इस संस्थान के सीनेट मेम्बर के रूप में मुझे नामित किया गया है। जैसा कि विदित है कि यह संस्थान वर्ष 1959 में बना तथा वर्तमान में इसमें लगभग 18,000 छात्र अध्ययन कर रहे हैं। यह संस्थान संस्कृति मंत्रालय से संबद्ध स्वायत्त निकाय संस्थान है, जिसका मुख्य कार्य बौद्ध दर्शन में शोध का कार्य, इतिहास, कला तथा बौद्ध अध्ययन में अनुसंधान विशेष है। इसका उद्घाटन 14वें दलाई लामा के द्वारा किया गया था। संस्थान का मुख्य उद्देश्य बोधिसत्व में अध्ययन कराना है।

उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सदन के माध्यम से यह निवेदन करता हूँ कि नियुक्ति हेतु जो विज्ञापन जारी किया गया है, उसी के आधार पर उपकुलपति की नियुक्ति जल्द से जल्द हो एवं वहां कार्यरत प्राध्यापकों एवं कर्मचारियों की लम्बे समय से रुकी हुई पदोन्नति जल्द से जल्द हो। इसके अतिरिक्त अभी हाल के 2 वर्षों में हुई नियुक्ति एवं पदोन्नति की जांच हेतु कमेटी गठित की जाए ताकि अयोग्य व्यक्ति उस पद पर न बैठ सके, धन्यवाद।

**Concern over omission of tourism sites in Odisha from the
list of 17 iconic tourism sites**

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, recently, 17 iconic tourism sites were announced to be developed into 'world class tourist destinations' and serve as exemplars for other sites. This would increase domestic and international tourists at these destinations. However, the lack of any site from Odisha is a stark omission. Tourism contributes 13 per cent of the State's GDP and requires a strategic boost. The vast array of significant sites in Odisha includes the Konark Sun Temple, which, built in the 13th century AD, is one of India's oldest UNESCO sites (since 1984). It is also one of the tallest temples ever built. Next, the Ratnagiri-Lalitgiri-Udaygiri complex has the largest concentration of Buddhist remains in Odisha. Some monasteries date as far back as 1st century AD and were chronicled by the famous Chinese traveller Hiuen Tsang during his visit to Kalinga. In its recent reply, the Tourism Ministry stated that primarily promotional activities had been undertaken for Odisha's Buddhist circuit. Development projects have been sanctioned for Buddhist sites in other States, but not in Odisha. Other sites include Chilika Lake (India's second largest Ramsar wetland), Bhitarkanika (one of the largest mangrove eco-systems in India) and Simlipal National Park. In July this year, the hon. Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Naveen Patnaik, wrote a letter to the Ministry of Tourism and Culture requesting, at least, two of the above mentioned sites be adopted into the list of 17 iconic sites. I demand that the Ministry should consider the inclusion of two such sites in its list for subsequent development.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Dr. Amar Patnaik.

Need to increase efficiency of Indian Judicial System

SHRI AHAMED HASSAN (West Bengal): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak. The judiciary in India is one of the pillars of our democratic frame work. From the Supreme Court at the apex to the lower courts operating throughout India, each institution is responsible for upholding the liberty of citizens. However, the efficiency of the judiciary needs to be improved.

Lengthy delays in delivery of justice compromise the process itself. Over 25 per cent of undertrial prisoners have been in custody for more than one year. Data also seems to suggest that the criminal justice system tends to be biased against people from the marginalised sections of the society.

A recent study submitted by IIM Calcutta to the Ministry of Law and Justice has highlighted the chronic issues faced by lower courts. Problems include, vacancies or absence of judges, purposeful extension of cases for personal motives, and lack of adequate technology. Studies show that the average pendency of cases in the Indian subordinate courts is around 5 years. Around 23 per cent of sanctioned posts of judges are lying vacant. And regarding High Courts, I will only say that 421 posts of judges are vacant in the High Courts, all over India.

It is extremely urgent that reforms are introduced to increase efficiency of the judiciary. Digitisation of legal processes, online filing and tracking of cases, and reducing lengthy adjournment periods are important steps in the right direction. Efforts must be made to fill the vacancies in courts across the country, and we have to remember the old proverb, 'Justice delayed is justice denied.' Thank you.

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्यगण Special Mentions में जो approved text है, वही पढ़ना है। Read only the approved text. Nothing is to be added.

Now, the House stands adjourned till 11 hours on Friday, the 6th December, 2019.

The House then adjourned at twenty-four minutes past six of the clock till eleven of the clock on Friday, the 6th December, 2019.