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Friday,
18 September, 2020
27 Bhadra, 1942 (Saka)

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

RAJYA SABHA

OFFICIAL REPORT
(FLOOR VERSION)

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[P.T.O.]

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RAJYA SABHA

Friday, the 18th September, 2020/27 Bhadra, 1942(Saka)

The House met at nine of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair.*

OBITUARY REFERENCES

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I refer with profound sorrow to the passing away of Shri Ashok Gasti, a sitting Member of this House from Karnataka, and Dr. (Shrimati) Kapila Vatsyayan, a former Member of this House.

Shri Ashok Gasti passed away on the 17th of September, 2020, at the age of 55 years.

Born in November, 1964, Shri Ashok Gasti hailed from Raichur district of Karnataka.

An advocate, Shri Ashok Gasti was drawn into public life right from his student days and was actively involved with the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad. He also took a keen interest in working at the grassroot level. Shri Gasti strived for the upliftment of the Backward Classes and served as the Chairperson of the Karnataka State Backward Class Development Corporation.

Shri Gasti was elected to this House very recently on 26th June, 2020, from the State of Karnataka. I know him right from his student days. He was a very dynamic and active grassroot level person coming from a very ordinary family. He just took oath. He could not even participate in the proceedings of the House. It is indeed saddening to lose a colleague in such a short time. Yesterday, initially, the news came that he is no more and everybody expressed condolence. Later, I got doubt, then I contacted the Chief Minister of Karnataka and the Chief Minister of Karnataka told me, "No, Sir, he is in hospital and critically ill." Then I spoke to the hospital authority also. They also told me, "No, Sir, he is critically ill but this news is wrong." I got relieved. But, unfortunately, later in the night, after 10.36 or 10.40, the hospital authorities declared that he is no more.

In the passing away of Shri Ashok Gasti, the country has lost an able parliamentarian and a dedicated social worker.

Dr. (Shrimati) Kapila Vatsyayan passed away on the 16th of September, 2020, at the age of 91 years.

Born in December, 1928, at Delhi, Dr. Kapila Vatsyayan was educated at the University of Delhi; the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (U.S.A.) and the Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi.

An educationist, Dr. Vatsyayan started her career as a Member of Faculty of English in the University of Delhi. She also served as Visiting Professor and Lecturer in some Universities of U.S.A. She served as the Secretary of the Department of Arts in the Ministry of Education, Government of India, from 1985 to 1990.

Dr. Vatsyayan was the recipient of several national and international awards, notable being the Lalit Kala Ratna Award, Akhil Bhartiya Sanskrit Sahitya Sewa Samman for services to Sanskrit by Delhi Sanskrit Academy, Padma Shri in 1990, Padma Vibhushan in 2011 for her contribution in the field of Arts and Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award for the year 2000. She was also conferred the Fellowship of the Sangeet Natak Akademi and Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi.

Dr. (Shrimati) Kapila Vatsyayan served as a Nominated Member of this House twice—from February, 2006 to March, 2006, and again from, April, 2007 to February, 2012.

In the passing away of Dr. (Shrimati) Kapila Vatsyayan, the country has lost an erudite scholar, an academician par excellence, a flagbearer of Indian culture and a distinguished parliamentarian.

We deeply mourn the passing away of Shri Ashok Gasti and Dr. (Shrimati) Kapila Vatsyayan.

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

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

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

As a mark of respect to the memory of the departed, the House is adjourned for half-an-hour. We will be meeting again at 9.35 am.

The House then adjourned at five minutes past nine of the clock.

The House reassembled at thirty-five minutes past nine of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN *in the Chair*

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, I have to inform that a Supplementary List of Business has been issued by the Secretariat today. It is listed for laying of notification of the Ministry of Finance on the Table of the House. The Supplementary List has been uploaded on the Rajya Sabha website and also on the Hon. Members' portal.

Report (2017-18) of Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, 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, on behalf of Shri Santosh Kumar Gangwar, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, under sub-section (2) of Section 74 of the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme Act, 1952.
- (b) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the paper mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2604/17/20]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18 and 2018-19) of various Libraries, Museums, Centres, Institutes etc. and related papers

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Prahalad Singh Patel, I lay on the Table—

- I. (1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers under sub-section (4) of Section 5 and Section 6 of the Asiatic Society Act, 1984:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Asiatic Society, Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
 - (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Society.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2608/17/20]

II.(1) A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-section (4) of Section 21 of the Rampur Raza Library Act, 1975:—

- (a) Forty-fourth Annual Report and Accounts of the Rampur Raza Library, Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Library.

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

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2612/17/20]

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

- (i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Museum Institute of History of Art, Conservation and Museology, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Institute.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2607/17/20]
- (ii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Delhi Public Library (DPL), 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 Library.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2606/17/20]
- (iii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the South Zone Cultural Centre (SZCC), Thanjavur, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2611/17/20]

- (iv) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2613/17/20]
- (v) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Indian Museum, Kolkata, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Museum.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2614/17/20]
- (vi) (a) Forty-seventh Annual Report and Accounts of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Foundation.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2609/17/20]
- (vii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Culture Fund, New Delhi, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Fund.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2610/17/20]
- (viii) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the North East Zone Cultural Centre (NEZCC), Dimapur, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.
- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2824/17/20]

I Notification of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry**II Report and Accounts (2018-19) of PEC Limited, New Delhi and related papers**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Department of Commerce) Notification No. S.O. 2560 (E), dated the 31st July, 2020, publishing the Tea (Marketing) Control (Amendment) Order, 2020, under sub-section (3) of Section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953.

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2522/17/20]

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

(a) Forty-eighth Annual Report and Accounts of the PEC Limited, 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) Performance Review of the above Company, for the year 2018-19.

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

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2521/17/20]

Reports and Accounts (2017-18 and 2018-19) of Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd., Vijayawada and related papers

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Parshottam Rupala, I lay on the Table—

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

(i) (a) Forty-ninth Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd., Vijayawada, for the year 2017-18, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

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

[Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2498/17/20]

- (ii) (a) Fiftieth Annual Report and Accounts of the Andhra Pradesh State Agro Industries Development Corporation Ltd., Vijayawada, 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.
- (2) Statement (in English and Hindi) giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (1) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2498/17/20]

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

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti, I lay on the Table, a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

- (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the National Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (NRLPS), 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 Society.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2500/17/20]

I Notification of the Ministry of Railways

II Report and Accounts (2018-19) of CRIS, New Delhi and related papers

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Angadi Suresh Channabasappa, I lay on the Table—

- I. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Railways, Notification No. G.S.R. 168 (E), dated the 13th March, 2020, publishing the Indian Railways (Open Lines) General Administration Rules, 2020, under Section 199 of the Railway Act, 1989, along with Delay Statement.
- II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—
 - (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS), New Delhi, for the year 2018-19, together with the Auditor's Report on the Accounts.

[Placed in Library, See No. L.T. 2564/17/20]

- (b) Review by Government on the working of the above Centre.
- (c) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (a) above. [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2563/17/20]

Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Raj Kumar Singh, I lay on the Table, under clause (2) of section 19A of the Comptroller and Auditor General's (Duties, Powers and Conditions of Service) Act, 1971, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India for the year ended March, 2019 on Planning and implementation of transmission projects by Power Grid Corporation of India Limited — Union Government (Commercial) — Report No.9 of 2020 (Performance Audit). [Placed in Library, *See* No. L.T. 2593/17/20]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please change here afterwards the wordings, "I place it on the Table", because you are not allowed to rise.

**REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE**

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I lay on the Table, a copy (in English and Hindi) of the 154th Report* of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce on the subject 'Export of Agricultural and Marine Products, Plantation Crops, Turmeric and Coir'.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS**Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Third
and Tenth reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Agriculture**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND
THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI
V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of Shri Narendra Singh Tomar, I lay the following
statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the
Third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee

* The Report was presented to Hon'ble Chairman, Rajya Sabha on 26th August, 2020, when the House was not in session.

on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2019-20) pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Tenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

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

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2019-20), pertaining to the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Angadi Suresh channabasappa, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Third Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways on Demands for Grants (2020-21), pertaining to the Ministry of Railways.

Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Seventh and Thirteenth reports of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Rameswar Teli, I lay the following statements regarding:—

- (i) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Seventh Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2019-20) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.
- (ii) Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the Thirteenth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2020-21) of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

**Status of implementation of recommendations/observations contained in the
Fifth report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing
Committee on Agriculture**

SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN: Sir, on behalf of Shri Pratap Chandra Sarangi, I lay a statement regarding Status of implementation of observations/recommendations contained in the Fifth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture on Demands for Grants (2019-20), pertaining to the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

**REPORTS OF THE DEPARTMENT-RELATED PARLIAMENTARY STANDING
COMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES, LAW AND JUSTICE**

SECRETARY GENERAL: 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 Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice:-

- (i) One Hundred-second Report on 'Effectiveness of Vigilance Administration in certain Revenue & Banking Institutions and Selected CPSEs';
- (ii) One Hundred-third Report on 'Functioning of the Virtual Courts/Courts Proceeding through Video Conferencing — *Interim Report*';
- (iii) One Hundred-fourth Report on the Action Taken on One Hundredth Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and
- (iv) One Hundred-fifth Report on the Action Taken on One Hundred-first Report of the Committee on Demands for Grants (2020-21) pertaining to the Ministry of Law and Justice.

**REGARDING HEALTH-RELATED PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN DURING
THE CONDUCT OF BUSINESS IN THE HOUSE**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, as I have already advised, no Member is expected to come to the Table of the House and then speak to the officers when the House is in session. You can get your doubts clarified, if any, before the House commences. While doing the Business, if you have something urgent please send a slip, so that they can take a note. Secondly, hon. Members are advised not to come to the Chamber of the Chairman also because everybody is coming and saying, 'Sir,

* The Reports were presented to Hon'ble Chairman on 11th September, 2020 under Direction 30 (i) of Directions by the Chairman, Rajya Sabha when the House was not in Session and Hon'ble Chairman was pleased to order for the publication and circulation of those Reports under Direction 30 (ii).

what about my Zero Hour mention'? I do not have much problem, I enjoy meeting the Members. But, the officials from the Department of Health and our own people are telling, 'Sir, please, do not allow this' because those are closed rooms, even this much air circulation is not there. So, please keep this advice in mind and avoid. If you have any problem, please send a slip addressed to the Chair. Informally, you can write to me and I will go through it and try to address it to the extent possible.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR (Maharashtra): Sir, you can also tell Members not to go to seats of other Members.

MR. CHAIRMAN: After hearing Sharadji, there is one more suggestion. Members are requested not to go to other Members' seat, bend and try to talk to them. You know that I do not like louder voices in the House. So, you will try to bend and then whisper in the ear. You know, mainly the advisory is it will come through nose or it will come through mouth or droplets as whatever you call. Please avoid going to Members. If you have something to communicate also among yourselves, please send slips. Slips in an examination hall are not allowed, but here slips are allowed. About, the Call Attention Motion which is listed today, the Minister has written to me saying that on Mahalaya Amavasya some religious function is there in her house. So it will be taken up at the earliest. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय सिंह: सर, मैं आपका संरक्षण चाहता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have got it. ...*(Interruptions)*... I am examining it.

श्री संजय सिंह: *

श्री सभापति: संजय जी, आप बैठिए।

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... This will not go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... I said, "I am examining it." ...*(Interruptions)*... If you say. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय सिंह: *

श्री सभापति: यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जा रहा है, लाइव टेलिकास्ट में भी नहीं जाना है।

श्री संजय सिंह: *

श्री सभापति: श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान।

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is not going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... This is not the way a Member is expected to speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... If you have something, he has to send it to me. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will name you. *...(Interruptions)...* Please don't do that. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please don't force me. *...(Interruptions)...* Don't force me to name you. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Don't force me to name you. *...(Interruptions)...* यह रिकॉर्ड में नहीं जाएगा। No live, no media should take note of it because it is unauthorized. *...(Interruptions)...* Please. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान: माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं आज *...(व्यवधान)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. *...(Interruptions)...* This is not the way. *...(Interruptions)...* You are all senior parliamentarians. *...(Interruptions)...* You have to write to me. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has to write to me. *...(Interruptions)...* I will never allow any such thing. *...(Interruptions)...* Don't think that lung power will. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान (ओडिशा): माननीय सभापति महोदय, आज पहली बार मैं राज्य सभा में चुनकर आया हूँ। *...(व्यवधान)...*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can write to me, I will go through it, and, then address the issue. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: *

MR. CHAIRMAN: I will not allow. *...(Interruptions)...* Why are you wasting your energy? *...(Interruptions)...* You have to write to me, I will examine it. *...(Interruptions)...* I said it also. *...(Interruptions)...* Please sit down, Sanjay Singh. *...(Interruptions)...* If you don't sit down, then I have to name you. You know it better that you have to write to me. I will get it examined and then respond to you. You wait for this thing. *...(Interruptions)...*

श्री संजय सिंह: सर, मुझे यह कल मिला है।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है, आप मुझे लैटर भेजिए। संजय जी, यह तरीका सही नहीं है। आप अनुभवी हैं।

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS**Remunerative prices to farmers for horticulture crops**

641. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of horticulture crops like vegetables and flowers have increased in recent years in the country;

(b) if so, the details of production of potatoes, tomatoes and onions during the last three years;

(c) whether the farmers are getting remunerative prices for their produces at the time of bumper production; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(Production in '000 Tonnes)

Year	Vegetables	Flowers
2016-17	178172	2392
2017-18	184041	2631
2018-19	183170	2910
2019-20 (3rd Adv. Est)	189464	2994

(b) The details of production of Potato, Tomato and Onion during the last three years is as under:-

(Production in '000 Tonnes)

	Potato	Tomato	Onion
2016-17	48605	20708	22427
2017-18	51310	19759	23262
2018-19	50190	19007	22819
2019-20 (3rd Advance Estimate)	48662	21 195	26148

(c) and (d) Government implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of agricultural and horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not covered under the Price Support Scheme (PSS). The objective of intervention is to protect the growers of these commodities from making distress sale in the event of a bumper crop during the peak arrival period when the prices tend to fall below economic levels and cost of production. The condition is that there should be either at least a 10 per cent increase in production or a 10 per cent decrease in the ruling market prices over the previous normal year. The scheme is implemented at the request of a State/UT government which is ready to bear 50 per cent of the loss (25 per cent in case of North-Eastern States), if any, incurred on its implementation. The extent of total amount of loss to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the Central Government and the State Government is restricted to 25 per cent of the total procurement value which includes cost of the commodity procured plus permitted overhead expenses. Under the scheme, in accordance with MIS guidelines, a pre-determined quantity at the fixed Market Intervention Price (MIP) is procured by the agencies designated by the State Government for a fixed period or till the prices are stabilized above the MIP whichever is earlier.

In order to provide farmers remunerative prices for their produce, the Government has taken several steps.

The Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme an online virtual trading platform to provide farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with opportunity for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for their produce through competitive online bidding system.

Through Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) Scheme development of private mandis, direct marketing, declaring warehouses, silos, cold storages as deemed markets and also developing Gramin Haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), are promoted.

The Government is now implementing a central Sector scheme namely "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)" to enhance cost effective production and higher net incomes to the member farmer producers through better liquidity and market linkages for their produce and become sustainable through collective action.

In addition to above, to provide additional channels to farmers for marketing of their produce and promote barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade and commerce, the Government has promulgated "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020" on 5th June, 2020. Now, farmers can sell their produce from their farm-gate, residence to processing units, warehouse, silos, cold storage etc. nearer to their farm-gate. Farmers are getting better price, and also be able to save the transportation cost, unofficial payment of market fee, commission charges and other marketing charges in the existing system of agricultural marketing.

New steps for doubling farmers' income

642. SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA:

DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

LT. GEN. (DR.) D.P. VATS (RETD.):

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

(a) the number of farmers whose claims have been paid across the country including Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat till date under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has set a target of doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022;

(c) if so, the steps taken so far to achieve this target within time-limit along with the new steps proposed to be taken in this regard; and

(d) the details thereof along with the status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) State-wise and Year-wise details of farmers whose claims have been paid under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), since its inception in 2016-17, are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The Government constituted an Inter-ministerial Committee in April, 2016 to examine issues relating to "Doubling of Farmers Income" (DFI) and recommend strategies

to achieve the same. The Committee submitted its Report to the Government in September, 2018 containing the strategy for doubling of farmers' income by the year 2022. The DFI strategy as recommended by the Committee include seven sources of income growth viz., (i) improvement in crop productivity; (ii) improvement in livestock productivity; (iii) resource use efficiency or savings in the cost of production; (iv) increase in the cropping intensity; (v) diversification towards high value crops; (vi) improvement in real prices received by farmers; and (vii) shift from farm to non-farm occupations.

After acceptance of the DFI Committee recommendations, the Government has constituted an 'Empowered Body' to review and monitor the progress.

(c) and (d) Agriculture being a State subject, the State Governments undertake implementation of programs/schemes for the development of the sector. Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Governments through various schemes/ programs. These schemes/ programs of the Government of India are meant for the welfare of farmers by increasing production, remunerative returns and income support to farmers. A list of initiatives taken by the Government is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). All these steps of the Government of India are for the welfare of the farmers of the country.

Further, the Government has adopted several developmental programmes, schemes, reforms and policies that focus on higher incomes for the farmers. All these policies & programmes are being supported by higher budgetary allocations, non-budgetary financial resources by way of creating Corpus Funds, and supplementary income transfers under PM-KISAN. The latest major intervention includes the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat - Agriculture' which includes comprehensive market reforms and creation of 'Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF)' worth ₹ 1 lakh crore and allocation of ₹ 500 crore for Bee Keeping initiative.

Statement-I*Details of claims paid and farmers benefitted under PMFBY as on 07.09.2020*

State/UT	2016-17		2017-18		2018-19		2019-20	
	Claims Paid (₹ in crore)	Farmer Applications Benefitted (lakh)	Claims Paid (₹ in crore)	Farmer Applications Benefitted (lakh)	Claims Paid (₹ in crore)	Farmer Applications Benefitted (lakh)	Claims Paid (₹ in crore)	Farmer Applications Benefitted (lakh)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.146	0.003	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	943.767	8.987	739.057	7.149	1.874.150	15.896	-	-
Assam	5.375	0.236	1.181	0.021	0.093	0.004	-	-
Bihar	347.630	2.161	401.515	2.183	Not Participated			
Chhattisgarh	159.971	1.377	1.390.580	6.579	1.086.985	6.557	1,184.373	14.227
Goa	0.027	0.001	0.005	0.000	0.101	0.000	0.006	0.001
Gujarat	1.267.219	6.800	1.075.449	3.889	2.777.771	13.767	1 11.646	0.930
Haryana	296.799	2.245	895.977	3.248	942.097	4.197	846.684	4.9) 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Himachal Pradesh	45.184	1.128	64.708	1.470	55.004	1.272	9.029	0.451
Jammu and Kashmir	-	-	9.835	0.188	25.585	0.197	-	-
Jharkhand	31.086	0.598	47.181	1.392	21.168	0.580	-	-
Karnataka	2.061.072	18.923	858.183	6.187	2.847.625	13.297	217.778	2.034
Kerala	43.732	0.551	10.953	0.377	25.825	0.397	52.755	0.235
Madhya Pradesh	2.029.078	13.741	5.894.598	24.854	3.002.723	17.154	1.760	0.024
Maharashtra	2.316.784	29.041	3.286.857	53.676	5.948.569	77.201	5.726.000	82.925
Manipur	1.954	0.084	0.670	0.036	0.001	0.000	1.140	0.032
Meghalaya	0.026	0.000	0.018	0.000	0.092	-	-	-
Odisha	432.739	1.688	1.817.506	7.531	1.170.436	6.581	700.603	6.501
Puducherry	7.524	0.043	-	-	0.452	0.005	-	-
Rajasthan	1.917.818	29.031	2.224.132	25.284	3.266.773	19.868	3.262.953	22.634
Sikkim	0.108	0.002	0.038	0.001	0.002	0.000	-	-
Tamil Nadu	3.638.665	12.908	2.014.857	9.857	2.474.758	17.328	769.718	8.500

Telangana	179.598	2.250	638.187	4.402	112.018	0.388	-	-
Tripura	0.705	0.031	0.996	0.027	0.016	0.002	0.416	0.029
Uttar Pradesh	574.576	1 1.873	380.753	5.846	464.790	6.201	952.360	7.916
Uttarakhand	27.468	0.618	39.453	0.703	72.363	0.840	56.150	0.731
West Bengal	421.678	1 1.903	260.845	5.505	502.403	7.122	Not Participated	
GRAND TOTAL	16.750.728	156.224	22.053.534	170.405	26.671.800	208.854	13,893.370	152.079

* Kharif 2019 and Rabi 2019-20 claims are not fully reported/settled.

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

19

Statement-II*List of various interventions and schemes launched for the benefit of farmers*

- (i) With a view to provide income support to all farmers' families across the country, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs, the Central Government started a new Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN). The scheme aims to provide a payment of ₹ 6000/- per year, in three 4-monthly installments of ₹ 2000/- to the farmers families, subject to certain exclusions relating to higher income groups.
- (ii) Further with a view to provide social security net for Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) as they have minimal or no savings to provide for old age and to support them in the event of consequent loss of livelihood, the Government has decided to implement another new Central Sector Scheme *i.e.* Pradhan Mantri Kisan MaanDhan Yojana (PM-KMY) for providing old age pension to these farmers. Under this Scheme, a minimum fixed pension of ₹ 3000/- will be provided to the eligible small and marginal farmers, subject to certain exclusion clauses, on attaining the age of 60 years.
- (iii) With a view to provide better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation, a crop insurance scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) was launched from Kharif 2016 season. This scheme provides insurance cover for all stages of the crop cycle including post-harvest risks in specified instances, with low premium contribution by farmers.
- (iv) Giving a major boost for the farmer's income, the Government has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSPs) for all Kharif & Rabi crops for 2018-19 season at a level of at least 150 per cent of the cost of production.
- (v) Implementation of flagship scheme of distribution of Soil Health Cards to farmers so that the use of fertilizers can be rationalized.
- (vi) "Per drop more crop" initiative under which drip/sprinkler irrigation is being encouraged for optimal utilization of water, reducing cost of inputs and increasing productivity.
- (vii) "Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY)" for promoting organic farming.

- (viii) Launch of e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic transparent and competitive online trading platform.
- (ix) Under "Har Medh Par Ped", agro forestry is being promoted for additional income. With the amendment of Indian Forest Act, 1927, Bamboo has been removed from the definition of trees. A restructured National Bamboo Mission has been launched in the year 2018 to promote bamboo plantation on non forest government as well as private land and emphasis on value addition, product development and markets.
- (x) Giving a major boost to the pro-farmer initiatives, the Government has approved a new Umbrella Scheme 'Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)'. The Scheme is aimed at ensuring remunerative prices to the farmers for their produce as announced in the Union Budget for 2018. This is an unprecedented step taken by Govt. of India to protect the farmers' income which is expected to go a long way towards the welfare of farmers.
- (xi) Bee keeping has been promoted under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) to increase the productivity of crops through pollination and increase the honey production as an additional source of income of farmers.
- (xii) To ensure flow of adequate credit, Government sets annual target for the flow of credit to the agriculture sector, Banks have been consistently surpassing the annual target. The agriculture credit flow target was set at ₹ 13.50 lakh crore for the F.Y.2019-20 and ₹ 15.00 lakh crore for F.Y. 2020-21.
- (xiii) Extending the reach of institutional credit to more and more farmers is priority area of the Government and to achieve this goal, the Government provides interest subvention of 2% on short-term crop loans up to ₹3.00 lakh. Presently, loan is available to farmers at an interest rate of 4% per annum on prompt repayment.
- (xiv) Further, under Interest Subvention Scheme 2018-19, in order to provide relief to the farmers on occurrence of natural calamities, the interest subvention of 2% shall continue to be available to banks for the first year on the restructured amount. In order to discourage distress sale by farmers and to encourage them to store their produce in warehouses against negotiable receipts, the benefit of interest subvention will be available to small and marginal farmers having Kisan Credit Card for a further period of upto six months post harvest on the same rate as available to crop loan.

(xv) The Government has extended the facility of Kisan Credit Card (KCC) to the farmers practicing animal husbandry and fisheries related activities. All processing fee, inspection, ledger folio charges and all other services charges have been waived off for fresh renewal of KCC. Collateral fee loan limit for short term agri-credit has been raised from ₹ 1.00 lakh to ₹ 1.60 lakh. KCC will be issued within 14 days from the receipt of completed application.

(xvi) Several market reforms have been rolled out. These include:—

- (a) Model APLMC (Promotion and Facilitation) Act, 2017.
- (b) Establishment of 22,000 number of Gramin Agriculture Markets (GrAMs) as aggregation platforms.
- (c) Agri-Export Policy, that targets to double agri-exports by 2022.
- (d) The Farmers Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020.
- (e) The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020.
- (f) Amendments to Essential Commodities Act, 1955, that deregulates various agri-commodities.
- (g) Promotion of 10,000 FPOs by 2024.

(xvii) Creation of Corpus Funds:—

- (a) Micro Irrigation Fund - ₹ 5,000 crore.
- (b) Agri-marketing Fund to strengthen eNAM and GrAMs - ₹ 2,000 crore.
- (c) Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF) to build agri-logistics (backward and forward linkages) - ₹ 1 lakh crore.

Impact of COVID-19 on farmers

643. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of the COVID-19 lockdown on farmers' income;
- (b) the steps that are being taken by Government to ensure that the farmers' income is not impacted by the lockdown measures;

(c) whether all steps are being taken to ensure that the health and hygiene of farmers is not impacted while carrying out farming activities, and

(d) the details of steps taken by Government to educate the farmers about the dangers of COVID 19?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The latest available estimates on income of agricultural households are based on the 'Situation Assessment Survey of Agricultural Households' conducted by National Statistical Office (NSO) during its 70th round (January, 2013-December, 2013) for the reference agricultural year (July, 2012-June, 2013). As per the survey results, the average monthly income per agricultural household from all sources is estimated to be ₹ 6,426/-.

There is no such income assessment report available which provides impact of COVID-19 on farmers' income.

(b) Government has taken several welfare measures to mitigate the impact on farmers' income due to COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. These include: creation of 'Agriculture Infrastructure Fund' of ₹ 1 lakh crore and allocating ₹ 500 crore for Bee-Keeping initiatives; brought out two Ordinances namely, 'The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020' and 'Empowerment and Protection of farmers for Agreements of Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020'; deposited more than ₹ 40000 crore to the bank account of farmers under PM Kisan Scheme since 24th March, 2020; claim of ₹ 5327 crores were paid to farmers under PMFBY scheme, etc.

(c) and (d) In the wake of COVID-19 threat, Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare circulated the SOP related to crop harvesting and threshing during kharif 2020 to the States in order to protect health of farmers and farm workers and to contain the spread of Coronavirus. Moreover, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) issued detailed advisories for various farm operations, including harvesting and threshing of rabi crops and post-harvest, storage and marketing of farm produce.

Besides, a video film on social distancing has been broadcast/telecast through DD/DD-Kisan and AIR. Various National and State-specific advisories disseminated through digital platforms, like m-Kisan portal, WhatsApp groups, Online Apps and Expert systems, newspapers, radio, TV channels, Facebook and other ICT platforms for benefit to the farmers.

Schemes for increasing productivity of fruits and vegetables

†644. SHRI NEERAJ DANGI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the production of vegetables and fruits in the country during the last three years, State-wise;
- (b) the schemes/programmes being implemented for increasing the production and productivity of vegetables and fruits;
- (c) whether Government plans to provide assistance in the marketing of vegetables and fruits, so that the growers of vegetables and fruits may get remunerative prices for their products;
- (d) if so, the assistance provided by Government in this regard; and
- (e) the steps taken by Government for encouraging research in the field of production of vegetables and fruits in the country, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The details of the production of vegetables and fruits, in the last three years, in the country, State-wise, is given in the Statement-I and II respectively (*See* below).

(b) Government is implementing Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), for holistic growth of the horticulture sector. All States and UTs are covered under MIDH. The Mission envisages production and productivity improvement of horticulture crops including fruits and vegetables through assistance for activities such as production of planting material, vegetable seed production, coverage of area with improved cultivars, rejuvenation of senile orchards, protected cultivation, creation of water resources, adoption of Integrated Nutrient Management (INM)/Integrated Pest Management (IPM), organic farming, including *in situ* generation of organic inputs.

(c) and (d) Under the Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) a centrally sponsored scheme implemented with effect from 2014-15 for holistic growth of Horticulture Sector, assistance is provided for setting up of marketing infrastructure such as for setting up of terminal markets, wholesale markets, rural markets, Apni

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Mandi, retail markets/outlets, setting up of statistic mobile vending carat/platform with food chamber. Assistance has also extended for setting up of financial infrastructures for collection, sorting, grading, packing etc.

The Government has also implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme an online virtual trading platform to provide farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with opportunity for transparent price discovery for remunerative prices for their produce through competitive online bidding system.

Through Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure (AMI) Scheme, development of private mandis, direct marketing, declaring warehouses, silos, cold storages as deemed markets and also developing Gramin Haats into Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), are promoted.

The Government is now implementing a central sector scheme namely "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs)" to enhance cost effective production and higher net incomes to the member farmer producers through better liquidity and market linkages for their produce and become sustainable through collective action.

In addition to above, to provide additional channels to farmers for marketing of their produce and promote barrier-free inter-State and intra-State trade and commerce, the Government has promulgated "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020" on 5th June, 2020. Now, farmers can sell their produce from their farm-gate, residence to processing units, warehouse, silos, cold storage etc. nearer to their farm-gate. Farmers are getting better price, and also able to save the transportation cost, unofficial payment of market fee, commission charges and other marketing charges in the existing system of agricultural marketing.

(e) The Government through Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) is encouraging research in the field of production of vegetables and fruits in the country and boost horticulture production in areas such as developing improved varieties, conservation of genetic diversity, protected cultivation for nursery production, micronutrient formulation, planting material, crop management technologies, conservation through Custodian farmers, transfer of taking to technology etc. Besides, regular scientists-farmers interface meetings are arranged to address farmers problems.

Statement-I*State-wise production of total vegetables*

Sl. No.	State	Production in '000 Tonnes		
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (3rd Adv. Est.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	691 179	7559.55	7711.55
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	16.60	17.39	17.39
3.	Assam	3293.01	3479.21	3673.88
4.	Bihar	15865.30	16528.07	16327.53
5.	Chhattisgarh	7003.59	7081.29	7088.82
6.	Gujarat	12265.49	12550.47	13153.59
7.	Haryana	7155.80	7325.06	6113.32
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1807.03	1755.43	1856.80
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1226.64	1337.12	1337.12
10.	Jharkhand	3475.42	3508.32	3575.93
11.	Karnataka	8395.33	7338.81	7519.51
12.	Kerala	2517.27	2709.37	2757.05
13.	Madhya Pradesh	17545.50	17970.26	19832.27
14.	Maharashtra	12322.72	11356.15	13642.86
15.	Manipur	342.17	356.04	391.35
16.	Meghalaya	519.70	514.75	515.87
17.	Mizoram	171.06	200.45	181.70
18.	Nagaland	555.12	455.08	453.65
19.	Odisha	8765.61	8670.13	7937.16
20.	Punjab	4928.35	5207.36	5537.82
21.	Rajasthan	1675.29	1652.62	1877.34

1	2	3	4	5
22.	Sikkim	229.10	231.40	231.40
23.	Tamil Nadu	6406.01	5669.27	8928.58
24.	Telangana	2753.80	2574.30	2128.58
25.	Tripura	795.78	808.78	811.67
26.	Uttar Pradesh	27895.08	27787.99	26194.61
27.	Uttarakhand	999.65	1006.30	1018.36
28.	West Bengal	27697.34	27014.55	28113.03
29.	Others	505.25	504.12	535.25
	TOTAL	184040.79	183169.61	189463.97

Statement-II*State-wise production of total fruits*

		Production in '000 Tonnes		
Sl. No.	State	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20 (3rd Adv. Est.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	15215.85	16995.65	17515.92
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	125.70	125.84	125.84
3.	Assam	2123.62	2166.77	2562.30
4.	Bihar	4207.30	4403.70	4256.21
5.	Chhattisgarh	2666.20	2496.74	2480.64
6.	Gujarat	8996.02	9218.86	9253.75
7.	Haryana	793.35	1178.92	1197.97
8.	Himachal Pradesh	565.26	495.36	828.23
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	2355.19	2414.21	2541.16
10.	Jharkhand	1081.69	1118.37	1148.11

1	2	3	4	5
11.	Karnataka	7133.94	6759.16	7055.40
12.	Kerala	2045.75	1801.66	1731.44
13.	Madhya Pradesh	7416.91	7544.52	7916.39
14.	Maharashtra	11728.66	10777.72	11544.26
15.	Manipur	455.59	454.77	527.97
16.	Meghalaya	316.51	406.87	393.51
17.	Mizoram	340.51	347.02	344.91
18.	Nagaland	380.52	314.10	315.05
19.	Odisha	2402.30	2349.23	1917.07
20.	Punjab	1908.85	2001.69	2106.12
21.	Rajasthan	761.95	968.45	1004.60
22.	Sikkim	54.90	55.45	55.45
23.	Tamil Nadu	5680.52	5623.78	5662.37
24.	Telangana	1939.39	2012.81	2077.12
25.	Tripura	547.52	559.90	562.46
26.	Uttar Pradesh	10539.78	10657.75	10952.73
27.	Uttarakhand	669.94	664.66	674.21
28.	West Bengal	3850.56	3905.31	3614.14
29.	Others	142.73	147.41	82.45
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		96447.00	97966.66	100447.76

Reduction in the income of farmers

†645. SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that agriculture work was hampered in many States due to reverse migration during the period of lockdown;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the quantum of crop damage suffered by farmers along with the details of reduction in the income of farmers; and

(c) the number of farm labourers who underwent reverse migration and the scheme to bring them back, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Government has taken several measures to facilitate the farmers and farming activities at field level and provided timely benefits to farmers and all stakeholders across the country. The pro-active interventions by the Government have facilitated the farmers for timely harvesting of the entire rabi crops and record procurement of rabi produce by the Government agencies. Moreover, sowing area coverage under kharif crops has witnessed remarkable progress during 2020. As on 11.09.2020, the total area sown under kharif crops was 1104.54 lakh hectare as against 1045.18 lakh hectare during corresponding period last year, showing an increase of 5.68 per cent.

(c) The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has taken several measures to boost employment and livelihood opportunities for migrant workers returning in rural areas.

The Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan (GKRA) launched on 20th June, 2020 is implemented on mission mode to provide employment to migrant workers who have returned to their native villages of six (6) States namely, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

Damage to crops due to locust attack

†646. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that locust has caused a huge damage to crops throughout the country during the last two years till date, of the details thereof, State-wise; and

(b) the amount of compensation paid by Government to those affected farmers whose crops have been destroyed?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) During 2019-20, locust attack was reported in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

some districts of Rajasthan and Gujarat. Rajasthan Government has reported that a total area of 1,79,584 hectares of 8 districts of the State was affected by locust attack during 2019-20. The State Government of Gujarat has reported that crop loss due to locust attack was observed in a total area of 19,313 hectares of 2 districts of the State during the year 2019-20.

During 2020-21, the locust incursions were reported in 10 States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Haryana and Uttarakhand, where operations were undertaken in coordination with State Governments for locust control. State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported no crop losses in their States.

Initially during May-June 2020, Government of Rajasthan reported crop damage of 33% and more due to locust attack in 2235 hectare area in Bikaner, 140 hectare in Hanumangarh and 1027 hectare area in Sri Ganganagar; but now, as per revised report, it has been stated that earlier submitted data was related to initial stage of crop sown in Kharif season and this area of crop loss has been re-sown by farmers.

State Governments of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand have reported crop damage of less than 33% in 6520 ha., 4400 ha., 806 ha., 488 ha. and 267 ha. respectively due to locust attack this year.

(b) For 2019-20, State Government of Rajasthan has reported that a relief of ₹ 132.54 crores have been paid to 79,922 farmers due to locust attack from State Disaster Response Fund in the form of agriculture input subsidy. State Government of Gujarat has reported that a total amount of approximately ₹ 18.74 crore has been paid to 9137 farmers during 2019-20 as agricultural input subsidy from the State Disaster Response Fund.

For the financial year 2020-21, till now no State Government has reported distribution of relief to the farmers affected by locust attack for 2020-21. However, State Government of Rajasthan has informed that Girdawari/survey work is underway for estimation of crop losses due to attack of locusts. The yield losses will be assessed through crop cutting experiments and compensation will be paid to all registered farmers as per provisions of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

Productivity of irrigated and non-irrigated agricultural land in the country

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

- (a) the total amount of agricultural land in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the percentage of irrigated land and the sources of irrigation; and
- (c) the per acre productivity of irrigated and non-irrigated agricultural land of major crops like paddy, wheat, maize, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) As per the latest data available on Land Use Statistics, State-wise details of agricultural land for the year 2015-16 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) As per the latest data available on Land Use Statistics, the percentage of Net Irrigated Area to Net Area Sown for the year 2015-16 is 48.2 %. Details of area irrigated by various sources is given below:—

(Thousand hectares)	
Source of Irrigation	Area irrigated
Government Canals	15023
Private Canals	155
Tanks	1736
Tube-wells	32162
Other wells	10956
Other Sources	7269
Net Irrigated Area	67300

Source: Directorate of Economics and Statistics, MoA&FW.

(c) As per the Fourth Advance Estimates for the year 2019-20, the details of the yield of major crops is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

*State-wise details of agricultural land in the country for the year 2015-16
(latest available)*

(Thousand hectares)	
State/UT	Agricultural Land
Andhra Pradesh	9018
Arunachal Pradesh	423
Assam	3343
Bihar	6578
Chhattisgarh	5561
Goa	197
Gujarat	12661
Haryana	3798
Himachal Pradesh	816
Jammu and Kashmir	1077
Jharkhand	4313
Karnataka	12800
Kerala	2250
Madhya Pradesh	17250
Maharashtra	21062
Manipur	444
Meghalaya	1008
Mizoram	367
Nagaland	695
Odisha	6648
Punjab	4245

State/UT	Agricultural Land
Rajasthan	25504
Sikkim	97
Tamil Nadu	8110
Telangana	6870
Tripura	272
Uttarakhand	1547
Uttar Pradesh	18863
West Bengal	5648
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	28
Chandigarh	1
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	24
Daman and Diu	3
Delhi	53
Lakshadweep	2
Puducherry	29
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)	181603

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

Statement-II

All India estimates of yield of major crops for the year 2019-20 (as per the fourth advance estimates)

Crop	Yield in kg./hectare	Yield kg./acre
Rice	2705	1095
Wheat	3421	1384
Jowar	1005	407
Bajra	1368	553

Crop	Yield in kg/hectare	Yield kg/acre
Maize	2945	1192
Ragi	1761	713
Small Millets	835	338
Barley	2802	1134
Coarse Cereals	1976	800
Tur	842	341
Gram	1116	451
Urad	453	183
Moong	544	220
Lentil	894	362
Other Kharif Pulses	467	189
Other Rabi Pulses	961	389
Groundnut	2065	836
Castorseed	1765	714
Sesamum	463	187
Nigerseed	305	123
Soyabean	928	375
Sunflower	891	361
Rapeseeds & Mustard	1345	544
Linseed	581	235
Safflower	694	281
Sugarcane	77893	31522
Cotton *	451	183
Jute **	2686	1087
Mesta **	1993	807

* Thousand bales of 170 kgs. each.

** Thousand Bales of 180 kgs. each.

Source: Directorate of Economic and Statistics, MoA&FW.

Productivity of crops in Darjeeling region

648. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Darjeeling hill region is one of the richest in the country in having hot cash crops such as cardamom, ginger, broomstick, orange and plum, high quality organic vegetables, flowers, orchids, silk cocoons and medicinal plants;
- (b) if so, the steps taken by Government to enhance productivity of these crops;
- (c) the steps taken to improve farming methods and quality of life of the farmers of that region; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Crops such as cardamom, ginger, mandarin orange, flowers, orchids, etc. are grown commercially in the hills of Darjeeling.

(b) to (d) Financial assistance is available for the farmers under the centrally sponsored scheme *i.e.* Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), which is being implemented for the holistic development of horticulture sector in the country. All States and UTs (including Darjeeling district of West Bengal) are covered under MIDH scheme.

Under MIDH, steps are being taken to enhance productivity of these crops by way of quality germ plasm, planting material and increased water use efficiency through Micro Irrigation etc. Training is provided for capacity buildings of farmers through existing institutions like State Agriculture Universities, Krishi Vigyan Kendras, Institutes with Department of Horticulture in States for adoption of improved technologies and farming methods.

Apart from the above, ICAR Research Institutes like IARI Region Station, Kalimpong, National research Centre for Orchids (NRCO), Pakyong, Gangtok, NRCO-Darjeeling Centre, ICAR Research Complex for HEH Region, Sikkim Centre. National Organic Farming Research Institute, Tadong, Gangtok, AICRP on Fruits at Kalimpong and AICRP on Medicinal and Aromatic plants, Kalimpong are playing prominent role to enhance productivity of these crops in the Darjeeling region.

Agronomic farm tools suitable for hill region, quality seeds and planting materials, bio pesticides and bio fertilizers have also been distributed to farmers by IARI to improve productivity and quality of life of the farmers of that region.

Monetary support to farmers and agriculture start-ups

649. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that have been undertaken by Government to ease the concerns of the farmers since the nation-wide lockdown announced in March, 2020;

(b) the amount of monetary support that has been provided by Government for the farmers during the lockdown period, State-wise; and

(c) the steps that have been undertaken to help agriculture start-ups and companies to carry on their businesses during the lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) All the relaxation were given to allow agricultural activities during the lockdown.

As a part of Garib Kalyan Yojna announced by the Government during the lockdown, benefits under PM-KISAN Yojana was released to more than 8.7 crore beneficiaries.

The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020 was promulgated which provides for a national framework on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri business firms, processors, aggregators, wholesalers, large retailers and exporters etc. for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner.

The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020 was promulgated which provides for the creation of an ecosystem where the farmers and traders enjoy the freedom of choice relating to sale and purchase of farmers' produce which facilitates remunerative prices through competitive alternative trading channels; to promote efficient, transparent and barrier-free inter-State and intra-State trade and commerce of farmers' produce outside the physical premises of markets or deemed markets notified under various State agricultural produce market legislations;

to provide a facilitative framework for electronic trading and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

An Agriculture Infrastructure Fund has also been set-up which provide a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support.

Further, Government has also approved a new Central Sector Scheme titled "Formation and Promotion of Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)" to form and promote 10,000 new FPOs with a total budgetary provision of ₹ 4496.00 crore for five years (2019-20 to 2023-24) with a further committed liability of ₹ 2369.00 crore for period from 2024-25 to 2027-28 towards handholding of each FPO for five years from its aggregation and formation. Under the scheme, support to each FPO is continued for 5 years from its year of inception.

(b) During the period of lock down, an amount of around ₹41,000 crores has been disbursed to various beneficiaries under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme covering various instalments so far. The State-wise details of release to beneficiaries under the scheme during the period of lockdown (till 15-9-2020) is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) Under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund, ₹ One lakh crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups, Aggregation Infrastructure Providers and Central/ State agency or Local Body sponsored Public-Private Partnership Project.

Statement

State-wise details of release under PM-KISAN during the period of lockdown (till 15-09-2020)

State	Total Amount (All installments)
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	6,55,36,000
Andhra Pradesh	19,53,17,76,000
Bihar	29,73,20,54,000
Chandigarh	17,38,000

State	Total Amount (All installments)
Chhattisgarh	10,98,60,34,000
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2,17,04,000
Daman and Diu	78,34,000
Delhi	5,50,14,000
Goa	3,65,06,000
Gujarat	23,24,60,24,000
Haryana	7,64,61,68,000
Himachal Pradesh	3,69,48,86,000
Jammu and Kashmir	4,40,68,88,000
Jharkhand	7,75,45,48,000
Karnataka	20,93,64,64,000
Kerala	13,92,40,34,000
Ladakh	3,02,92,000
Lakshadweep	80,68,000
Madhya Pradesh	34,82,02,40,000
Maharashtra	45,18,86,56,000
Odisha	9,27,85,38,000
Puducherry	4,63,16,000
Punjab	8,18,00,38,000
Rajasthan	27,67,94,48,000
Tamil Nadu	18,88,94,52,000
Telangana	14,89,48,72,000
Uttar Pradesh	97,69,58,82,000
Uttarakhand	3,45,46,90,000
West Bengal	-
TOTAL	4,02,21,37,00,000

State	Total Amount (All installments)
North East State	
Arunachal Pradesh	39,97,30,000
Assam	3,75,72,10,000
Manipur	1,60,48,52,000
Meghalaya	70,32,64,000
Mizoram	46,20,12,000
Nagaland	83,72,56,000
Sikkim	4,60,76,000
Tripura	83,81,10,000
TOTAL (NE)	8,64,85,10,000
GRAND TOTAL	4,10,86,22,10,000

Extension of time to repay standard short-term agri-loan

650. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has extended the time again and again to facilitate farmers to repay standard short-term agri-loan given to them due to COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any request/representation from the farmers to further extend the time to replay their loan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and Government's action in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Reserve Bank of India *vide* its notification dated 27.3.2020 had, in respect of all term loans (including agricultural term loans, retails and crop loans) and working capital facilities, sanctioned in the form of cash credit/overdraft ("CC/OD"), permitted the lending institutions to defer the recovery of interest applied in respect of all such facilities during the period from

March 1, 2020 upto May 31, 2020 ("deferment"). *Vide* notification dated 23.5.2020 lending institutions were permitted to allow a deferment of another three months, from June 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020, in addition to the three months allowed on March 27, 2020 on payment of interest in respect of all such facilities outstanding as on March 1, 2020.

To address the continuing challenges to resolution of stressed assets, RBI had further allowed lending institutions to exclude the entire moratorium/deferment period from 1st March, 2020 to 31st August, 2020 from the calculation of 30 days review period or 180-days Resolution Period, if the Review/Resolution Period had not expired as on 1st March, 2020.

The Government had also (on 30.3.2020) extended the provision of benefit of 2% Interest Subvention (IS) to Banks and 3% Prompt Repayment Incentive (PRI) to farmers for the extended period of repayment of loans upto 31.05.2020 or date of actual repayment date whichever is earlier, for short terms crop loan upto ₹3 lakh per farmers given by banks @ 7% p.a., which have become due or shall become due between 1st March, 2020 and 31st May, 2020 and this was later extended (on 1.6.2020) upto 31.08.2020.

(c) and (d) As per information available, no such request has been received.

Sops and exemptions under PM-Kisan Scheme

651. SHRI T. G VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the matter of announcement of PM-KISAN Scheme with a view to increase the income of the farmers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the sops and exemptions being given under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojana, for providing financial assistance to landholding farmer families across the country, subject to certain exclusion criteria, to enable them to take care of expenses related to agriculture and allied activities as well as domestic needs. Under the scheme, an amount of ₹6000/- per

year is transferred in three 4-monthly installments of ₹2000/- directly into the bank accounts of the farmers. The scheme was launched on 24.02.2019 but is effective from 01.12.2018.

(c) The following special provisions and exemptions have so far been made under the PM-KISAN Yojana:—

- (i) Earlier, under the Scheme, Aadhaar seeding of the beneficiaries' data was compulsory for release of financial benefit w.e.f the 4-monthly period *i.e.*, 1st April, 2019 to 31st July, 2019. This requirement was deferred twice and ultimately implemented w.e.f. 1st December, 2019 onwards. However, the States of Assam, Meghalaya and Jammu and Kashmir have been exempted from this mandatory condition upto 31st March, 2021.
- (ii) The existing land-ownership system is being used for identification of beneficiaries under the scheme. However, special identification procedures have been devised for the States of Manipur and Nagaland in view of the community based land ownership in these states and also for the State of Jharkhand which does not have updated land records.
- (iii) The benefit of the scheme has also been extended to forest dweller tribals who have been given 'Pattas' under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006.

Setting up of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund

652. SHRI T.G VENKATESH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the matter of announcement of setting up of ₹ 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund with a view to increase the income of farmers and to achieve empowerment;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the details of the sops and exemptions being given under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Hon'ble Finance Minister announced on 15.05.2020 a ₹ 1 lakh crore Agri Infrastructure Fund for farm-gate infrastructure for farmers. Accordingly, Central Sector Scheme of Financing Facility under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund was approved by Cabinet on 08.07.2020.

The scheme shall provide a medium - long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest management Infrastructure and community farming assets through interest subvention and financial support. The duration of the scheme shall be from FY2020 to FY2029 (10 years).

Under the scheme, ₹ 1 lakh crore will be provided by banks and financial institutions as loans to Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), Marketing Cooperative Societies, Farmer Producers Organizations (FPOs), Self Help Groups (SHGs), Farmers, Joint Liability Groups (JLGs), Multipurpose Cooperative Societies, Agri-entrepreneurs, Startups and Central/State agency or Local Body sponsored Public-Private Partnership Project.

(c) All loans under this financing facility will have interest subvention of 3% per annum up to a limit of ₹ 2 crore. This subvention will be available for a maximum period of 7 years. Further, credit guarantee coverage will be available for eligible borrowers from this financing facility under Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises (CGTMSE) scheme for a loan up to ₹ 2 crore. The fee for this coverage will be paid by the Government. In case of FPOs the credit guarantee may be availed from the facility created under FPO promotion scheme of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DACFW). Moratorium for repayment under this financing facility may vary subject to minimum of 6 months and maximum of 2 years.

So far as progress under the scheme is concerned, the operational guidelines of the scheme have been circulated to all States/UTs on 17th July, 2020. Various meetings to quickly roll out the scheme have been held by DAC&FW with all States/UTs Governments and other stakeholders. Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with all twelve public sector banks and four private sector banks have been signed by DAC&FW. A portal for the scheme has been created. The scheme has been formally launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 09.08.2020 wherein only 30 days after Cabinet formally approved the scheme, the first in-principle sanction of ₹ 1128 crore was made to over 2,280 farmer societies by NABARD. So far NABARD has received 3055 proposals of PACs through State Cooperative Banks in 22 States for which in-principle sanction of ₹ 1568 crore has been accorded.

Remunerative prices for farmers' produces

653. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the midst of an economic slump, reflected through the tumbling of GDP figures for the first quarter of this financial year, agriculture has

emerged as the only bright spot thereby our country is expected to be heading towards another record harvest;

(b) if so, the steps that are being taken to ensure that the farmers get remunerative prices for their produce; and

(c) the measures that have been taken to encourage farmers towards continuing to maintain this trend in future too?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The growth of agriculture sector during first quarter of financial year 2020-21 has been estimated at 3.4%. As per data received, this year summer and kharif sowing is also at record level.

(b) and (c) To ensure remunerative prices to farmers, the Government in Union Budget for 2018-19 had announced the pre-determined principle to keep MSPs at levels of one and half times of the cost of production. In line with the above-mentioned principle, Government has recently (1st June, 2020) announced the increase in MSP for all mandated Kharif crops for marketing season 2020-21.

Further, Government keeps close watch on import of agriculture produce in the country and take necessary steps from time to time so as to restrict cheap import of agriculture produce and protect vulnerable farmers of the country by imposing minimum import price, increasing import duties, imposing quantitative restrictions on imports and restricting their import through licensing as and when required.

Moreover, to increase production, acreage of agricultural crops in the country, and encourage farmers, Government of India is implementing through State Governments, several schemes/programmes such as National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI), National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana, Soil Health Card, Scheme for formation of 10,000 Farmers Producers Organisations (FPOs), better insurance coverage to crops for risk mitigation through Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and e-NAM initiative to provide farmers an electronic transparent and competitive online trading platform. Further, the latest major intervention includes the launch of Kisan rail and the 'Atma Nirbhar Bharat - Agriculture' which includes comprehensive market reforms and creation of 'Agricultural Infrastructure Fund (AIF)' worth ₹ 1 lakh crores.

Beneficial cropping patterns

654. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to advise farmers about the most beneficial cropping patterns using real-time and historical data about demand and supply of agricultural produce; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the works being done by various administrative and scientific agencies of Government?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The cropping pattern is dependent on various factors *viz.* agro-climatic conditions of the region, availability of resources, market forces, socio-economic conditions of the farmers, demand and supply of agricultural produce etc. Accordingly, Government of India has been emphasizing promotion of various crops/cropping system *viz.* rice, wheat, pulses, coarse cereals, nutri cereals and commercial crops under National Food Security Mission (NFSM), oilseeds under NFSM-Oilseeds, horticultural crops under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH). The new technologies on crops/cropping pattern are demonstrated at the farmers' field through State Department of Agriculture/Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)/State Agricultural Universities (SAUs)/Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) etc. and are creating awareness among farmers to choose appropriate crops/cropping system.

ICAR-Indian Institute of Farming Systems Research, Modipuram is undertaking extensive research (on-station research) and technology validation through farmers' participatory research (on-farm research) on crop diversification under the aegis of AICRP-Integrated Farming Systems (AICRP-IFS) in 25 States/Union Territory with the participation of 34 State Agricultural Universities and 1 Central University.

A study on "Identification of cropping system module for different farming system" at 36 locations through AICRP on Integrated Farming Systems has been conducted in 31 districts in 20 States.

The Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare has organized seven Agro Climatic Zonal Conferences with the State Governments, ICAR, Agricultural Universities, KVKs during the month of September, 2020 for better planning of cropping systems.

Success rate of E-NAM

655. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the biggest factors hindering farmers' profitability is the lack of direct access to markets that offer the right value for their produce;

(b) whether it is also a fact that middlemen eat into the profits of farmers from sales; and

(c) the present status and success rate of the electronic National Agriculture Market (eNAM) which is supposed to help farmers sell directly to users, thereby ensuring that they get the right price for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Agriculture Marketing being a State subject, wholesale marketing of agriculture produce is generally carried out through a network of regulated Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) markets promoted by respective Government of State/Union Territories (UTs) under their respective State/UT APMC Act. Central Government plays a supportive role in agricultural marketing. Small and marginal farmers sometime face difficulty in direct access to markets due to varied reasons like small amount of marketable surplus, distant markets and stringent regulatory provisions under State APMC Acts limiting direct purchase of produce by end user from farmers from farm gate and local godowns/warehouses. The lack of development of integrated supply chain and distant markets in some areas give rise to intermediation whereby intermediaries buy from farmers thus sometimes affecting farmers share in consumer price.

In order to improve and facilitate better market accessibility of farmers to markets, Government of India has been constantly persuading State/UT Governments to adopt market reforms to promote alternative marketing channels such as private markets, direct marketing, contract farming, development of Gramin Agriculture Market (GrAMs) closer to farm gates as well as development of integrated supply chain infrastructure. Model APMC Act was also promoted.

The Government of India has notified an Ordinance namely "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020" on 5th June, 2020

to promote freedom of choice of trade with farmers while promoting barrier-free inter-State and intra-State trade in farmers produce.

The Government also notified an Ordinance namely "The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020, on 5th June, 2020 to provide for a national framework on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri-business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or large retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner.

Further, in pursuance to the announcement of Atmnirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan Package, the Government has approved under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of ₹ 1,00,000 crore to provide a medium-long term debt financing facility for investment in viable projects for post-harvest market infrastructure including warehousing facility and community farming assets through incentives and financial support.

Government of India has also been promoting storage, cold storage, cold chain and other marketing and value addition infrastructure through its scheme of Agriculture Marketing Infrastructure (AMI), Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) etc.

(c) The Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme, an online virtual trading platform, to provide farmers with opportunity to directly sell their produce at remunerative prices through competitive online bidding system. So far, 1000 wholesale regulated markets across 18 States and 3 Union Territories (UTs) have been integrated with e-NAM platform. Tradable parameters for 175 commodities have been promoted for trade in e-NAM platform.

As on 31.08.2020, a total of 1.67 crore farmers, 1.44 lakh traders and 83,958 commission agents and 1722 Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) have been registered on e-NAM platform. A total trade value of ₹ 1,04,313 crore has been recorded on e-NAM platform.

Steps taken to make agriculture sustainable

656. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government needs to accelerate its efforts to ensure that it reaches its goal of empowering farmers to decide what crop to sow, and making agriculture sustainable; and

(b) if so, the steps that have been taken in the last three years in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The Government has already taken various steps to accelerate the adoption of suitable crops and their varieties with other improved technologies through several schemes at farmers fields across the country to achieve sustainable agriculture.

The National Food Security Mission (NFSM) scheme is being implemented in all the 28 States and Union Territories of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh with the objectives of increasing foodgrains production through area expansion and productivity enhancement in a sustainable manner, restoring soil fertility and productivity at the individual farm level and enhancing farm level economy to restore confidence amongst the farmers. Through the State Governments/UTs, assistance is being provided to the farmers on latest crop production and protection technologies, cropping system based demonstrations, production and distribution of site specific newly released varieties/hybrids/stress tolerant/climate resilient/bio-fortified varieties, Integrated Nutrient and Pest Management techniques, improved farm implements/tools/resource conservation machineries and water saving devices and capacity building of farmers through trainings during each cropping season.

The Government is also implementing Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) a sub-scheme of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) which intended to address the constraints limiting the productivity of rice based cropping systems in abundantly available natural resource rich region of Eastern India comprising seven States namely, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Eastern Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal.

Further, Crop Diversification Programme is being implemented in Original Green Revolution States *viz.*, Punjab, Haryana and Western Uttar Pradesh as a sub-scheme of RKVY to divert the area of water guzzling paddy crop to alternate crops like pulses, oilseeds, coarse cereals, nutri-cereals, cotton and agro forestry.

In addition, Targeting Rice Fallow Area (TRFA) programme under NFSM is being implemented in 11 States to encourage farmers to cultivate pulses and oilseeds in rice fallow areas to enhance production and the farm level income.

Strengthening of ICAR

657. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), in conjunction with its network of over 700 Agricultural Universities or Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), has been at the forefront as a hub for knowledge and resources on all aspects of agriculture; and

(b) if so, the steps that have been taken to strengthen them in the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Yes, Sir. The Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) under Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), GOI is the apex organisation to promote Agricultural Research and Development in the country. National Agricultural Research System (NARS) under DARE/ICAR consists of 103 Agricultural Research Institutes, 75 Agricultural Universities, 82 All India Coordinated Research Projects/Network Projects and 11 Agriculture Technology Application Research Institutes ably supported by a network of 721 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) established at the district level and mandated with technology assessment and demonstration for wider application and capacity development of the farmers. The organisation has played crucial role as a hub for knowledge and technology resources to promote agricultural research, education, frontline extension and capacity development activities in the country, and to make the country self-reliant in agriculture sector.

(b) To accelerate the development of new and improved crops, improved crop health and sustainable farming practices Nanaji Deshmukh Plant Phenomics Center for research was established at IARI, Pusa, New Delhi. Towards creation of new state of art infrastructure, Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar was upgraded to Dr. Rajendra Prasad Central Agricultural University. Two new institutes on the lines of Indian Agricultural Research Institute - Indian Agricultural Research Institute - Jharkhand and Indian Agricultural Research Institute - Assam were established. New colleges were started under Central Agricultural University, Imphal and Rani Laxmibai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi. Mahatma Gandhi Integrated Farming System Research Institute was established at Motihari, Bihar to provide holistic solution for the farming system in the flood prone areas. Besides these, 4 new Regional Research Stations of

Horticultural Institutes were opened which include; ICAR-CISH, Lucknow, at Malda (WB), ICAR-CITH, Srinagar at Dirang (Arunachal Pradesh), ICAR-DFR, Pune at Kadiyam (Andhra Pradesh) and ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur at Viswanath Chariali (Assam). To improve the outreach of the ICAR among farming community of the country, 51 new Krishi Vigyan Kendras were established during the last 3 years taking the total number of KVKs upto 721. The research programmes of ICAR/NARS are regularly strengthened, re-structured, re-oriented and prioritized with thrust on enhancing production and productivity for optimum and sustainable utilization of resources through proven technological interventions to realize the full production potential in all areas of agriculture and to address the critical research gaps.

Assistance for bee-keeping activities

658. SHRI VAIKO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has made any efforts to promote bee-keeping activities in the country;
- (b) if so, the total amount earmarked for these activities in the last three years and in the current year;
- (c) the number of bee-keepers who would benefit by these efforts; and
- (d) the details of assistance provided to them in respect of developing infrastructure, capacity building, marketing and export support?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The following Ministries/Departments/Organizations are involved in promoting beekeeping activities in the country:—

- (i) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of India is implementing "Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), a centrally sponsored scheme, *w.e.f.* 2014-15, for holistic growth of the horticulture sector in the country. Under MIDH, among others, Bee-keeping activities are being promoted under the component of "Pollination support through Bee-keeping". Scheme is being implemented by the State

Departments of Horticulture/Agriculture in the field. National Bee Board (NBB) is one of the National Level Agencies (NLAs) under MIDH. Year-wise details of funds earmarked for beekeeping under MIDH are given under:

(₹ in Lakhs)

Sl. No.	Year	Fund Earmarked under MIDH
1.	2017-18	5356.56
2.	2018-19	4950.66
3.	2019-20	3523.46
4.	2020-21	2985.25

About 20,000 beekeepers have been benefitted under MIDH through NBB. Further, all the bee-keepers/farmers in the project areas are also being benefitted under MIDH through State Departments of Horti.

Further, Government of India has also approved a new Central Sector Scheme entitled "National Bee-keeping & Honey Mission (NBHM)" for overall promotion and development of scientific beekeeping in mission mode to achieve the goal of "Sweet Revolution" in the country by giving thrust on production and productivity, infrastructure development and R&D under NBHM for 2 years (2018-19 & 2019-20). An amount of ₹ 25.00 crores was earmarked during the year 2019-20.

NBHM has also been approved for continuation of 3 years (2020-21 to 2022-23) with funds of ₹ 500.00 crores announced by the Government of India for "bee-keeping initiatives" under Aatma Nirbhar Bharat Programme. ₹ 150.00 crores have been earmarked for the year 2020-21 under NBHM. All the bee-keepers/farmers will be benefitted under the scheme.

(ii) **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), DAC&FW:** RKVY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme under which grants in aid for the project proposals for promotion and development of bee-keeping including capacity building, infrastructure, etc. are being funded. Funds under the scheme are being earmarked/allotted as per the proposals received from the State Governments. The details of the total funds earmarked under RKVY for last three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and for the current year 2020-21 are given below:

Sl. No.	Year	Funds earmarked (₹ in crores)
1.	2017-18	28.56
2.	2018-19	0.28
3.	2019-20	0.02
4.	2020-21	*

* Proposals are in pipeline.

All the bee-keepers/farmers in the project area are benefitted under the scheme.

(iii) **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare:** ICAR is doing R&D and capacity building programmes for promotion and development of bee-keeping.

(iv) **Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME):** The scheme "Honey Mission" was launched and implemented by KVIC, MSME since 2017-18 to promote bee-keeping activities in the country. Details of the total funds earmarked for Honey Mission program for last three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and for the current year 2020-21 are given below:—

Sl. No.	Year	Funds earmarked (₹ in crores)
1.	2017-18	600.00
2.	2018-19	6,335.00
3.	2019-20	1,300.00
4.	2020-21	6,300.00
TOTAL		14,535.00

Likely beneficiaries under the scheme are 18,635.

(v) **Ministry of Tribal Affairs:** Implementing scheme of "Institutional Support for Development and Marketing of Tribal Products/Produce" under which funds are released for multiple activities for welfare of Tribal Beneficiaries.

Details of the total funds earmarked under the scheme for last three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) and for the current year 2020-21 are given below:—

Sl. No.	Year	Funds earmarked (₹ in crores)
1.	2017-18	**
2.	2018-19	219.00
3.	2019-20	196.98
4.	2020-21	**

** Scheme is demand driven. No demand received during the 2017-18 and demand has also not been received in 2020-21 till date.

Likely beneficiaries under the scheme are 1250.

Ministry is also providing Minimum Support Price (MSP) @ ₹ 225/kg for Wild Honey and supporting in development of value chain under the scheme of Mechanism for Marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP).

(vi) **Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change:** Honey bees fall under the category of biological resources under the provisions of the Biological Diversity Act, 2002. In order to promote honey bee cultivation, the Act exempts traditional practices in use of 'bee keeping' from the purview of commercial utilization.

(vii) **Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Ministry of Commerce and Industry:** APEDA has been providing financial assistance to its registered exporters including exporters of honey under following three components:-

1. Export Infrastructure Development
2. Quality Development
3. Market Development

Assistance of ₹ 23.34 lakhs and ₹ 17.20 lakhs during the years 2016-17 and 2020-21, respectively, have been provided to the exporters under the Component of "Quality Development" and sub- component: "Laboratory for export testing and in-house lab equipments" for promotion of export of Honey.

No exporter has availed financial assistance from APEDA for the years 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20.

(d) As mentioned above in (b) and (c) part of the question, the funds earmarked in above mentioned schemes also includes funds for infrastructural development, capacity building, marketing and export support.

Procurement of oilseeds and pulses

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

(a) the total quantity of oil-seeds procured for the years 2019-20 and 20-21 till date, State-wise;

(b) the total quantity of pulses procured for the years 2018-19 till date, State-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry has studied the average delay in payment to farmers and if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The total quantity of oil-seeds procured for the years 2019-20 and 20-21 till date, State-wise is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) The total quantity of pulses procured for the years 2018-19 till date, State-wise is given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) No such study has been conducted. However, the payments to the oilseeds and pulses farmers are made by the procuring agencies within three days from the receipt of their produce.

Statement-I

*Details of oilseeds procured at MSP under PM-AASHA during
2019-20 and 2020-21*

Year/Commodity/State	Quantity Procured (IN MTs)	MSP Value (₹ in Lakh)
1	2	3
2019-20	1824164.31	830206.79
Groundnut	721205.04	367090.75
Andhra Pradesh	21178.14	10779.67
Gujarat	500438.91	254723.41

1	2	3
Karnataka	3830.80	1949.88
Odisha	130.76	63.94
Rajasthan	193080.23	98277.84
Uttar Pradesh	2546.20	1296.02
Mustard Seed	1088945.26	457357.01
Gujarat	45449.75	19088.90
Haryana	250985.00	105413.70
Madhya Pradesh	182483.29	76642.98
Rajasthan	608571.47	255600.02
Uttar Pradesh	1455.75	611.42
Soyabean	10677.68	3961.42
Maharashtra	26.23	9.73
Telangana	10651.45	3951.69
Sunflower Seed	3336.33	1797.61
Haryana	2375.00	1279.65
Odisha	211.33	113.86
Telangana	750.00	404.10
2020-21	811122.06	359700.48
Groundnut	2011.34	1023.77
Odisha	2011.34	1023.77
Mustard Seed	803843.64	355700.81
Gujarat	32759.40	14496.03
Haryana	308700.65	136600.04
Madhya Pradesh	115169.13	50962.34
Rajasthan	346895.26	153501.15

1	2	3
Uttar Pradesh	319.20	141.25
Sunflower Seed	5267.08	2975.90
Haryana	3446.00	1946.99
Odisha	121.08	68.41
Telangana	1700.00	960.50

Statement-II

Details of Pulses procured at MSP under PM-AASHA for the year 2018-19 till date (as on 08.09.2020)

Year/Commodity/State	Quantity Procured (in MTs)	MSP Value (₹ in Lakh)
1	2	3
2018-19	4175316.02	2014559.84
Gram	2769430.16	1218549.27
Andhra Pradesh	91982.65	40472.37
Gujarat	91000.00	40040.00
Karnataka	135422.10	59585.72
Madhya Pradesh	1611972.09	709267.72
Maharashtra	194726.89	85679.83
Rajasthan	579972.38	255187.85
Telangana	50000.00	22000.00
Uttar Pradesh	14354.05	6315.78
Masoor	246943.85	104951.14
Madhya Pradesh	233245.61	99129.38
Uttar Pradesh	13698.24	5821.75
Moong	306960.29	213505.72

1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	1846.25	1063.19
Gujarat	1978.60	1380.07
Haryana	224.90	156.87
Karnataka	28950.00	20192.63
Madhya Pradesh	3037.46	2118.63
Maharashtra	18230.48	12715.76
Odisha	2675.11	1491.37
Rajasthan	236277.28	164803.40
Tamil Nadu	364.90	254.52
Telangana	13375.31	9329.28
Toor	291000.87	165142.99
Andhra Pradesh	4680.27	2656.05
Gujarat	32541.70	18467.41
Karnataka	125938.10	71469.87
Madhya Pradesh	3154.96	1790.44
Maharashtra	53985.94	30637.02
Tamil Nadu	399.90	226.94
Telangana	70300.00	39895.25
Urad	560980.85	312410.72
Andhra Pradesh	79656.00	43024.10
Gujarat	9409.75	5269.46
Karnataka	10.10	5.66
Madhya Pradesh	345000.00	193200.00
Maharashtra	11374.09	6369.49
Odisha	4216.77	2277.06

1	2	3
Rajasthan	77444.94	43369.17
Tamil Nadu	1547.86	835.84
Telangana	2578.39	1403.90
Uttar Pradesh	29742.95	16656.05
2019-20	1564340.95	828445.35
Gram	776406.21	358699.67
Andhra Pradesh	3470.85	1603.53
Gujarat	17914.75	8276.61
Haryana	207.60	95.91
Karnataka	33.40	15.43
Madhya Pradesh	576745.58	266456.46
Maharashtra	22392.32	10345.25
Rajasthan	120398.31	55624.02
Telangana	34500.00	15939.00
Uttar Pradesh	743.40	343.45
Masoor	56237.87	25166.45
Madhya Pradesh	56075.02	25093.57
Uttar Pradesh	162.85	72.88
Moong	166051.49	116871.05
Andhra Pradesh	13622.35	9510.54
Gujarat	2071.90	1445.15
Haryana	1065.90	751.46
Karnataka	5874.21	4141.32
Maharashtra	4272.23	3011.92
Odisha	6148.19	4288.36

1	2	3
Rajasthan	121669.07	85776.69
Tamil Nadu	5452.74	3803.80
Telangana	5874.90	4141.80
Toor	547272.15	317417.85
Andhra Pradesh	50223.18	29129.44
Gujarat	13140.25	7621.35
Karnataka	227500.00	131950.00
Maharashtra	204183.13	118426.22
Odisha	98.34	57.04
Tamil Nadu	502.25	291.31
Telangana	51625.00	29942.50
Urad	18373.23	10290.33
Andhra Pradesh	12797.05	7166.35
Gujarat	88.85	50.64
Maharashtra	10.11	5.76
Odisha	1103.00	617.68
Rajasthan	26.50	15.11
Tamil Nadu	3385.92	1896.18
Telangana	961.80	538.61
2020-21	2156861.47	1053010.86
Gram	2148294.96	1047293.79
Andhra Pradesh	127915.10	62358.61
Gujarat	124031.55	60465.38
Haryana	10636.46	5185.27
Karnataka	101843.45	49648.68

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	706313.62	344327.89
Maharashtra	375739.72	183173.11
Rajasthan	615716.88	300161.98
Telangana	47600.00	23205.00
Uttar Pradesh	38498.18	18767.86
Masoor	1433.88	688.26
Madhya Pradesh	1433.68	688.17
Uttar Pradesh	0.20	0.10
Moong	7132.63	5028.81
Odisha	7011.38	4943.02
Tamil Nadu*	121.25	85.78

* Procurement ongoing

Implementation of PM-Kisan Scheme

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

(a) the total number of eligible beneficiaries enrolled by States/UT administrations under PM-KISAN Scheme since 2019 till date;

(b) the total number of eligible farmer details uploaded in the PM-KISAN portal since 2019 till date, State-wise; and

(c) the total number of grievances resolved by State and District Grievance Redressal Committees since 2019 till date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Yojna, the responsibility of identifying the landholder farmer family eligible for benefit under the scheme and uploading the data of the eligible beneficiaries on the PM-KISAN Portal is that of the States/UT Administrations. The total number of eligible beneficiaries enrolled/uploaded in the PM-KISAN portal as on

17-09-2020 is 11,07,62,287. The State-wise details of eligible beneficiaries uploaded in the PM-KISAN portal since 2019 till date is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Under the scheme, the States/UTs are required to set up Grievance Redressal Committees for looking into the grievances related to implementation of the scheme. No data of grievances received/disposed of by them is, however, maintained centrally.

Statement

*State-wise details of eligible beneficiaries uploaded in the PM-KISAN portal
(As on 17-09-2020)*

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of SMF
1.	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	17024
2.	Andhra Pradesh	5695864
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	98169
4.	Assam	3120342
5.	Bihar	7572620
6.	Chandigarh	462
7.	Chhattisgarh	3007716
8.	Delhi	15651
9.	Goa	10350
10.	Gujarat	6037282
11.	Haryana	1859080
12.	Himachal Pradesh	935046
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1147160
14.	Jharkhand	2663406
15.	Karnataka	5409628
16.	Kerala	3502261
17.	Ladakh	14997
18.	Lakshadweep	1982

Sl. No.	State	Total No. of SMF
19.	Madhya Pradesh	8158150
20.	Maharashtra	11014738
21.	Manipur	573095
22.	Meghalaya	177220
23.	Mizoram	151729
24.	Nagaland	209425
25.	Odisha	4047444
26.	Puducherry	10926
27.	Punjab	2373658
28.	Rajasthan	7149464
29.	Sikkim	12902
30.	Tamil Nadu	4863193
31.	Telangana	3863211
32.	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	14558
33.	Tripura	220464
34.	Uttar Pradesh	25952664
35.	Uttarakhand	860406
36.	West Bengal	0
GRAND TOTAL		110762287

Registration under Price Deficiency Payment Scheme

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

(a) the total number of oilseed growers registered under the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) since 2018-19 till date, State-wise; and

(b) the total quantity of oilseeds procured by private players since 2018-19 till date?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Since 2018-19, a number of 6,20,945 oilseed growers have been registered under the Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS) only in the state of Madhya Pradesh during Kharif 2018-19 session for Soyabean crop.

(b) Oilseeds have not been procured by private players since 2018-19 till date under the scheme Private Procurement Stockist Scheme (PPSS).

Turnaround plan for oilseed sector

662. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken for a turnaround plan for oilseed sector in the country in the last five years and the results achieved; and

(b) the steps being taken for a tech-driven boost to farm output, State-wise and crop-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) In order to increase the production and productivity of oilseed crops, Government of India implemented National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP) from 2014-15 to 2017-18 and the same was merged with National Food Security Mission (NFSM) as NFSM-Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NFSM-OS&OP) from 2018-19. The year wise area, production and yield of oilseeds in the country in the last five years is as under:—

(Area: million ha, Production: million tones, Yield: Kg/ha)

Scheme	Year	Area	Production	Yield
NMOOP	2015-16	26.09	25.25	968
	2016-17	26.18	31.28	1195
	2017-18	24.51	31.46	1284
NFSM	2018-19	24.79	31.52	1271
(OS&OP)	2019-20*	27.04	33.42	1236

* 4th Advance Estimates.

Under NFSM-Oilseeds, various incentives like production and distribution of seeds, supply of seed minikits, plant protection equipments/chemicals, micronutrients, supply of improved farm implements, irrigation devices, block demonstrations, training of farmers, etc. are being provided to the farmers through state governments for increasing production and productivity of nine oilseed crops *i.e.* Rapeseed and Mustard, Soybean, Groundnut, Sesame, Sunflower, Safflower, Niger, Linseeds and Caster.

Impact of banning pesticides

663. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to ban some pesticides;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether pesticide manufacturers claim that such steps would increase prices four-fold for Indian farmers, and result in business losses worth ₹16,000 crore; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and present status in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Government has published a draft notification S.O.1512 (E) dated 14.05.2020 for banning 27 pesticides. Among these 27 pesticides; 7 are herbicides, 8 are fungicides and rest 12 are insecticides.

(c) Objections and suggestions from various stakeholders/companies/institutions/associations/farmers etc. have been received on the draft notification.

(d) The objections and suggestions that have been received from the stakeholders on draft notifications are being examined considering all aspects related to technical, scientific requirements, alternatives available, farmer interest, safety, toxicity and efficacy concerns, updated status of study and submission of data, ban status in other countries, etc. and a final decision will be taken accordingly.

Timely settlement of claims under PMFBY

664. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has stressed the need for States to release premium subsidy in time to ensure timely settlement of claims under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the response received from States so far;

(c) whether Government reviewed the implementation of the scheme recently and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government is carrying out awareness activities to disseminate information among all farmers, if so, the details thereof and the results so yielded, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. Delay in release of share in premium subsidy by some States/UTs is one of the main reasons for delay in settlement on claims under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

The Operational Guidelines of PMFBY envisage timely release of State Government share in premium subsidy to ensure timely settlement of claims. However, settlement of claims have been delayed due to delays in release of their share by some States like Assam, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Gujarat etc. in one or more season.

This Department is regularly monitoring the implementation of PMFBY including timely settlement of claims through one to one/weekly meetings and weekly video conference with all stakeholders. Defaulting States/UTs are also being asked in writing from time to time to release their respective share in premium subsidy. Moreover, provisions of penal interest @12% were made in the Revised Operational Guidelines for delay in release of their share in premium subsidy by States/UTs. Further, as per revamped guidelines *w.e.f.* Kharif 2020, the states delaying the release of subsidy beyond stipulated timelines cannot participate in upcoming seasons.

(c) Yes Sir. After detailed discussions with stakeholders, Government has recently approved the revamping of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) for implementation from Kharif 2020 season. Changes made in the provisions/parameters of these schemes are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(d) To increase the coverage under the PMFBY, the Operational Guidelines of the PMFBY provides for creation of awareness among farmers. Accordingly, Government has taken several initiatives including active involvement of all stakeholders especially States, implementing insurance companies, financial institutions and Common Service

Centre (CSCs) network for conduct of publicity campaign/awareness programmes including organization of camps in the rural areas to build farmer awareness about crop insurance schemes. Since, the scheme has been made voluntary for all the farmers from Kharif 2020, the behavioral change communication activities were also conducted through various media tools viz. Print, electronic, Digital and Social Media etc. Mobile Information, Education and Communication (IEC) vehicles were used to motivate farmers during enrollment campaign carried out for Kharif 2020 at grass root level.

As enshrined in the Operational Guidelines of the scheme, insurance companies have been asked to mandatorily utilize 0.5% of gross premium collected by them for IEC activities at grass root level to build overall insurance literacy of farmers to take informed decisions.

Apart from this, other activities for awareness generation involve the publicity of features and benefits of the scheme through advertisements in leading National/local News Papers, telecast through audio-visual media, distribution of pamphlets in local languages, participation in agriculture fairs/mela/goshti, dissemination of SMS through Kisan Portal/national crop insurance portal and conduct of workshops/ trainings of State officials, financial institutions and farmers.

The integration of crop loss intimation feature in Crop Insurance App has been facilitating farmers to intimate their crop loss due to localised calamity within the prescribed time limit.

The Government has also produced a series of audio-visual material on key features of PMFBY and promoted through a dynamic social and digital media campaign during the lockdown period due Covid-19.

Due to these efforts made by the Central Government, State Governments and other stakeholders coverage under the scheme has been increased to 30% of the Gross Cropped Area (GCA) from 23% in 2015-16 under erstwhile schemes. Participation of non-loanee farmers have also increased from 5% under erstwhile schemes to 37% under PMFBY. These awareness activities also leads to following qualitative and quantitative changes in all stakeholders including farmers in most of the implementing States especially in Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan etc.:

- Increased awareness level of farmers and other stakeholders about channels and procedure of enrolment, risks covered, premium rates of different crops, procedure for reporting claims, and claim settlement.

- Increased coordination and Synergy between State Government, banks, CSCs, Panchayati Raj Institutions and the respective Insurance Companies.
- Increased awareness amongst farmers on doubts and myths about the scheme.
- Ensured retention of loanee farmers in the Scheme especially in complete voluntary regime from Kharif 2020.
- Effective implementation of Grievance Redressal Mechanism within stipulated time frame.
- Increased level of farmers trust in the PMFBY.
- Created large number of opinion makers and master trainers through online training at grass root level to ensure continuous sensitization of farmers.
- Effective use of social and digital media to disseminate key features of PMFBY amongst online community and other stakeholders.

Statement

Changes made in the provisions/parameters of PMFBY and RWBCIS

w.e.f. Kharif 2020 season

- To address the demand of farmers, the scheme has been made voluntary for all farmers. However, there is no change in farmers' share of premium.
- The premium subsidy sharing pattern between Centre and North Eastern States has been changed from 50:50 to 90:10. This has been done to allow more States to notify the scheme and existing States to notify more crops and areas to facilitate greater coverage of farmers under the scheme. For remaining States, subsidy sharing pattern will continue as 50:50.
- To address the issue of high premium rate for few crops/areas due to adverse selection, the requisite central share of premium subsidy (90:10 for North Eastern States and 50:50 for remaining States) will be provided for areas/crops upto gross premium rate of 25% for irrigated and 30% for un-irrigated areas/crops. Besides, alternate risk mitigation measures will be explored for these areas/crops.

- Insurance companies will now be selected by the States for 3 years in a go instead of one year thereby increasing their commitment and accountability to the farmers.
- Option has been given to the States to choose the notional value of average yield or the Scale of Finance as sum insured in the interest of the farming community.
- In view of the demand of many states, option has been given to states to choose additional risk covers besides shortfall in yield-based cover depending upon the local weather challenges and requirements of the farmers.
- The states delaying the release of subsidy beyond stipulated timelines can not participate in upcoming seasons.
- Two-step process of crop yield estimation using weather and satellite indicators etc. is adopted, which will help in early assessment of loss
- Use of smart sampling technique through satellite data for crop cutting experiments by some states has shown increased efficiency in implementation. This will now be universalized.
- The delay by some States in submission of crop yield data will now be suitably addressed using technological solutions.
- Provision has been made for earmarked administrative expenses @ 3% for strengthening the infrastructure and technology usage for better delivery of the scheme.
- Insurance companies have been asked to mandatorily utilize 0.5% of gross premium collected by them for IEC activities at grass root level to build overall insurance literacy of farmers to take informed decisions.
- Use of more technology for transparency and quick assessment of crop yield/loss for early settlement of claims.

Compensatory fund for locusts attack

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

- (a) the details of the loss to farmers due to locust attack this year;

(b) whether Government is planning to establish more Locust Circle Offices and temporary camps;

(c) whether there is any proposal to set up any compensatory fund for farmers who lose their crops in such locust attacks; and

(d) the manner in which Government is planning to control the agricultural crop from future locust attacks?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) During 2020-21, the locust incursions were reported in 10 States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Haryana and Uttarakhand, where operations were undertaken in coordination with State Governments for locust control. State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported no crop losses in their States.

State Governments of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand have reported crop damage of less than 33% in 6520 ha, 4400 ha, 806 ha, 488 ha and 267 ha respectively due to locust attack this year.

Initially during May-June 2020, Government of Rajasthan reported crop damage of 33% and more due to locust attack in 2235 hectare area in Bikaner, 140 hectare in Hanumangarh and 1027 hectare area in Sri Ganganagar; but now, as per revised report, it has been stated that earlier submitted data was related to initial stage of crop sown in Kharif season and this area of crop loss has been re-sown by farmers.

(b) Locust attack is not a regular phenomenon and such large scale incursions occur characteristically in cycles of heightened activity only for a couple of years followed by long periods of inactivity. The present locust attack is the example of one such cycle, when locust migrated to India last year, after a gap of 26 years. Locust Circle Offices of Government of India primarily monitor, survey and control Desert Locust in Scheduled Desert Area of Rajasthan and Gujarat in coordination with the State Governments. Further Locust Circle Offices are also involved in capacity building activities of State Government officials and farmers with regard to locust control. Beyond the Scheduled Desert Area, the State Governments through the District Administration and the State Agriculture Department undertake locust control activities in the cropped area of the respective States. However, to tackle this year's heightened locust activity and for effective control of locust beyond Scheduled Desert Areas,

temporary control camps of Locust Circle Offices were established in Shivpuri, Neemuch, Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh; Jhansi in Uttar Pradesh; Dhanana, Ramgarh, Dausa, Jaipur, Ajmer, Chittorgarh, Bhilwara, Sikar, Jhunjhunu, Sujangarh, Taranagar, Sardar shahar in Rajasthan and Fazilka in Punjab as per requirement. Further, the Central Integrated Pest Management Centres (CIPMCs) of Government of India situated in each State are also involved in technical support for training, capacity building activities of State Government officials and farmers with regard to locust survey and control. In this background, there is no proposal to establish more Locusts Circle Offices and temporary camps presently.

(c) Pest attack is notified as a natural disaster by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and States can undertake relief operations under State Disaster Response Fund as per established procedure and the norms for assistance. Agriculture input subsidy may be provided by States under State Disaster Response Fund if crop loss is 33% and above as per norms and admissibility. Further, Crop losses for farmers due to Locust attacks are already covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). Therefore, there is not any proposal to set up any compensatory fund for farmers, who lose their crops in such locusts' attack.

(d) Government of India is working on the strengthening of ground and aerial spray capabilities, Human Resources and strengthening to States.

- To strengthen locust control capabilities, additional 60 equipments were procured and presently 104 control teams with spray equipment mounted vehicles were utilized for ground control.
- 55 vehicles were procured to strengthen ground control potential.
- More than 200 Central Government personnel were deployed in locust control operations.
- Drones were used for locust control for the first time in the world after finalizing protocols and one Bell 206-B3 helicopter was also used for locust control by aerial spraying.
- The Indian Air Force, Mi 17 helicopter with customized aerial spray equipment was used for aerial spray.
- Government of India has issued a supply order of 5 CDA atomizer kits for aerial spray capabilities from a UK Based Company M/s Micron. These kits

are to be delivered in October 2020 and will be fitted in Indian Air Force helicopters (as agreed by them) and will be used for aerial operations for control of desert locusts.

- Review meetings and VCs were organized with State Governments and locust control preparedness was strategized, capacity building and awareness campaigns were organized in districts, blocks and villages, advisories were issued, training programs and mock drills were conducted. When Covid-19 struck, awareness literature and videos were shared through virtual medium to orient both functionaries and farmers. Control rooms were established in Locust offices and District Headquarters, and WhatsApp groups were created in all affected States for real time exchange of information and coordination.
- Ministry of Home Affairs has included admissibility of hiring of vehicles, tractors with spray equipments for spraying of plant protection chemicals for pest control; hiring of water tankers; and purchase of plant protection chemicals for locust control under new norms of assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). This has also facilitated the State in their locust control operations.
- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of ₹ 2.86 crores for 800 tractors mounted spray equipments was sanctioned to Rajasthan. Under RKVY sanction of ₹ 14 crores for hiring of vehicles, tractors and for purchase of pesticides has also been issued.
- Gujarat States has been sanctioned ₹ 1.80 crores under RKVY for capacity enhancement for locust control.
- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of 2.20 crore has been sanctioned for purchase of tractors and spray equipments for Uttar Pradesh.

Promoting rural retail markets

666. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income has recommended that steps should be taken for promoting rural retail markets through upgrading the existing rural periodical markets as Primary Rural Agricultural Markets;

- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has taken/is taking the necessary policy initiatives in this regard; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The Committee on doubling farmers' income has recommended that "the effectiveness of an efficient marketing system can be gained by upgrading the existing more than 20,000 rural periodical markets as Primary Rural (grameen) Agricultural Markets (GRAMs)".

(c) and (d) The Government has already taken measures for development of physical infrastructure/ basic facilities in existing rural haats under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS). The Government has also approved an Agri-Market Infrastructure Fund (AMIF) with a corpus of ₹ 2000 crore with National Bank for Agriculture & Rural Development (NABARD) for developing and upgrading agricultural marketing infrastructure in Gramin Agricultural Markets (GRAMs) and Agriculture Produce Market Committee (APMC) Markets and circulated the Scheme Guidelines to the States/Union Territories (UTs) for submission of proposals/ Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) to avail assistance under AMIF. Further Government has circulated a Operational Guideline on "Operation and Management of Gramin Agricultural Market" to States/UTs for smooth operation of GRAMs.

Suicide by farmers and agricultural labourers

667. SHRI MANAS RANJAN BHUNIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether many farmers and agricultural labourers have committed suicide in different States due to debt burden and other factors, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the numbers of farmers and agricultural labourers who committed suicide in 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports

on suicides upto 2019 are available on its website. The State-wise data on suicide committed by farmers due to indebtedness and bankruptcy during 2014 and 2015 is given in the Statement-I (*See below*). However, the data on suicide committed by farmers due to indebtedness and bankruptcy is not available from the year 2016 onward.

(b) The State-wise data on suicide committed by farmers and agricultural labourers during 2016 to 2019 is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise and year-wise details of Farmers suicide due to indebtedness and bankruptcy, for the year 2014 and 2015

Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015
1.	Andhra Pradesh	36	154
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3.	Assam	0	0
4.	Bihar	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	3
6.	Goa	0	0
7.	Gujarat	0	0
8.	Haryana	0	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1	0
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0
11.	Jharkhand	0	0
12.	Karnataka	51	946
13.	Kerala	5	1
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1	13
15.	Maharashtra	857	1293

16.	Manipur	0	0
Sl. No.	State/UT	2014	2015
17.	Meghalaya	0	0
18.	Mizoram	0	0
19.	Nagaland	0	0
20.	Odisha	1	2
21.	Punjab	3	51
22.	Rajasthan	0	0
23.	Sikkim	0	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	0	0
25.	Telangana	208	632
26.	Trjpura	0	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	0	2
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0
29.	West Bengal	0	0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0
31.	Chandigarh	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0
34.	Delhi	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		1163	3097

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau.

Statement-II

State-wise and year-wise details of Farmers suicide and Agricultural Labourers, for the year 2016-2019

State/UT		2016		2017		2018		2019	
		Farm Labourers	Farmers	Farm Labourers	Farmers	Farm Labourers	Farmers	Farm Labourers	Farmers
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	565	239	441	375	299	365	401	628
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	6	2	0	4	0	1	0
3.	Assam	64	6	46	3	50	5	81	26
4.	Bihar	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	97	585	217	285	285	182	266	233
6.	Goa	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
7.	Gujarat	378	30	129	4	111	21	115	3
8.	Haryana	250	0	109	0	104	0	219	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	14	0	3	4	12	5	4	12
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	21	0	1	0	21	5	31	0

74 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

11.	Jharkhand	0	3	79	0	58	0	55	0	<i>Written Answers to</i>	<i>[18 September, 2020]</i>	<i>Unstarred Questions</i>	75
12.	Karnataka	867	1212	1003	1157	1040	1365	661	1331				
13.	Kerala	298	23	257	42	186	25	128	22				
14.	Madhya Pradesh	722	599	526	429	352	303	399	142				
15.	Maharashtra	1111	2550	1275	2426	1355	2239	1247	2680				
16.	Manipur	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0				
17.	Meghalaya	3	2	6	0	0	0	1	0				
18.	Mizoram	7	0	0	0	0	17	4	22				
19.	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0				
20.	Odisha	101	20	0	0	0	0	0	0				
21.	Punjab	48	232	48	243	94	229	63	239				
22.	Rajasthan	39	4	69	3	18	2	24	2				
23.	Sikkim	2	12	4	7	8	1	2	0				
24.	Tamil Nadu	345	36	369	19	395	6	421	6				
25.	Telangana	13	632	5	846	8	900	8	491				
26.	Tripura	18	4	15	0	10	0	38	0				

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	76
27.	Uttar Pradesh	115	69	93	110	174	80	153	108	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
28.	Uttarakhand	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
29.	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	3	0	2	0	4	0	5	
31.	Chandigarh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
36.	Puducherry	27	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		5109	6270	4700	5955	4586	5763	4324	5957	Unstarred Questions

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau.

Compensation to farmers for crop loss due to locust attack

†668. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that locust attack in many States of the country has proved destructive for the crops of farmers in this year;

(b) whether locust has totally damaged the crops of the farmers in many district of many States;

(c) the details of steps taken by Government to scare away or to kill locusts; and

(d) the assessment of loss of crops to farmers due to the attack of locusts and the details of compensation provided to the farmers therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) During 2010-21, the locust incursions were reported in 10 States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Haryana and Uttarakhand, where operations were undertaken in coordination with State Governments for locust control. State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported no crop losses in their States.

Initially during May-June 2020, Government of Rajasthan reported crop damage of 33% and more due to locust attack in 2235 hectare area in Bikaner, 140 hectare in Hanumangarh and 1027 hectare area in Sri Ganganagar; but now, as per revised report, it has been stated that earlier submitted data was related to initial stage of crop sown in Kharif season and this area of crop loss has been re-sown by farmers.

Government of Haryana has reported below 33% crop damage in approx. 6520 hectare area, Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported 10-15 percent damage in soybean crop in 4400 ha in Damoh district. State Government of Maharashtra has reported below 33% crop damage in 236 hectare area in Nagpur, 160 hectare in Bhandara,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

320 hectare in Gondiya and 89.9 hectare in Amravati districts. State Government of Uttarakhand has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 251 hectare in Udham Singh Nagar, 14 hectare in Bageshwar and 2 hectare in Pithoragarh districts. State Government of Uttar Pradesh government has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 481 hectare area in Jhansi and 07 hectare area of Sonbhadra district.

(c) Capabilities of Locust Circle Offices were strengthened through the following-

- To strengthen locust control capabilities, additional 60 equipments were procured and presently 104 control teams with spray equipment mounted vehicles were utilized for ground control.
- 55 vehicles were procured to strengthen ground control potential.
- More than 200 Central Government personnel were deployed in locust control operations.
- Drones were used for locust control for the first time in the world after finalizing protocols and one Bell 206-B3 helicopter was also used for locust control by aerial spraying.
- The Indian Air Force, Mi 17 helicopter with customized aerial spray equipment was used for aerial spray.
- Review meetings and VCs were organized with State Governments and locust control preparedness was strategized, capacity building and awareness campaigns were organized in districts, blocks and villages, advisories were issued, training programs and mock drills were conducted. When Covid-19 struck, awareness literature and videos were shared through virtual medium to orient both functionaries and farmers. Control rooms were established in Locust offices and District Headquarters, and WhatsApp groups were created in all affected States for real time exchange of information and coordination.
- Ministry of Home Affairs has included admissibility of hiring of vehicles, tractors with spray equipments for spraying of plant protection chemicals for pest control; hiring of water tankers; and purchase of plant protection chemicals for locust control under new norms of assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). This has also facilitated the State in their locust control operations.

- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of ₹ 2.86 crores for 800 tractors mounted spray equipments was sanctioned to Rajasthan. Under RKVY sanction of ₹ 14 crores for hiring of vehicles, tractors and for purchase of pesticides has also been issued.
- Gujarat States has been sanctioned ₹ 1.80 crores under RKVY for capacity enhancement for locust control.
- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of 2.20 crore has been sanctioned for purchase of tractors and spray equipments for Uttar Pradesh.

(d) Pest attack is notified as a natural disaster by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and States can undertake relief operations under State Disaster Response Fund as per established procedure and the norms for assistance.

Crop losses of farmers due to Locust attacks are also covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). The yield losses are assessed through Crop Cutting Experiments and compensation are given to insured farmers as per the provisions of the scheme.

Till now no State Government has reported distribution of relief to the farmers affected by locust attack for 2020-21. However, State Government of Rajasthan has informed that Girdawari/ survey work is underway for estimation of crop losses due to attack of locusts.

Marketing of perishable fruits and vegetables

669. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether due to lack of market for perishable fruits and vegetables, farmers have been forced to indulge in distress sale leading to a reduction in the price at the farm level and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether Government has recently formulated a scheme under Operation Green to prevent distress sale;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to develop model markets for marketing and sale of perishable commodities for better price realization to farmers and also to reduce wastages and affordability of products for consumers?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Agricultural marketing is a State subject and wholesale agricultural marketing is generally undertaken through the network of regulated wholesale markets, set up by respective State/Union territories (UTs) under the provision of respective State Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC) Act. The wholesale and retail prices of the agriculture produce including horticulture commodities depend on variety of factors at any given point of time such as demand and supply of the produce, climate conditions, perishable nature of the produce and availability of transport. The quality parameter also plays an important role in the price of an agricultural commodity.

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

In order to resolve the market accessibility of farmers and remunerative prices for their produce, Government of India has taken several steps like promoting policy reforms and providing assistance for setting up marketing and value addition infrastructure, reefer transportation facilities mobilizing farmers into Farmer Producer Organization and linking them to markets.

The Government had issued advisories to States/Union Territories (UTs) to facilitate Direct Marketing and allow trade-transactions outside the mandi-yards by liberalizing regulations to decongest the mandis as well as to facilitate direct buying of farmers' produce from their farm gate at remunerative prices.

Further, in order to develop economically sustainable Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) while facilitating adequate market and credit linkage, the Government of India has formulated a scheme "Formation and Promotion of 10,000 FPOs". The scheme has been launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 29.02.2020.

(b) and (c) Operation Greens Scheme, being implemented by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Government of India, has been extended from tomato, onion and

potato (TOP) crops to other notified horticulture crops for providing subsidy for their transportation and storage from surplus production area to major consumption centers for the period of six months on pilot basis.

The scheme guidelines were notified and uploaded on the website of Ministry of Food Processing Industries on 11.06.2020. Total 19 fruits and 14 vegetables have been notified under the Scheme. Under the scheme, there is a provision for subsidy at the rate of 50% of the cost of transportation of notified crops from surplus production cluster to consumption center; and/or hiring of appropriate storage facilities, in case their price in the notified production clusters meet any one of the following conditions:

- (i) Price fall below preceding 3 years' average market price at the time of harvest;
- (ii) Price fall more than 15% compared to last year market price at the time of harvest;
- (iii) Price fall less than the benchmark price for procurement, if any, fixed by the State/Central Government for a specified period;

(d) The Government has implemented National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) scheme, an online virtual trading platform to provide farmers and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) with opportunity to directly sell their produce from their collection center at remunerative prices through competitive online bidding system.

Further, the Government has promulgated "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation), Ordinance, 2020" to promote barrier-free inter-state and intra-State trade in farmers' produce to facilitate remunerative prices to farmers in trade areas.

The Government is promoting scientific storage facilities for the farmers in the country to reduce the wastage and improve the holding capacity through the scheme of "Agricultural Marketing Infrastructure (AMI)", which is a sub-scheme of Integrated Scheme for Agricultural Marketing (ISAM).

The Government through Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) provides assistance for development of post harvest management and marketing infrastructure such as cold storages, ripening chamber, pack houses, reefer vehicles to farmers to improve marketability of their produce.

In order to develop the marketing infrastructure including storages and cold storage etc., the Government is implementing Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana-Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied Sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR) Scheme.

Assessment of crop damage due to locust attack

670. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is widespread locust attacks in different parts of the country causing widespread crop losses to farmers and if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(b) whether Government has assessed the damage caused by locust to farmers who are already facing a lot of problems due to COVID-19 pandemic;

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

(d) whether Government is planning to give any compensation to farmers and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the other preventive measures taken by Government in this regard in the coming months?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) During 2010-21, the locust incursions were reported in 10 States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Haryana and Uttarakhand, where operations were undertaken in coordination with State Governments for locust control.

State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported no crop losses in their States. However, State Governments of Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand have reported crop damage of less than 33% in 6520 ha, 4400 ha, 806 ha, 488 ha and 267 ha respectively due to locust attack this year.

Initially during May-June, 2020, Government of Rajasthan reported crop damage of 33% and more due to locust attack in 2235 hectare area in Bikaner, 140 hectare in Hanumangarh and 1027 hectare area in Sri Ganganagar; but now, as per revised report, it has been stated that earlier submitted data was related to initial stage of crop sown in Kharif season and this area of crop loss has been re-sown by farmers.

(d) Pest attack is notified as a natural disaster by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and States can undertake relief operations under State Disaster Response Fund as per established procedure and the norms for assistance. Crop losses of farmers due to Locust attacks are also covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). The yield losses are assessed through Crop Cutting Experiments and compensation are given to insured farmers as per the provisions of the scheme.

Till now no State Government has reported distribution of relief to the farmers affected by locust attack for 2020-21. However, State Government of Rajasthan has informed that Girdawari/ survey work is underway for estimation of crop losses due to attack of locusts.

(e) Government of India is working on the strengthening of ground and aerial spray capabilities, Human Resources and strengthening to States.

- To strengthen locust control capabilities, additional 60 equipments were procured and presently 104 control teams with spray equipment mounted vehicles were utilized for ground control.
- 55 vehicles were procured to strengthen ground control potential.
- More than 200 Central Government personnel were deployed in locust control operations.
- Drones were used for locust control for the first time in the world after finalizing protocols and one Bell 206-B3 helicopter was also used for locust control by aerial spraying.
- The Indian Air Force, Mi 17 helicopter with customized aerial spray equipment was used for aerial spray.
- Government of India has issued a supply order of 5 CDA atomizer kits for aerial spray capabilities from a UK Based Company M/s Micron. These kits are to be delivered in October 2020 and will be fitted in Indian Air Force helicopters (as agreed by them) and will be used for aerial operations for control of desert locusts.
- Review meetings and VCs were organized with State Governments and locust control preparedness was strategized, capacity building and awareness campaigns were organized in districts, blocks and villages, advisories were

issued, training programs and mock drills were conducted. When Covid-19 struck, awareness literature and videos were shared through virtual medium to orient both functionaries and farmers. Control rooms were established in Locust offices and District Headquarters, and WhatsApp groups were created in all affected States for real time exchange of information and coordination.

- Ministry of Home Affairs has included admissibility of hiring of vehicles, tractors with spray equipments for spraying of plant protection chemicals for pest control; hiring of water tankers; and purchase of plant protection chemicals for locust control under new norms of assistance under State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) and National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF). This has also facilitated the State in their locust control operations.
- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of ₹ 2.86 crores for 800 tractors mounted spray equipments was sanctioned to Rajasthan. Under RKVY sanction of ₹ 14 crores for hiring of vehicles, tractors and for purchase of pesticides has also been issued.
- Gujarat States has been sanctioned ₹ 1.80 crores under RKVY for capacity enhancement for locust control.
- Under Sub-mission on Agriculture Mechanization assistance of 2.20 crore has been sanctioned for purchase of tractors and spray equipments for Uttar Pradesh.

Rise in prices of essential items

†671. SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to desperate rise in retail inflation rate of necessary items, the consumers are facing difficulty in getting eatable items;

(b) the percentage of consumer price index from January to August, 2020 during this year and the increase in rate of inflation this year in comparison to last year;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether the steps taken by Government to control inflation are proving to be inadequate; and

(d) the factors responsible for price rise of eatable items and the extent to which the prices of diesel and petrol have affected the price rise of eatables?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) Details of retail inflation based on Consumer Price Index (CPI), brought out by M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) from January to August 2019 and current year 2020 are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Government has taken various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food items which, *inter-alia*, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import and export duty, Minimum Export Price, export restrictions, etc. to regulate domestic availability and moderate prices: imposition of stock limits and advising States for effective action against hoarders and black marketers; and, provision of higher Minimum Support Prices to incentivize farmers for increasing production. Government is also implementing Schemes which, *inter alia*, include Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), etc. for increasing agricultural production and productivity through appropriate interventions. Besides, Government is also implementing Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) to help moderate the volatility in prices of agri-horticultural commodities like pulses, onion, and potato. Ministry of Food Processing and Industries (MoFPI) has also formulated a new scheme "Operation Greens" for integrated development of Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) value chain which, *inter alia*, has the objective of price stabilisation for producers and consumers by proper production planning in the TOP clusters and introduction of dual use varieties.

These policy interventions by Government had ensured that the consumer price index of majority of essential food items have remained relatively stable or decline with only a few recordings marginal increase during January to July, 2020. The details of prices are given in the Statement.

Prices of food items are *inter-alia* affected by mismatch in demand and supply, shortfall in production owing to adverse weather conditions, seasonality, increased

transportation costs, supply chain constraints like lack of storage facilities, artificial shortage created by hoarding and black marketing, etc.

Statement

Consumer Price Index (Inflation %)

Months	2019	2020
January	1.97	7.59
February	2.57	6.58
March	2.86	5.84
April	2.99	*
May	3.05	*
June	3.18	6.23
July	3.15	6.73
August	3.28	6.69(P)

* - Inflation figures not released due to data inadequacy issues

P - Provisional

Source: MoSPI,

Suicide by farmers

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

(a) the details of the number of suicide by farmers reported in the country during 2019 and 2020 till date, State-wise and district-wise in case of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government would announce a special financial package during the current financial year for farmers of the country who are compelled to commit suicide in view of the current COVID-19 situation which have aggravated their plights; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) under the Ministry of Home Affairs compiles and disseminates information on suicides in its publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI). These Reports

on suicides upto 2019 are available on its website. As per the Report the state-wise data on suicide committed by farmers for the year 2019 is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The Government has proactively made the following interventions during Covid -19 Pandemic lockdown for the welfare of farmers across the country.

- (i) Allocating ₹20 lakh crore package for 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat' which also includes Creation of Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of ₹ 1 lakh crore and ₹ 500 crore for Bee-Keeping initiative.
- (ii) Brought out two Ordinances namely The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020 and Empowerment and Protection of farmers for Agreements of Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020.
- (iii) Since 24th March, 2020 under PM Kisan Scheme, an amount of ₹40000 crore has been deposited to the bank account of farmers.
- (iv) Government facilitated the farmer for timely harvest of the entire crop, resulting in record procurement of Rabi crop production.
- (v) Sowing Area coverage for Kharif Crops increased by 5.68% compared to the corresponding period during the last year.
- (vi) Several steps were taken to decongest wholesale market and to boost the supply chain like integration of e-NAM with e-NWR, insurance of passes/ e-passes to FPOs, launching of Uberisation Module of logistics aggregators for making transport available to the farmers for faster movement of farm produce, creation of separate cell in Department for monitoring supply and prices of essential goods and fruits and vegetables. Formulation and approval of Central Sector Scheme for promoting 1000 FPOs, launching of Kisan Rath Mobile App and Farm Machinery Mobile App.
- (vii) Starting of Kisan Rail to provide seamless connectivity among farmers, markets and consumers and help farmers send their perishable agro-products to inter-state markets in a time bound manner.

Statement*State-wise and year-wise details of Farmers suicide, for the year 2019*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2019	
		Farm Labourers	Farmers
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	401	628
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0
3.	Assam	81	26
4.	Bihar	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	266	233
6.	Goa	1	0
7.	Gujarat	115	3
8.	Haryana	219	0
9.	Himachal Pradesh	4	12
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	31	0
11.	Jharkhand	55	0
12.	Karnataka	661	1331
13.	Kerala	128	22
14.	Madhya Pradesh	399	142
15.	Maharashtra	1247	2680
16.	Manipur	0	0
17.	Meghalaya	1	0
18.	Mizoram	4	22
19.	Nagaland	1	0
20.	Odisha	0	0
21.	Punjab	63	239

1	2	3	4
22.	Rajasthan	24	2
23.	Sikkim	2	0
24.	Tamil Nadu	421	6
25.	Telangana	8	491
26.	Tripura	38	0
27.	Uttar Pradesh	153	108
28.	Uttarakhand	0	0
29.	West Bengal	0	0
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	5
31.	Chandigarh	0	0
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	7
33.	Daman and Diu	0	0
34.	Delhi (UT)	0	0
35.	Lakshadweep	0	0
36.	Puducherry	0	0
TOTAL (ALL INDIA)		4324	5957

Source: Report on 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' for relevant years, National Crime Records Bureau.

MSP coverage for more crops

673. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government plans to increase MSP coverage for more crops in the short run due to COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) if not, the manner in which Government is planning to pass on the benefits of positive growth in agriculture to farmers during a time of falling demand;

(c) whether there are any plans to introduce transport subsidies for farmers, considering the rise in input prices due to rising fuel prices and failing demand due to COVID-19; and

(d) if not, the measures that are being taken to protect farmers from incurring losses?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) At present MSP is declared for 22 crops. During Covid-19, the number of purchase centres for buying produce from farmers on MSP were increased leading to enhanced purchase. Also, in view of the pandemic, concerted efforts have been made by the Government towards passing on the benefits of positive growth in agriculture to farmers. Game-change initiatives of "Atma Nirbhar Krishi" and "Atma Nirbhar Kisan" were taken. These include, *inter-alia*, promulgation of three ordinances namely, Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020; Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020 and Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020; provision of ₹ 1 Lakh crore under the Scheme for Agriculture Infrastructure Fund; Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs); KCC saturation drive for the farmers, and the increased focus on Digital Agriculture.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. On 10th June, 2020, Government has approved the extension of the Operation Greens Scheme from Tomato, Onion and Potato (TOP) to all fruits and vegetables (TOTAL) for a period of six months on pilot basis as part of Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan. Under the scheme, Ministry of Food Processing Industries will provide subsidy @ 50 % of the cost of the following two components, subject to the cost norms:

- (i) Transportation of eligible crops from surplus production cluster to consumption centre; and/or
- (ii) Hiring of appropriate storage facilities for eligible crops (for maximum period of 3 months);

Further, various additional measures have been taken by the Government to facilitate farmers in the marketing of farm produce during the pandemic. The Warehouse and FPO modules have been developed and linked with e-NAM which facilitated the

farmers to sell their produce easily without going to the market. These modules are being used by various State Governments. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare had launched "KISAN RATH", a farmer friendly mobile application in April, 2020 to facilitate farmers and traders in searching transport vehicles for Primary and Secondary transportation for movement of Agriculture and Horticulture produce. Further, Advisory has been issued by the Ministry to all State Governments to facilitate direct marketing from the farmers/Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs)/Cooperatives, etc., by limiting regulations under State APMC Act.

Loss of crops due to locust attack

674. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss of crops due to locust swarm (Tiddi Dal) attack recently *i.e.* in the month of June/July, 2020 in various parts of the country, State-wise and district-wise;

(b) whether any Central team has been sent to each State to find out the actual loss suffered by the farmers; and

(c) whether any compensation has been paid to the farmers whose crops have been damaged by the locust attack?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) State Governments of Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Bihar have reported that, no crop losses have been reported in their States. Government of Haryana has reported below 33% crop damage in a total area of 2388 hectare area of Charkhi Dadri, 489 hectare in Sirsa, 390 hectare in Rewari, 1700 hectare in Bhiwani, 1129 hectare in Mahendragarh, 373 hectare in Hisar and 52 hectare in Rohtak districts. Government of Madhya Pradesh has reported 10-15 percent damage in soybean crop in 4400 ha in Damoh district. State Government of Maharashtra has reported below 33% crop damage in 236 hectare area in Nagpur, 160 hectare in Bhandara, 320 hectare in Gondiya and 89.9 hectare in Amravati districts. State Government of Uttarakhand has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 251 hectare in Udham Singh Nagar, 14 hectare in Bageshwar and 2 hectare in Pithoragarh districts. State Government of Uttar Pradesh has reported a crop damage (less than 33%) in 481 hectare area in Jhansi and 07 hectare area of Sonbhadra districts due to locust attack during June/July, 2020.

However, initially during May-June 2020, Government of Rajasthan reported crop damage of 33% and more due to locust attack in 2235 hectare area in Bikaner, 140 hectare in Hanumangarh and 1027 hectare area in Sri Ganganagar; but now, as per revised report, it has been stated that earlier submitted data was related to initial stage of crop sown in Kharif season and this area of crop loss has been re-sown by farmers. Rajasthan Government has reported that Girdawari/ survey work is underway for crop losses due to attack of locust swarms.

(b) In the eventuality of natural calamities, including locust attack, the State Governments are empowered to initiate necessary relief measures from State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF), which is readily available with them. Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF), on receipt of Memorandum from State Governments and in accordance with extant norms and procedures. During the current financial year *i.e.* 2020-21, no Memorandum has been received from any State relating to locust attack.

(c) Pest attack is notified as a natural disaster by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and States can undertake relief operations under State Disaster Response Fund as per established procedure and the norms for assistance.

Crop losses of farmers due to Locust attacks are also covered under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY). The yield losses are assessed through Crop Cutting Experiments and compensation are given to insured farmers as per the provisions of the scheme.

Till now no State Government has reported distribution of relief to the farmers affected by locust attack for 2020-21.

However, State Government of Rajasthan has reported that Girdawari/ survey work is underway for crop losses due to attack of locust swarms and the yield losses will be assessed through crop cutting experiments and compensation will be paid to all registered farmers as per provisions of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY).

Assistance to farmers for crop loss due to rains and floods

675. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the total loss of crops/paddy/vegetables due to heavy rains/floods in various part of the country, State-wise;

(b) whether State Governments have demanded any assistance to compensate for the loss suffered by the farmers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated to each State?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) As per the information provided by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), the loss of crops/paddy/ vegetables due to heavy rains/floods, which has been reported by the State Governments, are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(b) and (c) The primary responsibility for disaster management rests with the State Governments. The concerned State Governments undertake relief measures in the wake of natural disasters from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) already placed at their disposal in accordance with Government of India approved items and norms. Additional assistance is extended from the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) as per established procedure.

The assistance approved under SDRF/NDRF norms is provided in the form of relief. Information on compensation and institutional credit given to the victims and the States, are not maintained centrally, as the execution of compensation/relief activities on the ground is the responsibility of the States concerned.

As per the information provided by Ministry of Home Affairs, in order to support the affected people of the States, the Central Government has released the Central Share of State Disaster Risk Management Fund amounting to ₹11,565.92 crore, in advance, to all the State Governments for management of relief necessitated by notified natural disasters for the year 2020-21. State-wise details are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Reported loss of crops by States due to heavy rains/floods during South-west Monsoon-2020

(Provisional as on 10.09.2020)

Sl. No.	State	Crop area affected (in lakh ha.)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	0.19
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.14
3.	Assam	2.65
4.	Bihar	7.54

Sl. No.	State	Crop area affected (in lakh ha.)
5.	Karnataka	4.50
6.	Meghalaya	0.02
7.	Nagaland	Negligible
8.	Odisha	4.54
9.	Punjab	0.18
10.	Sikkim	0.003
11.	Uttar Pradesh	0.99
TOTAL		20.753

Statement-II

Release of Central Share of State Disaster Risk Management Fund

(As on 21.08.2020)

Sl. No.	State	1st Installment of Central Share	2nd Installment of Central Share
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	559.50	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	125.00	-
3.	Assam	386.00	-
4.	Bihar	708.00	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	216.00	-
6.	Goa	6.00	-
7.	Gujarat	662.00	-
8.	Haryana	245.50	-
9.	Himachal Pradesh	204.50	-
10.	Jharkhand	284.00	-
11.	Karnataka	395.50	395.50
12.	Kerala	157.00	-

1	2	3	4
13.	Madhya Pradesh	910.00	-
14.	Maharashtra	1611.00	-
15.	Manipur	21.00	-
16.	Meghalaya	33.00	-
17.	Mizoram	23.50	-
18.	Nagaland	20.50	-
19.	Odisha	802.00	-
20.	Punjab	325.925	-
21.	Rajasthan	740.50	-
22.	Sikkim	25.00	-
23.	Tamil Nadu	510.00	-
24.	Telangana	224.50	-
25.	Tripura	34.00	-
26.	Uttar Pradesh	966.50	-
27.	Uttarakhand	468.50	-
28.	West Bengal	505.50	-
TOTAL		11170.425	395.50

Tender to local companies

676. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the measures that Government seeks to take to ensure that the local firms are allotted the tender under Atmanirbhar Bharat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how many tenders to local companies have been granted under the amended procurement scheme so far?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) To ensure that the local firms are allotted the tender under Atmanirbhar Bharat, the following measures have been taken:-

1. The Department of Expenditure (DoE) *vide* Order No. 12/17/2019-PPD dated 15.05.2020 (copy also available on website of Department of Expenditure) has amended Rule 161 (iv) of General Financial Rules (GFR) 2017 restricting Global Tender Enquiry (GTE) for the contract/ supply value of above ₹ 200 crore to enable floating of local tenders by Procuring Entities of Government of India for the benefit of Local Industry.
2. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has issued Order dated 04.06.2020 (copy also available on website) under Rule 153(iii) of the General Financial Rules 2017 to promote participation of local suppliers in Public Procurement (Preference to Make in India).
3. GeM has made it mandatory for the sellers, to declare Country of Origin for every product offered by them on the GeM portal.
4. Department of Expenditure has amended Rule 144 of GFR by inserting sub clause (xi) making it mandatory for bidders from any country which shares land border with India to get registered with Government of India before participating in any Government tender for procurement of goods, services or works.

(c) As per available data on Government e-Marketplace (GeM), 50,346 contracts have been awarded between 04.06.2020 and 15.09.2020 to various sellers for the products conforming to the new guidelines.

Organic farming in the country

677. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of incentives/benefits given by the Ministry for organic farmers in the country, scheme-wise;
- (b) the reasons that only 2 per cent of 155 lakh hectares of cultivable land is under organic cultivation inspite of the above incentives;

- (c) how Indian organic cultivation can be compared with other countries, particularly China, Brazil and the United States (US);
- (d) the efforts being made to push organic cultivation in the country; and
- (e) whether there is any announcement for organic cultivators in the PM's ₹20 lakh Atmanirbhar Bharat package?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Assistance is provided under different schemes by the Government for promoting organic farming in the country:—

1. **Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY):** The scheme promotes cluster based organic farming with PGS certification. Cluster formation, training, certification and marketing are supported under the scheme. Assistance of ₹50,000 per ha /3 years is provided out of which 62% *i.e.*, ₹ 31,000 is given as incentive to a farmer towards organic inputs.
2. **Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER):** The scheme promotes 3rd party certified organic farming of niche crops of north east region through Farmers Producer organizations (FPOs) with focus on exports. Farmers are given assistance of ₹ 25000/ha/ 3 years for organic inputs including organic manure and biofertilisers etc. Support for formation of FPOs, capacity building, post-harvest infrastructure up to ₹ 2 crores are also provided in the scheme.
3. **Capital investment Subsidy Scheme (CISS) under Soil Health Management Scheme:** 100% assistance is provided to State Government / Government agencies for setting up of mechanized fruit/vegetable market waste/ Agro waste compost production unit up to a maximum limit of ₹ 190.00 Lakh /unit (3000 Total Per Annum TPA capacity). Similarly, for individuals/ private agencies assistance up to 33% of cost limit to ₹ 63 lakh/unit as capital investment is provided.
4. **National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP).** Financial assistance@ 50% subsidy to the tune of ₹ 300/- per ha is being provided for different components including bio-fertilizers, supply of Rhizobium culture/Phosphate Solubilising Bacteria (PSB)/Zinc Solubilising Bacteria (ZSB)/ Azatobacter/ Mycorrhiza and vermi compost.

5. **National Food Security Mission (NFSM):** Financial assistance is provided for promotion of Bio-Fertilizer (Rhizobium/PSB) @50% of the cost limited to ₹300 per ha.

(b) Cultivable land area under organic farming has more than doubled from 11.83 lakh ha in 2014 to 29.17 lakh ha in 2020 due to the focused efforts of the Government. Over the years, the organic promotion activities led to development of State specific organic brands, increased domestic supply and exports of organic produce from NER. Taking cue from the success of the organic initiatives, a target of 20 lakh ha additional area coverage by 2024 is envisaged in the vision document. Awareness programmes, availability of adequate post-harvest infrastructure, marketing facilities, premium price for the organic produce etc., would certainly motivate farmers towards organic farming thereby increasing organic coverage in the country.

(c) As per International resource data from Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FIBL) and the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM) Statistics 2020, India stands at 9th position in terms of certified agricultural land with 1.94 million ha(2018-19). The comparative data in regard to organic cultivation with other countries viz. China, Brazil and the US is as:-

Sl. No.	Country	Position	Area under organic certification (in million ha.)
1.	China	3rd	3.14
2.	USA	7th	2.02
3.	India	9th	1.94
4.	Brazil	12th	1.18

(d) Promotion of natural farming under Bharatiya Prakritik Krishi Padhati (BPKP) of PKVY has been initiated to encourage use of natural on-farm inputs for chemical free farming. Andhra Pradesh and Kerala have taken up 1 lakh ha and 0.8 lakh ha area respectively for promotion of natural farming under BPKP. Similarly, continuous area certification and support for individual farmers for certification have also been initiated during 2020-21 to bring in default organic areas and willing individual farmers under the fold of organic farming.

(e) State agencies, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies, Farmer Producer Organisations, entrepreneurs etc., can avail loans for setting up of Post-harvest infrastructure for value addition to organic produce under 1.00 lakh cr Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) of Aatmanirbhar Bharat.

Implementation of Crop Insurance Scheme

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

- (a) the details of States that are implementing crop insurance scheme since its inception;
- (b) number of farmers who benefited from the scheme during the last three years, season-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the changes that the Ministry has brought in the crop insurance scheme and how it is different from the existing one?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), introduced in the country from Kharif 2016, is voluntary for the States. 27 States/Union Territories (UTs) have opted and implemented the scheme in one or more seasons viz. Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Odisha, Puducherry, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

State-wise and Season-wise details of number of farmer applicants benefited by way of getting claims under the scheme during last three years *i.e.* from 2017-18 to 2019-20 are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) After detailed discussions with stakeholders, Government has recently approved the revamping of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) for implementation from Kharif 2020 season. Changes made in the provisions/parameters of these schemes are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

Farmer applications benefited under PMFBY as on 07.09.2020 (number in lakhs)

State/UT Name	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
	Kharif 2017	Rabi 2017-18	2017-18 Total	Kharif 2018	Rabi 2018-19	2018-19 Total	Kharif 2019	Rabi 2019-20	2019-20 Total
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Andhra Pradesh	6.187	0.962	7.149	9.933	5.963	15.896	-	-	-
Assam	0.018	0.003	0.021	0.004	-	0.004	-	-	-
Bihar	1.872	0.311	2.183	Not Participated					
Chhattisgarh	5.716	0.863	6.579	5.824	0.733	6.557	11.778	2.449	14.227
Goa	0.000	-	0.000	0.000	-	0.000	0.001	-	0.001
Gujarat	3.721	0.168	3.889	13.623	0.144	13.767	0.928	0.002	0.930
Haryana	2.445	0.803	3.248	3.324	0.873	4.197	2.430	2.480	4.911
Himachal Pradesh	0.236	1.235	1.470	0.378	0.894	1.272	0.428	0.023	0.451
Jammu and Kashmir	0.120	0.069	0.188	0.181	0.016	0.197	-	-	-
Jharkhand	1.344	0.049	1.392	0.580	-	0.580	-	-	-
Karnataka	6.085	0.101	6.187	8.903	4.394	13.297	2.034	-	2.034

100 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Kerala	0.190	0.188	0.377	0.222	0.175	0.397	0.235	-	0.235
Madhya Pradesh	20.987	3.867	24.854	10.141	7.013	17.154	0.024	-	0.024
Maharashtra	50.129	3.546	53.676	50.002	27.199	77.201	82.921	0.004	82.925
Manipur	-	0.036	0.036	0.000	-	0.000	0.032	-	0.032
Meghalaya	0.000	-	0.000	-	-	-	-	-	-
Odisha	7.387	0.144	7.531	6.469	0.112	6.581	6.501	-	6.501
Puducherry	-	-	-	0.005	-	0.005	-	-	-
Rajasthan	20.740	4.544	25.284	15.873	3.995	19.868	17.995	4.638	22.634
Sikkim	-	0.001	0.001	0.000	-	0.000	-	-	-
Tamil Nadu	0.660	9.197	9.857	1.148	16.180	17.328	0.898	7.602	8.500
Telangana	4.146	0.256	4.402	0.384	0.003	0.388	-	-	-
Tripura	0.008	0.019	0.027	-	0.002	0.002	0.029	-	0.029
Uttar Pradesh	3.932	1.914	5.846	5.800	0.401	6.201	6.007	1.909	7.916
Uttarakhand	0.501	0.202	0.703	0.702	0.138	0.840	0.647	0.084	0.731
West Bengal	4.443	1.063	5.505	1.976	5.146	7.122	Not Participated		
GRAND TOTAL	140.866	29.539	170.405	135.473	73.380	208.854	132.888	19.191	152.079

* Kharif 2019 and Rabi 2019-20 claims are not fully reported/settled.

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

101

Statement-II

Changes made in the provisions/parameters of PMFBY and RWBCIS w.e.f. Kharif 2020 season

- To address the demand of farmers, the scheme has been made voluntary for all farmers. However, there is no change in farmers' share of premium.
- The premium subsidy sharing pattern between Centre and North Eastern States has been changed from 50:50 to 90:10. This has been done to allow more States to notify the scheme and existing States to notify more crops and areas to facilitate greater coverage of farmers under the scheme. For remaining States, subsidy sharing pattern will continue as 50:50.
- To address the issue of high premium rate for few crops/areas due to adverse selection, the requisite central share of premium subsidy (90:10 for North Eastern States and 50:50 for remaining States) will be provided for areas/crops having gross premium rate upto 25% for irrigated and upto 30% for un-irrigated areas/crops. Besides, alternate risk mitigation measures will be explored for these areas/crops.
- Insurance companies will now be selected by the States for 3 years in a go instead of one year thereby increasing their commitment and accountability to the farmers.
- Option has been given to the States to choose the notional value of average yield or the Scale of Finance as sum insured in the interest of the farming community.
- In view of the demand of many states, option has been given to states to choose additional risk covers besides shortfall in yield-based cover depending upon the local weather challenges and requirements of the farmers.
- The states delaying the release of subsidy beyond stipulated timelines can not participate in upcoming seasons.
- Two-step process of crop yield estimation using weather and satellite indicators etc. is adopted, which will help in early assessment of loss
- Use of smart sampling technique through satellite data for crop cutting experiments by some states has shown increased efficiency in implementation. This will now be universalized.

- The delay by some States in submission of crop yield data will now be suitably addressed using technological solutions.
- Provision has been made for earmarked administrative expenses @ 3% for strengthening the infrastructure and technology for better delivery of the Scheme.
- Insurance companies have been asked to mandatorily utilize 0.5% of gross premium collected by them for IEC activities at grass root level to build overall insurance literacy of farmers to take informed decisions.
- Use of more technology for transparency and quick assessment of crop yield/loss for early settlement of claims.

Implementation of National Programme for Organic Production

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

- (a) the aims and objectives of National Programme for Organic Production;
- (b) the details of States in which the above programme is being implemented, with a particular reference to Andhra Pradesh;
- (c) how Indian organic standards (Jaivik Bharat) can be compared with US and EU; and
- (d) the efforts being made to bring down cost of organic products, such as incentivizing for increasing yield per acre, storage and warehousing to protect from exposing to chemicals, etc?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The aims and objectives of National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

The area certified under NPOP in different states including Andhra Pradesh is given in the Statement-II (*See* below). The data as per the information provided by the Certification Bodies accredited under NPOP.

- (c) NPOP standards have been recognized equivalent to EU Regulation for unprocessed plant products. USDA has granted conformity assessment to Agricultural

and Processed Food Products Export (APEDA) as per the conformity assessment standards of National Programme for Organic Production for certification and export of organic product to United States of America (USA) as per USDA National Organic Program (NOP) standards. The National Organic Program (NOP) is the federal regulatory framework in the United States of America (USA) governing organic food. The NOP accreditation is given to the NPOP accredited Certification Bodies under the Recognition Agreement between India and US for Conformity assessment.

Jaivik Bharat Logo is granted by Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) for sale of organic produce in India based on certifications under NPOP & PGS.

A dedicated scheme namely Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region (MOVCDNER) has been implemented in NER since 2015-16 mainly for exports of third party certified organic niche crops. The scheme supports Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs) / entrepreneurs in a value chain mode from input production/procurement, to infrastructure creation for post harvest management and marketing facilities. The pattern of assistance under MOVCDNER for infrastructure creation, packaging, branding, transportation is given in the Statement-III (*See below*). The assistance is also provided under the schemes Parmparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) for organic conversion, organic inputs, on farm inputs, production infrastructure, etc. The details is given in the Statement-IV (*See below*).

Agricultural & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides assistance under Export Infrastructure Development and Market Development scheme components for creation of capital assets, integrated pack house, purchase of insulated refrigerated transport vehicles/mobile pre-cooling unit, single or multiple products processing facilities, cold store/warehouses, carbon dioxide generators, fumigated stores and Silos etc. The products covered under TraceNet traceability system for organic products are eligible under the scheme. The assistance is limited to the 40% of the total cost subject to the ceiling of ₹ 100 lakhs.

Statement-I

Aims and objectives of NPOP

The aims of the NPOP, *inter alia* include the following:

- (a) To provide the means of evaluation of certification programme for organic agriculture and products (including wild harvest, aquaculture, live stock products) as per the approved criteria.

- (b) To accredit certification programmes of Certification Bodies seeking accreditation under this programme.
- (c) To facilitate certification of organic products in conformity with the National Standards for Organic Production (NSOP).
- (d) To facilitate certification of organic products in conformity with the importing countries organic standards as per equivalence agreement between the two countries or as per importing country requirements.
- (f) To encourage the development of organic farming and organic processing.

2.1 SCOPE

The NPOP shall, *inter alia*, include the following:

- (a) Policies for development and certification of organic products as notified by the Department of Commerce from time to time.
- (b) National standards for organic products and processes.
- (c) Accreditation of certification programmes to be operated by Certification Bodies.
- (d) Certification of organic products.

Statement-II

State-wise cultivated farm area for the year 2019-20

Sl. No.	State	Certified Organic Area (In Ha.)	Under Conversion area (In Ha.)	Total area (in ha.)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	7,484.00	7484
2.	Andhra Pradesh	15,128.83	22,074.04	37,202.87
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	147.35	10,510.31	10657.662
4.	Assam	15,396.83	11,296.84	55344.536
5.	Bihar	1.2	22,711.35	22712.554

1	2	3	4	5
6.	Chhattisgarh	12,867.91	9,569.89	22,437.80
7.	Goa	9,416.34	3,020.14	12,436.48
8.	Gujarat	57,642.28	37,565.30	95,207.58
9.	Haryana	3,067.17	3,088.58	6,155.74
10.	Himachal Pradesh	8,704.40	3,349.48	12,053.88
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	19,046.27	11,229.68	30,275.95
12.	Jharkhand	1.06	25,853.12	25854.184
13.	Karnataka	60,124.83	20,940.40	81,065.23
14.	Kerala	21,466.15	20,314.34	41,780.49
15.	Ladakh	0	64.221	64.221
16.	Lakshadweep	895.513	0	895.51
17.	Madhya Pradesh	473,522.47	419,373.94	892,896.41
18.	Maharashtra	205,216.28	77,280.04	282,496.32
19.	Manipur	3,241.40	9,748.67	12,990.07
20.	Meghalaya	24,732.96	20,649.44	45,382.40
21.	Mizoram	40.45	9,989.44	10029.89
22.	Nagaland	1,901.42	12,353.55	14,254.97
23.	New Delhi	0.718	0	0.718
24.	Odisha	76,424.58	11,753.03	88,177.61
25.	Pudducherry	2.835	20.81	23.645
26.	Punjab	2.835	8,502.57	9021.951
27.	Rajasthan	160,850.23	126,728.26	287,578.49
28.	Sikkim	73,402.97	2,314.68	75,717.65
29.	Tamil Nadu	7,140.90	18,864.83	26,005.73
30.	Telangana	5,512.48	3,229.80	8,742.28

1	2	3	4	5
31.	Tripura	203.56	3,335.62	3,539.18
32.	Uttar Pradesh	48,890.09	12,058.08	60,948.18
33.	Uttarakhand	23,767.17	18,279.85	42,047.02
34.	West Bengal	5,254.96	1,137.09	6,392.05
TOTAL		1334530.986	964691.384	2,299,222.37

Statement-III**Mission Organic Value Chain Development for North Eastern Region:**

Component-wise financial assistance:

Components

Clusters development, training, documentation etc -Rs 4075/Farmers &10000/ha.

Inputs -25000/ha

Integrated Processing unit: upto ₹ 600 lakh

Custom hiring centres: Rs 10 lakh/FPO

Integrated Pack house: upto Rs 37.50 lakh

Refrigerated vehicle - upto ₹ 18.75 lakh

Transportation / 4 wheeler: upto ₹ 6.00 lakh

Pre-cooling, cold stores, ripening chambers- Rs upto18.75 lakh

Branding, labeling, packing, publicity - As per proposal.

Post-harvest infrastructure - 75% assistance for FPCs - 50% for private entrepreneur- 50% subsidy transportation

Statement-IV*Pattern of assistance for promotion of organic farming and other schemes Pattern of assistance under PKVY*

Sl. No.	Component	Pattern of assistance/ha			Total financial assistance per ha. for 3 years	Total financial assistance per group of 20 ha for 3 year	Total per cluster of 1000 ha. each ₹ in lakh
		1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year			
A.	Programme implementation through Support Agencies	2500	2500	2500	7500	150000	30.00
B.	PGS Certification through Regional Councils	700	1000	1000	2700	54000	27.00
C.	Incentive to farmers through DBT	12000	10000	9000	31000	620000	310.00
D.	Value addition, marketing and publicity	1300	3500	4000	8800	176000	88.00
	TOTAL	16500	17000	16500	50000	1000000	500.00

- Rs 500.00 lakh per cluster of 1000 ha. each.

Implementation of Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020

680. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has implemented the Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether this Ordinance seeks to provide for barrier-free trade of farmers' produce outside the markets notified under the various State Agricultural Produce Market laws (State APMC Acts);
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether this Ordinance would prevail over the State APMC Acts;
- (f) whether the State Governments were consulted before passing this Ordinance; and
- (g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (d) Yes Sir. Government has notified "The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020" on 5th June, 2020. The objective of the Ordinance is to provide for the creation of an ecosystem where the farmers and traders enjoy the freedom of choice relating to sale and purchase of farmers' produce which facilitates remunerative prices through competitive alternative trading channels to promote efficient transparent and barrier-free inter-state and intra-state trade and commerce of farmers' produce outside the physical premises of markets or deemed markets notified under various State Agricultural Produce Market legislations; to provide a facilitative framework for electronic trading and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

(e) The Ordinance will not replace the State APMC Acts. APMC markets will continue to function.

(f) and (g) While formulating the Ordinance, State Governments were consulted through Video Conferencing (VC) on 21st May, 2020.

Reduction in allocation for MIS-PSS

681. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the budget 2020-21, Government has reduced allocations to Market Intervention Scheme and Price Support Scheme (MIS-PSS) and remunerative prices to farmers for Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the budget for PM-AASHA has been reduced to one-third from ₹1,500 crore in 2019-20 to ₹500 crore in 2020-21;

(c) if so, reasons therefor and the plan to solve plight of farmers in the country and the post COVID-19 situation; and

(d) the detailed proposal to procure crops under PSS and steps taken to provide adequate remuneration to farmers for their produce?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The final Budget allocation during 2019-20 under MIS/PSS was 2010.20 crore and for PDPS/PPSS under PM-AASHA was ₹321.00 crore. For the year 2020-21 the budget allocation for MIS/PSS is ₹2000 crore and for PDPS/PPSS is ₹500 crore. The estimated expenditure under PM-AASHA (PSS/ PDPS/PPSS) depends upon the States/ UTs option for implementation of PSS or PDPS for the particular oilseeds in the season and the prevailing market price in the mandies. However, the Budget allocation for the year can be revised based on the requirement of scheme implementation.

(d) Under Price Support"-Scheme (PSS), Government agencies procure the notified pulses, oilseeds and copra of Fair Average Quality (FAQ) at Minimum Support Price (MSP) directly from farmers in consultation with the concerned State Governments / Union Territories as and when market price of these pulses fall below the MSP. The payments to the farmers are made through Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)/National Electronic Fund Transfer (NEFT) and account payee cheque by the procuring agencies.

Prospects for production of pulses

682. SHRI K.J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the prospects for production of pulses in the current financial year;

- (b) whether the monsoon has been conducive for production of pulses; and
- (c) whether the country is going to be self-sufficient this year?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) In the current Kharif season, 137.87 lakh hectare area has been sown under pulses compared to 131.76 lakh hectare during corresponding period of last year which is around 5% higher and around 7% higher to the average of last 5 years (128.88 lakh ha.). Further, extended rainfall, favorable soil moisture, conducive weather and sufficient water reservoirs in major pulses producing states have the good prospects for production of pulses in the current financial year.

(c) The Government has taken several steps for enhancing production and productivity of pulses in the country and implementation of various schemes like National Food Security Mission (NFSM), Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India (BGREI) and Crops Diversification Programme (CDP) would result in achieving near self sufficiency in pulses production this year.

Damage of crops due to heavy rains

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

- (a) whether due to heavy rains in different parts of the country, many standing crops got adversely affected, if so, the details of crops which got affected, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Ministry has taken care of the plight of farmers whose crops got damaged and had to face heavy loss, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the State which suffered most due to heavy rains, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) There have been extreme weather events in the form of heavy rains in some parts of the country which affected the standing crops. As reported by the states, the state-wise details of the crops affected due to heavy rains is given in the Statement (*See* below).

The State Government is primarily responsible for taking necessary relief measures in the wake of natural calamities. For undertaking relief measures, funds are available with the State Government in the form of State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF),

Additional financial assistance, over and above SDRF, is considered from National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) for natural calamities of severe nature and is approved on the basis of Memorandum received from State Government, in accordance with established procedure. In order to insulate farmers against the loss of crop due to natural calamities. In order to insulate farmers against the loss of crop due to natural calamities, Government of India had launched Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) from April 2016.

Statement

State-wise details of the crops affected due to heavy rains

Sl. No.	State	Affected Area (in Hectare)	Affected Crops
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52551.99	Banana, Vegetables, Betelvine, Onion, Papaya, Flowers, Yam, Chillis and Tomato.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6864.76	Paddy, Maize, Millets, Pulses, Oilseeds, Vegetable crops, Fruit crop, Plantation crops and others.
3.	Assam	190176.73	Rice, Maize, Jute, Pulses and Vegetables.
4.	Bihar	922038.82	Paddy, Maize, Fruits and Vegetables
5.	Chhattisgarh	12615.00	Soybean and other crops
6.	Kerala	4754.09	Coconut, Cardamom, Ginger, Tuber crops, Turmeric, Cashew, Rubber, Pepper, Tapioca, Beetelvine, Vegetables, Arecanut, Banana, Coffee, Pineapple And Paddy.
7.	Karnataka	331334.97	Paddy, Cotton, Redgram, Greengram, Soybean, Blackgram, Jowar, Groundnut, Maize Sugarcane, Ragi, Bajra, Foxtail Millet, Cowpea, Sesamum, Sunflower And Tobacco.

1	2	3	4
8.	Maharashtra	170899.00	Rice, Groundnut, Tur, Cotton, Jowar, Turmeric, Maize, Sugarcane, Soybean, vegetables
9.	Odisha	221262.00	Paddy and Horticulture Crops.
10.	Punjab	24403.00	Cotton, Paddy and other crops
11.	Tamil Nadu	787.26	Horticulture Crops, Paddy, Maize, Gingelly, Groundnut, Sugarcane, Jowar/Sorghum, Pluses/Green gram and Coconut.
12.	Telangana	143388.38	Paddy, Cotton, Redgram, Greengram, Soybean, Blackgram, Jowar, Groundnut, Maize, Sugarcane, Banana, Guava, Apple, Oil Palm, Turmeric, Chilly, Papaya, Drumstick, Vegetables, Flowers, and Red Chilli.
13.	Madhya Pradesh	Not quantified	Crop loss due to heavy rains is reported mainly in Soybean, Maize, Arhar, Urad, Moong and Paddy.
14.	Gujarat	Not quantified	Crops in 14 districts affected (crops not quantified).
15.	Himachal Pradesh	35340.90	Maize, Paddy, Kharif Pulses and vegetables.

Use of chemicals and pesticides for ripening of fruits

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

(a) whether there are any monitoring mechanism in place to check the use of pesticides and chemicals to ripen the fruits, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether Government has sufficient laboratories to check the quantum of calcium carbide used in vegetables and fruits, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) As per the information provided by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; sub-regulation 2.3.5 of Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulations, 2011 is related to "Prohibition of use of Calcium Carbide in ripening of fruits". According to this sub regulation, "No person shall sell or offer or expose for sale or have in his premises for the purpose of sale under any description, fruits which have been artificially ripened by use of acetylene gas, commonly known as carbide gas.

Flowever, ripening of fruits by using ethylene gas at a concentration upto 100 ppm (100µ/L) depending upon the crop, variety and maturity has been permitted. Ethylene is a safer alternative. It is also produced in the fruits naturally to stimulate their ripening in a natural way.

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has developed a Guidance Note No.04/2018 on "ARTIFICIAL RIPENING OF FRUITS - Ethylene gas- A safe fruit ripener" and shared through its website *i.e.* www.fssai.gov.in and social media handles. The purpose of this guidance note is to create awareness related to different aspects of artificial ripening of fruits among food business operators/traders, consumers and food safety officials. It also includes Standard Operating Procedure detailing all facets of artificial ripening using ethylene gas.

Implementation and enforcement of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and Rules and Regulations made thereunder primarily lies with State/UT Governments. Regular surveillance, monitoring, inspection and sampling of food products, including fruits and vegetables, are being carried out by the Food Safety Officers of States/UTs and appropriate penal action is initiated as per the provisions of FSS Act, 2006 against the defaulting FBOs.

(b) FSSAI at present has a network of 264 laboratories across the country comprising of 246 laboratories for primary testing recognized & notified under section 43(1) of FSS act 2006; and, 18 laboratories for appellate (referral) testing recognized and notified under section 43(2) of FSS act 2006. Most of these laboratories have the facilities to check calcium carbide.

Making PMFBY more farmer-friendly

685. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) could

not become popular since land far less than the expected could only be covered under the scheme;

(b) whether Government has any plan to revisit the PMFBY to make it more friendly to the farmers, as per the climatic vagaries of each State;

(c) if so, the main features of PMFBY proposed to be revisited to make it meaningful and lucrative; and

(d) whether any time-line has been fixed to further augment the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) No Sir. Due to the improved features of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY), coverage under the scheme has increased to 30% of the Gross Cropped Area (GCA) from 23% in 2015-16 under erstwhile schemes. Farmer applications have also increased from about 3.5 crore under erstwhile schemes to about 6 crore during the same period. Participation of non-loanee farmers, for whom the scheme was voluntary, have also increased from 5% under erstwhile schemes to 37% Kharif under PMFBY showing the voluntary acceptability of the scheme.

(b) to (d) The revisions/improvements in the crop insurance schemes is a continuous process and decisions on suggestions/representations is taken from time to time after consultation with various stakeholders. Accordingly, after detailed discussions with stakeholders, Government has recently approved the revamping of the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) for implementation from Kharif 2020 season. Changes/improvements made in the provisions/parameters of these schemes are given in the Statement.

Statement

Changes/Improvements made in the provisions/parameters of PMFBY and RWBCIS w.e.f. Kharif 2020 season

- To address the demand of farmers, the scheme has been made voluntary for all farmers. However, there is no change in farmers' share of premium.
- The premium subsidy sharing pattern between Centre and North Eastern States has been changed from 50: 50 to 90:10. This has been done to allow more States to notify the scheme and existing States to notify more crops

and areas to facilitate greater coverage of farmers under the scheme. For remaining States, subsidy sharing pattern will continue as 50: 50.

- To address the issue of high premium rate for few crops/areas due to adverse selection, the requisite central share of premium subsidy (90: 10 for North Eastern States and 50: 50 for remaining States) will be provided for areas/crops upto gross premium rate of 25% for irrigated and 30% for un-irrigated areas/crops. Besides, alternate risk mitigation measures will be explored for these areas/crops.
- Insurance companies will now be selected by the States for 3 years in a go instead of one year thereby increasing their commitment and accountability to the farmers.
- Option has been given to the States to choose the notional value of average yield or the Scale of Finance as sum insured in the interest of the farming community.
- In view of the demand of many states, option has been given to states to choose additional risk covers besides shortfall in yield-based cover depending upon the local weather challenges and requirements of the farmers.
- The states delaying the release of subsidy beyond stipulated timelines can not participate in upcoming seasons.
- Two-step process of crop yield estimation using weather and satellite indicators etc. is adopted, which will help in early assessment of loss.
- Use of smart sampling technique through satellite data for crop cutting experiments by some states has shown increased efficiency in implementation. This will now be universalized.
- The delay by some States in submission of crop yield data will now be suitably addressed using technological solutions.
- Provision has been made for earmarked administrative expenses @ 3% for strengthening the infrastructure and technology usage for better delivery of the Scheme.
- Insurance companies have been asked to mandatorily utilize 0.5% of gross premium collected by them for IEC activities at grass root level to build overall insurance literacy of farmers to take informed decisions.

- Use of more technology for transparency and quick assessment of crop yield/loss for early settlement of claims.

Disposal of claims to the farmers under PMFBY during 2019-20

686. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the details of crop damage claims filed by the beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) during 2019-20 because of climatic extremities experienced in Maharashtra and other States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the claims filed have been disposed of to the farmers including the total amount disbursed by the insurance companies; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and also by when the pending claims would be settled?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (d) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) is being implemented on area approach basis for wide-spread calamities. As per provisions of the PMFBY, claims for wide spread calamities like flood, drought etc. or season end claims are worked out and settled by the concerned insurance company for notified crops on area approach basis, on receipt of yield data arrived through requisite number of Crop Cutting Experiments (CCEs) at the end of the harvesting period, from the concerned State Government. Farmers have no need to file such claims.

However, losses due to localized risk of hailstorm, landslide, inundation, cloud burst and natural fire and post-harvest losses due to cyclone, unseasonal rains and hailstorms are calculated on individual insured farm level, based on the report of the joint committee comprising representatives of State Government and insurance company to survey the extent of loss. As per provisions of the scheme insured farmers are required to intimate the loss due to the aforesaid causes to the State Government, insurance company and financial institutions within prescribed time limits. Affected insured farmers can also lodge the crop damage/loss intimation on National Crop Insurance Portal or Android based mobile app "Crop Insurance App".

The detailed methodology and formula for calculation of claims/indemnity has been defined in the Operational Guidelines of the Scheme.

State-wise details (including Maharashtra) of settlement of claims and reasons for pending claims under PMFBY during 2019-20 are given in the Statement

Statement

State-wise details of Claims Settlement and reasons for pendency under PMFBY for 2019-20 as on 07.09.2020

State/UT	Reported Claims	Paid Claims	Pending Claims	Reason for Pendency
(₹ in Crore)				
1	2	3	4	5
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	-	-	-	
Andhra Pradesh	1,819.513	-	1,819.513	State share of premium subsidy pending
Assam	14.849	-	14.849	State share of premium subsidy pending
Chhattisgarh	1,202.742	1,184.373	18.369	Claims under process
Goa	0.006	0.006	-	
Gujarat	317.731	111.646	206.085	State share of premium subsidy pending; claims not fully reported
Haryana	868.499	846.684	21.815	Claims under process
Himachal Pradesh	9.029	9.029	-	
Jharkhand	18.155	-	18.155	State share of premium subsidy pending; claims not fully reported
Karnataka	488.625	217.778	270.847	Yield data pending; claims not fully reported
Kerala	83.055	52.755	30.300	State share of premium subsidy pending

1	2	3	4	5
Madhya Pradesh	4,116.604	1.760	4,114.844	State Govt. has recently released its share premium subsidy and disbursement of claims has been started.
Maharashtra	6,504.750	5,726.000	778.750	State share of premium subsidy pending
Manipur	1.140	1.140	-	
Meghalaya	-	-	-	
Odisha	1,122.252	700.603	421.649	Claims of Rs 264.83 crore under process; Claims of Rs. 156.82 crore pending due to clarification on yield data awaited from State Govt.
Puducherry	6.559	-	6.559	Claims under process
Rajasthan	4,233.930	3,262.953	970.977	State share of premium subsidy pending
Sikkim	-	-	-	
Tamil Nadu	859.827	769.718	90.109	State share of premium subsidy pending
Telangana	520.909	-	520.909	State share of premium subsidy pending
Tripura	0.416	0.416	-	
Uttar Pradesh	1,059.859	952.360	107.499	Claims of Rs 62.42 crore under process; Claims of Rs. 45.08 crore pending due to State share of premium subsidy pending
Uttarakhand	56.150	56.150	-	
GRAND TOTAL	23,304.600	13,893.370	9,411.230	

* Kharif 2019 and Rabi 2019-20 claims are not fully reported.

Suicide by persons involved in farm sector

687. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware that at least 10,281 persons involved in the farm sector ended their lives in 2019, accounting for 7.4 per cent of the total number of suicides in India as per the Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India report 2019 by the National Crime Records Bureau;

(b) if so, whether any study has been conducted into the factors behind the same;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) publication titled 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India' (ADSI) 2019, the total number of farmers/ farm labourer who committed suicide was 10,281 accounting for 7.4% of the total suicides committed (1,39,123) during the year 2019.

(b) to (d) Government conducted a study titled 'Farmer Suicides: An All India Study' during 2016-17 to ascertain various reasons for the growing number of farmers suicide in the country. This Pan-India study was carried out in 13 major suicide prone states namely: Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Punjab, Maharashtra, Gujarat, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Karnataka covering 46 districts, 138 talukas, 388 villages and 528 sample victim households. The reference year of the study was decided as the agriculture year 2015-16 (June, 2015 - May, 2016). The main objectives of the study were as follows:—

- (i) to analyze the incidence and spread of farmer suicides in selected states and to map the hotspots of suicide.
- (ii) to study the socio-economic profile, cropping pattern and profitability in the victim's households.
- (iii) to study the causes leading to suicides.
- (iv) to recommend suitable policies to avert farmer suicide.

The study was assigned to Agro-Economic Research (AER) Unit Agricultural Development and Rural Transformation Centre (ADRTC) at Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC) Bengaluru which is a part of Agro-Economic Research (AER) Scheme being implemented by Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to conduct research studies on Agro-Economic problems. It is 100% funded through Grant-in-Aid by the Government and no study specific funds are provided to AER Centres/ Units. The study found that various reasons for farmers suicide are drug/ alcoholic addiction, illness, family issues, gambling, expectation of non-institutional credit, lack of access to expected credit, failure of rain, cyclone, drought, non realization of higher output/ prices, crop failure etc.

MSP for paddy

688. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the factors to decide upon the cost of production mentioned in the Swaminathan Report are taken in consideration to ensure the 50 per cent return on MSP for paddy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The present Minimum Support Price (MSP) for paddy for ensuring 50 percent return on paddy is in accordance with Swaminathan Report. Following the Swaminathan Committee recommendations, in the Union Budget of 2018-19, Government of India has announced the pre-determined principle of fixing MSP at 1.5 times of the cost of production. The present MSP for paddy has been fixed in accordance to the same principle.

MSP takes into account all paid out costs-such as those incurred on account of hired human labour, bullock labour/machine labour, rent paid for leased in land, expenses incurred in cash and kind on the use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manures, irrigation charges, depreciation on implements and farm buildings, interest on working capital, diesel/electricity for operation of pump sets etc., miscellaneous expenses-and imputed value of family labour. The cost of production considered is comprehensive and based on the methodology recommended by Expert Committees from time to time.

Measures to tackle disruption in supply of drugs

689. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has announced a set of measures to tackle possible disruption in supply of drugs and other manufactured goods due to Coronavirus outbreak in China; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) has taken various measures to ensure the availability of essential drugs at reasonable prices during the COVID-19 pandemic. Timely and effective steps were taken to ensure no shortage of drugs during the lockdown period throughout the country. The details are as under:-

- (i) To ensure seamless availability of drugs, a 'Control Room' has been set up with Helpline No. 1800111255 and issues like Non-availability of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers etc., and price violation of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, etc., were resolved promptly.
- (ii) An inter-ministerial committee under the chairmanship of Shri S. Eswara Reddy, Joint Drug Controller, CDSCO has been constituted to monitor trends of export and import of APIs, Formulations and Medical devices to ensure timely availability of these items in the country and to prevent shortages. The committee submits its reports from time to time.
- (iii) Availability of drugs has been ensured by coordinating with State Health Authorities like SDCs and Central Govt. Authorities like CDSCO, DGHS, DPIIT etc. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under Department of Pharmaceuticals collected the critical information from drug manufacturers used in decision making to ensure drug availability.
- (iv) Steps have been taken to ensure the availability of Heparin used in COVID-19 treatment. Further, on intervention in the issue of price-parity of N-95 Masks by the NPPA, major manufacturers/importers of N-95 Masks have reduced their prices significantly up to 67%.

- (v) The DoP also coordinated issues related to production of raw material, medicines, medical devices, packaging material, etc. by manufacturers and movement of raw material, packing material, finished goods and manpower etc. to availability of life saving essential drugs during the lock down.
- (vi) The NPPA has taken various steps to ensure the availability of life saving essential drugs like Hydroxychloroquine, Paracetamol, Vaccines, Anti-Tuberculosis drugs, Anti-diabetic drugs, cardiac drugs, imported Anti-epileptic drugs and COVID-19 drugs like FDC Lopinovir & Ritonavir, Remdesivir, Favipiravir, Zinc Sulphate, Methylprednisolone, Enoxparin, Dexamethasone etc.
- (vii) Further, on the intervention of the Department of Pharmaceuticals, manufacturers of Remdesivir have created a Helpline to make available the Remdesivir. However, Remdesivir and Tocilizumab continue as under investigational therapy Drugs under Covid-19 Protocol. The details of various other measures taken by the NPPA are given in the Statement.

Statement

Measures taken for ensuring availability of drugs

1. The NPPA vide D.O. letter dated 20th Feb, 2020 requested all Chief Secretaries of States/UTs to closely monitor the production and availability of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) and their formulations, and necessary action should be taken under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) to ensure availability of life saving essential drugs to the consumers at all times.
2. In order to address the issues related to availability and pricing of critical Medical Devices such as Masks, Sanitizers and Gloves to deal effectively with COVID-19 situation, the NPPA vide letter dated 13th March 2020 requested MoHFW to prepone the effective date of consideration of Medical Devices as Drugs.
3. The NPPA vide order dated 13th March, in exercise of powers under clause (I) of sub section (2) of section 10 of the Disaster Management Act directed all States/UTs and concerned State Authorities to take necessary steps to ensure sufficient availability of surgical and protective masks, hand sanitizers and gloves

at prices not exceeding MRP printed on pack sizes. Ministry of Consumer Affairs had, issued order dated 13th March, 2020 to regulate the production, quality, distribution, logistics of masks and hand sanitizers.

4. In the effort of continuous monitoring, a letter dated 18th March, 2020 was also issued to all State Drug Controllers (SDCs) directing them to take immediate action through field officers to restrain acts of hoarding of surgical and protective masks, hand sanitizers and gloves and profiteering by manufacturers, distributors, stockists and retailers of these items as well as to ensure availability and distribution of these items at prices not exceeding MRP.
5. In its effort to maintain seamless availability of critical drugs and Medical Devices related to COVID-19, NPPA *vide* letter dated 19th March, requested Secretary (Textile) to put temporary Export restrictions on critical inputs (PP MELTBLOWN Non-Woven Fabric, the Nosewire and Loop Elastic non-latex) for masks. Further, at the intervention by NPPA, DCGI *vide* order dated 19th March directed all Port Offices of CDSCO to take proactive measures for clearance of imported stock of gloves in coordination with customs in expedited manner in public interest.
6. The issue regarding availability of N-95 masks and PPE kits is entrusted to Empowered Group 3 and the issues of 2 ply/3 ply masks and hand sanitizers is being monitored by Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Department of Food respectively. NPPA undertook database creation in respect of said Medical Devices and shared with concerned authorities for effective monitoring.
7. The NPPA made efforts to collect information regarding Domestic Manufacturers of masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, PPE kits and ventilators in the country. In this regard, various meetings were held at NPPA as well as through video conferencing with the stakeholders including industry associations. The compiled information was placed on NPPA's website and also disseminated to MoHFW and all States/UTs to assist in procurement of these devices required for treatment of COVID-19.

Measures taken for ensuring affordability of N-95 masks

1. In order to ensure availability of N-95 mask at affordable prices in the country, NPPA *vide* O.M dated 21.05.2020, directed manufacturers/importers/suppliers of N-95 Mask to maintain parity in prices for non-Government procurement and to

make available the same at reasonable prices and any violation of the same would invite action under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

2. After issuing such an advisory, major manufacturers/importers of N-95 masks have reduced their prices significantly up to 67%. Further, a press release in this regard was released on 25.05.2020 for dissemination of information to general public.

NPPA's control room and helpline

1. As a measure to deal with the emerging situation arising due to outbreak of COVID-19, to ensure seamless availability of drugs including masks, hand sanitizers and gloves, the NPPA set up a 'Control Room' with Helpline No. 1800111255 and e-mail ID: *monitoring-nppa@gov.in* on 20th March, 2020. The Control Room has attended 1867 calls and addressed all types of the complaints in coordination with the State Drug Control Departments, AIOCD, AIMED etc. till 31.08.2020.
2. The NPPA's Control Room team worked vigorously on 24×7 basis, in 3 shifts, on virtual basis through remote locations and has made serious efforts, in coordination with O/o Chief Secretaries of States/UTs, SDCs, District/State Administration and other State Authorities, for prompt resolution of number of issues. The summary of the issues resolved through the NPPA Control Room is given below:—

Sl. No.	Issues
1.	Non-availability of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, etc.
2.	High price of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, etc.
3.	Coordination in permission for production of raw material, medicines, medical devices, packaging material, etc. by manufacturers.
4.	Coordination in movement of raw material, packing material, finished goods and manpower.

Measures for logistic mangement for availabilty of drugs

1. NPPA associated with Empowered Group 5 headed by Shri Parameswaran Iyer, Secretary, DWS, regarding 'Facilitating Supply Chain and Logistics Management for availability of necessary items such as Food and Medicines' to flag the

logistics issues of pharmaceutical Industry to ensure the seamless availability of drugs across the country.

2. In lockdown period which also includes sealing of State borders at various places, pharmaceutical sector faced serious challenges relating to logistics raw materials and manpower in an effort to provide seamless availability of drugs and medical devices across country. In this regard, NPPA took many initiatives in management of logistic disruption faced by the pharmaceutical industry which has led to increased availability of medicines and medical devices across the country.
3. The NPPA took measures for availability of drugs for COVID-19 and other essential drugs including HCQ, Paracetamol, Vaccines, TB, Insulin and other cardiac drugs. NPPA is also dealing with issues related to sub optimal production, logistics, MIS, shortages and exports.
4. The shortage of imported Anti-epileptic drugs (particularly Sabril 500) was reported by MoHFW and some NGO groups. NPPA immediately took necessary action and the issue was addressed promptly. Similarly, the issue of availability of imported drug Acterna of COVID treatment, was facilitated through discussion with Cipla, the importer.
5. NPPA *vide* D.O. letter No. 37001/2020/Div.-III/NPPA/Part dated 25th April, 2020 to Administrator, Daman and Diu and Chief Secretary Maharashtra, has requested to take immediate necessary action in respect of resolution of bottlenecks to mitigate the risk of shortage of Anti-TB medicines in the country.
6. Further, based on communication dated 21st April, 2020 from Joint Secretary (RCH) referring to the letter dated 14th April, 2020 of the Secretary (Health), requesting to address transportation issues due to nationwide lockdown to ensure seamless availability of vaccines required to successfully conduct Universal Immunization Programme (UIP), NPPA *vide* letter dated 21st April, 2020 requested Ministry of Civil Aviation, GoI to take immediate steps regarding airlifting of necessary supplies of vaccines, at the earliest, as it is critical for the smooth operation of UIP.
7. The grievances received at micro and macro level from individuals as well as from Associations/Industry and Institutions/Departments were taken care of to address all issues. During the lockdown, complaints were received regarding non access

to critical medicines. These were got home delivered through coordination with SDCs.

8. On 26th March, 2020, NPPA requested all States/UTs to ensure unobstructed movement of raw material, packing material, finished products and manpower related to manufacturing and distribution of drugs and medical devices.

Creation of dashboard for COVID-19

NPPA created a COVID-19 dashboard on its website having latest office orders, circulars, helpline no., E-mail for sending grievances etc. for convenience of public and other stakeholders. Link: <http://www.nppaindia.nic.in/en/whats-new-about-coronavirus>.

Creation of COVID and COVID plus drugs database

NPPA in coordination with DCGI developed a comprehensive database for COVID and COVID plus (55+97) drugs as a measure of preventive preparedness for fighting COVID-19. This will be immensely useful in current scenario as well as future needs of the organization. DCGI has been directed to create a State-wise mechanism to obtain timely alerts (ring the bell) in case of shortages to take remedial action.

Measures taken to ensure availability of medical oxygen

NPPA also coordinated the issue of availability of medical oxygen. The Empowered Group of Secretaries Group-3 (EGoS) considered the representation of All India Industrial Gas Manufacturer Association (AIIGMA) regarding cost impact of production of medical oxygen by the major manufacturers on 27th May, 2020. Tariff Commission was asked to examine the claim.

NPPA coordinated the data for medical oxygen from companies to Tariff Commission and ensured that examination of claim is done timely. In its report, Tariff Commission has mentioned that the claim of AIIGMA relies mainly on venting of various gases on account of production of oxygen and increase in electricity consumption cost. However both grounds are *prima facie* not substantiated based on data provided by AIIGMA/manufactures and reject the price increase claim.

Measures taken to ensure availability of drugs under export restriction

1. Paracetamol and Hydroxychloroquine along with other drugs were put under export prohibition to ensure drug security in the country. NPPA made all out

efforts to collect data regarding manufacturing capacity, domestic requirement, current stock, procurement orders of APIs/KSMs/Intermediates in respect these drugs under export restriction.

2. Based on detailed examination of the stock position, manufacturing capacity and domestic requirement of Paracetamol, DoP/NPPA *vide* letter dated 15th May, 2020 recommended to DGFT for lifting of ban on Export of Paracetamol API with the condition for major manufacturers to maintain supply of equivalent quantity in the domestic market. NPPA is regularly monitoring the details regarding manufacturing, stock position and supplies of Paracetamol API made to domestic market by major manufacturers.
3. Further, also *vide* dated 11.06.2020 recommended to DGFT for lifting of ban on Export of Hydroxychloroquine API and formulations with the condition for major manufacturers to maintain sufficient availability in the domestic market.
4. The NPPA is regularly monitoring the details regarding manufacturing, stock position and supplies of Hydroxychloroquine made to various authorities/agencies by major manufacturers. Further, NPPA is submitting a daily report to Cabinet Minister, MoC&F regarding Hydroxychloroquine based on reports received from the concerned major manufacturers of the drugs.

Monitoring through survey

The availability of key medicines is also monitored through CDSCO chemist level surveys, AIOCD surveys and Pharmatrac reports.

Measures taken to ensure availability of other COVID-19 drugs

1. As and when any drug (e.g. FDC Lopinovir and Ritonavir, Remdesivir, Favipiravir, Zinc Sulphate, Mythyleprednisolone, Enoxparin, Dexamethasone etc.) come into consideration for treatment protocol of COVID-19, NPPA pro-actively initiated task of collection of information to assess availability situation in the country.
2. NPPA, on receiving of estimated quantity required from MoHFW, *vide* letter dated 03.07.2020 and 16.07.2020 directed major manufactures of Mythyleprednisolone, Enoxparin, Dexamethasoneto ensure sufficient production and availability of these drugs across the country.

Measures taken to coordinate with SDCs

NPPA conducts regular meeting through VC with SDCs and drug manufacturers to monitor the availability of drugs and takes appropriate action. NPPA also coordinates with SDCs through WhatsApp group.

Measures taken to ensure availability of heparin

NPPA received representations from several manufacturers for upward revision of ceiling prices of Heparin Injection 5000IU/ml which has been considered as an essential COVID plus medicine by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. To ensure the availability, NPPA increased the ceiling price of Heparin for a period of six month.

Measures taken to stop price rise of drugs

1. National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) issued necessary instructions to DCGI, States/UTs to ensure adequate supply of APIs and formulations including surgical and protective masks, hand sanitizers and gloves at affordable prices in the market and to prevent black marketing and hoarding which could create artificial shortages in the country.
2. NPPA took cognizance of reports of black marketing of Remdesvir and Tocilizumab and directed DCGI to issue necessary instruction to SDCs to take appropriate action in this respect.
3. Several requests from State Governments, NGOs and general public were received regarding fixation of prices for N-95 masks as the same were available in the market at exorbitant and differential prices. In order to ensure availability of N-95 mask at affordable prices in the country, NPPA *vide* O.M. dated 21.05.2020, directed Manufacturers/Importers/Suppliers of N-95 mask to maintain parity in prices for non-Government procurements and to make available the same at reasonable prices and any violation of the same would invite action under Essential Commodities Act, 1955.
4. After issuing such an advisory, major manufacturers/importers of N-95 masks have reduced their prices significantly up to 67%. Further, a press release in this regard was released on 25.05.2020 for dissemination of information to general public.

5. The NPPA also took cognizance of complaints of black marketing and hoarding of N-95 masks and directed SDC Maharashtra to take necessary action. SDC conducted raid on the company doing black marketing and hoarding of N-95 masks.

Shortage of salts and medicines due to Coronavirus

690. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the salt compositions of around 65 per cent used to manufacture drugs and medicines in the country are imported from China;
- (b) whether due to the outbreak of Coronavirus, the imports have been stopped and the manufacturers of medicines in the country have stocks that will last for a few months; and
- (c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to meet or reduce the shortage of various salts so as to check the price rise and shortage of various basic medicines, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The Indian pharmaceutical industry is 3rd largest in the world in terms of volume and 14th largest in terms of value. India exported medicines worth US \$ 14389 mn in Financial Year 2018-19. India also exported Bulk Drug/Drug Intermediates worth US \$ 3911mn in Financial Year 2018-19. However, the country also imports various Bulk Drugs/Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) for producing medicines. Two-thirds of the total imports of Bulk Drugs/Drug Intermediates is from China. As per available data from the various port offices of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), the details of the percentage of raw materials imported from China are as under:—

Year	Percentage (in terms of value)
2017	68.62%
2018	66.53%
2019	72.40%

(b) As per the available information from various port offices of the CDSCO, import of drugs has not been stopped due to outbreak of Coronavirus. The CDSCO has not received any report of shortage of stocks at present with the manufacturers.

(c) Central Government has issued notification *vide* S.O. 2450(E) dated 27.07.2020 which is valid for 6 months providing that if a Registration Certificate holder makes an application for a fresh import registration certificate before the expiry of the existing certificate, the existing registration certificate shall be valid until orders are passed on the application and shall be deemed to be valid for all purposes. With a view to attain self-reliance and reduce import dependence in APIs/Bulk drugs, the Government has rolled out two schemes *viz.* (i) "Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) In India" and (ii) "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks". The scheme guidelines were issued on 27th July, 2020.

Raw materials for making drugs

†691. SHRIMATI PHULO DEVI NETAM: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our dependency on China in the matters of medicine is increasing, if so, the details of import of medicines during the last six months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the supply of raw materials for drugs from China has declined during the spread of Coronavirus infection;

(c) whether it is also a fact that China has overcharged for raw material used for making drugs, the details thereof; and

(d) the efforts being made by Government to make India self-reliant in the field of medicine, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Many APIs are imported from China, for manufacturing of medicine. As per available data from the various port offices of CDSCO, the details of import of such APIs during the last six months are under:—

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Sl. No.	Months	Quantity in MTS	Value in crore
1.	March, 2020	4448.9	795.02669
2.	April, 2020	5341.7	897.57950
3.	May, 2020	3961.4	949.42975
4.	June, 2020	3634.1	973.63478
5.	July, 2020	4812.1	1094.8240
6.	August, 2020	4023.5	804.81575

Source: DCGI, CDSCO.

(b) The supply of raw material from China got impacted for short time. However, the major Indian pharmaceutical companies had adequate stocks which were monitored by the department. The supply was restored once the factories opened after the lockdown period in China.

(c) No complaints/references regarding overcharging for raw material used for making drugs has been received.

(d) With a view to attain self-reliance and reduce import dependence in APIs/Bulk drugs, the department of pharmaceuticals has rolled two schemes viz. (i) "Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) In India" and (ii) "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks". The guidelines of both the schemes were released on 27th July, 2020.

Provisions of fertilizers to Bihar

†692. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the district-wise details with regard to quantum of various fertilizers provided by Government to Bihar during the current Kharif season;

(b) whether the provided quantity is enough to meet the demand; and

(c) whether such complaints are brought to Government's notice where availability of fertilizers was not ensured as per the demand of farmers?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Sir, Department of Fertilizers (DoF) ensures availability of all fertilizers at State level as per requirement projected by Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers Welfare (DAC&FW) in consultation with States/UTs for each season and distribution within the States is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. The quantum of various fertilizers provided by the Government to Bihar during the Kharif, 20 season is indicated as below:-

Requirement, availability and sales of fertilizers in Bihar during Kharif, 20 (from 01.04.2020 to 14.09.2020)

(Figures in lakh MT)

Fertilizers	Pro rata Requirement	Availability	Cumulative DBT Sales
Urea	8.72	12.45	10.15
DAP	2.73	5.21	2.50
MOP	0.97	1.79	0.63
NPKS	1.45	2.65	1.30

Source: IFMS dashboard.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No complaints were received in the Department from the State Government. It can be seen from the above table that the availability of fertilizers in Bihar is more than the projected requirement and sales.

Transparency and accountability in PMBJP

693. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABHDDHE: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which transparency and accountability have been ensured for the success of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP);

(b) the measures/steps that Government has adopted to assess the progress of the PMBJP, the details thereof; and

(c) the impact of these measures/steps, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI), the implementing agency of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) has incorporated best practices in all aspects to its operations to ensure maximum transparency and accountability. It procures medicines through open e-tender, which is uploaded on Central Public Procurement Portal and qualified bidders are selected based on technical and financial bids as per provision of the General Financial Rule, 2017. The details of L1 bidders and L1 rates are automatically visible to all bidders on the website. All the Guidelines issued by CVC and provisions of GFR are followed in the tender process. Besides this, the books of accounts of BPPI are regularly audited by independent auditors appointed under the Income Tax Act. A Governing Council under the Chairmanship of Secretary and Executive Council under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary of the Department of Pharmaceuticals are the Apex bodies to oversee the functioning of the Bureau. The power, functions and duties of all the authorities have also been clearly laid down.

(b) In order to review the performance of the scheme and BPPI, the Governing Council mandatorily meets once in every six months and the Executive Council once in every three months. Further, monthly reviews are also taken by the Hon'ble Minister and the Hon'ble Minister of State of the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers and Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals and necessary guidance imparted time to time.

(c) The Department has prepared a Vision Plan, which includes Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) like number of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs), number of medicines, sales turnover, etc. The progress of fulfillment of these targets are regularly monitored by the Executive Council and reviewed by the Governing Council. The Bureau has been able to meet all the assigned targets within the prescribed timeframe.

Under the scheme, about 6,605 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) are functional across the country as on 14.09.2020. The product basket of PMBJP comprises of 1,250 medicines and 204 surgical and consumables covering all 37 major therapeutic groups such as Anti-infectives, Anti-allergic, Anti-diabetics, Cardiovascular, Anti-cancers, Gastro-intestinal medicines, Nutraceuticals, etc. During Financial Year 2019-2020, sales turnover of ₹ 433.60 crore was achieved, which led to savings of approximately ₹ 2500 crore of the common citizens of the country.

Revival of closed fertilizer unit in Ramagundam

694. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to revive the closed fertilizer unit at Ramagundam;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has fixed any timeframe to commence the production at Ramagundam fertilizer unit;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The closed fertilizer unit at Ramagundam is being revived through joint venture company named Ramagundam Fertilizer and Chemicals Limited (RFCL) formed by the nominated PSUs *i.e.* National Fertilizers Limited (NFL), Engineer India Limited (EIL) and Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) for setting up of a gas based ammonia urea plant of 12.7 lakh Metric Tonne per Annum capacity.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The timeframe to commence the production at RFCL unit is November, 2020.

(e) N.A.

R&D in fertilizer sector

†695. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government for making farmer aware of the results of latest research and development in the field of use of fertilizers and the role of Indian Council for fertilizers and Fertilizer Technology Research (ICFFTR) in it; and
- (b) whether Government would like to set up any such mechanism which can give suggestions to fertilizer plants regarding manufacturing, processing, marketing and sale of manure and related products on the basis of the experience of farmers, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Indian Council for Fertilizers and Fertilizer Technology Research (ICFFTR) was formed as a society jointly by fertilizers CPSEs under the administrative control of Department of Fertilizers, in August, 2019. ICFFTR was registered under Societies Registration Act 1860 on 19.08.2019. Later on, fertilizers Joint Ventures Companies viz. Ramagundam Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited, Hindustan Urvarak and Rasayan Limited and Talcher Fertilizers Limited also become members.

ICFFTR is at nascent stage as of now. Major aim and objectives of ICFFTR are research on fertilizer manufacturing technology, development of alternate raw materials/ feedstock, indigenizing the available technology, and developing innovative fertilizer products to suit country's requirement etc. ICFFTR further aims to disseminate the positive outcomes of these research to fertilizer plants regarding manufacturing, processing, marketing and sale of manure and related products. In order to achieve aims and objectives, ICFFTR is currently working in three verticals namely (i) Industrial research, (ii) Research on New and Innovative Fertilizers and fertilizers Technology, (iii) Research on Farmer's Welfare.

Export opportunities for pharmaceutical companies

696. SHRI VAIKO:

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

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

(a) whether there are ample export opportunities for pharmaceutical companies in India to exports to Eastern Europe and Russia;

(b) if so, the efforts made by Government to facilitate pharma companies; and

(c) whether Government would offer incentives and concessions to encourage exports in pharma sector in view of higher potential in exports, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The market size of Eastern Europe (excluding Russia) is relatively small as compared to the European Union, offering relatively smaller business opportunity for Indian pharmaceutical exports. However, Russia is an important destination for Indian pharmaceutical exports and it is the fourth largest importer of pharmaceutical products from India, worth USD 552.41 million, which grew at 14% and contributed 2%

of the total pharma exports from India. Other than Russia, countries such as Poland, Greece, Ukraine, Romania, Slovenia, Uzbekistan and Hungary are the other markets in the Eastern Europe which have business potential for India, from the perspective of generics market.

(b) Export promotion is a continuous process. Government of India, through various institutional dialogue mechanisms such as Joint Working Groups, regularly engages with the respective country's Health and Commerce Ministries and other concerned Government agencies to promote our pharma trade interests. Cooperation agreements/MoUs are also entered into for closer engagement as per the requirement. Various issues faced by the Indian companies including market access concerns are regularly taken up with the concerned agencies of these countries at appropriate levels.

(c) Government, through its schemes, encourages the Indian industry to explore new markets, register more products, showcase their products in major International fairs including participating in Buyer Seller Meetings, all of which help in maintaining our competitiveness in the international markets. The Government, with effect from January 2019, has increased the financial assistance under the MAI (Market Access Initiative) from ₹ 50 lakhs to ₹ 2 crore per company per year, and also introduced ₹ 25 lakhs for implementation of barcoding to MSME units. These measures are expected to facilitate enhanced market access for Indian pharma.

High import of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)

697. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian pharmaceutical companies import more than 70% of the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) used for manufacturing medicines in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the countries from which India imports APIs alongwith the reasons for high import of APIs;

(c) whether Government has taken any steps for setting up Bulk Drug Parks in the country and if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise; and

(d) the other steps taken by Government to create a self-reliant ecosystem in the pharmaceuticals, health and hygiene sector by ramping up domestic production which would help in building Atmanirbhar Bharat?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Bulk drugs accounted for 63% of the total pharmaceutical imports in the country during 2019-20. India imports bulk drugs largely for economic considerations. The following are major countries from which India imported APIs during 2019-20:—

Sl. No.	Country	Percentage share of import
1.	China P R	68.04
2.	USA	3.53
3.	Italy	3.02
4.	Singapore	2.88
5.	Spain	2.17
6.	Germany	1.85
7.	France	1.56
8.	Japan	1.53
9.	Denmark	1.26
10.	Hong Kong	1.25

Source: DGCIS, Kolkata.

(c) Under the scheme 'Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks' financial assistance will be provided to the State implementing agencies for creation of common infrastructure facilities to three Bulk Drug Parks to be developed by State Governments. States will be selected on the basis of scores obtained by the proposals submitted by the States on predefined selection criteria (given in the scheme guidelines available on the website of the department under the tab titled 'schemes').

(d) With a view to attain self-reliance and reduce import dependence in APIs/ Bulk drugs, the department of pharmaceuticals has rolled two schemes *viz.* (i) "Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) In India" and (ii) "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks". The guidelines of both the schemes were released on 27th July, 2020.

Provision of medicines at cheaper price during COVID-19 pandemic

698. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps being taken by Government for controlling the prices of medicines and providing medicines at cheap/fair rate to the poor particularly during the alarming times of COVID-19; and

(b) whether it is a fact that some medicines have been added and some removed by making changes at a large scale in the control list by Government for providing medicines at cheaper price, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) fixes the ceiling prices of Scheduled Medicines which are specified in National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) and are included in Schedule-I of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013). The ceiling price fixed by the NPPA is applicable on all the branded and generic versions of such formulations alike. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued revised clinical treatment protocol for COVID-19 on 13.06.2020. As per ICMR protocol Hydroxychloroquine, Paracetamol, Methylprednisolone, Enoxaparin, Dexamethasone medicines are included in Schedule-I of the DPCO, 2013. The ceiling price of these medicines have been fixed/ revised by NPPA *vide* S.O. No. 1213(E) dated 25.03.2020. The detail of price notification is available on the website of the NPPA *i.e.* www.nppaindia@nic.in.

In respect of non-scheduled formulations, no ceiling price is fixed by the NPPA, the manufactures fix the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of their formulations at the time of their launching. However, after launching, the NPPA ensures that no manufacturer can increase the MRP of non-Scheduled drugs by more than ten per cent of MRP during preceding twelve months as per provisions of the DPCO, 2013.

In order to ensure smooth availability of drugs, the NPPA has set up a 'Control Room' with Helpline No. 1800111255 and issues like non-availability of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers etc., and high price of medicines, masks, gloves, hand sanitizers, etc., were resolved promptly. A COVID - 19 dashboard on NPPA website, which has controlled latest office orders, circulars, helpline number, E-mail for sending grievances etc., was created for convenience of public and other stakeholders.

Further, on the intervention of the NPPA and the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI), manufacturers of Remdesivir have created a helpline to make available the Remdesivir. However, both these drugs are not part of COVID-19 protocol and continue as under investigational therapy drugs. The availability of key medicines is also monitored through regular survey conducted by the officials of the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) on chemist shops at various localities across the country.

In the wake of COVID-19 crisis, Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) has been rendering essential services to the nation. The stores remained functional during the lock-down period and maintained operations as part of their commitment to ensure uninterrupted availability of essential medicines. It was ensured to make available adequate stock of generic medicines at PMBJP stores.

(b) No, Sir.

Implementation of Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs)

699. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

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

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

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

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

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Under the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP), about 6,605 Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras (PMBJKs) are functional across the country in 36 States/UTs as on 14.09.2020. The State/UT-wise list is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The details of sales made by the PMBJKs during the last three Financial Years are as under:—

Sl. No.	Financial Year	Sales at MRP (₹ in crore)
1.	2017-18	140.84
2.	2018-19	315.70
3.	2019-20	433.60

(c) The cost of Jan Aushadhi Medicines is cheaper by at least 50% and in some cases, by 80% to 90% of the market price of the branded medicines. The scheme has drastically brought down the prices of quality medicines and has made the medicines available within the reach of a large section of the population, especially the poor.

(d) In order to maintain quality standards, the medicines sold through PMBJKs are purchased only from the World Health Organization - Good Manufacturing Practices (WHO-GMP) certified suppliers. Apart from this, each batch of the drug is tested at laboratories accredited by the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL). Only after passing the quality tests, the medicines are dispatched to PMBJKs. Bureau of Pharma PSUs of India (BPPI), the implementing agency of the scheme also does a routine quality audit of the facilities of the vendors.

Statement

State/UT-wise list of PMBJKs across the country

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of PMBJKs
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	2
2.	Andhra Pradesh	193
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	30
4.	Assam	91
5.	Bihar	179
6.	Chandigarh	6
7.	Chhattisgarh	221
8.	Delhi	166

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of PMBJKs
9.	Goa	9
10.	Gujarat	542
11.	Haryana	186
12.	Himachal Pradesh	67
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	91
14.	Jharkhand	68
15.	Karnataka	703
16.	Kerala	574
17.	Ladakh	3
18.	Lakshadweep*	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	183
20.	Maharashtra	477
21.	Manipur	35
22.	Meghalaya	9
23.	Mizoram	24
24.	Nagaland	16
25.	Odisha	215
26.	Puducherry	16
27.	Punjab	217
28.	Rajasthan	138
29.	Sikkim	3
30.	Tamil Nadu	656
31.	Telangana	132
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	27

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of PMBJKs
33.	Tripura	25
34.	Uttar Pradesh	967
35.	Uttarakhand	196
36.	West Bengal	138
TOTAL		6605

* Medicines are directly supplied to UT administration of Lakshadweep.

Shortage of urea

700. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of urea in various States in the country at present;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is also aware that the farmers are purchasing urea at higher rate from the open market; and
- (d) the steps taken by Government to supply urea to the farmers on control rate through Government Agencies?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) Sir, There is no such report received in the Department by any State Government. Government of India has notified fertilizer as an essential commodity under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955(ECA) and notified Fertilizer (Control) Order (FCO), 1985 and Fertilizer (Movement Control) Order, 1973 under the EC Act. State Governments have been adequately empowered to ensure selling of fertilizers at MRP besides stopping black marketing of fertilizers. State Governments are also empowered to conduct search, make seizures and take punitive action against any person violating provisions of FCO, 1985 and Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Urea is being provided to farmers at a statutory notified Maximum Retail Price (MRP). The MRP of 45 kg. bag of urea is ₹ 242 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem-coating and taxes as applicable) and the MRP of 50 kg. bag of Urea is ₹ 268 per bag (exclusive of charges towards neem coating and taxes as applicable). Accordingly, all farmers are being supplied urea at the subsidized price.

Pharmaceutical park in Karnataka

701. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal from Government of Karnataka to set up a pharmaceutical park in Kadachur in Yadagiri district;

(b) whether it is a fact that Yadagiri district in Karnataka has been identified as aspirational district;

(c) whether it is also a fact that in the light of COVID-19, the importance of setting up of pharma parks has gone up; and

(d) if so, whether Government proposes a separate scheme for setting up of pharma parks in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) Yes, Sir. A proposal dated 14.01.2020 was received from Government of Karnataka for setting up a Bulk Drug Pharma Park in Kadachur Industrial Area, Yadagiri seeking financial assistance under the sub-scheme *viz.* Assistance to Bulk Drug Park for Common Facility Centre. However, at that time the sub-scheme was under revision which was intimated to the Government of Karnataka on 13.03.2020. The revised scheme *i.e.* "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks" was approved by the Union Cabinet on 20/03/2020.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The importance of setting up of Bulk Drug Parks has definitely gone up in the light of COVID-19 pandemic. The Department of Pharmaceuticals has prepared a scheme called "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks". The detailed guidelines of the scheme were released on 27th July, 2020. The guidelines of the scheme are available on the website of the Department under the tab titled 'schemes'.

Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP)

702. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government had decided to make a Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) mandatory;
- (b) if so, the present status of the UCPMP;
- (c) whether the implementation of voluntary code has not shown any results and unethical practices have increased; and
- (d) if so, the corrective steps that Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) No, Sir.

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

(c) and (d) The Uniform Code for Pharmaceutical Marketing Practices (UCPMP) is voluntary in nature and under UCPMP, there is no provision for Department of Pharmaceuticals to directly deal with complaints received regarding unethical practices. As per UCPMP, any complaint received against a pharmaceutical company is to be handled by an Ethical Committee for Pharma Marketing Practices (ECPMP) that is to be constituted in each of the pharmaceutical associations. Department has been following up with the pharma associations to implement the code effectively. In this regard, this department has also taken multiple meetings with the pharmaceuticals associations and most of the associations have put UCPMP on their websites and constituted the Committees for handling complaints regarding breach of UCPMP.

DR. Eshwara Reddy Committee report

703. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Dr. Eshwara Reddy Committee has submitted its report;
- (b) if so, the details of each of the recommendation made by the Committee;
- (c) how has the Indian pharma sector been coping since Hubei province, the main place of manufacture of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) in China closed factories in view of COVID-19; and

(d) how Government will ensure that APIs are made available domestically to Indian pharma companies at affordable price?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) and (b) Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. Eswara Reddy, to address the issue of drug security in the country in the context of Novel Coronavirus outbreak in China on 06.02.2020. The committee had submitted its report on 27.02.2020. The Committee reviewed the situation regarding impact on import of APIs and KSMs due to outbreak of Coronavirus and identified four core issues *viz.* (1) Disruption of manufacturing activity in China due to holidays, (2) Logistics issues, (3) Restriction on movement of personnel, and (4) Availability of raw materials for manufacturing of APIs/KSMs. The committee has observed that there could be major impact on import of certain APIs and KSMs which are manufactured in Hubei province in China. The recommendations made by the Committee are as under:—

- (i) As Hubei province is seriously affected due to outbreak of the Coronavirus and the manufacturing units located in this province are expected to resume their activities after control of Coronavirus, Government may consider for requirement of prior NOC from competent authority like DGFT for export of following APIs and its formulations where there may be a shortage:-

Chloramphenicol, Neomycin, Progesterone, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B 12, Vitamin B 6, Acyclovir Erythromycin salts, Metronidazole, Tinidazole, Ornidazole, Clindamycin, Paracetamol.

- (ii) It is given to understand that some of the traders/importers have started raising the prices of APIs/KSMs. Therefore, Government should take necessary steps under the Essential Commodities Act to ensure that there is no rise in the prices of APIs/KSMs in the country.
- (iii) Government should also issue advisory to all the State/UT Governments to ensure that merchant importers/stockists as well as indigenous manufacturers of APIs do not hoard and create artificial scarcity of APIs/KSMs in the country.
- (iv) As the logistics seems to be a major issue in China, in case of scarcity, the Government should make special arrangements by providing logistic support for importing these APIs/KSMs from China by air.

- (v) The DGFT should provide import and export data of these 58 APIs identified and their KSMs on daily basis to Department of Pharmaceuticals to monitor and assess the impact on their import/export.
- (vi) CDSCO should process applications received from countries other than China for import and registration of these 58 APIs, if any, expeditiously to facilitate their import from these country.
- (vii) The Government should establish "Drug Security Authority" under the Department of Pharmaceuticals not only to make India self-sufficient but also global leader in manufacturing of APIs/KSMs/Intermediate/Chemicals for domestic as well as export. Such authority will ensure complete ecosystem in terms of infrastructure, technology, business model, etc. for the manufacturing from basic chemicals/reagents to APIs in India. Making India self-sufficient for APIs/KSMs will save around INR 30000 crore of foreign exchange which is currently spent for import. The authority should consider taking measures for addressing various challenges faced by Indian API industry which include, but not limited to the following:—
 - 1. Large fermentation plants are needed to be set up with lower land cost, continuous supply of electricity and other utilities at lower prices for augmenting the manufacturing of APIs such as antibiotics, sartans, vitamins etc.
 - 2. Provision for setting up of common facilities like common effluent treatment plant (CETP), solvent recovery plant, power and steam units, quality control laboratory, logistics centres (warehouses) etc.
 - 3. Similar measures need to be taken for other APIs and intermediates/ KSMs, Catalysts, Solvents, etc. which are not made in India and where there is high dependence on imports.
 - 4. To streamline the process of environmental approval for APIs/KSMs industry by the way of introduction of system of granting such approval facility-wise (irrespective of number of products) based on submission of Self Certification.
- (viii) To meet budgetary requirement to establish the said authority and support the API industry, Government should consider imposing CESS on import of APIs/KSMs.

- (ix) Since manufacture of APIs and KSMs requires considerable infrastructure and investment, this industry may be declared as an infrastructure industry to provide for facility of easy finance, etc.
 - (x) Formulations manufactured by utilizing the indigenous APIs in respect of the identified 58 drugs should be given price incentives both for Scheduled and non-Scheduled categories.
 - (xi) To make it attractive and profitable for manufacturing these, products, Tax Holiday for 10 years may be declared.
 - (xii) The committee also recommended that in case of emergency, Government may also consider invoking of Rule 24(2) of Drugs and Cosmetic Rules 1945 for grant of Import License for import of specific drugs exempting the requirement of obtaining registration certificate.
 - (xiii) Incentives to be offered by the Government shall be prioritized to those APIs/KSMs (Out of 58 APIs/KSMs) for which India is heavily dependent on imports.
 - (xiv) Special incentives shall be provided to the first five manufacturers showing their interest to establish such APIs/KSMs industry.
 - (xv) Government should also constitute a Technical Committee to make recommendations for the revival of fermentation industry, new technologies for manufacturing of APIs including its backward integration, costing of the projects and identification of strategic business models. This Technical Committee should consist of one drug regulator, minimum two R&D Scientists, one expert with financial background, two experts handling such projects/manufacturing activities, etc.
- (c) During the closure of Hubei province there were apprehensions that supplies of essential raw materials for making drugs will get affected. However, major Indian pharmaceutical companies had adequate stocks of the raw materials which were closely monitored by the Government. The regular supply chain was restored in few months once the Hubei Province was opened.
- (d) With a view to attain self-reliance and reduce import dependence in APIs/ Bulk drugs, the department of pharmaceuticals has rolled two schemes viz. (i) "Production

Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for promotion of domestic manufacturing of critical Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/Drug Intermediates (DIs) and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs) In India" and (ii) "Promotion of Bulk Drug Parks". The guidelines of both the schemes were released on 27th July, 2020.

Shifting of base to India by MNCs

704. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of multinational companies of United States and other foreign companies have decided to shift their base from China to India during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and how much foreign investment has been received, so far, in the country, State-wise;

(c) how much new employment will be generated from such multinational companies in the country; and

(d) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for bringing more manufacturing industry in the country to boost economy?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (c) Several multinational companies have evinced their interest to shift their base into India across different States in sectors such as Electronics, Retail, e-Commerce, Automotive, Food Processing, Textiles etc. However, due to sensitivity of information maintained by the companies, the reasons for relocation of operations are not explicitly spelt out. It has been seen that FDI inflows usually helps in augmenting domestic capital and promote employment opportunities across sectors. The FDI inflow from USA and other countries in the year 2019-20 had been USD 74.39 billion and for (April - July), 2020-21 (P) has been USD 16.26 billion.

(d) With a view to support and facilitate investments into India, the Government is working hard to institutionalize more investor friendly reforms. The Government has constituted an Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) to provide support and facilitation to investors for investing in India and to boost growth in key sectors of the economy. EGoS shall identify potential investors/organizations, make recommendations to the Ministry/Department to promote investment, facilitate handholding of investors, examine

and suggest ways to attract more investment in greenfield projects. Project Development Cells (PDCs) are being set up in Ministries/Departments to fasttrack investments with coordination between Central Government Ministries and State Governments and thereby grow the pipeline of investment projects in India. The entire focus of the Government is to create an investment-friendly and business conducive ecosystem to drive investment growth in India. Several steps like Production Investment Schemes, GIS mapping of available land banks, issuance of Quality Control Orders to cut down cheap imports and many such measures have been put into place to attract further investment into the country.

Increase in imports of essential commodities

705. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage increase in imports of essential commodities for the months of March-August, 2020;

(b) the percentage decline in exports from India for the months of March-August, 2020; and

(c) the percentage increase in overall imports for the months of March-August, 2020?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) to (c) The value of India's merchandise exports and imports and percentage change in them during the period March-August, 2020 over the period March-August, 2019 are given below:—

(Value in US\$ Billion)		
Period	Value of Export	Value of Import
March-August, 2019	165.86	254.11
March-August, 2020	119.07	149.54
% Change	-28.21	-41.15

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Figures for the year 2020 are provisional)

The details of percentage change in imports of essential commodities during the period March-July, 2020 over the period March-July, 2019 are as follows:—

(Value in US\$ million)

Sl. No.	Commodity Groups	March-July, 2019	March-July, 2020	% Change
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Petroleum: Crude	45,389.48	21,415.17	-52.82
2.	Petroleum Products	11,503.03	8,279.30	-28.03
3.	Vegetable Oils	4,032.51	3,705.25	-8.12
4.	Fertilizers Manufactured	2,759.12	2,174.05	-21.20
5.	Bulk Drugs, Drug Intermediates	1,521.74	1,483.31	-2.53
6.	Fresh Fruits	775.59	612.29	-21.06
7.	Cosmetics And Toiletries	587.35	495.70	-15.60
8.	Pulses	484.44	412.99	-14.75
9.	Fertilizers Crude	281.50	283.87	0.84
10.	Surgicals	308.39	239.97	-22.19
11.	Other Oil Seeds	72.00	232.22	222.55
12.	Cotton Raw Including Waste	572.30	169.38	-70.40
13.	Miscellaneous Processed Items	177.43	113.95	-35.78
14.	Cotton Fabrics, Made ups Etc.	223.15	113.50	-49.14
15.	RMG Cotton Incl Accessories	218.87	91.74	-58.08
16.	Sesame Seeds	109.22	83.19	-23.83
17.	Cereal Preparations	50.37	52.48	4.18
18.	Other Cereals	38.96	51.45	32.06
19.	Fruits/Vegetable Seeds	51.97	50.47	-2.89
20.	Coffee	49.24	49.57	0.67

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Processed Fruits And Juices	45.09	26.94	-40.25
22.	Other Jute Manufactures	34.72	25.04	-27.89
23.	Tea	32.28	24.24	-24.90
24.	Jute Yarn	20.51	13.07	-36.25
25.	Jute Hessian	15.01	11.73	-21.83
26.	Processed Vegetables	13.24	7.60	-42.60
27.	Cotton Yarn	7.99	5.17	-35.38
28.	Jute, Raw	8.29	3.47	-58.15
29.	Niger Seeds	2.67	2.49	-6.54
30.	Rice (Other than Basmati)	1.60	0.99	-38.47
31.	Fresh Vegetables	0.97	0.63	-34.76
32.	Floor Covering of Jute	0.32	0.61	86.66
33.	Milled Products	1.00	0.49	-50.87
34.	Wheat	0.21	0.01	-95.50
Total Import of above		69390.55	40232.35	-42.02

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Figures for the year 2020 are provisional).

Bilateral trade agreements signed with other countries

706. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bilateral trade agreements that have been signed with other countries during the last three years to increase India's exports of goods and services/ India's share in global trade, the details thereof; and

(b) the details of quantum and value of trade under each bilateral trade agreement during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) India has not signed any new bilateral trade agreement during the last three years.

(b) Data on India's trade over the last 3 years with countries/regions with whom it has a trade agreement is given in the Statement.

Statement

*India's trade (in \$ billion) over the last 3 year with countries/
regions with whom it has a trade agreement*

Country/ Region	2017-18			2018-19			2019-20		
	Export	Import	Trade	Export	Import	Trade	Export	Import	Trade
Japan	4.7	11.0	15.7	4.9	12.8	17.6	4.5	12.4	17.0
South Korea	4.5	16.4	20.8	4.7	16.8	21.5	4.8	15.7	20.5
Singapore	10.2	7.5	17.7	11.6	16.3	27.9	8.9	14.7	23.7
Malaysia	5.7	9.0	14.7	6.4	10.8	17.3	6.4	9.8	16.1
Thailand	3.7	7.1	10.8	4.4	7.4	11.9	4.3	6.8	11.1
Nepal	6.6	0.4	7.1	7.8	0.5	8.3	7.2	0.7	7.9
Bhutan	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.4	1.0	0.7	0.4	1.1
Chile	0.8	2.1	2.9	1.0	1.2	2.2	0.8	1.2	2.0
Mercosur	4.1	7.9	12.0	4.7	6.4	11.1	5.07	5.5	10.5
SAARC	23.1	3.2	26.3	25.3	4.4	29.7	21.9	3.8	25.8
ASEAN	34.2	47.1	81.3	37.5	59.3	96.8	31.5	55.4	86.9

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS).

Addressing the issues pertaining to exporters

707. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any initiative to discuss and address the issues of exporters that have arisen due to COVID-19 pandemic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (c) Since March 2020, during COVID-19 pandemic, regular meetings were held with the Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Industry bodies and Associations to discuss issues and problems faced by the exporters and ways to promote exports during the pandemic. The issues raised by them were taken up with the concerned Ministries/Departments for an early redressal.

Government has taken the following key steps to boost exports:—

- (i) The validity of Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended by one year *i.e.* upto 31-3-2021 and relaxations granted and time lines extended due to COVID-19.
- (ii) Extension of export obligation period in respect of Advance Authorizations and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) authorizations under Foreign Trade Policy (FTP), extension of Letter of Permissions (LoP)/Letter of Intents (Lol) of Export Oriented Units, various relaxations to SEZ units as a measure to make them functional and to ease compliances and simplification and liberalization of procedures of trade remedial investigations.
- (iii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has been extended by one year *i.e.* upto 31-3-2021.
- (iv) Line Ministries have notified various sectoral incentive packages, such as Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and PLI Scheme by Department of Pharma for Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/Drug Intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).
- (v) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase the Free Trade Agreements utilization by exporters.
- (vi) A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" is under implementation to provide an impetus to agricultural exports related to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries and food processing sectors.
- (vii) Promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans for the 12 Champion Services Sectors.
- (viii) Promoting districts as export hubs by identifying products with export potential in the District, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products,

supporting local exporters/manufacturers to scale and generate employment in the District.

- (ix) Strengthening eco-system for adoption/implementation of mandatory technical standards for goods, services and skilling.
- (x) Energising Indian missions abroad towards promoting our Trade, Tourism, Technology and Investment goals.
- (xi) Package announced to support domestic industry, including through various banking and financial sector relief measures, especially for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), which constitute a major share in exports.

Dumping of Methylene Chloride into the country

708. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has taken note that excessive dumping of Methylene Chloride into the country by China is damaging the Indian Methylene Chloride industry;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether any representation has been received from the Indian Methylene producers to stop the dumping and impose the anti-dumping duty on its imports;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps being taken by Government to protect the domestic Methylene industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (e) Anti-dumping duty in the range of 122.14 USD/MT to 279.78 USD/MT is already in force on "Methylene Chloride" originating in or exported from China PR and Russia w.e.f. 08.12.2015 and is valid upto 07.12.2020.

An application was received from M/s Gujarat Fluorochemicals Ltd., TGV SRAAC Ltd. (formerly known as Sree Rayalseema Alkalies and Allied Chemicals Ltd.) and M/s Chemplast Sanmar Ltd. for extension of anti-dumping duty on imports of "Methylene Chloride" originating in or exported from China PR.

On the basis of the duly substantiated application, a Sunset Review investigation has been initiated by the Designated Authority (Directorate General of Trade Remedies)

on 31.08.2020 to review the need for continued imposition of the duties in force in respect of "Methylene Chloride", originating in or exported from China PR and to examine whether the expiry of existing anti-dumping duties are likely to lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and injury to the domestic industry. The case is under investigation for extension of anti-dumping duty.

One District One Product concept for encouraging domestic manufacturing

†709. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has initiated the concept of One District One Product (ODOP) for encouraging domestic manufacturing and the guidelines for identifying unique products for every district have been issued;

(b) if so, the manner in which Government proposes to provide special assistance in packaging, marketing and branding of products manufactured under ODOP; and

(c) the initiative Government would take for joint venturing of district level enterprises set up under ODOP with available raw materials, domestic wholesale, retail markets and export chain?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (c) Based on strengths of a district and National Priorities, One District One Product (ODOP) is seen as a transformational step forward towards realizing the true potential of a district, fuel economic growth and generate employment and rural entrepreneurship, taking us to the goal of Aatmanirbhar Bharat. In this contest, an interaction with all States and UTs was held on 27th August, 2020 to discuss the implementation of One District One Product initiative, and Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is working further on the initiative.

Further, Department of Commerce through DGFT is engaging with State and Central Government agencies to promote the initiative of One District One Product. The objective is to convert each District of the country into an export hub by identifying products with export potential in the District, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products, supporting local exporters, manufacturers to scale up manufacturing, and find potential buyers outside India with the aim of promoting exports, promoting manufacturing and services industry in the District and generate employment in the District.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

As part of this initiative, an institutional mechanism is being set up in each District in the form of District Export Promotion Committees (DEPCs) that may be headed by DM/Collector/ DC/District Development Officer of the District and co-chaired by the designated Regional Authority of DGFT and various other stakeholders as its members. The primary function of the DEPC will be to prepare and act on District specific Export Action Plans in collaboration with all the relevant stakeholders from the Centre, State and the District level.

DGFT has also developed a portal that may be accessed on the DGFT website to enable the States to upload all information related to the products with export potential of every district. Portal has been developed and is currently being tested.

Products with export potential are being identified in different districts across the country, and accordingly State Export Strategies are being prepared.

Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan for promotion of local products

710. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government implemented Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan in a push to promote local products and made country of origin must on GeM platform; and
- (b) if so, the details and the implementation status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) and (b) Yes Sir. GeM in compliance with the Consumer Protection (e-Commerce) Rules 2020, issued by Ministry of Consumer Affairs *vide* notification dated 23rd July, 2020, has mandated the declaration of Country of Origin (CoO) on GeM portal by the sellers for enabling purchasers to take informed decisions. The declaration regarding CoO is mandatory for every product offered on GeM portal.

RCEP agreement

711. SHRI M.V. SHREYAMS KUMAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has refused to sign the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement;
- (b) if so, the details of the various clauses of the RCEP that would have an adverse impact on various sectors of our economy;

(c) whether Government has proposed certain conditions on the RCEP agreement so that India is not left out of such a big commercial association of countries in future; and

(d) if so, the details of the conditions thereof and if not, the details of the alternative plan by Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) to (d) During the 3rd RCEP Leaders Summit which was held on 4 November, 2019 in Bangkok, India stated that the current structure of RCEP did not reflect the RCEP Guiding Principles or address the outstanding issues and concerns of India, in the light of which India did not join RCEP. While RCEP was intended to provide mutually beneficial outcomes for RCEP countries including India, the current structure did not adequately address ambition and concerns of India's stakeholders. However, bilateral engagement with RCEP members and review initiatives under provisions of existing FTAs with the Japan, Korea and ASEAN countries, would continue.

Online system for land allotment to industries

712. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to develop online system for land allotment for all industrial and commercial purposes, as ease of doing business, to attract investments in sectors like defence, aerospace etc;

(b) if so, the steps taken to fast track strategies for attracting foreign investments; and

(c) whether some sectors have been selected as focus areas for promoting heavy engineering, solar equipment, food processing etc., if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):
(a) As a part of State Reform Action Plan, 2020 prepared by DPIIT and circulated to States/UTs for implementation, States/UTs have been recommended to define objective criteria, along with clear timeline, mandated through the Public Service Delivery Guarantee Act (or equivalent) legislation, for evaluating land allotment application within industrial estate of State Government. States/UTs may ensure provision of land/shed allotment

for industrial units on rental/lease model is provided as an option. States/UTs have been recommended to ensure infrastructure and facilities are developed with all requisite clearances and permissions and offer 'Plug and Play' option for promoting sectoral investments of land earmarked for industrial purpose. States/UTs have further been recommended to publish an online dashboard available in public domain updated regularly (weekly/fortnightly/monthly) for application submission and approvals for land allotment. The dashboard should clearly highlight the number of land allotments and the time taken for approval.

Further, a GIS enabled land bank under Industrial Information System (IIS) is being developed, and it has been launched by the Department on 27th August, 2020 with integration of 6 States Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Odisha and Goa in first phase; other concerned states are also being on boarded.

(b) Recently, Government has taken various steps in addition to ongoing schemes to boost domestic investments in India. These include the National Infrastructure Pipeline, Reduction in Corporate Tax, easing liquidity problems of NBFCs and Banks, various policy measures to boost domestic manufacturing. Government of India has also promoted domestic manufacturing of goods through public procurement orders, Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP), Schemes for Production Linked Incentives of various Ministries.

With a view to support, facilitate and provide investor friendly ecosystem to investors investing in India, the Union Cabinet on 03rd June, 2020 has approved constitution of Empowered Group of Secretaries (EGoS) for Investment and also approved constitution of Project Development Cells (PDCs) in all concerned Ministries/ Departments to fast-track investments in coordination between the Central Government and State Governments.

(c) With the objective of facilitating investment, fostering innovation, building best in class manufacturing infrastructure, making it easy to do business and enhancing skill development, the Government has identified key sectors under Make in India 2.0 including automotive and auto components, new and renewable energy and food processing sectors, electronics, aerospace and defence, capital goods, pharmaceuticals and medical devices, etc. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade is coordinating action plans for manufacturing sectors, while Department of Commerce is coordinating service sectors.

Product-specific export promotion forums

713. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which the Ministry views 23 per cent export of more agriculture products during March-June, 2020 COVID period;

(b) the steps taken by the Ministry/proposed to be taken to further push agricultural exports to reach ₹4 lakh crore target this financial year;

(c) to what extent the recent decision of Government to permit farmers to sell their produce wherever they wish to do so, helps in pushing exports and farmers getting better price; and

(d) to what extent product-specific Export Promotion Forums help in taking agriculture exports to new heights?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) The increase in exports of agricultural products during the period April-June, 2020, indicates that India has emerged as a reliable global supplier of essential food products during period of COVID-19 pandemic notwithstanding the significant global disruption created by the pandemic. The Department of Commerce, in coordination with all stakeholders, has taken various steps to enable the Indian exporters to increasingly tap into the global demand for food items, which has resulted in a positive trend for agriculture exports.

(b) Promotion of exports of agricultural products is an ongoing process. To promote agricultural exports, the Government has introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy (AEP) to harness export potential of Indian agriculture and raise farmers' income. Department of Commerce, has taken several steps to implement AEP at State/District level. State specific Action Plans, State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMCs), Nodal agencies for agricultural exports and Cluster Level Committees have been formed in a number of States. Country and product-specific action plans also have been formulated to promote exports.

A Farmer Connect Portal has been set up by APEDA for providing a platform for farmers, Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs) and cooperatives to interact with

exporters. Buyer-seller Meets(BSMs) have been organized in the clusters to provide export-market linkages. Regular interactions, through video conferences, have been held with the Indian Missions abroad, to assess and exploit export opportunities. Country specific BSMs, through Indian Missions, have also been organized.

The Government has also introduced a Central Sector Scheme -Transport and Marketing Assistance for Specified Agriculture Products' - for providing assistance for the international component of freight, to mitigate the freight disadvantage for the export of agriculture products.

The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides financial assistance to exporters of agricultural products under the following components of its export promotion scheme: (i) Infrastructure Development (ii) Quality Development (iii) Market Development.

The Department of Commerce, provides assistance through several other schemes, to promote exports, including exports of agricultural products, viz. Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES), Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) etc. In addition, assistance to the exporters of agricultural products is also available under the Export Promotion Schemes of Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA), Tobacco Board, Tea Board, Coffee Board, Rubber Board and Spices Board.

(c) The recent decision of the Government to permit farmers to sell their produce, wherever they wish to, is likely to result in direct tie-ups between exporters and growers, which would help exporters in getting export-worthy produce and result in better realizations for the farmers.

(d) Nine product-specific Export Promotion Forums (EPFs) for Rice, Banana, Grapes, Mango, Onion, Dairy Products, Nutri-Cereals, Pomegranate and Floriculture, have been set up under the aegis of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). The EPFs strive to identify and anticipate developments pertaining to production and exports of these products, reach out to stakeholders across the entire production/ supply chain of exports and make recommendations for necessary policy interventions and other measures to promote the export of products.

Impact of COVID-19 on exports

714. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on exports of the country;
- (b) the extent to which reduction in imports is helping the country in maintaining trade balance between various countries, particularly China;
- (c) whether the Ministry has got any help under Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission to help various exporting sectors and industries;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) in view of RBI announcing that there would be another financial package, the hopes that the Ministry will have on the second package?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (e) The value of India's merchandise exports, imports and trade deficit and percentage change in them during the period April-August, 2020-21 over the period April-August, 2019-20 are given below:

(Value in US\$ Billion)

Period	Export	Import	Trade Deficit
April-August, 2019-20	133.4	206.7	-73.3
April-August, 2020-21	97.7	118.4	-20.7
% Change	-26.79	-42.72	-71.72

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Figures for the year 2020 are provisional).

The above table reveals that the India's trade deficit has declined from US\$ 73.3 billion in 2019-20 (April- August) to US\$ 20.7 billion in 2020-21 (April- August). India's trade deficit with China has declined from US\$ 22.8 billion in 2019-20 (April- August) to US\$ 12.6 billion in 2020-21 (April- August). Trade deficit depends on fluctuations in imports and exports of different commodities relative to each other, due to global and domestic factors such as demand and supply in domestic and international markets, currency fluctuations, international prices, etc. The details of major country-wise trade deficit for the current year is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Policy making is an ongoing exercise and steps are taken based on the prevailing economic scenario. The Government has taken the following key steps to reduce the trade deficit and boost exports and promote domestic production:—

- (i) The validity of Foreign Trade Policy (2015-20) extended by one year *i.e.* upto 31-3-2021 and relaxations granted and time lines extended due to COVID-19.
- (ii) Interest Equalization Scheme on pre and post shipment rupee export credit has been extended by one year *i.e.* upto 31-3-2021.
- (iii) Line Ministries have notified various sectoral incentive packages, such as Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI) by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and PLI Scheme by Department of Pharma for Key Starting Materials (KSMs)/ Drug Intermediates and Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs).
- (iv) Common Digital Platform for Certificate of Origin has been launched to facilitate trade and increase FTA utilization by exporters.
- (v) A comprehensive "Agriculture Export Policy" is under implementation to provide an impetus to agricultural exports related to agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, fisheries and food processing sectors.
- (vi) Promoting and diversifying services exports by pursuing specific action plans for the 12 Champion Services Sectors.
- (vii) Promoting districts as export hubs by identifying products with export potential in the District, addressing bottlenecks for exporting these products, supporting local exporters/manufacturers to generate employment in the District.
- (viii) Strengthening eco-system for adoption / implementation of mandatory technical standards for goods, services and skilling.
- (ix) Energizing Indian missions abroad towards promoting our Trade, Tourism, Technology and Investment goals.
- (x) Package announced to support domestic industry, including through various banking and financial sector relief measures, especially for MSMEs, which constitute a major share in exports.

- (xi) The Government has initiated several steps which, *inter alia*, include strengthening Make in India and Startup India initiatives and Ease of Doing Business.
- (xii) Setting up of Empowered Group of Secretaries and Project Development Cells for investment promotion.
- (xiii) Creating industrial infrastructure in Industrial Corridors.
- (xiv) Liberalization of FDI policy in order to make India an investor friendly destination.
- (xv) Notifying Quality Control Orders.
- (xvi) Identification of 24 sub-sectors (Agro-food processing of Oranges Mangoes, Potato, Indian ready-to-eats segment, Steel, Agro Chemicals, Electronics products, Furniture, Leather and Footwear, Auto Part, Textiles, etc.) in manufacturing, based on export potential, import substitution and employment generation potential, for their promotion to make India more self-reliant and a global supplier.
- (xvii) The Reserve Bank of India has extended a line of credit of ₹ 15,000 crore to the EXIM Bank for a period of 90 days from the date of availment, with rollover up to a maximum period of one year so as to enable it to avail a US dollar swap facility to meet its foreign exchange requirements.

Statement

*Merchandise trade deficit for major countries during Apr-July, 2020**

(Value in US\$ Million)

Sl. No.	Country	Export	Import	Trade Deficit
1.	China PRP	7,285.29	16605.51	-9,320.22
2.	Iraq	421.13	3359.52	-2,938.39
3.	Saudi Arab	1,543.01	3912.58	-2,369.57
4.	Indonesia	1,467.79	3360.92	-1,893.13
5.	Korea RP	1,361.45	3137.16	-1,775.71
6.	Qatar	309.61	2052.27	-1,742.66

Sl. No.	Country	Export	Import	Trade Deficit
7.	Japan	1,193.15	2766.33	-1,573.18
8.	Russia	676.69	1682.84	-1,006.15
9.	Hong Kong	2,623.09	3542.77	-919.68
10.	Australia	1,071.77	1931.78	-860.01
11.	Switzerland	332.03	1117.66	-785.63
12.	Nigeria	642.82	1415.79	-772.97
13.	Germany	2,051.80	2741.58	-689.78
14.	Kuwait	258.4	933.94	-675.54
15.	Ukraine	118.8	649.86	-531.06
16.	Argentina	175.7	706.14	-530.44
17.	U Arab Emts	3,981.83	4407.73	-425.90
18.	Thailand	915.92	1313.74	-397.82
19.	Morocco	116.98	494.14	-377.16
20.	Taiwan	510.51	885.79	-375.28
21.	Colombia	162.26	432.51	-270.25
22.	Canada	768.13	926.84	-158.71
23.	Ghana	204.07	353.13	-149.06
24.	Belgium	1,172.60	1300.01	-127.41
25.	Sweden	173.97	292.16	-118.19
26.	Jordan	189.91	290.66	-100.75
27.	Mexico	731.53	824.23	-92.70
28.	Benin	111.01	203.16	-92.15
29.	South Africa	837.03	924.76	-87.73
30.	Peru	144.37	189.21	-44.84
Total of above countries		31,552.65	62,754.72	-31,202.07
INDIA'S TOTAL		75,006.10	88,903.54	-13,897.44

*Data are provisional and subject to change.

Source: DGC&S.

Impact of COVID-19 on e-commerce

715. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on e-Commerce;
- (b) whether e-Commerce firms are paying GST; and
- (c) if not, whether it is not a huge loss to the exchequer?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) Various restrictions were imposed to ensure social-distancing during lock down under guidelines released by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), from time to time. During this period delivery of essential goods, including food, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment were encouraged through e-commerce. Since, the pandemic is still ongoing, it is too early to make an assessment of the impact of the pandemic on the e-commerce sector.

(b) E-commerce operators are liable to be registered irrespective of the value of supply made by them. The benefit of threshold exemption is not available to e-commerce operators. On specific categories of services the GST is payable by the electronic commerce operator if such services are supplied through them. The e-commerce operators are also required to collect Tax Collection at Source (TCS) at the rate of one per cent of the net value of taxable supplies made through them, where the consideration w.r.t such supplies is to be collected by such operators. Under GST Act, every registered person shall self-assess the taxes payable and furnish a return for each tax period as specified. Therefore, e-commerce operators are liable to pay GST like any other supplier of goods or services.

- (c) Does not arise.

Strategy to reduce import dependence

716. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Central Government has started working on a sectoral strategy to reduce import dependence in various sectors/areas in view of the coronavirus pandemic;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether unhindered import of goods under Free Trade Agreements has hurt domestic industries, particularly MSMEs; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps Government now proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) With the aim of achieving key regulatory objectives related to imports and exports, the government is undertaking steps for creating/enhancement of domestic capacity, incentivizing domestic manufacturing through Production Linked Incentive Schemes, Phased Manufacturing Plans etc., timely use of trade remedy options, adoption of mandatory Technical Standards and enforcement of FTA Rules of Origin (RoO).

(c) and d) The import of products under the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) have to meet the Rules of Origin and other criteria as specified in the FTA. Further, in order to protect domestic industry, FTAs provide for maintaining sensitive/exclusion list of items, which include products of interest for MSMEs, on which limited or no tariff concessions are granted. In case of surge in imports and injury to the domestic industry, a country is allowed to take recourse to trade remedial measures by way of safeguard duties. In addition, to strengthen the enforcement procedures on Rules of Origin for imports under FTA, 'Customs (Administration of Rules of Origin under Trade Agreements) Rules, 2020' have been notified.

Review of Free Trade Agreement with ASEAN

717. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has decided to review the continuation of the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with ASEAN in the wake of the trading bloc's reluctance to address India's concerns;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government has decided to have reciprocal arrangements with the countries with whom we have opened up our markets; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) Government of India is engaging with ASEAN to review the FTA in

accordance with related provisions of the Agreement. In the India-ASEAN Economic Ministers Consultations held on 29th August 2020, both sides instructed the senior officials, to engage to determine the scope of the review.

(c) and (d) Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) essentially involve mutual concessions between the parties. Review provisions are envisaged to periodically address any gaps, shortcomings and imbalances. India proposes to suitably use these provisions, accordingly.

Funds to boost agriculture exports

718. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government has proposed to provide additional funds to the States to boost India's exports of primary agriculture products;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of the reforms Government has proposed to undertake in the farm sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) and (b) As a part of implementation of the Agriculture Export Policy, a number of States have finalized their respective Action Plans identifying various infrastructure gaps affecting agricultural exports. To address these gaps, the States can avail assistance under the Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES) of Department of Commerce and under various existing Schemes of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare; Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying; Ministry of Food Processing Industries etc.

(c) the Government has introduced a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy (AEP) to harness export potential of Indian agriculture and raise farmers' income. Department of Commerce, has taken several steps to implement AEP at State/ District level. State specific Action Plans, State Level Monitoring Committees (SLMCs), Nodal agencies for agricultural exports and Cluster Level Committees have been formed in a number of States. Country and product-specific action plans also have been formulated to promote exports. A Farmer Connect Portal has been set up by APEDA for providing a platform for farmers, Farmer-Producer Organizations (FPOs) and cooperatives to interact with exporters. Buyer-seller Meets(BSMs) have been organized in the clusters to provide export-market linkages.

Government of India has promulgated the following three Ordinances to implement reforms in agriculture sector:—

- (i) The Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020 provides for the creation of an ecosystem, where the farmers and traders enjoy the freedom of choice relating to sale and purchase of farmers' produce, which facilitates remunerative prices through competitive alternative trading channels; to promote efficient, transparent and barrier-free inter-State and intra-State trade and commerce of farmers' produce outside the physical premises of markets or deemed markets notified under various State Agricultural Produce market legislations; to provide a facilitative framework for electronic trading and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
- (ii) The Farmers (Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Ordinance, 2020, provides for a national framework on farming agreements that protects and empowers farmers to engage with agri business firms, processors, wholesalers, exporters or large retailers for farm services and sale of future farming produce at a mutually agreed remunerative price framework in a fair and transparent manner and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.
- (iii) The Essential Commodities (Amendment) Ordinance 2020 aims at increasing the competitiveness in the agriculture sector and enhancing the income of the farmer by liberalizing the regulatory system while protecting the interests of consumers. The Ordinance allows the Central Government to regulate the supply of certain food stuffs only under extraordinary circumstances (such as war, famine, extraordinary price rise and natural calamity of grave nature).

Export and import from China

†719. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various items imported from and exported to China during the last five years;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) whether it is a fact that China has imported PVC from India in a large quantity; and

(c) the items in which there is a reduction in export from China in the last one year during the spread of Corona virus?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (c) The details of import-export of Top 50 items from China during the last five years are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II (*See* below).

Data of China's import of PVC from India for the last five years is given below:

ITCHS Codes	Description	Export in Million USD				
		2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
3904	Polymers of Vinyl Chloride or of other Halogenated Olefins, in primary forms	2.31	5.79	6.80	4.22	6.70

(Source: DGCIS)

The key items exhibiting fall in exports from China to India during last one year in 2019-20 as compared to 2018-19 include telecom instruments, organic chemicals, plastic raw materials, electrical machinery, auto components. The value of the import of top 50 commodities from China during April-July 2020 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year *i.e.* April-July 2019 are given in the Statement-III (*See* below). It can be seen that the major items that exhibited fall in India's imports from China for the said period are accumulators and batteries, man-made yarn and fabric, aluminium and its products, glass and glassware, paper, paper board and products and other plastic items.

Statement-I*India's import of top 50 commodities (as per 2019-20) from China during 2015-16 till 2019-20*

Item Description	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million
	USD	USD	USD	USD	USD
1	2	3	4	5	6
Electronics Components	3514.48	4440.91	5496.19	5810.64	6071.08
Telecom Instruments	10093.36	11307.83	15594.19	7416.77	5648.30
Computer Hardware, Peripherals	4413.69	4071.73	5026.08	4002.21	4192.87
Indl. Machinery for Dairy etc.	2866.60	2839.89	3418.77	3831.39	4012.03
Organic Chemicals	2416.74	2187.94	2931.53	3589.98	3223.86
Electric Machinery and Equipments	2170.23	2036.72	2463.32	2639.81	2506.30
Residual Chemical and Allied Prod	1458.94	1636.77	2168.78	2520.78	2406.86
Bulk Drugs, Drug Intermediates	2120.15	1826.34	2055.94	2405.42	2323.95
Electronics Instruments	1926.26	2134.42	2531.12	2370.65	2279.54
Consumer Electronics	2204.17	2151.60	2362.31	2093.58	2235.13

1	2	3	4	5	6	172
Fertilizers Manufactured	3261.92	1244.16	1065.35	2044.74	1811.09	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
AC, Refrigeration Machinery Etc.	1045.79	1249.52	1638.61	1663.17	1620.58	
Products of Iron and Steel	1181.85	1229.86	1469.68	1731.07	1585.00	
Plastic Raw Materials	823.53	897.57	1178.04	1345.48	1245.01	
Auto Components/Parts	898.78	868.58	1164.41	1238.29	1124.11	
Iron and Steel	2359.26	1346.71	1621.05	1422.38	1121.34	
Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Madeups	853.93	798.59	938.28	1026.08	1107.92	
Other Misc. Engineering Items	751.06	902.05	1064.11	1036.28	1013.44	
Aluminium, Products of Aluminium	717.59	696.90	794.39	1212.17	995.70	
Accumulators and Batteries	510.49	608.78	947.88	1019.31	926.30	
Plastic Sht, Film, Plts etc.	294.29	318.72	476.02	735.71	796.73	Unstarred Questions
Machine Tools	431.70	544.89	748.19	832.54	724.38	
Glass and Glassware	406.91	478.34	607.66	704.94	698.61	
Agro Chemicals	332.65	506.10	726.69	705.62	633.70	
Cranes, Lifts and Winches	410.30	692.05	671.90	689.69	630.52	

Inorganic Chemicals	502.39	428.99	531.33	725.87	601.82
Medical and Scientific Instrum	342.62	388.01	510.51	517.66	588.04
Oth Non Ferous Metal and Prodc*	399.31	445.35	587.21	604.03	574.39
Other Construction Machinery	352.71	416.10	580.49	723.12	572.31
Moulded and Extruded Goods	484.41	537.77	607.32	535.94	564.58
Other Plastic Items	477.81	516.24	684.11	609.92	559.47
Other Miscellaneous Chemicals	393.44	338.58	420.87	574.53	555.63
Paper, Paper Board and Product	362.11	434.50	602.47	522.83	532.17
Oth Txtl Yrn, Fbric Mdup Artcl	487.19	432.17	670.85	572.25	529.48
Ceramics and Allied Products	576.54	379.57	476.25	459.70	459.55
Project Goods	994.11	763.00	609.54	553.28	438.28
Handcrfs (Excl.Handmade Crpts)	412.54	401.23	555.35	425.59	432.62
Paint, Varnish and Allid Prodc	227.37	245.61	360.04	388.81	429.23
Petroleum Products	243.08	213.11	313.84	302.27	340.44
Hnd Tool, Cttnng Tool of Metals	213.76	182.63	266.76	310.27	302.36
Atm, Injctng Mlding Mchnry Etc.	215.05	240.20	292.90	328.22	294.33

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6
Plywood and Allied Products	272.54	254.95	324.45	280.02	250.82
IC Engines and Parts	176.18	265.22	397.18	313.84	242.68
Cotton Fabrics, Madeups Etc.	249.05	172.70	221.03	252.53	242.01
Pumps of All Types	147.66	159.71	238.74	245.85	205.95
Railway Trnsprt Equipmnts, Prts	75.42	68.92	125.57	180.64	204.90
Prime Mica and Mica Products *	85.75	98.23	125.31	183.13	199.04
Footwear of Rubber/Canvas etc.	147.14	167.84	256.03	203.67	197.15
Dye Intermediates	157.87	150.67	213.96	218.41	195.62
Othr Rubber Prodct excpt Footw	115.80	115.79	164.16	201.23	189.70
Import of top 50 commodities	55576.52	54834.07	69296.72	64322.31	60636.92
India's total import from China	61707.95	61283.03	76380.70	70319.64	65260.75

Source: DGCIS.

Statement-II

India's export of top 50 commodities (as per 2019-20) to China during 2015-16 to 2019-20

Item Description	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million	Val. in Million
	USD	LSD	USD	USD	USD
1	2	3	4	5	6
Iron Ore	155.28	1449.60	1091.23	952.82	2134.16
Petroleum Products	636.11	789.43	1507.00	2854.42	2128.05
Organic Chemicals	472.34	452.81	1559.63	2519.35	1899.67
Marine Products	149.71	137.46	164.07	723.86	1345.41
Plastic Raw Materials	261.13	244.68	494.87	1043.35	777.92
Spices	171.47	193.24	314.69	447.49	765.60
Cotton Yarn	1474.51	1045.65	858.84	1272.52	586.36
Electronics Instruments	151.60	231.08	211.08	303.55	559.43
Iron and Steel	145.60	344.84	324.12	318.91	513.92
Granit, Natrl Stone and Prodct	408.59	411.59	461.60	442.85	441.47

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	176
Castor Oil	276.65	264.93	424.30	374.60	340.76	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
Residual Chemical and Allied Prod	146.21	206.99	209.27	268.60	286.95	
Dyes	70.06	86.79	126.77	201.46	286.68	
Bulk Minerals and Ores	347.60	197.60	207.86	348.15	277.34	
Copper and Products Made of Copper*	1144.35	702.00	1548.51	244.38	266.97	
Bulk Drugs, Drug Intermediates	113.08	103.85	154.01	173.45	219.42	
Electric Machinery and Equipme	96.65	111.23	250.67	297.61	211.23	
Indl. Machinery for Dairy etc	106.08	100.19	139.87	162.60	186.95	
Cotton Raw Incl. Waste	196.19	281.84	132.97	504.70	186.73	
Human Hair, Products Thereof	159.74	173.93	157.34	147.73	183.01	
Telecom Instruments	57.75	82.80	166.19	137.39	181.21	Unstarred Questions
IC Engines and Parts	94.50	154.41	141.59	167.26	173.05	
Paper, Paper Board and Product	3.56	3.25	22.07	117.90	127.42	
ATM, Injecting Molding Machinery etc.	56.19	54.44	68.78	88.97	118.96	
Electronics Components	83.21	103.08	117.17	116.65	112.52	

Coir and Coir Manufactures	76.11	92.50	117.12	101.36	89.73
Zinc and Products made of Zinc	20.06	46.53	288.40	55.30	83.31
Agro Chemicals	60.83	60.98	69.33	82.23	83.10
Products of Iron and Steel	62.46	68.91	59.71	74.08	81.89
Processed Minerals	201.02	102.65	71.49	23.10	81.19
Rmg Cotton Incl Accessories	53.90	52.73	58.51	74.00	65.56
Auto Components/Parts	67.12	70.43	79.07	73.64	65.44
Othr Rubber Prodct Excpt Footw	28.85	29.61	49.98	64.01	61.98
Pearl, Precs, Semiprecs Stones	107.64	140.66	218.65	230.41	60.67
Aluminium, Products of Aluminm	6.20	25.73	26.43	13.02	60.51
Medical and Scientific Instrum	18.71	24.93	40.58	61.28	57.28
Dye Intermediates	56.47	47.62	63.05	95.34	56.37
Finished Leather	109.47	109.25	100.84	87.27	56.21
Footwear of Leather	30.19	35.13	41.95	39.15	54.63
Other Miscellaenious Chemicals	13.80	14.13	22.03	36.00	54.17
Other Misc. Engineering Items	60.81	52.76	57.37	59.16	54.12

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	178
Vegetable Oils	9.37	22.34	13.00	17.74	52.70	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
Sulpher, Unroasted Iron Pyrite	61.47	43.14	58.28	54.91	47.96	
Manmade Staple Fibre	31.49	56.23	38.19	57.09	45.62	
Inorganic Chemicals	21.72	40.17	61.03	60.44	45.28	
Manmade Yarn, Fabrics, Madeups	34.90	36.34	49.65	58.56	42.66	
Cosmetics and Toiletries	21.68	23.11	25.75	33.12	40.35	
Drug Formulations, Biologicals	15.83	23.18	26.77	33.16	40.24	
Nickel, Product Made of Nickel	35.48	37.45	5.55	4.24	39.06	
Plastic Sht, Film, Plts etc	28.64	30.31	32.17	34.70	36.21	
Export of Top 50 Commodities	8212.38	9214.52	12529.38	15753.88	15767.43	
India's total export to China	9014.55	10172.41	13334.42	16752.80	16614.32	Unstarred Questions

Source: DGCIS.

Statement-III

The volume of Import of top 50 commodities from China during April-July 2020 as compared to April-July 2019 in Million USD

(* Figures for 2020-21 are provisional and subject to change)

Description	2019-20					2020-21					% of increase/decrease
	April	May	June	July	Total	April	May	June	July	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Telecom Instruments	438.56	463.06	459.51	488.96	1850.10	102.47	278.08	439.03	689.55	1509.13	-18.43
Electronics Components	447.21	463.35	531.15	587.72	2029.44	113.23	226.47	218.34	598.11	1156.15	-43.03
Computer Hardware, Peripherals	316.85	402.27	488.94	381.46	1589.51	228.46	388.06	297.44	481.38	1395.34	-12.22
Indl. Machnry For Dairy Etc	280.90	363.76	374.30	405.01	1423.96	149.96	267.49	192.13	322.20	931.77	-34.56
Organic Chemicals	299.13	330.51	295.40	323.67	1248.71	275.44	282.68	198.26	313.54	1069.92	-14.32
Bulk, Drugs, Drug Intermediates	206.26	228.45	208.33	217.82	860.85	192.93	217.91	176.34	272.48	859.66	-0.14
Residul Chemicl and Allied Prod	199.88	249.34	226.24	231.28	906.74	196.24	221.19	179.80	260.14	857.36	-5.45
Consumer Electronics	131.13	170.81	167.59	210.49	680.02	36.18	112.62	92.93	232.03	473.76	-30.33

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	180
Electronics Instruments	193.36	200.76	199.74	207.85	801.71	127.62	257.13	136.80	185.17	706.72	-11.85	Written Answers to [RAJYA SABHA]
Electric Machinery and Equipme	204.61	234.87	245.36	231.77	916.61	92.46	153.73	88.28	163.02	497.50	-45.72	
Products of Iron and Steel	129.41	164.95	150.55	155.99	600.90	64.92	132.10	63.76	124.65	385.43	-35.86	
Fertilizers Manufactured	122.47	167.94	163.58	127.26	581.24	7.23	117.40	130.88	105.70	361.20	-37.86	
Medical and Scientific Instrum	41.53	51.02	53.57	54.41	200.53	25.38	47.24	45.23	87.78	205.64	2.55	
Agro Chemicals	71.43	97.76	86.69	65.54	321.43	88.63	125.75	80.81	82.46	377.65	17.49	
Iron and Steel	94.59	107.79	88.87	147.43	438.68	68.81	123.84	34.94	81.62	309.22	-29.51	
Other Miscellaenious Chemicals	50.86	53.89	50.87	56.75	212.37	45.89	63.90	52.47	78.69	240.96	13.46	
Machine Tools	56.16	65.31	65.95	72.10	259.52	22.05	46.72	23.14	61.89	153.80	-40.74	
Other Misc. Engineering Items	85.38	92.28	91.25	104.08	373.00	48.66	65.28	40.74	60.20	214.88	-42.39	
Accumulators and Batteries	85.56	69.40	87.65	86.93	329.55	27.30	29.78	25.84	57.74	140.66	-57.32	Unstarred Questions
Plastic Raw Materials	126.29	138.43	130.21	126.78	521.71	93.28	89.94	33.28	56.40	272.91	-47.69	
ManmadeYarn, Fabrics, Madeups	85.03	93.97	96.08	103.95	379.03	45.14	55.18	30.51	54.74	185.57	-51.04	
Aluminium, Products of Aluminm	97.82	111.52	103.46	95.98	408.77	33.72	58.77	28.29	53.50	174.29	-5736	
Project Goods	44.98	33.75	43.76	30.81	153.30	3.92	28.35	21.70	53.13	107.10	-30.13	

Ac, Refrigeration Machnry Etc.	190.94	177.84	113.08	107.66	589.52	106.98	170.87	49.01	52.54	379.40	-35.64
Plastic Sht, Film, Plts Etc.	62.35	74.45	70.65	80.06	287.50	28.11	48.15	23.65	46.04	145.95	-49.24
Inorganic Chemicals	56.59	64.64	58.94	67.85	248.01	47.77	45.00	25.91	45.87	164.56	-33.65
Auto Components/Parts	93.64	105.13	112.81	112.73	424.32	79.42	79.21	42.47	45.23	24633	-41.95
Cranes, Lifts and Winches	56.30	52.90	42.28	48.81	200.29	67.05	47.93	34.73	39.47	189.18	-5.55
Glass and Glassware	60.94	74.03	62.96	68.58	266.51	34.34	39.32	16.94	38.47	129.06	-51.57
Moulded and Extruded Goods	40.01	52.51	47.56	51.34	191.43	19.97	30.86	20.33	37.66	108.82	-43.15
Silver	0.53	0.46	0.38	30.21	31.58	0.17	0.00	11.14	35.38	46.68	47.83
Oth Non Ferrous Metal and Prodc	45.39	52.03	49.94	52.05	199.40	19.78	35.54	22.13	35.34	112.80	-43.43
Paint, Varnish and Allied Prodc	38.33	39.17	33.24	38.00	148.74	31.19	34.49	11.19	33.79	110.66	-25.60
Other Construction Machinery	50.26	55.64	47.52	43.41	196.83	59.65	37.00	19.79	33.36	149.79	-23.90
Hnd Tool, Ctng Tool of Metals	23.47	28.98	27.77	33.48	113.69	12.18	18.15	17.53	31.61	79.47	-30.10
Ceramics and Allied Products	30.34	44.83	41.99	48.41	165.58	16.45	32.49	18.22	30.22	97.36	-41.20
Oth Tctl Yrn, Fbric Mdup Artcl	36.48	48.30	44.88	51.06	180.72	14.60	24.08	10.12	29.89	78.69	-56.46
Drug Formulations, Biologicals	9.68	25.11	12.05	19.26	66.10	10.51	27.28	16.26	29.03	83.08	25.68
Rmg of Othr Textile Matrl	4.89	8.91	7.76	9.24	30.80	24.05	28.57	24.79	27.90	105.31	241.90

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Handcrfs(Excl.Handmade Crpts)	37.25	41.39	36.24	41.40	156.28	20.36	74.37	45.93	27.42	168.08	7.55
Paper, Paper Board and Product	47.10	53.22	50.18	57.52	208.02	25.26	40.85	12.63	23.00	101.74	-51.09
Atm, Injctng Mlding Mchnry Etc.	28.13	29.94	27.65	33.04	118.77	9.10	22.43	15.60	22.58	69.71	-41.31
Pumps of all Types	12.70	17.37	21.35	19.34	70.75	10.94	13.65	10.32	20.06	54.97	-22.31
Prime Mica and Mica Products	13.94	15.46	19.02	17.65	66.08	3.40	8.60	6.99	18.98	37.97	-42.54
Railwy Trnsprt Equipmnts, Prts	12.88	26.13	18.48	18.88	76.36	9.08	17.73	13.17	18.00	57.98	-24.07
Other Plastic Items	39.73	55.75	54.77	54.28	204.52	11.60	28.90	8.67	17.59	66.76	-67.36
Petroleum Products	14.57	14.12	8.11	23.77	60.58	9.15	20.41	21.97	17.31	68.83	13.62
Cosmetics and Toiletries	12.79	15.12	15.47	13.88	57.26	10.03	17.65	8.94	15.73	52.35	-8.58
Dye Intermediates	23.81	14.83	19.71	18.91	77.26	14.13	11.94	6.34	14.74	47.14	-38.99
Spices	6.55	7.74	5.28	4.42	23.99	10.54	10.77	3.46	14.58	39.34	64.01
Total of Top 50 Commodities	4859.01	5551.18	5459.10	5679.26	21548.55	2795.74	4355.86	3149.14	5277.88	15578.62	-27.70

Source: DGCIS.

182 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Promised FDI under Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission

720. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign companies that have registered under Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission; and

(b) the total promised Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), as of 31st August, 2020, under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) Atmanirbhar Bharat is a vision to make India self reliant having a more significant and important role to play in the global supply chains. However, there is no provision for any registration of foreign companies under the Atmanirbhar Bharat.

(b) The FDI regime in India is primarily governed by the Consolidated Foreign Direct Investment Policy Circular, as amended through various Press Notes and is enforced through the Foreign Exchange Management (Non-Debt Instruments) Rules, 2019 dated 17.10.2019, as amended from time to time (FEM Non-Debt Instruments Rules 2019) under the FEMA. The details of FDI inflow as reported by RBI during the last financial year 2019-20 and for the period of April to July, 2020 are as under:—

Sl. No.	Financial Year	FDI inflow (Amount in US\$ billion)
1.	2019-20	74.39
2.	2020-21 (April - July, 2020) (P)	16.26

(P)- Figures are provisional.

Measures for safekeeping of SEZs

721. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the precautionary measures Government proposes to take for the safekeeping of the SEZs, against unlawful activities or related to the earmarked land by private entities, such as mortgaging of the acquired land to borrow from banks?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): Special Economic Zones (SEZs) being set up under the SEZs Act, 2005 and SEZs Rules, 2006

are primarily private investment driven initiatives. Units in SEZs operate in a bonded environment under the supervision of Development Commissioners along with a dedicated customs wing. All authorised activities in SEZs need to be approved by Board of Approval (BoA) Approval Committee. The performance of the units is monitored annually by the Approval Committee consisting of Development Commissioner, Customs Authorities and State Government Authorities. In case of failure of required performance as per SEZ Act/Rules or any violation, action is taken under Foreign Trade (Development and Regulation) Act, 1992. Further, enforcement agencies like Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Enforcement Directorate among others have been permitted to conduct preventive operations.

Land is a State subject. Land for SEZs is procured as per the policy and procedures of the respective State Governments. In terms of Rule 11(9) of the SEZ Rules, 2006, sale of land in SEZ is not allowed as land is allotted on lease only. There is no restriction in SEZ Act for mortgaging land for raising loan from Banks.

Products constituting imports from China

722. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a little over 300 items from China constitute nearly 3/4th of the imports;
- (b) if so, the details of such items and the policy measures that Government is proposing to make them in India or source them from alternative sources/countries;
- (c) the manner in which a product is classified as sensitive and how many products, out of the above 300, are sensitive; and
- (d) the total amount of imports from China (in terms of dollars) during the last five years and the current year, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) to (d) The top 300 tariff lines/items imports from China accounted for 65.46% of India's total imports from China during 2019-20.

With the aim of achieving key regulatory objectives related to imports and exports, the government is undertaking steps for creating/enhancement of domestic capacity, incentivizing domestic manufacturing through Production Linked Incentive Schemes,

Phased Manufacturing Plans, purchase preference etc., timely use of trade remedy options, adoption of mandatory Technical Standards, enforcement of FTA Rules of Origin (RoO) and development of import monitoring system.

Government has not categorized any product as sensitive products under the Foreign Trade Policy. The value of our merchandise imports from China during last five years and the current year are given below:—

Year	Value of Import (US\$ Million)
2015-16	61,707.95
2016-17	61,283.03
2017-18	76,380.70
2018-19	70,319.64
2019-20	65,260.75
2019-20 (April - August)	29,825.93
2020-21 (April- August)*	21,589.94

(*: Provisional)

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

Special Economic Zones in the country

723. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and total number of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) which have been set up in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether there are SEZs which have been set up to promote agricultural activities;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

- (a) There were 7 Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 12 State/Private Sector SEZs prior to the enactment of the SEZs Act, 2005. In addition, 423 proposals for setting up of SEZs in the country have been accorded formal approval under the SEZ

Act, 2005. Presently, 376 SEZs are notified, out of which 255 SEZs are operational. States/Union Territories-wise details of SEZs is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) to (d) Yes Sir, 8 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have been approved for the Agro and Food Processing sector in India. Of these 8 SEZs, 7 have been notified and 4 are operational. Details of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India are given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State/Union Territory-wise distribution of approved SEZs

State/UT	Central Government SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	State Government/ Private Sector SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	Formal Approvals granted under the SEZs Act, 2005	Notified SEZs under the SEZ Act, 2005	Total Operational SEZs (Including prior to SEZs Act + under the SEZs Act, 2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	1	0	32	27	23
Chandigarh	0	0	2	2	2
Chhattisgarh	0	0	2	1	1
Delhi	0	0	2	0	0
Goa	0	0	7	3	0
Gujarat	1	2	26	22	20
Haryana	0	0	23	20	7
Jharkhand	0	0	2	2	0
Karnataka	0	0	63	52	34
Kerala	1	0	29	25	20
Madhya Pradesh	0	1	12	7	5

1	2	3	4	5	6
Maharashtra	1	0	50	44	34
Manipur	0	0	1	1	0
Nagaland	0	0	2	2	0
Odisha	0	0	7	5	5
Puducherry	0	0	1	0	0
Punjab	0	0	5	3	3
Rajasthan	0	2	5	4	3
Tamil Nadu	1	4	57	54	44
Telangana	0	0	63	56	34
Tripura	0	0	1	1	0
Uttar Pradesh	1	1	24	21	13
West Bengal	1	2	7	5	7
GRAND TOTAL	7	12	423	357	255

Statement-II*List of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India*

Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Location	SEZ status
1	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	Malappuram District, Kerala	Notified and Operational
2	Parry Infrastructure Company Private Limited	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Notified and Operational
3	CCCL Pearl City Food Port SEZ Ltd.	Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu	Notified and Operational
4	CCL Products (India) Limited	Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh	Notified and Operational
5	Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Dimapur, Nagaland	Notified

Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Location	SEZ status
6	Ansal Colours Engineering SEZ Limited	Sonepat, Haryana	Notified
7	Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Paschim Jalefa, Sabroom, South Tripura District, Tripura	Notified
8	Akshaypatra Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Mehsana, Gujarat	Granted by BoA Formal Approval

Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and Agricultural Export Zones (AEZs)

724. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details and total number of Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and Agricultural Export Zones (AEZs) which have been set up in the country, State/UT-wise;

(b) the various incentives that have been provided by Central Government to the EPZs and AEZs;

(c) whether there are EPZs which have been set up to promote agricultural activities;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL):

(a) There were 7 Central Government Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and 12 State/Private Sector SEZs prior to the enactment of the SEZs Act, 2005. In addition, 423 proposals for setting up of SEZs in the country have been accorded formal approval under the SEZ Act, 2005. Presently, 376 SEZs are notified, out of which 255 are operational. States/ Union Territories-wise details of SEZs are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

Further, 60 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) were notified in the year 2001 under Chapter 16 of the then EXIM Policy. List of these notified AEZs is given in the Statement-II (*See below*). All the 60 AEZs have completed their intended span of 5 years.

(b) SEZ Developers and units are granted fiscal and non-fiscal incentives. The fiscal incentives are in the nature of tax exemptions as per provisions of the SEZ Act, 2005. The fiscal incentives allowed to SEZ developers are as follows:—

- (i) Duty free import/domestic procurement of goods and services for development of SEZs.
- (ii) Income Tax exemption on income derived from the business of development of the SEZ under Section 80-IAB of the Income Tax Act, for any 10 consecutive assessment years out of 15 years beginning from the year in which SEZ has been notified (Sunset Clause for Developers has become effective from 01.04.2017)
- (iii) Exemption from Central Sales Tax (CST), Service Tax and Goods and Services Tax.

The fiscal incentives allowed to SEZ units are as follows:

- (i) Duty free import/domestic procurement of goods and services for SEZ units.
- (ii) 100% Income Tax exemption on export income for SEZ units under Section 10AA of the Income Tax Act for first 5 years, 50% for next 5 years thereafter and 50% of the ploughed back export profit for next 5 years. (Sunset Clause for Units becomes effective from 01.04.2020)
- (iii) Other taxes as imposed by the respective State Governments.

The non-fiscal incentives allowed to SEZ units and Developers are as follows.

- (i) Single window clearance for Central and State level approvals,
- (ii) Dedicated customs wing for faster clearance.
- (iii) SEZ units are allowed to deal with restricted/prohibited items subject to approval of Board of Approval.

(c) to (e) Yes Sir, 8 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) have been approved for the Agro and Food Processing sector in India. Of these 8 SEZs, 7 have been notified and 4 are operational. Details of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India is given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I*State/Union Territory-wise distribution of approved SEZs*

State/UT	Central Government SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	State Government/ Private Sector SEZs set up prior to the enactment of SEZs Act, 2005	Formal Approvals granted under the SEZs Act, 2005	Notified SEZs under the SEZ Act, 2005	Total Operational SEZs (Including prior to SEZs Act + under the SEZs Act, 2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6
Andhra Pradesh	1	0	32	27	23
Chandigarh	0	0	2	2	2
Chhattisgarh	0	0	2	1	1
Delhi	0	0	2	0	0
Goa	0	0	7	3	0
Gujarat	1	2	26	22	20
Haryana	0	0	23	20	7
Jharkhand	0	0	2	2	0
Karnataka	0	0	63	52	34
Kerala	1	0	29	25	20
Madhya Pradesh	0	1	12	7	5
Maharashtra	1	0	50	44	34
Manipur	0	0	1	1	0
Nagaland	0	0	2	2	0
Odisha	0	0	7	5	5
Puducherry	0	0	1	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6
Punjab	0	0	5	3	3
Rajasthan	0	2	5	4	3
Tamil Nadu	1	4	57	54	44
Telangana	0	0	63	56	34
Tripura	0	0	1	1	0
Uttar Pradesh	1	1	24	21	13
West Bengal	1	2	1	5	7
GRAND TOTAL	7	12	423	357	255

Statement-II*List of notified 60 Agri Export Zones*

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	Districts/Area
1	West Bengal	1 Pineapple	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur, Cooch Behar, Howrah
		2 Lychee	Murshidabad, Malda, 24 Pargana(N) and 24 Pargana(S)
		3 Potatoes	Hooghly, Burdwan, Midnapore (W), Uday Narayanpur, Howrah
		4 Mango	Maldah and Murshidabad
		5 Vegetables	Nadia, Murshidabad and North 24 Parganas
		6 Darjeeling Tea	Darjeeling
2	Karnataka	7 Gherkins	Tumkur, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Hassan, Kolar, Chitradurga, Dharwad and Bagalkot
		8 Rose Onion	Bangalore (Urban), Bangalore (Rural), Kolar
		9 Flowers	Bangalore (Urban), Bangalore (Rural), Kolar, Tumkur, Kodagu and Belgaum

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	Districts/Area
3	Uttarakhand	10 Vanilla	Districts of Dakshin Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Shimoga, Kodagu, Chickamagalur
		11 Lychees	Udhamsingh Nagar, Dehradun and Nainital
		12 Flowers	Dehradun, Pantnagar, Udhamsingh Nagar, Nainital and Uttarkashi
		13 Basmati Rice	Udham Singh Nagar, Nainital, Dehradun and Haridwar
4	Punjab	14 Medicinal & Aromatic Plants	Uttarkashi, Chamoli, Pithoragarh, Dehradun, Nainital, Haridwar and Udhamsingh Nagar
		15 Vegetables (Cabbage, Broccoli, Okra, Peas, Carrot, Baby Corn, Green Chillies, Green Beans, Tomato)	Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Sangrur, Ludhiana and Ropar
		16 Potatoes	Singhpura, Zirakpur Distt. Patiala and satellite centres at Rampura Phul, Muktsar, Ludhiana, Jullundur
		17 Basmati Rice	Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Jalandhar, Hoshiarpur & Nawanshahar
5	Uttar Pradesh	18 Potatoes	Agra, Hathras, Farrukhabad, Kannoj, Meerut, Baghpat and Aligarh, Janpad Badaiyun, Rampur, Ghaziabad, and Firozabad
		19 Mangoes and Vegetables	Lucknow, Unnao, Hardoi, Sitapur and Barabanki

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	Districts/Area
6	Maharashtra	20 Mangoes	Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnaur, Meerut, Baghpat and Bulandshahr, Jyotifulenagar
		21 Basmati Rice	Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Rampur, Badaun, Bijnor, Moradabad, JB Phulenagar, Sharanpur, Mujjafarnagar, Meerut, Bulandshahr, Ghaziabad and Baghpat
		22 Grape & Grapevine	Nasik, Sangli, Sholapur, Satara, Ahmednagar
		23 Mangoes	Rantagiri, Sindhudurg, Raigarh and Thane
		24 Kesar mango	Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna, Ahmednagar and Latur
		25 Flowers	Pune, Nasik, Kolhapur and Sangli
		26 Onion	Nasik, Ahmednagar, Pune, Satara, Jalgaon, Solapur
		27 Pomegranate	Districts of Solapur, Sangli, Ahmednagar, Pune, Nasik, Osmanabad & Latur
		28 Banana	Jalgaon, Dhule, Nandurbar, Buldhana, Parbhani, Hindoli, Nanded and Wardha
		29 Oranges	Nagpur and Amraoti
7	Andhra Pradesh	30 Mango Pulp & Fresh Vegetables	Chitoor
		31 Mango & Grapes	Rangareddy, Medak, Mehboobnagar
		32 Mangoes	Krishna
		33 Gherkins	Districts of Mahboobnagar, Rangareddy, Medak, Karimnagar, Warangal, Ananthapur and Nalgonda

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	Districts/Area
		34 Chilli	Guntur
8	Jammu and Kashmir	35 Apples	Srinagar, Baramula, Anantnag, Kupwara, Kathua and Pulwama
		36 Walnut	Baramulla, Anantnag, Pulwama, Budgam, Kupwara, Srinagar, Doda, Poonch, Udhampur, Rajouri and Kathua
9	Tripura	37 Pineapple	Kumarghat, Manu, Melaghar, Matabari and Kakraban Blocks
10	Madhya Pradesh	38 Potatoes, Onion and Garlic	Malwa, Ujjain, Indore, Dewas, Dhar, Shajapur, Ratlam, Neemuch Mandsaur and Khandwa
		39 Seed Spices	Guna, Mandsaur, Ujjain, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Shajapur and Neemuch
		40 Wheat (including Sharbati wheat for Bhopal Zone)	Ujjain Zone (Neemuch, Ratlam, Mandsaur and Ujjain), Indore Zone (Indore, Dhar, Shajapur and Dewas) and Bhopal Zone (Sehore, Vidisha, Raisen, Hoshangabad, Harda, Narsinghpur and Bhopal)
		41 Lentil and Grams	Shivpuri, Guna, Vidisha, Raisen, Narsinghpura, Chhindwara
		42 Oranges	Chhindwara, Jpsjamgabad, Betul
11	Tamil Nadu	43 Cut Flowers	Dharmapuri
		44 Flowers	Nilgiri
		45 Mangoes	Districts of Madurai, Theni, Dindigul, Virudhunagar and Tirunelveli
		46 Cashewnut	Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Sivaganga

Sl. No.	State	AEZ Project	Districts/Area
12	Bihar	47 Lychee, Vegetables & Honey	Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Hajipur, Vaishali, East and West Champaran, Bhagalpur, Begu Sarai, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Saran and Gopalganj
13	Gujarat	48 Mangoes & Vegetables	Ahmedabad, Khaida, Anand, Vadodara, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Bharuch, Narmada
		49 Value Added Onion	Districts of Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Amreli, Rajkot, Junagadh and Jamnagar Districts
		50 Sesame Seeds	Amerali, Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Jamnagar
14	Sikkim	51 Flowers (Orchids) & Cherry Pepper	East Sikkim
		52 Ginger	North, East, South & West Sikkim
15	Himachal Pradesh	53 Apples	Shimla, Sirmaur, Kullu, Mandi, Chamba and Kinnaur
16	Odisha	54 Ginger and Turmeric	Kandhamal
17	Jharkhand	55 Vegetables	Ranchi, Hazaribagh and Lohardaga
18	Kerala	56 Horticulture Products	Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Alapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram, Idukki and Pallakad
		57 Medicinal Plant	Wayanad, Mallapuram, Palakkad, Thrissur, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kollam, Pathanamittha, Thiruvananthapuram
19	Assam	58 Fresh and Processed Ginger	Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Nagaon, Morigaon, Karbi Anglong and North Cachar
20	Rajasthan	59 Coriander	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar & Chittoor
		60 Cumin	Nagaur, Banner, Jalore, Pali and Jodhpur

Statement-III*List of Agro and Food Processing SEZs in India*

Sl. No.	Name of the developer	Location	SEZ status
1.	Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA)	Malappuram District, Kerala	Notified and Operational
2.	Parry Infrastructure Company Private Limited	Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh	Notified and Operational
3.	CCCL Pearl City Food Port SEZ Ltd.	Tuticorin District, Tamil Nadu	Notified and Operational
4.	CCL Products (India) Limited	Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh	Notified and Operational
5.	Nagaland Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Dimapur, Nagaland	Notified
6.	Ansal Colours Engineering SEZ Limited	Sonepat, Haryana	Notified
7.	Tripura Industrial Development Corporation Limited	Paschim Jalefa, Sabroom, South Tripura District, Tripura	Notified
8.	Akshaypatra Infrastructure Pvt. Ltd.	Mehsana, Gujarat	Formal Approval

**Discrimination in selecting poors under Pradhan Mantri
Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana**

†725. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains and other food items provided to poor persons

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

in the period of spread of Corona virus till date along with the name of the States and number of districts under 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana';

(b) whether it is a fact that poor persons of some States are not being given the benefits of this scheme;

(c) whether it is also a fact that discrimination is being detected while selecting poor people for benefit under this scheme; and

(d) the reasons for including poor persons of only some States under this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) In pursuance of the pro-poor measures under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package as part of the Economic Response to COVID -19, Government of India had launched scheme for additional allocation of food-grains from the Central Pool @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries of all the 36 States/UTs covered under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) (AAY & PFIH) including those covered under DBT for a period of 3 months *i.e.* April-June, 2020. The above PMGKAY scheme has been extended for a further period of 5 months *i.e.* July - November, 2020 @ 5 kg per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS)/National Food Security Act (NFSA).

During PMGKAY-I, about 121 LMT of foodgrain was allotted to approximately 80.96 Crore beneficiaries and during PMGKAY-II about 201 LMT of foodgrains have been allotted to approx. 80.43 crore beneficiaries. Details are given in the Statement (*See below*). The entitlement of foodgrains under PMGKAY is in addition to their normal entitlement under the NFSA.

In addition to above, under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package - pulses have also been provided @ 1kg per household per month for 8 months *i.e.* April to November, 2020. free of cost to all beneficiaries under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) covering 19.4 crore households. During PMGKAY-I, about 5.71 LMT pulses was allotted for 3 months *i.e.* April-June, 2020 and during PMGKAY-II, about 9.71 LMT of whole chana was allotted for 5 months *i.e.* July-November, 2020.

(b) to (d) The distribution criteria under PMGKAY is the same as followed under TPDS/NFSA which is operated under the joint responsibility of the Central and the

State/UT Government Central Govt is responsible for allocation and transportation of foodgrains upto the designated depots of the FCI. The operational responsibilities for allocation of foodgrains within the States/UTs, identification of eligible beneficiaries, issuance of ration cards to them, distribution of foodgrains to eligible beneficiaries rest with the concerned State/UT Government.

Statement

State-wise allocation under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

(in MTs)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Allocation under PMGKAY-I (April-June 2020)	Total Allocation under PMGKAY-II (July-Nov. 2020)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	912.93	1521.55
2.	Andhra Pradesh	402345.00	670575.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12316.82	20528.03
4.	Assam	377293.86	628823.10
5.	Bihar	1285680.00	2177908.53
6.	Chandigarh	4127.07	6985.88
7.	Chhattisgarh	301155.00	501925.00
8.	Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4284.21	7198.23
9.	Delhi	109099.86	181833.10
10.	Goa	7979.91	13299.85
11.	Gujarat	573803.81	956339.68
12.	Haryana	189735.00	316225.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	42966.84	71611.40
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	108074.36	181026.68
15.	Jharkhand	395550.35	659250.58

1	2	3	4
16.	Karnataka	602895.00	1004825.00
17.	Kerala	232200.18	387000.30
18.	Ladakh	2158.43	3597.38
19.	Lakshadweep	330.00	550.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	819630.00	1366050.00
21.	Maharashtra	1050255.00	1750425.00
22.	Manipur	36851.72	61674.30
23.	Meghalaya	32182.76	53637.93
24.	Mizoram	10023.23	16705.38
25.	Nagaland	21070.31	35117.18
26.	Odisha	485394.24	808990.40
27.	Puducherry	9425.19	15859.75
28.	Punjab	212175.00	353625.00
29.	Rajasthan	669930.00	1116550.00
30.	Sikkim	5681.82	9469.70
31.	Tamil Nadu	536005.68	893342.80
32.	Telangana	287430.00	479050.00
33.	Tripura	37242.20	62545.83
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2280879.65	3634886.33
35.	Uttarakhand	92936.85	154850.00
36.	West Bengal	902756.55	1504594.25
TOTAL		12142778.78	20108398.08

Digitization of ration cards

726. SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the digitization of ration cards has been completed by all States in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the name and details of the States which have not completed the digitization of ration cards?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) As part of efforts made under Public Distribution System (PDS) reforms, all ration cards under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) are 100% digitised in all States/UTs. State/UT-wise details of status of ration cards digitization is given in the Statement.

Statement

State/UT-wise status of digitization of ration cards

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Ration Cards under NFSA (in lakhs)	Digitization Status
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.2	100%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	90.3	100%
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1.8	100%
4.	Assam	58.1	100%
5.	Bihar	163.7	100%
6.	Chandigarh	0.7	100%
7.	Chhattisgarh	52.8	100%
8.	Delhi	17.5	100%
9.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	0.7	100%
10.	Goa	1.4	100%
11.	Gujarat	65.5	100%
12.	Haryana	27.0	100%
13.	Himachal Pradesh	6.8	100%

1	2	3	4
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	16.5	100%
15.	Jharkhand	57.1	100%
16.	Karnataka	127.5	100%
17.	Kerala	37.5	100%
18.	Ladakh	0.3	100%
19.	Lakshadweep	0.1	100%
20.	Madhya Pradesh	117.5	100%
21.	Maharashtra	152.8	100%
22.	Manipur	6.0	100%
23.	Meghalaya	4.2	100%
24.	Mizoram	1.6	100%
25.	Nagaland	2.9	100%
26.	Odisha	92.9	100%
27.	Puducherry	1.8	100%
28.	Punjab	34.6	100%
29.	Rajasthan	111.6	100%
30.	Sikkim	0.9	100%
31.	Tamil Nadu	111.3	100%
32.	Telangana	53.4	100%
33.	Tripura	5.8	100%
34.	Uttar Pradesh	355.0	100%
35.	Uttarakhand	13.6	100%
36.	West Bengal	563.5	100%
TOTAL		2,354.4	100%

**Allotment of additional rice to Andhra Pradesh under
National Food Security Act**

727. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested the Central Government to allocate minimum 15.05 lakh MTs of additional rice to the State for distribution during July-November under the National Food Security Act;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the delay; and
- (c) the action taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) In pursuance of the pro-poor measures under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package as part of the Economic Response to COVTD -19, additional allocation of foodgrains @ 5 Kg per person per month for five months (July to November, 2020) free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) has been made by Government of India to all the States/UTs under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY). Accordingly, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh has been allocated a total quantity of 670575 MT rice for all the TPDS/NFSA beneficiaries (AAY, PHH) free of cost for a period of five months i.e July-November, 2020.

In addition to above, during the year 2019-20, Andhra Pradesh has also been allocated 18.498 LMT rice under normal NFSA (TPDS) and 1.53 LMT rice under Other Welfare Schemes (OWS). Hence the request for additional rice to Andhra Pradesh has not been acceded to.

Damage of wheat stored in the open

728. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of wheat procured by the Central and State authorities have to be kept/stored in the open in Madhya Pradesh etc. if so, the quantity of such wheat and the reasons for keeping it in the open;

- (b) whether rain has spoiled a large quantity of wheat kept in the open;
- (c) if so, the details of loss thereof and whether anyone was held accountable for this loss and the details of action taken against such persons; and
- (d) if not, the reasons for not taking any action in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) No Sir. Wheat procured by the Central and State Authorities are generally stored in scientific manner in covered godowns. However, during peak procurement period, only wheat stocks are sometimes stored in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage due to logistic constraints. No foodgrains procured for Central Pool Stocks are kept in open.

As on 01-09-2020, no wheat stocks are stored in CAP owned by FCI in Madhya Pradesh (MP) region. However, a quantity of 1383844 tonnes of wheat stocks is lying in CAP with State agencies of MP region.

- (b) to (d) Do not arise in view of the (a) above.

Wastage of foodgrains due to mismanagement

729. SHRI ANIL DESAI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that every year tonnes of foodgrains, particularly wheat get destroyed due to rains and negligence after its procurement;
- (b) the data of wastage of wheat during the last five years, place of its storage and agency responsible, year-wise;
- (c) whether any action has been taken against the guilty, if so, the details thereof, year-wise; and
- (d) the reasons for not taking remedial action during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) No Sir. Procured foodgrains are stored in a scientific manner in covered godowns and in Cover & Plinth (CAP) storage. Scientific codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are followed during storage. A meagre quantity of wheat became non-issuable during last one year due to rains or negligence.

(b) The details of the quantity of wheat, which got damaged/become non-issuable stored in (the godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) during last five years, are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Yes Sir. Whenever accrual of any quantity of damaged foodgrains is noticed, each case is investigated immediately and action by the concerned authority is invariably taken against the officers/officials found responsible.

The number of officer/officials found responsible for damage of foodgrain including wheat during last five years are as under:—

Sl. No.	Years	Number of officials
1.	2015-16	31
2.	2016-17	13
3.	2017-18	13
4.	2018-19	0
5.	2019-20	2

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Statement

Location-wise details of wheat accrued as damage/non-issuable in FCI godowns during last five years

(a) 2015-16 (Fig. in MTs)

Region	Name of depot	Wheat
Bihar	FSD Saharsha	21.437
	Patna/FSD Buxar	0.45
	Total	21.891
Odisha	FSD Baripada/Balasore	13.802
	CWC Balasore/Balasore	2.412
	Sambalpur/FSD Hirakud	0.55
	OSWC Jatni	2.04

Region	Name of depot	Wheat
	Total	18.804
Assam	North Lakhimpur/FSD NLP	92.149
	Total	92.149
NEF	FSD- A.D. Nagar	0.357
	Total	0.357
Delhi	FSD Mayapuri	10.875
	FSD Ghevra	3.7
	FSD Okhla	0.195
	FSD CTO	0.79
	Total	15.56
Punjab	Faridkot/BG Malout	0.528
	Silo Moga	2.35
	Ludhiana/Silo Mandi Gobindgarh	8.473
	Total	11.351
Rajasthan	FSD K. Patan	0.067
	Kota	0.148
	Total	0.215
Uttar Pradesh	CWC Roza	13.406
	FSD Varanasi	0.315
	FSD Orai	0.705
	SWC PK II(B)	0.432
	SWC PK I(A)	0.180
	FSD Sitapur	0.000
	FSD Faizabad	0.69
	FSD Chandari	0.320
	FSD Hapur	13.461
	FSD Hapur	1.215

Region	Name of depot	Wheat
	SWC Amlonipur	0.022
	SWC Amlonipur Bhuta	0.110
	SWC PK I(A)	0.059
	SWC IA (New)	0.005
	SWC1A (New)	0.077
	SILO Talkatora	3.340
	Kanpur/SWC Bhartkhana	9.956
	Aligarh/FSD Harduaganj	0.55
	Aligarh/FSD Harduaganj	4
	SWC Partapgarh	0.648
	FSD Orai	0.53
	Total	50.021
Andhra Pradesh	MD-Vizag	582.908
	ANG -Vizag (FSD)	100.959
	Total	683.867
Kerala	Kollam/MD Kollam	9.040
	Palakkad/FSD Mulakunnathkavu	0.495
	Palakkad/FSD Olavakkode	2.812
	Kannur/FSD Muzhappilangad	0.543
	Kannaur/FSD Payannur	0.479
	Total	13.369
Karnataka	FSD K R Nagar/Mysore	4.85
	Total	4.85
Tamil Nadu	FSD Egmore	15.04
	CWC Kumbakonam/Thanjavur	0
	Total	15.04
Gujarat	FSD Veraval	1.71

Region	Name of depot	Wheat	
	FSD Wadhwan	1.626	
	SPG, Gandhidham, Adipur	5.394	
	Adipur/SPG Gandhidham	0.090	
	Rajkot/FSD, VERAVAL	1.91	
	Rajkot/FSD Bhavanagar	3.354	
	Rajkot/FSD Ghanteshwar	0.13	
	Ahmedabad/FSD, Viramgam	0.785	
	Total	14.999	
	Maharashtra	FSD Manamd	3.368
		FSD Manmad	4.980
FSD Wardha/Nagpur		1.934	
Nagpur/FSD Wardha		8.629	
Pune/MSWC Kedgaon		11.532	
Nagpur/CWC Yavatmaal		17.233	
		7.321	
PEG/MSWC Chandrapur		1.35	
Total		56.347	
Chhattisgarh		SWC Borai, Durg	- 0.635
	Bilaspur/FSD Sakti	1.817	
	Durg/SWC Borai	1.928	
	Durg/ SWC Borai	1.872	
	TOTAL	6.252	
	G.RAND TOTAL		1005.072
(b) 2016-17		(Fig. in MTs)	
Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
East Zone	Odisha	CWC Cuttack	0.744
		Zone Total	0.744

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
NE Zone	Assam	FSD Kokrajhar	7.547
		Total	7.547
	NEF	Shillong/ FSD Khanapara	0.276
		Total	0.276
		Zone Total	7.823
North Zone	Delhi	FSD Narela	0.213
	Punjab	Ludhiana/Silo Mandi Gobindgarh	8.488
		Alwar	1.869
		FSD Udaipur	112.522
		FSD Jaipur	0.024
		FSD Bhawani Mandi	0.259
	Rajasthan	FSD Bundi/Kota	8.103
			0.139
		Jodhpur/FSD Jalore	2.014
		R.T. Export Bundi	0.009
		Total	124.939
		FSD Hapur	6.253
	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow/ FSD Raebareilly	0.140
		Lucknow/FSD Talkatora	8.195
		Total	14.588
		Zone Total	148.228
South Zone	Andhra Pradesh	FSD Kakatur/ DO Nellore	1.185
		BSD Cherlapally	4.53
		Total	5.715
	Kerala	FSD Olavakode/Palakkad	8.913
		FSD Angadipuram/Palakkad	3.501
		Total	12.414

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat	
West Zone	Karnataka	SWC Maddur	0.994	
		BSC Whitefield (FCI Godown)	0.000	
		Total	0.994	
	Tamil Nadu	FSD Avadi	0.456	
		FSD TV Koil/Cuddalore	0.3	
		TNWC Mettupalayam/Coimbatore	7.397	
		Total	8.153	
		Zone Total	27.276	
	Gujarat	CWC PWG Vyara	2.154	
		Ahmedabad	0.064	
		Adipur/FSD, Gandhidham	0.07	
		Raj kot/FSD-Bhavnagar	14.23	
		FSD Ghanteshwar	3.499	
		Rajkot	5.904	
		Rajkot/FSD-Wankaner .	1.158	
		Ahmedabad/CWC Shahalam	91.47	
		Total	118.549	
		Maharashtra	CWC Akola	2263.210
				61.597
			CWC Amravati	2979.616
				0.235
			FSD Manmad	0.425
		Chhattisgarh	CWC Miraj	0.066
			Total	5305.149
			Mandirahasaud/Raipur District	3.448
			CWC-IV Raipur	2.765
			CWC IV Raipur	6.17
	Total		12.383	
	Zone Total		5436.081	
GRAND TOTAL		5620.152		

(c) **2017-18**

(Fig. in MTs)

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
East Zone	Bihar	Purnea/ARDC Forbesganj	396.259
		FSD Mokama	54.15
		FSD Jaynagar	36
		Total	486.409
	Odisha	Jaypore/FSD Umeri	0.315
		Zone Total	486.724
NE Zone	Assam	FSD New Guwahati	11.233
		Tezpur/ FSD Bindukuri	1.023
		Total	12.256
		Zone Total	12.256
North Zone	Delhi	FSD Okhla	4.292
		FSD Ghevra	9.69
		Total	13.982
	Punjab	FSD Jagraon	6.425
		FSD Tanda	2
		SILO Moga	13.276
		Ludhiana/FSD Khanna/SILO Gobindgarh	15.918
		Total	37.619
	Rajasthan	FSD Jhunjunu	0.02
		CWC-II, Bikaner	1.235
		Total	1.255
	Uttar Pradesh	FSD Talkatora/Lucknow	227.800
		FSD Hapur	2.360
		Total	230.160
		Zone Total	283.016

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
South Zone	Karnataka	FSD Koppal/Raichur	9.988
		Mysore/FSD K R Nagar	17.855
		Total	27.843
		Zone Total	27.843
West Zone	Gujarat	FSD-Sabarmati	0.99
		Adipur/FSD Gandhidham	0.026
		FSD Wadhwan	1.775
		Ahmedabad/FSD Viramgam	2.457
		Rajkot/FSD Bhavnagar	0.241
		Total	5.489
	Maharashtra	Nagpur/FSD Ajani	2.344
		CWC Yeotmaal	0.842
		Nagpur/FSD Gondia	1.256
		Total	4.442
		Zone Total	9.931
		GRAND TOTAL	

(d) **2018-19**

(Fig. in MTs)

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
East Zone	Bihar	Purnea/SWC Forbesganj	391.754
		Purnea/CWC Kishanganj	851.431
		Darbanga/BSWC- Jhanjharpur	15.547
		Sahrassa/ARDC Raghapur	2.058
		Muzzafarpur/FSD NRPA	6.897
		Total	1267.687
	Odisha	Cuttack/SWC Jagatpur	1.57
	West Bengal	FSD/Port Depot/JJP-IA	4.51
		Zone Total	1,273.767

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
North Zone	Delhi	FSD Narela	0.268
		FSD Ghevra	0.237
		FSD Mayapuri	1.324
		FSD Okhia	0.045
		Total	1.874
	Punjab	RSD Khanna, Silo Gobindgarh, Ludhiana	0.666
		SILO Moga/FSD Moga	19.27
		Total	19.936
		Rajasthan	FSD Udaipur
	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow/SILO FSD Talkatora	7.386
		SILO/FSD Hapur	10.10
		Total	17.486
Zone Total		39.454	
South Zone	Kerala	Alappuza/FSD Alappuza	63.704
		Kollam/FSD Kollam	0.320
		Total	64.024
		Zone Total	64.024
		West Zone	Gujarat
Maharashtra	Nagpur/MSWC Khamgaon PPP		4.822
	Nagpur/MSWC Khamgaon PPP		2.050
	FSD Pune		9.110
	Pune/FSD Solapur		0.066
	CWC Yeotmaal		0.103
	Total		16.151
Chhattisgarh	Bilaspur/Raigarh		0.010
	Bilaspur/CWC Raigarh		0.598

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
		Bilaspur/SWC-II- Akaltara	1.48
		Bilaspur/SWC Akaltara	4.969
		Total	7.057
		Zone Total	42.407
		GRAND TOTAL	1419.652
(e) 2019-20			(Fig. in MTs)
East	Bihar	Rohtas/FSD Buxar	0.036
		Cuttak/SWC Jagatpur	1.785
		Cuttak/SWC Jagatsinghpur	0.947
East Zone	Odisha	Cuttak/CWC Choudwar	4.26
		Bhubaneswar/FSD Khurda Road	27.42
		Bhubaneswar/SWC Jatni	8.624
		Sambalpur/FSD Balijhori	43.193
North	Delhi	FSD Narela	43.617
		Lucknow/FSD Talkatora	1.72
		LUCKNOW/SILO	0.47
		Saharanpur/CWC Pilkhani	0.0778
		Azamgarh/SWC Ballia	1.08
	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow/FSD Talkatora	1.852
		FSD Hapur	1.59
		FSD Hapur	0.096
		CWC Basti, Gorakhpur	1.15
		FSD Hapur	0.882
	Punjab	Silo Moga	7.531
		Ludhiana/FSD SILO Jagraon	8.3
	Rajasthan	Udaipur	1.283
West	Maharashtra	DO Nagpur/MSWC Chandrpaur	3.328
		Padoli	0.204

Zone	Region	Name of Depot	Wheat
South	Gujarat	FSD Ajni Old Complex	0.437
		Pune/MSWC Kedgaon	4.408
		Pune/MSWC Nagapur PEG	2.826
		Baroda/CWC Channi	693.971
		DO Alappuzha/FSD Mavelikkara	1.27
	Kerala	Calicut/FSD Thikkodi	0.47
		Palakkad/FSD Olavakkode	1.601
	Tamil Nadu	Main Depot Coimbatore	0.036
GRAND TOTAL			864.4648

Procurement of agricultural produces and payment of MSP to farmers

730. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has data on the total amount of agricultural produces procured by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and private players, and if so, the details from 2015 till date, year-wise;

(b) the total quantity of wheat and paddy procured by the FCI since March 2019, State-wise; and

(c) whether the Ministry has studied the total number of farmers who availed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) Procurement of wheat and paddy is done by Centralized Procurement System and Decentralized Procurement (DCP) System.

Under Centralized Procurement System, the procurement of wheat and paddy in Central Pool are undertaken either by FCI directly or through State Government agencies. Under Decentralized Procurement (DCP) System, the State Government itself undertakes direct purchase of paddy and wheat. Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the Central

nodal agency for procurement of wheat and Paddy. Total quantity of Wheat and Paddy procured by FCI from Marketing Season 2014-15 is as under:—

Wheat		Paddy	
Rabi Marketing Season (RMS)	Quantity procured (in LMT)	Kharif Marketing Season (KMS)	Quantity procured (in LMT)
2014-15	35.33	2014-15	3.75
2015-16	29.84	2015-16	9.62
2016-17	30.47	2016-17	11.86
2017-18	36.09	2017-18	7.75
2018-19	42.59	2018-19	6.74
2019-20	40.37	2019-20	7.36*
2020-21	38.66	-	-

* As on 09.09.2020.

Private players were engaged by FCI in Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, in order to increase the spread of Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations in eastern states of the country during KMS 2015-16 to KMS 2017-18 *i.e.* for three years.

Total procurement of Paddy by private players engaged by FCI under MSP operations during KMS 2015-16 to KMS 2017-18 is as under:

Kharif Marketing Season (KMS)	Quantity of Paddy procurement (In LMT)
2015-16	2.49
2016-17	2.86
2017-18	2.35

(b) State-wise; total quantum of wheat and paddy procured by the FCI since March 2019 is given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) The total number of farmers availed the Minimum Support Price (MSP) from Paddy and Wheat is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I*State-wise wheat and paddy procured by FCI since March 2019*

(Fig. in LMT)

Sl. No.	State	Wheat		Paddy	
		RMS 2019-20	RMS 2020-21	KMS 2018-19	KMS 2019-20*
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Assam	0.00	0.00	0.69	1.80
2.	Chandigarh	0.13	0.11	0.00	0.22
3.	Haryana	11.33	6.69	0.00	0.05
4.	Himachal Pradesh	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00
5.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.36	1.06
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15
7.	Punjab	15.72	14.20	0.00	2.24
8.	Rajasthan	12.09	16.29	0.00	0.00
9.	NEF (Tripura)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13
10.	Uttar Pradesh	1.09	1.34	0.01	0.95
11.	West Bengal	0.00	0.00	0.46	0.76
TOTAL		40.37	38.66	1.52	7.36

* As on 09.09.2020.

Statement-II

Number of Farmers Benefited, State-wise, Marketing Season-wise (Paddy and Wheat) As on 09.09.2020

Sl. No.	State/UT	Paddy					Wheat				
		KMS 2015-16	KMS 2016-17	KMS 2017-18	KMS 2018-19	KMS 2019-20*	RMS 2016-17	RMS 2017-18	RMS 2018-19	RMS 2019-20	RMS 2020-21
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	276699	544570	498100	581839	669875	0	0	0	0	0
2.	Telangana	535007	1088312	1077667	1474828	1988630	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Assam	7288	6960	4332	12921	24552	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Bihar	275484	287830	163425	210028	279402	0	0	4311	554	1002
5.	Chandigarh	3468	2235	3148	3028	2960	1025	935	1557	1691	1410
6.	Chhattisgarh	1110163	1327944	1014195	1571414	1838593	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Delhi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
8.	Gujarat	335	1316	462	4370	5115	14	1700	20768	922	18824
9.	Haryana	212351	556654	681984	830792	1891622	472313	690448	883783	902937	780962
10.	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	127	167	318	335	1061
11.	Jharkhand	53945	39480	42346	34595	53305	0	0	0	0	0

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12.	Jammu and Kashmir	2812	2693	3856	3034	3143	0	0	0	0	3
13.	Karnataka	14587	0	0	25120	27123	0	0	0	0	0
14.	Kerala	162737	125530	140777	172795	220066	0	0	0	0	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	199984	287759	278898	362089	436399	532907	738895	958417	961338	1593793
16.	Maharashtra	111503	149279	116641	269148	522800	0	0	0	0	0
17.	Odisha	1078596	1101193	798619	1010390	1161796	0	0	0	0	0
18.	Puducherry	83									
19.	Punjab	1206216	940560	1142621	1143713	1125238	834655	843446	897905	830528	1049982
20.	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0	38942	110338	123939	102031	219873
21.	Tamilnadu	850640	73367	413076	498097	556292	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Uttar Pradesh	433556	435320	492913	684013	706549	166073	800646	1070044	749858	663810
23.	Uttarakhand	51772	79470	7618	62564	83910	710	654	15987	6886	4656
24.	West Bengal	721273	634696	350181	733357	805186	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Tripura	0	0	0	5506	13613	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	7308416	7685168	7230859	9693641	12416252	2046766	3187229	3977029	3557080	4335382

*As on 09.09.2020.

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Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Impact of COVID-19 on NFSA beneficiaries

731. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the manner in which COVID-19 has impacted the lives of the National Food Security Act (NFSA) beneficiaries;
- (b) the number of NFSA beneficiaries who have been adversely affected by COVID-19 due to lack of supply of foodgrains; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government to alleviate the suffering of NFSA beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) The Government took timely proactive measures to ensure that NFSA beneficiaries do not get adversely affected by Covid-19 due to lack of supply of foodgrains. Under the Pradhan Mantri - Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY), to ameliorate the hardship faced by the poor due to economic disruption caused by Corona Virus, it was decided by the Government to provide additional allocation of foodgrains @ 5 kg. per person per month free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under Targeted Public Distribution System (Antyodaya Anna Yojana and Priority Households) including those covered under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) for a period of 3 months *i.e.* April to June, 2020. In this package, about 121 Lakh Metric Tons (LMT), later revised to approximately 119.32 LMT, of foodgrains were allotted to approximately 80.96 crore beneficiaries. Later on, Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his address to the nation on 30.06.2020, announced extension of said package for a further period of 5 months *i.e.* July to November, 2020. Accordingly, allocation of 201 LMT for these five months was made to all the States/UTs for distribution amount 80.43 crore beneficiaries. The benefits under PMGKAY are over and above the monthly NFSA entitlement.

Rise in price of essential food items

732. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that price of essential food items has risen sharply during the last six months;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the increase/decrease in price of essential food items from March, 2020 to August, 2020, month-wise and item-wise; and

(c) the details of steps Government would take to bring down prices of food items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) Monthly Average of retail prices in respect of 22 essential commodities monitored by Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) from March, 2020 to August, 2020 indicating the increase in retail prices is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Government has taken various measures from time to time to stabilize prices of essential food items which, *inter-alia*, include appropriately utilizing trade and fiscal policy instruments like import duty, Minimum Export Price, export restrictions, etc. to regulate domestic availability and moderate prices; imposition of stock limits and advising States for effective action against hoarders and black marketers; and, provision of higher Minimum Support Prices to incentivize farmers for increasing production. Government is also implementing Schemes which, *inter alia*, include Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Mission on Oilseeds and Oil Palm (NMOOP), etc. for increasing agricultural production and productivity through appropriate interventions. Government also implements Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) to help moderate the volatility in prices of agri-horticultural commodities like pulses, onion, and potato.

Statement

Monthly average of retail prices in respect of 22 essential commodities

Department of Consumer Affairs (Price Monitoring Division)

(Unit: ₹/Kg.)

Commodities	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20
Rice	33.34	34.07	34.09	34.34	34.21	34.54
Wheat	28.81	29.10	28.94	28.49	28.12	28.23
Atta (Wheat)	30.12	31.20	31.37	31.37	31.20	31.11
Gram Dal	65	69.01	68.26	66.57	66.48	66.36

Commodities	Mar-20	Apr-20	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20
Tur/Arhar Dal	87.24	94.53	94.73	92.96	93.14	93.03
Urad Dal	97.49	104.03	104.40	101.76	100.15	98.71
Moong Dal	98.56	108.61	111.01	108.94	106.92	103.52
Masoor Dal	67.22	72.96	76.23	76.61	76.70	77.35
Groundnut Oil (Packed)	137.8	143.80	146.56	147.96	149.25	149.23
Mustard Oil (Packed)	117	117.95	118.25	119.94	122.09	124.48
Vanaspati (Packed)	88.12	89.93	90.48	90.96	90.84	91.38
Soya Oil (Packed)	98.06	101.07	101.38	101.04	101.78	102.20
Sunflower Oil (Packed)	106.1	109.60	110.87	111.61	112.86	113.15
Palm Oil (Packed)	87.21	89.26	88.27	88.49	89.53	91.13
Potato	23.06	26.43	25.82	27.16	30.59	33.25
Onion	31.2	28.02	21.66	20.62	21.53	22.63
Tomato	21.25	22.37	19.46	24.46	48.18	45.77
Sugar	39.05	40.09	39.85	39.72	40.20	40.21
Gur	45.62	47.07	47.93	47.86	48.36	49.24
Milk (₹/Ltr.)	45.58	46.27	46.72	46.88	47.11	47.00
Tea Loose	217.2	218.82	217.93	219.59	220.88	223.98
Salt Pack (Iodised)	15.88	16.14	16.09	16.33	16.37	16.30

**Allocation and distribution of foodgrains and gram under Atmanirbhar
Bharat package**

733. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) the total allocation of foodgrains and gram under the Atmanirbhar Bharat package;
- (b) the quantity of foodgrains and gram allocated to each State and the quantity of foodgrains and gram lifted by them;

(c) the total distribution of foodgrains and gram to migrant workers in each State under the package; and

(d) whether the Ministry has calculated the total number of actual beneficiaries of this package, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (c) A total of approx. 8 LMT foodgrains (Rice and Wheat) were allocated to States/UTs. Also, Under ANB whole Chana was provided @ 1kg. per household per month for two months *i.e.* May-June, 2020, free of cost to migrant labourers who were not covered under NFSA, 2013 or were without ration card in the States/UTs in which they were stranded. Such beneficiaries were estimated as 10% of total beneficiaries under NFSA. Under the ANB, against adjusted total allocation of 27,001.19 MT whole Chana for two months (May-June, 2020), 16,600.81 MT has been distributed by States/UTs to the stranded migrant workers. The details of State-wise allocation, lifting and distribution of foodgrains and chana whole under the package, are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II respectively (*See below*).

(d) For foodgrains, all States/UTs had reported an estimated number of about 2.8 crore migrants/stranded migrants, against which about 2.67 crore, who don't have NFSA/State ration cards had benefited from the distribution of free-of-cost foodgrains. Distribution of whole Chana under ANB has benefitted about 1.66 crore households of migrant labourers.

Statement-I

*State-wise allocation, lifting and distribution of foodgrains under
Atmanirbhar Bharat Package*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Allocation (In MTs)	Total lifted (In MTs)	Total Distributed (In MTs) (Provisional)
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	61	61	58
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26823	26823	7
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	821	819	583

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Assam	25153	21276	15,712
5.	Bihar	86450	86450	86,450
6.	Chandigarh	275	275	90
7.	Chhattisgarh	20077	944	1,258
8.	Daman and Diu	285	285	164
9.	Delhi	7273	7273	4,544
10.	Goa	532	532	17
11.	Gujarat	38254	33581	266
12.	Haryana	12649	8337	7,888
13.	Himachal Pradesh	2864	2864	1,705
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	7241	3035	1,900
15.	Jharkhand	26370	26370	717.2
16.	Karnataka	40193	40193	11,613
17.	Kerala	15480	15480	2,142
18.	Ladakh	144	34	33
19.	Lakshadweep	22	22	15
20.	Madhya Pradesh	54642	1963	1,774
21.	Maharashtra	70017	34193	17,294
22.	Manipur	2457	2457	676
23.	Meghalaya	2146	2145	2,099
24.	Mizoram	668	668	236
25.	Nagaland	1405	1405	1,405
26.	Odisha	32360	388	390
27.	Puducherry	628	628	73
28.	Punjab	14145	14145	7,193

1	2	3	4	5
29.	Rajasthan	44662	44600	42,478
30.	Sikkim	379	378	315
31.	Tamil Nadu	35734	35734	2,480
32.	Telangana	19162	19162	180
33.	Tripura	2483	2483	22
34.	Uttar Pradesh	142033	140637	11,809
35.	Uttarakhand	6196	2905	156
36.	West Bengal	60184	60184	43,354
	TOTAL	800268	638729	267096.2

Statement-II

State-wise allocation, lifting and distribution of chana whole under Atmanirbhar Bharat Package ANB status as on 14.09.2020

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total 2 months allocation of chana whole @ 10% NFSA HH (in MT)	Adjusted allocation as per States/UTs request (in MT)	Qty. dispatched to States/UTs (in MT)	Qty. received by States/UTs (in MT)	Qty. distributed by States/UTs (in MT)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	3.27	12.50	12.50	12.50	8.55
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1805.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	35.44	35.44	35.50	35.44	33.73
4.	Assam	1159.12	937.48	937.48	892.52	637.95
5.	Bihar	3377.00	3375.50	3382.44	3378.37	3195.18
6.	Chandigarh	12.73	12.37	13.36	13.00	7.06

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7.	Chhattisgarh	1029.98	1029.98	1029.98	1029.80	169.57
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman and Diu	13.05	13.05	13.08	13.05	11.98
9.	Delhi	350.76	350.76	352.35	351.10	351.10
10.	Goa	28.50	28.50	28.50	28.50	1.60
11.	Gujarat	1376.00	788.64	788.64	718.00	20.25
12.	Haryana	540.06	540.06	540.42	540.00	465.06
13.	Himachal Pradesh	137.00	136.00	136.00	136.00	111.70
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	329.01	329.01	329.01	329.05	131.08
15.	Jharkhand	1142.32	1142.32	1142.32	1134.53	1059.14
16.	Karnataka	2544.55	2544.55	2546.45	2552.91	2055.38
17.	Kerala	747.63	747.63	748.67	747.63	306.90
18.	Ladakh	5.85	5.85	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Lakshadweep	1.04	5.69	5.69	5.68	4.53
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2337.20	219.28	220.00	220.00	159.13
21.	Maharashtra	3340.00	1766.00	1766.00	1756.15	762.17
22.	Manipur	117.50	82.35	82.35	82.35	82.35
23.	Meghalaya	84.30	82.35	82.35	84.30	83.93
24.	Mizoram	31.08	31.08	31.13	31.00	29.75
25.	Nagaland	56.99	56.99	56.99	56.00	56.00
26.	Odisha	1856.93	100.00	100.00	98.94	15.13
27.	Puducherry	35.64	35.64	35.59	35.64	15.00
28.	Punjab	720.00	1015.72	1016.45	1015.72	980.00
29.	Rajasthan	2237.00	2237.00	2237.00	2234.53	2003.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
30.	Sikkim	18.78	18.78	18.75	18.75	15.04
31.	Tamil Nadu	2221.58	2224.08	2220.26	2224.08	34.00
32.	Telangana	1065.88	1066.68	1066.00	1066.68	34.46
33.	Tripura	115.77	115.78	116.50	116.19	21.93
34.	Uttar Pradesh	7048.91	2738.34	2738.34	2738.34	1060.50
35.	Uttarakhand	269.20	270.00	270.50	269.27	30.90
36.	West Bengal	2905.80	2905.80	2907.81	2906.00	2646.76
GRAND TOTAL		39101.51	27001.19	27008.41	26872.02	16600.81

Implementation of IM-PDS Scheme

734. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the name of the States that are yet to integrate into the Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS) initiative;

(b) whether there has been any objection to this initiative from any State or Union Territory;

(c) the number of beneficiaries who have already availed the scheme till date;

(d) whether the Ministry would be able to achieve the goal of implementing the scheme by March, 2021; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to extend the scheme, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) to (d) The main objective of the "Integrated Management of Public Distribution System (IM-PDS)" scheme is to introduce nation-wide portability of ration cards under National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) through 'One Nation One Ration Card' plan with an objective to enable migrant beneficiaries to lift their entitled quota of foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop (FPS) of their choice anywhere in the country by using their existing/same

ration card after biometric/Aadhaar authentication on electronic Point of Sale (ePoS) device. Most of the States/UTs have shown their willingness to implement this facility and have shared their ration cards data under NFSA with the Central Repository of ration cards/beneficiaries' setup by this Department. Presently, this facility is enabled in 26 States/UTs covering about 65 Cr. beneficiaries, nearly 80% of total NFSA population in the country.

Further, it is targeted achieve the integration of all States/UTs by 31.03.2021; however integration of remaining 10 States/UTs, namely - Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Meghalaya, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Chandigarh and Puducherry depends on their readiness to implement the same in terms of installation of ePoS devices at FPSs, enablement of biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries and other technical aspects.

(e) Yes Sir.

Implementation of One Nation One Ration Card scheme

735. SHRI K. C. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether 24 States and UTs have so far implemented One-Nation-One-Card scheme as of August, 2020;

(b) whether this means that the Ministry would be able to achieve the target before its deadline of 31 st March, 2021;

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to educate the poor, particularly migrant labour, to avail this scheme;

(d) the details of inter-State transactions under One-Nation-One-Card, as of August, 2020, and the total quantity of grains lifted so far, State-wise; and

(e) how the Ministry would help the labourers who have not yet upgraded their ration cards to the new system?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This Department is continuously pursuing with concerned States/UTs with an objective to enable the facility of One Nation One Ration Card in all States/UTs by 31.03.2021. However, its implementation in remaining States/UTs depends on their

readiness to implement the same in terms of installation of ePoS devices at FPSs and enablement of biometric/Aadhaar authentication of beneficiaries.

(c) Since the responsibility of distribution of foodgrains to beneficiaries under TPDS rests with States/UTs, the Department had requested all States/UTs under One Nation One Ration Card plan to undertake activities for its wide-scale publicity and vigorous awareness generation so that maximum of migrant beneficiaries may take the benefit of this facility. Further, this Department in coordination with M/o I&B, M/o L&E, MyGov and other agencies is making focused efforts to publicize the facility and to also develop Information, Education and Communication (IEC) material for the States/UTs. Besides, this Department has also requested all States/UTs to enable a new 14445 toll-free number under One Nation One Ration Card.

(d) As per details available on portals, a total of 2,305 inter-State transactions records under One Nation One Ration Card plan in August, 2020, through which a total of about 480 quintals of foodgrains were lifted by migrant beneficiaries.

Further, State/UT-wise detail is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(e) Under One Nation One Ration Card plan, the migratory beneficiaries are enabled to lift their entitled quota of subsidized foodgrains by either quoting their existing/same ration card number or Aadhaar number at any FPS of choice after biometric/Aadhaar authentication.

Statement

State/UT-wise number of inter-State portability transactions and quantity of foodgrains lifted by migrant beneficiaries under One Nation One Ration Card in August, 2020

Sl. No.	State/UT (Sale)	No. of inter-State portability transactions (in Nos.)	Total lifted Quantity of foodgrains by beneficiaries (in kg.)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	-	-
2.	Bihar	-	-
3.	Daman and Diu	290	7,248
4.	Goa	296	5,843

1	2	3	4
5.	Gujarat	77	1,641
6.	Haryana	431	9,621
7.	Himachal Pradesh	-	-
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	179	734
9.	Jharkhand	27	767
10.	Karnataka	12	158
11.	Kerala	137	2,499
12.	Madhya Pradesh	4	80
13.	Maharashtra	22	505
14.	Manipur	-	-
15.	Mizoram	-	-
16.	Nagaland	-	-
17.	Odisha	-	-
18.	Punjab	3	3
19.	Rajasthan	-	-
20.	Sikkim	-	-
21.	Telangana	149	1,378
22.	Tripura	-	-
23.	Uttar Pradesh	668	17,220
24.	Uttarakhand	10	225
TOTAL		2,305	47,922

Distribution of foodgrains under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

736. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) in view of record-breaking procurement of foodgrains (wheat and rice) and also in view of dislocation caused to labour due to COVID-19, whether there are any

plans before the Ministry to continue with distribution of 5 kg. free foodgrains for three more months under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana beyond November, 2020;

(b) the manner in which the Ministry is planning to manage 2.5 times buffer stock of 970 lakh tonnes of foodgrains available in godowns; and

(c) the details of foodgrains made available to States under this scheme and the details of quantity lifted by States, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) No Sir, there is no such proposal as on date.

(b) This Department, in addition to regular allocation under NFSA, has made additional free allocation of foodgrains of approx. 323 LMT under PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana for April-November months and has also made allocation of foodgrains of approx. 8 LMT under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package. The stock of foodgrains in the central pool as on 1st September, 2020 is about 700 LMT.

(c) The details of State-wise allocation, lifting under the scheme, is given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise allocation and lifting as on 14.09.2020 (Provisional) PM Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana

(in MTs)					
Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Allocation under PMGKAY-I (April-June 2020)	Lifted Quantity from FCI/central pool by the State/UT	Total Allocation under PMGKAY-II (July-Nov., 2020)	Lifted Quantity from FCI/central pool by the State/UT
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	912.93	913	1521.55	918.00
2.	Andhra Pradesh	402345.00	402345	670575.00	441345.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	12316.82	12317	20528.03	12650.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Assam	377293.86	373457	628823.10	343283.00
5.	Bihar	1285680.00	1296745	2177908.53	924851.00
6.	Chandigarh	4127.07	4128	6985.88	2842.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	301155.00	301155	501925.00	295831.00
8.	Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli	4284.21	4284	7198.23	4431.00
9.	Delhi	109099.86	106887	181833.10	87449.00
10.	Goa	7979.91	7980	13299.85	8422.00
11.	Gujarat	573803.81	503704	956339.68	537003.00
12.	Haryana	189735.00	176847	316225.00	157596.00
13.	Himachal Pradesh	42966.84	42967	71611.40	50576.00
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	108074.36	108435	181026.68	98644.00
15.	Jharkhand	395550.35	395532	659250.58	357104.00
16.	Karnataka	602895.00	602895	1004825.00	597755.00
17.	Kerala	232200.18	232200	387000.30	289380.00
18.	Ladakh	2158.43	2158	3597.38	3598.00
19.	Lakshadweep	330.00	330	550.00	330.00
20.	Madhya Pradesh	819630.00	811202	1366050.00	645594.00
21.	Maharashtra	1050255.00	930139	1750425.00	703792.00
22.	Manipur	36851.72	36852	61674.30	37005.00
23.	Meghalaya	32182.76	32177	53637.93	38416.00
24.	Mizoram	10023.23	10023	16705.38	11966.00
25.	Nagaland	21070.31	21070	35117.18	23423.00
26.	Odisha	485394.24	485394	808990.40	319627.00

1	2	3	4	5	6
27.	Puducherry	9425.19	9455	15859.75	9497.00
28.	Punjab	212175.00	212164	353625.00	0.00
29.	Rajasthan	669930.00	669863	1116550.00	768144.00
30.	Sikkim	5681.82	5676	9469.70	3268.00
31.	Tamil Nadu	536005.68	536006	893342.80	783457.00
32.	Telangana	287430.00	287430	479050.00	336924.00
33.	Tripura	37242.20	37242	62545.83	42213.00
34.	Uttar Pradesh	2280879.65	2145318	3634886.33	2015534.00
35.	Uttarakhand	92936.85	91738	154850.00	90494.00
36.	West Bengal	902756.55	902823	1504594.25	851860.00
TOTAL		12142778.78	11799851	20108398.08	10895222.00

E-PoS devices for Fair Price Shops

737. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has given directions to State Governments to install e-PoS devices in ration shops across the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the States that have partially or fully implemented the programme;

(c) whether the Central Government plans to reimburse ₹130 crore for the e-PoS devices already purchased by Andhra Pradesh which is pending with the Central Government; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. This Department in November, 2014 had issued the implementation guidelines to all States/UTs for automation of Fair Price Shops (FPS) by installing electronic Point

of Sale (ePoS) devices to bring transparency and efficiency in the distribution of subsidised foodgrains to beneficiaries covered under the National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA). So far, about 90% of total 5.4 lakh FPSs in the country at present are having ePoS devices. State/UT-wise details of status of implementation is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Proposal/claim amounting to ₹ 131.72 crore was received from State Government of Andhra Pradesh for release of Central assistance towards intra-State movement and handling of foodgrains fair price dealers' margin (Basic + Additional) for the financial year 2015-16 to 2018-19 under National Food Security Act, 2013. The same was examined and an amount of ₹62.52 crore has been released after adjustment of advance paid for previous years.

Statement

Statement Showing Status of ePoS installation (FPS automation) in States/UTs

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Fair Price Shops	% Installation of ePoS devices
1	2	3	4
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	464	96%
2.	Andhra Pradesh	28,936	100%
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,943	1%
4.	Assam	38,237	0%
5.	Bihar	48,113	98%
6.	Chandigarh (under DBT)	NA	NA
7.	Chhattisgarh	12,304	98%
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	114	100%
9.	Delhi	2,018	0%
10.	Goa	456	100%
11.	Gujarat	17,210	100%
12.	Haryana	9,526	100%

1	2	3	4
13.	Himachal Pradesh	4,934	100%
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	6,002	100%
15.	Jharkhand	25,532	100%
16.	Karnataka	19,935	99%
17.	Kerala	14,189	100%
18.	Ladakh	409	100%
19.	Lakshadweep	39	100%
20.	Madhya Pradesh	25,149	100%
21.	Maharashtra	52,532	100%
22.	Manipur	3,063	70%
23.	Meghalaya	4,736	0%
24.	Mizoram	1,248	99%
25.	Nagaland	1,691	96%
26.	Odisha	12,577	100%
27.	Puducherry (under DBT)	NA	NA
28.	Punjab	17,525	100%
29.	Rajasthan	25,682	100%
30.	Sikkim	1,362	99%
31.	Tamil Nadu	34,776	100%
32.	Telangana	17,170	100%
33.	Tripura	1,806	100%
34.	Uttar Pradesh	80,493	100%
35.	Uttarakhand	9,908	77%
36.	West Bengal	20,261	100%
TOTAL		5,40,340	90%

**Availability and storage of foodgrains in the State of Andhra Pradesh,
Jharkhand and Gujarat**

738. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the requirement and availability of foodgrains along with the present storage of foodgrains in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat;

(b) the percentage of foodgrains getting damaged, rotten and stolen during storage and transportation and the measures taken by Government to prevent the loss of foodgrains due to these reasons;

(c) whether foodgrains are being damaged more due to open storage and shortage of warehouses; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide warehouses in adequate number and safe storage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) Details of monthly allocation (NFSA and Other Welfare Schemes) and availability of foodgrains along with the present storage capacity in the State of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat are as under:—

(Figs. in lakh tons)

State	Regular Monthly Allocation (NFSA and OWS)			Availability as on 01.09.2020			Storage Capacity
	Wheat	Rice	Total	Wheat	Rice	Total	
Andhra Pradesh	0.03	1.67	1.70	0.15	24.23	24.38	32.00
Jharkhand	0.18	1.40	1.58	0.23	2.72	2.95	3.95
Gujarat	1.51	0.66	2.17	5.94	0.82	6.76	7.12

(b) The percentage of foodgrains getting non-issuable (damaged) in FCI during storage and transportation due to various reasons is tabulated below:

Year	% of Damaged foodgrain against offtake quantity
2017-18	0.006
2018-19	0.01
2019-20	0.004
2020-21 (as on 31-08-20)	0.0046

The details of steps taken by FCI to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains to avoid damage is given in the Statement (*See* below).

Statement showing the details of theft cases:—

Commodity	2017-18*		2018-19*		2019-20**	
	Qty. (In MT)	Value (In Lakh)	Qty. (In MT)	Value (In Lakh)	Qty. (In MT)	Value (In Lakh)
Wheat	10.75	2.06	125.06	24.87	4.15	1.02
Rice	94.67	27.12	130.64	38.85	18.05	6.48
Paddy	0.000	0.00	0.000	0.00	0.00	0.00

* As per audited figures.

** Tentative figures.

(c) and (d) No damage of foodgrains in FCI occurred in open storage and due to shortage of godowns during the last three years and current year.

Further, FCI is having sufficient storage capacity for storage of central pool stock. As on 31.08.2020, Storage capacity available with FCI and State agencies meant for PDS/NFSA throughout the country is 816.89 Lakh MT (FCI - 414.85 LMT and State Agencies - 402.04 LMT) against the stock of 700.27 Lakh MT as on 31.08.2020.

In addition to the above capacity, approx. 113.34 LMT capacity is also being used by State Government for storage of commodities other than Wheat and Rice and also for intermediary storage for PDS stocks.

Statement

Steps taken by FCI to preserve the quality of procured foodgrains to avoid damage

- (i) All godowns are constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments, fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.
- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
 - (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
 - (b) Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)
 - (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)
 - (d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs. Squads.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.

- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.
- (xii) Identify and repair all the leakage point in the roof.
- (xiii) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises ensured.
- (xiv) Ensure no seepage inside the godowns.
- (xv) No clogging up of water in the premises.
- (xvi) Immediate action to segregate and recondition of the stocks whenever it gets affected.

Issue of ration cards to all

739. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are millions of people who do not have ration cards;
- (b) if so, whether the Central Government would direct the State Governments to ensure that 100 per cent families have ration cards; and
- (c) whether there is a time-frame by which it can be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) The National Food Security Act, 2013 (NFSA) provides coverage for about 81.35 cr. persons, *i.e.* nearly two-third of country's population (as per the Census of 2011) to receive highly subsidized foodgrains (rice, wheat or coarse-grains or any combination thereof) through TPDS at the Central issue prices of ₹ 3/-, 2/-, 1/- per kg. respectively. Presently, more than 80 cr. population is receiving their entitled quota of foodgrains under NFSA on monthly basis.

(b) and (c) As per the provisions of NFSA, States/UTs can issue ration cards in accordance with the limits of coverage prescribed.

Wastage of foodgrains

740. SHRI SAMBHAJI CHHATRAPATI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any data on wastage of foodgrains in Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) warehouses in each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the main reasons identified for wastage of foodgrains in the warehouses and the immediate steps which have been initiated to restrict the wastage of foodgrains in future; and

(d) whether Government proposes to upgrade the existing storage system and construct new warehouses using scientific methodology to check the wastage of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) The details on the quantity of foodgrains which got damaged in godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) (owned and hired) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) during last three years is as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	Damaged Foodgrains (in MTs)
1.	2017-18	2663.486
2.	2018-19	5213.362
3.	2019-20	1930.362

(c) Procured foodgrains are stored in a scientific manner in covered godowns and in Cover and Plinth (CAP) storage. Scientific codes of practices for safe storage of foodgrains are followed during storage. The main reason for accrual of damaged foodgrains is due to natural calamities *i.e.* rain/cyclone/flood.

The details of steps taken by the Government to avoid damage of foodgrains during storage are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) Depending on the requirement in specific areas and for modernization of the storage facilities, the Government implements the following schemes for construction of storage for Central Pool Stocks in the country:—

1. **Private Entrepreneurs Guarantee (PEG) Scheme:** Under this scheme, a total capacity of 143.91 Lakh MT (LMT) has been created as on 31.08.2020.
2. **Central Sector Scheme:** A total capacity of 1,84,175 MT has been completed by FCI and State Governments during the 12th Five Year Plan (2012-17). This scheme has been extended from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2022. A total capacity of 54,175 MT has been created by FCI and State Governments from 01.04.2017 to 31.08.2020.
3. **Construction of Steel Silos:** In addition to conventional godowns, Government of India, in 2016 has also approved an action plan for construction of steel silos in the country for a capacity of 100 LMT in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode for modernizing storage infrastructure and improving shelf life of stored foodgrains. Against this, as on 28.08.2020, steel silos of 8.25 LMT capacity have been created.
4. **Covered and Plinth (CAP) hiring scheme-2019:** As on 31.08.2020, a total capacity of 7.84 LMT has been taken over under this scheme.

Statement

*Steps taken by the Government for safe storage of procured foodgrains
to reduce damage*

- (i) All godowns are constructed as per specifications.
- (ii) Foodgrains are stored by adopting proper scientific code of storage practices.
- (iii) Adequate dunnage materials such as wooden crates, bamboo mats, polythene sheets are used to check migration of moisture from the floor to the foodgrains.
- (iv) Fumigation covers, nylon ropes, nets and insecticides for control of stored grain insect pests are provided in all the godowns.
- (v) Prophylactic (spraying of insecticides) and curative treatments (fumigation) are carried out regularly and timely in godowns for the control of stored grain insect pests.

- (vi) Effective rat control measures, both in covered godowns as well as in CAP storage are used.
- (vii) Foodgrains in 'Cover and Plinth' (CAP) storage are stored on elevated plinths and wooden crates are used as dunnage material. Stacks are properly covered with specifically fabricated low-density black polythene water-proof covers and tied with nylon ropes/nets.
- (viii) Regular periodic inspections of the stocks/godowns are undertaken by qualified and trained staff and all senior officers. The health of the foodgrains is monitored at regular intervals by a system of checks and super checks at different levels. Following Checks and Super checks are conducted in the godowns by FCI to ensure proper preservation of foodgrains in the storage.
 - (a) Fortnightly inspection of stocks on 100% basis by Technical Assistant.
 - (b) Monthly inspection by Manager (QC)
 - (c) Quarterly inspection by AGM (QC)
 - (d) Super Checks by Regional, Zonal and FCI Hqrs. Squads.
- (ix) The principle of "First in First Out" (FIFO) is followed to the extent possible so as to avoid longer storage of foodgrains in godowns.
- (x) Only covered rail wagons are used for movement of foodgrains so as to avoid damage during transit.
- (xi) Damage Monitoring Cells have been set up at District, Regional and Zonal levels to regularly monitor quality of stocks and reduce damages.
- (xii) Identify and repair all the leakage point in the roof.
- (xiii) Cleaning of drainages in the godown premises ensured.
- (xiv) Ensure no seepage inside the godowns.
- (xv) No clogging up of water in the premises.
- (xvi) Immediate action to segregate and recondition of the stocks whenever it gets affected.

Availability and distribution of buffer stock of foodgrains

741. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the availability of buffer stock of foodgrains with Food Corporation of India (FCI) from January 2020, month-wise;

(b) whether Government plans to increase the distribution of free foodgrains and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of buffer stock that has been discarded due to wastage since January 2020, month-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) Food Corporation of India (FCI) maintains stocks of Wheat and Rice in the Central Pool, as per the Stocking Norms of foodgrains fixed by the Government of India, which are as under:—

(Figs. in lakh tons)

As On	Wheat		Rice	
	Actual Stock	Stocking Norms (Buffer Stock)	Actual Stock	Stocking Norms (Buffer Stock)
01.01.2020	327.96	138.00	237.15	76.10
01.02.2020	303.66		274.51	
01.03.2020	275.21		309.76	
01.04.2020	247.00	74.60	322.39	135.80
01.05.2020	357.70		285.03	
01.06.2020	559.24		274.44	
01.07.2020	549.91	275.80	271.71	135.40
01.08.2020	513.28		253.40	
01.09.2020	478.32		221.95	

(b) In view of the present COVID-19 pandemic in the country. Government of India allocated an additional quantity of about 320.6 lakh tons of wheat and rice under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) for the period of eight month (April, 2020 November, 2020) @ 5 kg. per month per person free of cost for all the beneficiaries covered under NFSA.

Also, under Atma Nirbhar Bharat Package (ANBP), Government of India has made allocation of free foodgrains (rice and wheat) for migrants/stranded migrants who are not covered under NFSA or State ration card, @ 5 kg. per person per month for two months *i.e.* May and June, 2020 to migrants/stranded migrants that is about 8 lakh tons of foodgrains.

(c) The details of foodgrains accrued as non-issuable in FCI since Jan, 2020 onwards are as under:—

Month	Qty. of foodgrains accrued as Non-issuable in FCI (in Tonnes)
Jan, 2020	11.116
Feb, 2020	0.410
March, 2020	0
April, 2020	0
May, 2020	25.638
June, 2020	1453.578
July, 2020	41.521
Aug, 2020	51.094

Rules for e-Commerce entities under Consumer Protection Act

742. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that under the e-Commerce Rules notified under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, all e-Commerce entities have been mandated to incorporate as a company; and

(b) if so, the reasons for excluding proprietorships, Hindu Undivided Families and partnerships to sell goods online?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DANVE RAOSAHEB DADARAO): (a) and (b) As per the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 notified under Consumer Protection Act, 2019, an e-commerce entity is defined as any person who owns, operates or manages digital or electronic facility or platform for electronic commerce, but does not include a seller offering his goods or services for sale on a marketplace e-commerce entity.

As per the Rule 4(1) of E-Commerce Rules, an e-commerce entity shall be a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956) or the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) or a foreign company covered under clause (42) of section 2 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013) or an office, branch or agency outside India owned or controlled by a person resident in India as provided in sub-clause (iii) of clause (v) of section 2 of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (42 of 1999) and appoint a nodal person of contact or an alternate senior designated functionary who is resident in India, to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act or the rules made thereunder.

Prevention of cruelty to animals

743. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) has been successful in dealing with the cases related to cruelty to animals and use of illegal chemicals on them;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (c) the detailed report of the AWBI with regard to prevention of cruelty to animals in the past one year, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) and (b) The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) was established under section 4 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 for the promotion of animal welfare generally and for the purpose of protecting animals from being subjected to unnecessary pain or suffering in particular. The main function of the Board is to keep the law in force in India for the prevention of cruelty to animals under constant study and advise the Government on the amendment to be undertaken in any such law from time to time to make rules

with a view to prevent unnecessary pain and suffering to the animals generally, and more particularly when they are being transported from one place to another or when they are used as performing animals or when they are kept in captivity or confinement.

The Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA) has been constituted under Section 15 of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 to control and supervise the experiments on animals during the drug testing and development.

Both the organization are very successful in implementing the Provisions of Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and Rules framed thereunder and also dealing the issues related to animal cruelty.

As per the entries under Constitution of India, Prevention of Cruelty to Animal has been entered in the Concurrent List of Seventh Schedule. Hence, it is also the mandate of the State Government to prevent cruelty to animals. However, on receipt of various complaints on cruelty, the Board has been taking up all such issues with all the State Governments/Union Territories/ Local Authorities in order to prevent cruelty to animals and implement the provisions of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 and Rules effectively.

(c) Detailed report of Animal Welfare Board of India is given in the Statement.

Statement

Detailed report of AWBI with regarding to prevention of Cruelty to Animal State-wise in the past one year

1. Recognition of Animal Welfare Organizations

The Board grants recognition to Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs). During the period 01.04.2019 till 31.08.2020, the AWBI has granted recognition to 126 Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs). Thus, total 3631 AWOs have been granted recognition by the AWBI till 31.08.2020. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs recognized
1.	Andhra Pradesh	4
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Goa	1

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs recognized
4.	Gujarat	3
5.	Haryana	23
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
8.	Karnataka	4
9.	Madhya Pradesh	9
10.	Maharashtra	14
11.	Odisha	1
12.	Punjab	3
13.	Rajasthan	37
14.	Tamil Nadu	5
15.	Uttar Pradesh	19
TOTAL		126

2. **Providing Financial Assistance to Animal Welfare Organizations**

The AWBI provides financial assistance to the recognized Animal Welfare Organisations (AWOs) towards maintenance of animal shelters, animals medicines, purchase of medical equipment and conducting of veterinary camps etc. and rescued cattle maintenance grant for maintenance of the animals rescued from illegal transportation / slaughter houses. During the financial year 2019-20, the AWBI has given grant-in-aid to 141 AWOs. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs
1.	Haryana	2
2.	Madhya Pradesh	1
3.	Rajasthan	1
4.	Uttar Pradesh	2
TOTAL		6

(iii) Scheme for Animal Birth Control (ABC) & Immunization of Stray Dogs

The scheme is meant for controlling the population of stray (homeless./ besahara) dogs by sterilization and reducing incidence of rabies by immunization. Animal Welfare Organization(s), Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and local bodies are eligible for this grant. During the financial year 2019-20, the AWBI has given grant-in-aid to 2 AWOs. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs
1.	Tamil Nadu	1
2.	West Bengal	1
TOTAL		2

The Animal Welfare Board of India is also carrying out the following activities:

3. Humane Education:

During the year 2019-20, the AWBI has conducted one training programmes wherein 32 Honorary State / Legal / District Animal Welfare Officers have been trained. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of persons from each State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	3
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	1
4.	Chhattisgarh	2
5.	Delhi	2
6.	Gujarat	2
7.	Haryana	1
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
9.	Madhya Pradesh	2
10.	Maharashtra	2
11.	Odisha	2

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of persons from each State
12.	Rajasthan	1
13.	Tamil Nadu	3
14.	Uttar Pradesh	4
15.	West Bengal	1
16.	Telangana	4
TOTAL		32

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs
1.	Chhattisgarh	1
2.	Gujarat	3
3.	Haryana	14
4.	Madhya Pradesh	10
5.	Maharashtra	2
6.	Rajasthan	67
7.	Tamil Nadu	5
8.	Uttar Pradesh	39
TOTAL		141

In addition, the Animal Welfare Board of India implements four Schemes and provides financial assistance. The details are as under:

(i) **Scheme for Shelter House for looking after the animals**

The objective of this scheme is to establish and maintain shelter houses for distressed animals in the country. Primarily, Animal Welfare Organizations (AWOs) and Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCAs) are given grants for construction of boundary walls, shelter, water tank, drains, in-house Dispensary, medical equipment, contingencies etc. During the financial year 2019-20, the AWBI has given grant-in-aid to 24 AWOs. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs
1.	Gujarat	1
2.	Haryana	3

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs
3.	Madhya Pradesh	10
4.	Rajasthan	5
5.	Tamil Nadu	1
6.	Uttar Pradesh	4
TOTAL		24

(ii) **Scheme for Provision of Ambulance Services to Animals in Distress**

Under this scheme, the animal welfare organizations are given grants for purchase of suitable vehicles for transportation, rescue and also for providing emergency services to animals in distress. During the financial year 2019-20, the AWBI has given grant-in-aid to **6 AWOs**. The State-wise list is as below:

4. **Issuance of authorization of colony Animal Care Takers for feeding of stray animals:**

Most of compassionate citizens of the Country extends the animal welfare support by feeding the stray animals in their respective local area. The AWBI issues the authorization to feed the stray animals so that people around them doesn't harass. During the period from 01.04.2019 till 31.08.2020, the AWBI has issued the authorization letter to 199 applicants. The State-wise list is as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of persons from each State
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6
2.	Assam	1
3.	Bihar	2
4.	Chhattisgarh	2
5.	Delhi	22
6.	Goa	8
7.	Gujarat	12
8.	Haryana	14
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of persons from each State
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
11.	Jharkhand	1
12.	Karnataka	27
13.	Kerala	2
14.	Madhya Pradesh	10
15.	Maharashtra	39
16.	Odisha	3
17.	Punjab	6
18.	Rajasthan	6
19.	Tamil Nadu	17
20.	Uttarakhand	1
21.	Uttar Pradesh	6
22.	West Bengal	11
23.	Telangana	1
TOTAL		199

5. **Registration of 'Performing Animals:**

As per Performing Animals (Registration) Rules, 2001, the AWBI is the prescribed authority to issue registration certificates to Animal Owners. Accordingly, AWBI registers the Animal Owners for conducting Horse Race, registers the Circuses where animals are performing and granting pre-shoot permission / post-shoot certificate for using animals in Films / Ad films/ TV-serials/Documentaries/web-series etc. AWBI also conducts inspection at the time of performing to ensure that no cruelty is inflicted to the animals. The details of registration during the year 2019-20 is as below:

Sl. No.	Description	Details of Registration
1.	Registration of Animal Owners for Horse Race	Karnataka — 512 Maharashtra - 542
2.	Registration of Circuses	19 Circus are registered till date.

Sl. No.	Description	Details of Registration
3.	Granting pre-shoot permission	762 out of 879 applications
4.	Granting post-shoot certificate	983 out of 1169 applications

Online System for Performing Animal Registration (OSPAR) for Film / Ad-Film / TV-serial / Events / Web-series etc. has also been launched for registration of Animal Owner as well as granting pre-shoot permission / post-shoot permission to the producers.

6. **Free Mobile Animal Clinic**

The Board is providing free on the spot veterinary treatment to sick and injured animals belonging to poor people and the stray animals through its Mobile Animal Clinic (MAC) program operating from its regional office at Chennai. The stray animals are checked for their general health regularly and treated if require. Vaccinations and deworming are also done. During the period from February 2020 till 31.08.2020, 370 animals are treated in Chennai.

7. **Cruelty to Animals**

The Board is receiving several complaints regarding cruelty to animals from various parts of the country. The AWBI is taking up the matters with the concerned State Governments and District Collectors / Magistrates / District Superintendent of police for conducting an enquiry to the cruelty matters and initiate appropriate action against the offences related to cruelty to animals. During the year 2019-20, the Board has received 300 (aprox.) nos. of complaints regarding cruelty to animals for taking necessary action. In this year, the AWBI has issued 153 letters to various State / UTs regarding cruelty to animals. The State-wise details are as below:

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs recognized
1.	Andhra Pradesh	5
2.	Assam	3
3.	Bihar	4
4.	Chhattisgarh	2
5.	Delhi	20
6.	Gujarat	6
7.	Haryana	8

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of AWOs recognized
8.	Himachal Pradesh	1
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	1
1.	Jharkhand	1
11.	Karnataka	6
12.	Kerala	9
13.	Madhya Pradesh	3
14.	Maharashtra	26
15.	Nagaland	2
16.	Odisha	3
17.	Puducherry	2
18.	Punjab	10
19.	Rajasthan	3
20.	Tamil Nadu	6
21.	Uttarakhand	2
22.	Uttar Pradesh	20
23.	West Bengal	6
24.	Telangana	4
TOTAL		153

Ration Balancing Programme (RBP)

†744. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) has started a programme called "Ration Balancing Programme" in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of incentives being provided to dairy entrepreneurs under this programme, the financial provisions made for it and the States in which this programme has been implemented?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Department has implemented National Dairy Plan Phase I (NDP I) scheme during the period 2011-12 to March, 2020, in which Ration Balancing Programme (RBP) was a sub component with an objective to enable milk producers to provide balanced ration to their milch animals to produce milk commensurate with their genetic potential and also reduce methane emissions.

(b) Under NDP-I, RBP was implemented by 104 End Implementing Agencies including Milk Unions, State Milk Federations, Milk Producer Companies etc. spread across 18 major milk producing States in the country. The funding pattern under the NDP I for RBP was 100% grant assistance. State-wise status of RBP under NDP-I is given below:—

State	Approved SPPs*(no's)	Approved Grant Assistance (₹ in crore)
1	2	3
Andhra Pradesh	5	12.40
Bihar	10	13.15
Chhattisgarh	1	0.83
Gujarat	12	38.24
Haryana	5	6.80
Jharkhand	1	1.79
Karnataka	13	22.06
Kerala	5	7.51
Madhya Pradesh	8	9.42
Maharashtra	9	10.80
Odisha	6	8.38
Punjab	5	16.78
Rajasthan	10	29.31
Tamil Nadu	11	15.43

1	2	3
Telangana	3	4.89
Uttar Pradesh	5	29.81
Uttarakhand	4	2.66
West Bengal	4	3.97
GRAND TOTAL	117	234.24

*Sub Project Plans.

Establishment of Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF)

745. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI:

SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI:

Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the establishment of the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) of ₹15,000 crore, under the Atmanirbhar Bharat economic package;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this fund also covers investment made for the establishment of animal feed plants;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government has spent from the above fund as on date, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF) of ₹ 15000 crore has been established to incentivize investments by eligible entities like individual entrepreneurs, private companies, Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Farmers Producers Organizations (FPOs) and Section 8 companies to establish (i) dairy processing and value addition infrastructure, (ii) meat processing and value

addition infrastructure and (iii) Animal Feed Plant. Scheduled Banks will provide loan up to 90% to the eligible entities and Ministry will provide 3% interest subvention to the borrower through the scheduled banks. Government will also provide Credit Guarantee to the project falling under the definition of MSME up to 25% of the loan amount.

The objectives of the scheme are as under:—

- (a) To help increasing of milk and meat processing capacity and product diversification thereby providing greater access for unorganized rural milk and meat producers to organized milk and meat market.
- (b) To make available increased price realization for the producer.
- (c) To make available quality milk and meat products for the domestic consumer.
- (d) To fulfill the objective of protein enriched quality food requirement of the growing population of the country and prevent malnutrition in one of the highest malnourished children population in the world.
- (e) Develop entrepreneurship and generate employment.
- (f) To promote exports and increase the export contribution in the milk and meat sector.
- (g) To make available quality concentrated animals feed to the cattle, buffalo, sheep, goat, pig and poultry to provide balanced ration at affordable prices.

(c) and (d) Yes Sir. Under the AHIDF scheme, eligible entities can also avail loans for establishment of animal feed manufacturing plant as well as for strengthening existing units /plants.

(e) The online portal for submission of applications has started on 10/09/2020 and applications are awaited.

Assistance for poultry farming

746. SHRI RAJEEV SATAV: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is providing financial assistance to new entrepreneurs for setting up of poultry farming/units;

(b) if so, the details of financial assistance provided by the Central Government for setting up of poultry units and development of poultry industry in Maharashtra during the last three years and the current year;

(c) whether Government has recently conducted a survey to assess the actual demand of poultry products in the country and if so, the outcome thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to promote poultry farming in backward and non-irrigated areas in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) Yes Sir, the Government is providing financial Assistance to new Entrepreneurs for setting up of Poultry farming/units;

(b) Government of India is providing financial assistance to new entrepreneurs for setting up of Poultry units under Centrally Sponsored Scheme, National Livestock Mission. The details of financial assistance provided to Maharashtra State are as under:—

(₹ in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the Component	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
1.	Innovative Poultry Productivity Project - Low-input technology	60.00	Nil	60.00	Nil
2.	Innovative Poultry Productivity Project -Broiler	135.00	Nil	135.00	Nil

Apart from the aforementioned financial assistance provided to the State of Maharashtra, the Central Government is also implementing Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG), a component under Sub-Mission Livestock Development of National Livestock Mission (NLM) for which 25% back ended subsidy is provided for the activity namely Poultry Venture Capital Fund (PVCF). The beneficiary can take loan from the banks for setting up of Poultry Farms as per scheme guideline. The back ended subsidy is provided through National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development (NABARD). The amount of subsidy provided for setting up of poultry farms/ unit during last three years are as under:

(₹ in lakh)

Name of the component	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Poultry Venture Capital Fund - EDEG	74.15	305.537	822.92	197.44

(c) No Sir. The Government has not conducted any such survey to assess the actual demand of Poultry products in the country.

(d) All the scheme under National Livestock Mission for poultry is equally applicable to the backward and non-irrigated areas. Under National Livestock Mission, the Central Government is implementing the following poultry development programmes for promoting Poultry farming in the country:—

- (1) 'Rural Backyard Poultry Development (RBPD)', envisaged distribution of 45 poultry birds of 4 weeks of age as well as grant of ₹ 1500/- for night shelter. The BPL families are eligible to get benefit under the programme to enable them to gain supplementary income and nutritional support.

The SHGs/ NGOs, entrepreneurs may also take up under the programme for establishment of mother unit for rearing of day old chicks procured either from the State Poultry Farms or from the private hatchery up to 4 weeks of age. The Central Government is providing assistance for setting up of mother units up to ₹ 60000/-.

Chicks reared in Mother Units or State Poultry farms are distributed to the BPL beneficiaries, the cost of ceiling for which is currently being ₹50/- per chick.

- (2) The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying is also implementing a programme under National Livestock Mission namely Innovative Poultry Productivity Project for Broiler Rearing and Low-input technology (LIT) bird. Under IPPP- Broiler, 600 broiler chicks in 4 batches (150 each every 2-3 months in a year- 4 batches) and under IPPP- LIT, 400 low-input technology (LIT) 4-week old birds (dual purpose: egg and meat: 50:50 ratio of hens and cock) in 2 batches with a gap of one and a half years or 18 months (Batches of 200 each) are provided.
- (3) Poultry Venture Capital Fund (PVCF): A component under Entrepreneurship Development and Employment Generation (EDEG), envisages credit cum back ended subsidy linked activities implemented by NABARD to encourage entrepreneurship in various poultry activities, capacity building for employment opportunities, improve production of poultry products, productivity of processing units through technology up gradation and also to encourage introduction of innovative technology.

Conservation of indigenous breeds of livestock

747. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any comprehensive plan for conserving the indigenous breeds of livestock *viz.* Murrah, Ongole and Punganur, etc., which are superior in quality, resistant to diseases and able to withstand the vagaries of the local climate;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) In order to complement and supplement the efforts made by the States for conserving indigenous breeds of livestock *viz.* Murrah, Ongole and Punganur etc Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has been implementing following schemes for development and conservation of indigenous breeds:—

- (i) Centrally Sponsored Scheme: Rashtriya Gokul Mission for development and conservation of indigenous breeds in scientific and holistic manner. All indigenous bovine breeds are covered under the project including Murrah buffalo and Ongole and Punganur breed of cattle.
- (ii) Central Sector Scheme: Breed Improvement Institutes comprises of seven Central Cattle Breeding Farms, four Central Registration Units and Central Frozen Semen Production and Training Institutes. These organization are undertaking development and conservation of indigenous breeds namely (i) Tharparkar; (ii) Red Sindhi; (iii) Gir; (iv) Kankrej; (v) Ongole; (vi) Haryana and (vii) Rathi breed of cattle and (i) Surti; (ii) Murrah; (iii) Meshsana and (iv) Jaffarabadi breeds of buffaloes.

Impact of COVID-19 on Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying

748. SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has conducted any research regarding the economic impact of COVID-19 on the fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying sectors;

- (b) the estimated loss incurred by these sectors due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown;
- (c) the steps Government has taken to support producers and workers in these sectors in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the ensuing lockdown; and
- (d) the number of people who have lost their jobs in these sectors due to the COVID-19 pandemic and lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI): (a) to (d) Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has not conducted any research on the economic impact of COVID 19 on the fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying sectors. With a view to avoid adverse impact of Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown on fisheries in the country, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, had issued advisory to State Governments/Union Territories (UTs) to include fish and shrimp in the list of commodities exempted from lockdown and also allow movement of fish and fish products, fish seed and fish feed for fish-farmers/fishers, aquaculture farms and other commercial establishments like aquarium shop etc. Besides, the Ministry of Home Affairs' Guidelines dated 10th April, 2020 also allowed operations of the fishing(marine)/aquaculture industry including feeding and maintenance, harvesting, processing, packaging, cold chain, sale and marketing, hatcheries, feed plants, commercial aquaria, movement of fish/shrimp and fish products, seed/feed and workers. In addition, the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has launched a flagship scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) as a part of Atma Nirbhar Bharat in response to COVID-19 with an estimated investment of ₹ 20,050 crores for implementation in all States/Union Territories over a period of 5 years from Financial Year (FY) 2020-21 to 2024-25.

In order to supplement the efforts made by the States and UTs to support producers for enhancing milk production and productivity of bovines, Government of India has been implementing Rashtriya Gokul Mission with the aim of development and conservation of all indigenous bovine breeds, enhancing milk production and productivity and thereby making milk production more remunerative to the farmers. To mitigate negative impact of COVID-19, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, had requested the State Governments of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Punjab, Tamil Nadu and

Gujarat, to issue necessary directives to the concerned departments to include milk and milk products from Cooperative Milk Union/Federation in the schemes being run through Anganwadi, Poshan Abhiyan, Mid-Day meal scheme and Public Distribution System (PDS) and other relevant on-going programmes of their respective State.

Further, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, had also requested the Department of School Education and Literacy and Ministry of Women and Child Development to issue advisory to States/UTs to include Milk/Skimmed Milk Powder procured from Cooperatives Milk Unions/ Federation in their Mid-Day meal Programme, Integrated Child Development Services Scheme and other nutrition programmes implemented through Anganwadi. Further, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying has also initiated a new component "interest subvention on Working capital loans for Dairy sector" as one of the components under the scheme on "Supporting Dairy Cooperatives and Farmer Producer organizations engaged in dairy activities" (SDC&FPO). Under the interest subvention component of SDC&FPO scheme, ₹ 80.14 crore has been approved as on 31.08.2020 as interest subvention amount against eligible total working capital loan amount of ₹ 6,238.24 cr. for milk unions.

Issues and concerns with NDDB

749. PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NDDB misused Government funds under National Dairy Plan phase-I (NDP-I) by giving grant to Bapudham Milk Producer Company (BMPC) with total outlay of ₹31.97 crore;

(b) whether Project Steering Committee recommended relaxing the existing criteria for BMPC as special case, as the company was yet to be operationalized;

(c) whether NDDB invested through its subsidiary, Mother Dairy, prior to formation of BMPC in Motihari;

(d) whether NDDB transferred assets of Mother Dairy to BMPC; and

(e) whether Government has initiated any investigation against members of Project Steering Committee from NDDB who are responsible for wasting ₹31.97 crore of Government money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) As per administrative approval of NDP I issued by Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, National Steering Committee (NSC) of NDP I chaired by Secretary, DAHD, Gol has the authority to consider and approve changes in eligibility criteria. NSC in its meeting held on 27 March 2014 approved the change in eligibility criteria for Producer Company to participate in NDP I from "Annual average milk procurement should be more than one Lakh Kg per day from at least 30,000 pourers" to "Annual average milk procurement should be more than one Lakh Kg per day from at least 20,000 pourers" and also to further reduce in due course, if necessary and apprise the department accordingly. In cognizance of decision of NSC in its meeting held on 27 March 2014, DAHD *vide* letter no. 22-23/2015-DP dated 4 July 2017 authorized the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to relax the eligibility criteria. Accordingly, PSC in its meeting held on 21 July 2017, approved project of Bapudham Milk Producer Company (BMPC) at the cost of ₹ 3335.88 Lakh (including End Implementing Agency EIA contributions of ₹ 1107.54 lakh), which was subsequently revised to ₹ 3197.41 lakh (including EIA contributions of ₹ 1107.54 lakh). As per the decision of the PSC, fund under NDP was released to the Bapudham Milk Producer Company only after it was operationalized.

(c) and (d) As per information received from NDDDB, no investment has been made by NDDDB in Bapudham Milk Producer Company and No asset has been transferred by NDDDB to Bapudham Milk Producer Company.

(e) Does not arise, in view of (a) and (b) above.

Rural development schemes in tribal areas

†750. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA DUBEY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various rural development schemes being implemented in various tribal areas and the amount allocated for each scheme;

(b) whether Government proposes to give right of ownership to tribal people residing on forest land in rural areas;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) whether Government has decided to construct roads and provide other infrastructural facilities in above areas?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) For development of rural areas through employment generation, strengthening of livelihood opportunities, promoting self-employment, skilling of rural youths, provision of social assistance, infrastructure development etc., the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) is implementing Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS), Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), Deen Dayal Upadhyay - Gramin Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY), Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana -Gramin (PMAY-G), Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), Shyama Prasad Mukherjee National RuRBAN Mission (SPMRM), Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY) and National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) in the country including the tribal areas. The details in this regard are given in the Statement (*See below*).

(b) and (c) The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) administers the implementation of The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act (FRA). This Act recognizes and vests the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded; to provide for a framework for recording the forest rights vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land. As per FRA and rules made there under, States Governments are responsible for implementation of the Act.

(d) The Government is committed to overall development of tribal areas including road and other infrastructure. Major rural development programmes implemented by the MoRD for creating rural infrastructure facilities are PMGSY and SPMRM. Under PMGSY programme, relaxation has been provided to the Tribal (Schedule V) and selected tribal backward districts (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning Commission) for providing road connectivity under the scheme. The SPMRM is an attempt to make the selected rural and tribal areas socially, economically and physically sustainable regions and strives to strengthen these areas by providing economic, social and infrastructure amenities, thus leading to sustainable and balanced regional development in the country.

Statement*Details of various rural development schemes and the amount allocated for the same*

MGNREGS is a demand driven programme to provide unskilled wage employment in the rural areas of the country. The MGNREG Act guarantees at least 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. Under the Scheme, the works pertaining to rural connectivity and other infrastructure are taken up in rural areas including tribal areas. Under Para 5 of the schedule-1 of the Act beneficiaries under the Scheduled Tribes and other Traditional Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Right) Act (FRA), 2006 (2 of 2007) shall be prioritised in creation of individual assets on land or homestead owned by households belonging to this category.

The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) aims at providing pucca houses with basic amenities to all houseless households and those households living in kutchha and dilapidated house in rural areas by 2022. Under PMAY-G, 60% of the target at the national level is earmarked for SCs/STs.

This Ministry is implementing Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) across the country including tribal areas since 2011 in a mission mode with the objective of organizing the rural poor women into Self Help Groups (SHGs), and continuously nurturing and supporting them to take economic activities till they attain appreciable increase in income over a period of time to improve their quality of life and come out of abject poverty.

The total fund allocated under PMAY-G and DAY-NRLM during last three years and the current year are as under:

	(₹ in crore)			
Programme	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
PMAY-G (under ST head-R.E. stage)	5368.28	4564.75	4675.00	3413.00 (B.E.)
DAY-NRLM	2028.00	3043.36	4292.90	4828.46 (B.E.)

PMGSY is an area development programme and the unit of programme is a habitation. The target of the programme is to connect the eligible habitations with roads constructed under it catering to the access needs of the entire population of the target habitation. However, relaxation has been provided to the Tribal (Schedule V) and selected tribal backward districts (as identified by Ministry of Home Affairs and Planning

Commission), and unconnected habitations in these areas with a population of 250 persons and above in the core network as per Census 2001 which are eligible for connectivity under the scheme. A total of 6,31,142 Km road length has been constructed under the scheme with an expenditure of ₹ 2,31,376 crore. For the current year, budget allocation of ₹ 19,500 crore has been made for implementation of the Scheme in country.

SPMRM is designed to deliver catalytic interventions to rural and tribal areas, on the threshold of growth. Under The SPMRM, 300 Rurban Clusters including 104 classified as Tribal area clusters with thematic economic growth points are being developed across the country. The total outlay approved for the Mission is ₹ 5142.08 crore.

Housing of cattle / poultry to prevent animal-borne diseases

751. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has developed any policy changes with regard to housing of cattle and poultry in order to prevent animal-borne viruses in response to COVID-19;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI SANJEEV KUMAR BALYAN): (a) to (c) No Sir. However, to effectively tackle the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown situation, Government of India advised the states to ensure continuous emergency veterinary services like animal healthcare, disease diagnosis and treatment and monitoring of any emergency livestock and poultry diseases, etc. following all precautionary measures such as maintaining personal hygiene, biosafety and bio-security including social distancing, as per the extant guidelines.

Aims and objective of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

752. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) propounded with ₹20,000 crore;

(b) how Government is going to create 5.5 million job opportunities with the above fund and the time frame within which the jobs are going to be created; and

(c) to what extent the above fund helps to achieve the long-pending goal of reaching ₹1 lakh crore exports in the light of COVID-19 pandemic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FISHERIES, ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING (SHRI PRATAP CHANDRA SARANGI): (a) The Aims and Objectives of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) are as below:—

- (i) Harnessing of fisheries potential in a sustainable, responsible, inclusive and equitable manner;
- (ii) Enhancing of fish production and productivity through expansion, intensification, diversification and productive utilization of land and water;
- (iii) Modernizing and strengthening of value chain - post-harvest management and quality improvement;
- (iv) Doubling fishers and fish farmers incomes and generation of employment;
- (v) Enhancing contribution to Agriculture GVA and exports;
- (vi) Social, physical and economic security for fishers and fish farmers;
- (vii) Robust fisheries management and regulatory framework;

(b) and (c) The Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) *inter-alia* envisages creating gainful employment opportunities to about 5.5 million in fisheries and allied activities by 2024-25 through promotion of inland fisheries and aquaculture, development of marine fisheries including mariculture, seaweed cultivation, ornamental fisheries, cold water fisheries, development and management of post harvest and cold chain infrastructure, extension services, fish marketing.

PMMSY also envisages to address critical gaps in fish production, productivity, quality, technology, fishing harbours and landing centres, cold chain and other post-harvest infrastructure and management, processing and value addition, modernisation and strengthening of value chain, traceability, eco-labelling, improved standards of hygiene and sanitation for food safety for higher price realization towards achieving the goal of reaching ₹ 1,00,000 crore exports by 2024-25.

Setting up of FPIs

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India is the second largest producer of foodgrains, fruits and vegetables in the world;
- (b) if so, whether Government has sanctioned 42 Mega Food Parks (MFPs) to set up Food Processing Industries (FPIs), and the present operational status of MFPs;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government has not set up export hut and/ or special arrangements to export the processed foods thereof; and
- (d) if so, the plan details of Government to make operational all the MFPs and the export assistance therein?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI RAMESWAR TELI): (a) As per the latest estimates of Food and Agriculture Organization's statistics (FAOSTAT), India is the third largest producer of cereals, largest producer of pulses, second largest producer of vegetables primary (including Melons) and second largest producer of Fruits primary (excluding Melons).

(b) A total of 42 Mega Food Parks (MFPs) were envisaged by the Government under Mega Food Park Scheme. As on date, Ministry has accorded final approval to 37 MFPs in 23 States/Union Territories. The current status of implementation is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Government is implementing various schemes like 'Trade Infrastructure for Export Scheme (TIES)', 'Market Access Initiatives (MAI) Scheme', 'Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) etc. to promote exports, including agri food products. It is also implementing a new Central Sector Scheme - 'Transport and Marketing Assistance for Specified Agriculture Products' - for providing assistance for the international component of freight to mitigate the freight disadvantage for the export of agriculture products and marketing of agricultural products. In order to promote the agricultural exports, that includes processed agri food products, Government has formulated a comprehensive Agriculture Export Policy (AEP). Also, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) provides incentives to processed food exporters under its different schemes.

(d) The Mega Food Park Scheme is aimed at providing modern infrastructure facilities for food processing along the value chain from farm to market. A total of 19 Mega Food Park Projects have been made operational. Ministry holds regular review meetings and coordinates with the project promoters and concerned State Governments to make all the Mega Food Parks operational.

Statement*Current status of implementation of Mega Food Parks (MFPs)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	SPV/ IA Name	Date of Final Approval	Status
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh (3 Projects)	Srini Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Chittoor	30.03.2009	Operational
2.		Godavari Mega Aqua Food Park Pvt. Ltd., West Godavari	16.12.2013	Operational
3.		Andhra Pradesh Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (APIIC), Krishna	31.12.2015	Under Implementation
4.	Arunachal Pradesh (1 Project)	Rongoge Mega Food Park, Pvt. Ltd., Papum Pare	12.09.2019	Under Implementation
5.	Assam (1 Project)	North East Mega Food Park Ltd., Nalbari	30.03.2009	Operational
6.	Bihar(1 Project)	Pristine Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khagaria	06.08.2014	Under Implementation
7.	Chhattisgarh (1 Project)	Indus Best Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Raipur	04.06.2014	Under Implementation
8.	Gujarat (2 Projects)	Gujarat Agro Infrastructure Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Surat	22.05.2014	Operational

1	2	3	4	5
9.		Fanidhar Mega Food Park Pvt. Limited, Mehsana	16.08.2017	Under Implementation
10.	Haryana (2 Projects)	Haryana State Industrial & Infra Dev. Corp Limited (HSIIDC), Sonipat	06.11.2015	Under Implementation
11.		Haryana State Coop. Supply and Marketing Federation Ltd. (HAFED), Rohtak	21.02.2018	Under Implementation
12.	Himachal Pradesh (1 Project)	Cremica Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Una	06.08.2014	Operational
13.	J&K(1 Project)	RFK Greens Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Pulwama	19.02.2014	Under Implementation
14.	Karnataka (2 Projects)	Integrated Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Tumkur	29.03.2011	Operational
15.		Favorich Infra Pvt. Ltd., Mandya	19.12.2017	Under Implementation
16.	Kerala(2 Projects)	Kerala State Industrial Dev Corpt Ltd. (KSIDC), Alappuzha	27.11.2015	Under Implementation
17.		Kerala Industrial Infra. Development Corpt. (KINFRA), Palakkad	27.11.2015	Under Implementation
18.	Madhya Pradesh (2 Projects)	Indus Mega Food Park Pvt. Ltd., Khargoan	27.08.2012	Operational

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[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions

754. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has set any fixed norms recently to examine the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the country and if so, the details thereof;

(b) the details of the number of proposals received by Government to release funds under Panchayati Raj Yojana and the action taken by Government thereon during the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide additional funds to improve the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the other steps taken/being taken by Government to improve the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR):

(a) The Constitution envisages for Panchayats to function as institutions of self-government and prepare plans and implement schemes for economic development and social justice. Accordingly, Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) seeks to make Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) an effective, efficient and transparent vehicle for local governance, social change and public service delivery mechanism meeting the aspirations of local population through policy interventions, advocacy, capacity building, persuasion and financial support. To strengthen functioning of PRIs across the country, MoPR has launched eGramSwaraj (<https://egramswaraj.gov.in>), a user friendly web-based portal, which aims to bring in better transparency in the decentralised planning, progress reporting, financial management, work-based accounting and details of assets created. Further, for ensuring timely audit of Panchayat accounts i.e. receipts and expenditures of Gram Panchayats, MoPR has rolled out an online application - AuditOnline (<https://auditonline.gov.in>). This application not only facilitates the auditing of Panchayat accounts but also provides for maintaining of audit records. This application streamlines the process for audit inquiries, draft local audit reports, draft audit-paras etc. and thus ensures proper maintenance of accounts by Panchayats to improve transparency and accountability.

(b) MoPR has been providing programmatic support for strengthening of PRIs and capacity building of Elected Representatives and functionaries of PRIs to improve their functioning and effectiveness and make them self reliant. These programs are specifically focused on addressing the critical gaps that constrain the functioning of

Panchayats, facilitating democratic planning and decision making through People's participation, and strengthening the institutional structure of Panchayats.

Further, the Government has launched the core Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA), which is being implemented from 2018-19 to 2021-22, with the primary aim of developing governance capabilities of PRIs to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the main thrust on convergence with Mission Antyodaya and emphasis on strengthening PRIs in the 117 Aspirational districts. The scheme of RGSA extends to all States/ UTs including institutions of Rural Local Government in Non-Part-IX areas. Details of Annual Action Plan (AAP) approved of the States/ UTs and funds released there under during the year 2017-18 under the erstwhile scheme of Capacity Building - Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (CB-PSA) and during the year 2018-19, 2019-20 and current year 2020-21 under the scheme of RGSA are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Article 280 (3) (bb) of the Constitution provides for the Finance Commission to make recommendations regarding the measures needed to augment the Consolidated Fund of a State to supplement the resources of the Panchayats in the State on the basis of the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of the State. Accordingly, to improve the functioning of Panchayati Raj Institutions under the Fourteenth Finance Commission award, grants to the tune of ₹ 1,80,237 crore were released for the Gram Panchayats in 26 states for the period 2015 to 2020.

For the period FY 2020-21, the Fifteenth Finance Commission has awarded grant of ₹ 60,750 crore, for Rural Local Bodies (RLBs) in 28 states which has been the highest annual Finance Commission allocation for the RLBs so far.

(d) MoPR has been taking several steps to strengthen the Panchayati Raj Institutions in the States and Union Territories covered under Part IX of the Constitution through provisioning of financial and technical assistance under the schemes and programmes of the Government and issue of advisories from time to time. The various measures taken include incentivizing the States which have devolved more functions, funds and functionaries to Panchayats, providing financial and technical assistance for capacity building of Panchayats to enable them to perform the devolved functions effectively and efficiently, strengthening systems of budgeting, accounting and auditing, development of software applications and imparting training for their use to bring in transparency, accountability and efficiency in their functioning, incentive awards to the selected best performing Panchayats and assisting the States in formulation of detailed guidelines for preparation of participatory Gram Panchayat Development Plans by the Gram Panchayats utilising the resources available at their command.

Statement*State/ UT- wise funds sanctioned and released during the last three years & current year*

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18		2018-19		2019-2020		2020-21	
		AAP approved	Released	AAP approved	Released	AAP approved	Released	AAP approved	Released
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Andhra Pradesh	90.74	81.35	128.54	67.69	154.72	0	203.489	-
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.33	3.59	40.72	33.19	46.58	39.59	15.65	-
3.	Assam	36.02	27.59	77.27	39.21	65.59	23.22	88.14	-
4.	Bihar	0	0	108.02	4.25	126.3	0	105.71	-
5.	Chhattisgarh	38.82	33.21	25.87	7.24	32.62	0	36.57	-
6.	Gujarat	34	0	27.92	0	55.09	0	20.24	-
7.	Haryana	49.09	10.55	55.55	6.99	69.64	0	188.534	9.89
8.	Himachal Pradesh	5.68	0	19.18	17.26	20.9	10	128.18	14.328
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	0	49.51	25.06	67.14	6.19	173.48	25

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10.	Jharkhand	67.66	47.16	28.53	4.49	34.62	0	28.659	-
11.	Karnataka	45.37	41.08	66.08	0	52.31	0	116.7	-
12.	Kerala	26.5	23.36	51.78	7.68	50.68	0	44.34	-
13.	Madhya Pradesh	91.25	30.25	215.29	62.79	227.65	85.48	320.809	45.909
14.	Maharashtra	63.63	44.53	102.54	11.54	142.89	8.44	233	33.38
15.	Manipur	6.53	6.52	20.6	9.25	10.09	4.54	7.7	-
16.	Mizoram	11.72	10.13	10.97	9.85	7.34	0.5	13.585	3.056
17.	Odisha	42.77	32.9	50.68	0	28.55	0	21.49	-
18.	Punjab	8.26	8.26	98.93	29.68	91.12	0	89.875	-
19.	Rajasthan	21.7	13.72	61.81	25.57	74.97	0	103.04	-
20.	Sikkim	5.35	5.35	11.29	5.08	9.32	5.1	15.069	0.809
21.	Tamil Nadu	53.7	36.83	96	57.6	158.65	5.3	282.78	37.875
22.	Tripura	10.86	1.21	7.5	2.77	12.2	0	14.176	-
23.	Telangana	61.94	16.84	66.75	0	175.18	0	242.868	-
24.	Uttarakhand	21.38	7.82	37.37	33.05	57.21	23.79	42.68	7.88

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25.	Uttar Pradesh	125.84	84.07	249.24	57.14	416.92	169.92	598.55	-
26.	West Bengal	55.57	48.44	91.59	54.94	94.18	44.10	115.53	16.76
27.	Goa	2.29	0.21	4.39	0	3.71	0	3.7163	-
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	1.628	0	2.38	0	4.55	-
29.	Daman and Diu	0	0	1.21	0	0.89	0	-	-
30.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	-	0	1.1418	-
31.	Ladakh	-	-	-	-	-	-	8.594	-
32.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	13.6	6.75	1.5	0	1.5	0	1.253	-
33.	Meghalaya	-	-	9.86	4.44	15.02	2.63	16.906	-
34.	Nagaland	-	-	8.76	7.88	8.87	3.94	11.27	-
35.	Puducherry	-	-	0	0	2.82	0	4.667	-
TOTAL		997.6	621.72	1826.878	584.64	2317.65	432.74	3302.942	194.887

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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Funds released for Panchayati Raj Schemes/Programmes

755. DR. BANDA PRAKASH: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) the total funds released for various schemes/ programmes of the Ministry during each of the last two years, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether the funds released are being utilised by the States as per the prescribed norms, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the corrective steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR):

(a) The details of State/Union Territory-wise and year-wise grants released under the schemes of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) and Incentivization of Panchayats during the last two years are given in the Statement-I and Statement-II (See below) respectively.

(b) and (c) Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of RGSA, funds released to States/UTs are utilised by them for undertaking the activities sanctioned/permitted under their Annual Plans as recommended by Central Empowered Committee (CEC) and finally approved by the Competent Authority. The progress of implementation of the scheme, including utilisation of funds, is closely monitored through meetings, video-conferences etc. with the States/UTs. For further release of funds to the States/UTs, the status of utilization of funds released earlier is also taken into account. In addition to this, an online monitoring and reporting system (MIS) for RGSA has been developed and operationlised. Moreover, transaction based Public Financial Management System (PFMS) has been introduced for release and tracking of funds under RGSA.

Statement-I

State/ UT- wise funds released during the last two years under RGSA scheme

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2018-19	2019-2020
1.	Andhra Pradesh	67.69	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	33.19	39.59
3.	Assam	39.21	23.22

Sl. No.	State/UT	2018-19	2019-2020
4.	Bihar	4.25	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	7.24	0
6.	Gujarat	0	0
7.	Haryana	6.99	0
8.	Himachal Pradesh	17.26	10
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	25.06	6.19
10.	Jharkhand	4.49	0
11.	Karnataka	0	0
12.	Kerala	7.68	0
13.	Madhya Pradesh	62.79	85.48
14.	Maharashtra	11.54	8.44
15.	Manipur	9.25	4.54
16.	Mizoram	9.85	0.5
17.	Odisha	0	0
18.	Punjab	29.68	0
19.	Rajasthan	25.57	0
20.	Sikkim	5.08	5.1
21.	Tamil Nadu	57.6	5.3
22.	Tripura	2.77	0
23.	Telangana	0	0
24.	Uttarakhand	33.05	23.79
25.	Uttar Pradesh	57.14	169.92
26.	West Bengal	54.94	44.10
27.	Goa	0	0
28.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0

Sl. No.	State/UT	2018-19	2019-2020
29.	Daman and Diu	0	0
30.	Lakshadweep	0	0
31.	Andaman and Nicobar Island	0	0
32.	Meghalaya	4.44	2.63
33.	Nagaland	7.88	3.94
34.	Puducherry	0	0
TOTAL		584.64	432.74

Statement-II

State/UT-wise fund released under Incentivisation of Panchayat Scheme (Central Component of RGSA) during the last two years

(₹ in crore)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2018-19	2019-2020
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.05
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2.34	2.20
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.50	0.50
4.	Assam	1.30	0.97
5.	Bihar	0.43	0.25
6.	Chhattisgarh	1.29	1.55
7.	Gujarat	1.52	0.05
8.	Haryana	1.58	0.05
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1.36	1.33
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.08	0.05
11.	Jharkhand	1.07	1.36
12.	Karnataka	1.55	1.64
13.	Kerala	1.55	0.25

Sl. No.	State/UT	2018-19	2019-2020
14.	Madhya Pradesh	2.53	2.35
15.	Maharashtra	2.46	0
16.	Manipur	0.70	0.78
17.	Meghalaya	0	0.05
18.	Odisha	4.19	0
19.	Punjab	1.64	1.62
20.	Rajasthan	1.54	1.35
21.	Sikkim	0.85	0.83
22.	Tamil Nadu	1.86	0.05
23.	Telangana	1.42	0.05
24.	Tripura	0.93	1.02
25.	Uttarakhand	1.33	0.05
26.	Uttar Pradesh	4.65	4.70
27.	West Bengal	1.75	1.61
TOTAL		40.42	24.71

Running of trains by private sector

†756. CH. SUKHRAM SINGH YADAV:

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD:

SHRIMATI CHHAYA VERMA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the routes on which Railways is contemplating to allow private sector to run trains;

(b) the circumstances due to which Railways is contemplating to allow running of trains by private sector;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the names of trains and the routes on which trains are being run by private sector till now; and

(d) the profit earned by private sector by running trains in the last three years and the profit/loss incurred on these routes by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) It is estimated that Indian Railways would need Capital investment of around ₹50 lakh crore upto the year 2030 for network expansion and capacity augmentation, rolling stock induction and other modernization works to enable better delivery of passenger and freight services and to improve its modal share in transport. To bridge the gap in capital funding and to induct modern technologies and improve efficiencies, it is being planned to use Public Private Partnership (PPP) model for few initiatives. One of the PPP initiatives is to invite private players to invest and induct modern rakes over select routes to provide world class services to the passengers. As part of this initiative, Ministry of Railways have issued 12 Requests for Qualification (RFQs) on 1st July, 2020 for operation of passenger trains over approximately 109 origin-destination pairs (divided into 12 clusters) through PPP on Design, Build, Finance and Operate ("DBFO") basis. The routes are spread across the entire Indian Railway network and the list is available in the public domain namely, [http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/Indicative Routesfor 12 clusters.pdf](http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/Indicative_Routesfor_12_clusters.pdf). However, the responsibility of train operations and safety certification rests with Indian Railways in all such cases.

(c) As of now, no regular passenger train service, running over Indian Railways, is being operated by Private Operator(s).

(d) Does not arise.

Details regarding launching of private trains

757. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of routes on which private trains are to be operated and have been sanctioned to be operated;

(b) whether private trains would operate using trains or carriers owned by the Ministry of Railways or private entities would manufacture their own train bodies and coaches; and

(c) the details of private entities such as name of companies and entrepreneurs who have proposed to operate or who would operate trains as on August, 2020 and the dates from when such private trains would operate?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Ministry of Railways (MoR) has invited applications for investment and induction of modern rakes over select routes through Public Private Partnership (PPP) to provide world class services to the passengers. As part of this initiative, MoR have issued 12 Requests for Qualification (RFQs) on 1st July, 2020 for operation of passenger trains over approximately 109 origin-destination pairs (divided into 12 clusters) through PPP on Design, Build, Finance and Operate ("DBFO") basis. The routes are spread across the entire Indian Railway network and the list is available in the public domain namely, <http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/IndicativeRoutesfor12clusters.pdf>. However, the responsibility of train operations and safety certification rests with Indian Railways in all such cases.

Private Entity shall be free to procure trains and locomotives including through ownership or leasing from a source of its choice, provided such trains and locomotives are compatible with specification and standards specified in the Concession Agreement.

The selection of the operators will be done through a transparent bidding process and the details of the participants will be known after the application due date, i.e. 07.10.2020. As of now, it is not feasible to fix the dates for operation of trains by private operators.

Details on trains for migrant labourers

758. SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains that have operated in the months of March, April and May, 2020 for the transportation of migrant workers;

(b) the details of fares charged for transportation of migrant labourers and whether regular coaches were operated free of cost to transport migrant workers; and

(c) whether any special trains were operated for migrant workers during the months of March, April and May, 2020 and if so, the number of such trains and their destinations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) In order to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, all passenger carrying trains on Indian

Railways remained cancelled between 23rd March, 2020 and 30th April, 2020. However, keeping in view the urgent requirement of movement of stranded persons, Shramik specials were organized in a mission mode. These Shramik specials were organized as "trains on demand" as and when State Governments requisitioned these trains in accordance with the protocol and guidelines given by the Government. Shramik specials were started w.e.f. 01.05.2020 and during the month of May, 2020, 4109 Shramik Specials were operated. In all, 4621 Shramik Specials have been operated between 1st May, 2020 and 31st August, 2020 carrying 63.19 lakh passengers to their home states. The State-wise break up of Shramik train services so operated is as under:-

Outgoing trains from States

State	Number of trains
Gujarat	1033
Maharashtra	817
Punjab	429
Bihar	294
Uttar Pradesh	376
Delhi	259
Tamil Nadu	292
Karnataka	295
Telangana	166
Rajasthan	131
Kerala	190
Haryana	101
Andhra Pradesh	69
Other States	169
TOTAL	4621

Incoming trains to States

State	Number of trains
Uttar Pradesh	1726
Bihar	1627
Jharkhand	222
Odisha	244
West Bengal	284
Madhya Pradesh	129
Chhattisgarh	95
Assam	103
Rajasthan	55
Manipur	22
Other States	114
TOTAL	4621

Shramik Special trains were requisitioned by State Governments. In normal circumstances, such special trains are booked by State Government/any agency or by an individual on Full Tariff Rates which include normal fare for both directions, service charge, empty haulage charge, detention charge etc.

Indian Railways allowed booking of Shramik Specials on normal fare for one direction only. Special arrangements like enhanced sanitization, special security, medical arrangement, rake sanitization, free meals, water etc. for Shramik operations, further added to the overall cost of running these trains.

Railways have collected fare for Shramik Special trains from State Governments or their authorized representatives. Railways did not collect any fare directly from the passengers.

Fare collected from State Governments and from the representatives of State Governments for running of Shramik Special trains for period 1st May, 2020 to 31st August, 2020 is approximately ₹433 crore. Railway could recover a small fraction of

expenditure incurred on running of Shramik Special trains, thereby incurring a loss in the operation of these trains.

Blueprint for increasing speed of trains

759. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the average running speed of all category of trains in India and our position in the international scenario in this respect;

(b) whether it is a fact that speedy and timely running of trains including goods trains will make Railways and trade & business more profitable and help in the economic growth of the country; and

(c) if so, the blueprint of Railways in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The average running speeds of trains on railway systems depend upon various factors, such as, type of track structure, signalling systems, motive power, type of rolling stock, network congestion, etc. Some of the international railway systems, such as the Shinkansen in Japan and the TGV system in France, have dedicated networks of high speed railway lines with maximum speeds over 300 Kmph. The average running speeds of all categories of trains across different railway systems abroad are not compiled. Indian Railways has a heterogeneous system with freight trains and passenger carrying trains being operated on common tracks, with a very high level of capacity utilization. During the financial year 2019-20, the average speed of premium trains (Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duranto and Vande Bharat) was above 70 kmph, Superfast trains was above 55 kmph, Express services was above 50 kmph and that of freight trains was 24 kmph. However, during the current financial year, i.e. 2020-21, the average speed of freight trains has increased to 46.71 kmph.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) With a view to increasing the speeds of trains and ensuring timely running of trains including goods trains, Indian Railways has initiated several measures for upgrading the infrastructure, modernizing the rolling stock and for streamlining operations. The blueprint for increasing the speeds of trains on Indian Railways include the following:—

(i) Increasing the track speeds on trunk routes to 130 Kmph.

- (ii) Enhancing the speed potential of Golden Quadrilateral and its diagonal to 160 Kmph. Accordingly, 160 Kmph projects on the Delhi-Mumbai and Delhi-Howrah sectors are already sanctioned.
- (iii) Discontinuance of manufacturing of Integral Coach Factory (ICF) design coaches with Maximum Permissible Speed of 110 Kmph and enhanced manufacture of Linke Hofmann Busch (LHB) coaches with Maximum Permissible Speed of 160 Kmph.
- (iv) Introduction of modern signaling system such as Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) etc.
- (v) Accelerated removal of Permanent Speed Restrictions, construction of Road Over Bridges and Road Under Bridges to eliminate level crossing gates.
- (vi) Replacement of conventional trains with Mainline Electric Multiple Units (MEMUs).
- (vii) Right powering of trains especially freight trains.
- (viii) Zero Based Time Tabling to remove inefficiencies in the time table, uniform allocation of maintenance and traffic allowances, compaction of train running and creation of separate freight corridors to increase the speed of Freight trains.

Establishment of multifunctional complexes

760. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways has decided to establish eight multifunctional complexes in Odisha under East Coast Railways and a budget hotel at Sambalpur; and
- (b) the agency which has been entrusted with these works and the present position of the projects including their financial status?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) In the State of Odisha under East Coast Railway, 6 number of Multifunctional Complexes (MFCs) are proposed at Cuttack, Talcher, Rayagada, Brahampur, Sambalpur and Bhubaneswar Stations. There is no proposal for construction of a 'Budget Hotel' at Sambalpur.

(b) The agency entrusted with development of these MFCs and the present position of the projects including their financial status, is as under:—

Station/location of MFCs	Executive Agency	Present Position of the projects including their financial status
Cuttack	Rail Land Development Authority	MFC site at Cuttack was leased to developer on 03.12.2012, but development agreement was terminated on 25.03.2015 due to payment default by the developer and the matter is presently under litigation.
Talcher	East Coast Railway	Land is not available. Hence, proposal is to be dropped.
Rayagada	Rail Land Development Authority	Site for MFC at Rayagada has not been found suitable for development.
Brahmapur	Rail Land Development Authority	Site for MFC at Brahmapur has not been found suitable for development.
Sambalpur	Rail Land Development Authority	MFC site at Sambalpur has been leased to the developer and construction work is in progress.
Bhubaneswar	Rail Land Development Authority	MFC site at Bhubaneswar has been deferred as Bhubaneswar has been identified under 'Station Redevelopment Scheme.

Segregation of Waltair Division

761. SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to segregate Waltair Division from East Coast Railway zone, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to constitute a separate division consisting of Jharsuguda, Rourkela etc., and bring it under East Coast Railway zone for better and profitable functioning of Railways in Eastern India?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The Government has approved formation of a new South Coast Railway (SCoR) zone with headquarters at Visakhapatnam by reorganizing the existing South Central Railway and East Coast Railway zones. This reorganization, inter-alia, includes creation of a new Rayagada Division under East Coast Railway, in lieu of existing Waltair division. The decision for setting up of the SCoR Zone and its territorial jurisdiction has been taken after due consideration taking all relevant factors into account, including administrative and operational requirements.

(b) No, Sir.

Trains run for stranded citizens

762. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains run by Railways during the lockdown to help the stranded citizens return to their native districts;

(b) the number of people who availed the benefits of these special trains, the State-wise details thereof; and

(c) the amount spent by Railways for running these special trains during the lockdown, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Between 1st May, 2020 and 31st August, 2020 a total of 4621 Shramik Special trains, carrying 63.19 lakh passengers, were run for the assistance of the stranded persons help them in reach their respective home states. The State-wise break up of Shramik train services so operated is as under:—

Outgoing trains from States

State	Number of trains
Gujarat	1033
Maharashtra	817
Punjab	429
Bihar	294

State	Number of trains
Uttar Pradesh	376
Delhi	259
Tamil Nadu	292
Karnataka	295
Telangana	166
Rajasthan	131
Kerala	190
Haryana	101
Andhra Pradesh	69
Other States	169
TOTAL	4621

Incoming trains to states

State	Number of trains
Uttar Pradesh	1726
Bihar	1627
Jharkhand	222
Odisha	244
West Bengal	284
Madhya Pradesh	129
Chhattisgarh	95
Assam	103
Rajasthan	55
Manipur	22
Other States	114
TOTAL	4621

(c) Train-wise expenditure is not maintained. Therefore, it is not possible to give amount spent by Railways for running of these special trains.

Train operated by private entity in the State of Andhra Pradesh

763. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has initiated the process of permitting private entities to undertake train operations in the country, including the State of Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof, the State-wise routes that have been identified to permit private entities to undertake train operations;

(c) whether Government has formulated stringent provisions regarding fixation of fares by private entities to operate trains;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Railways (MoR) has invited applications for investment and induction of modern rakes over select routes through Public Private Partnership (PPP) to provide world class services to the passengers. As part of this initiative, MOR have issued 12 Requests for Qualification (RFQs) on 1st July, 2020 for operation of passenger trains over approximately 109 origin-destination pairs (divided into 12 clusters) through PPP on Design, Build, Finance and Operate ("DBFO") basis. The routes are spread across various states, including the state of Andhra Pradesh, covering the entire Indian Railway network and the list is available in the public domain namely, <http://www.indianrailways.gov.in/IndicativeRoutesfor12clusters.pdf>. However, the responsibility of train operations and safety certification rests with Indian Railways in all such cases.

(c) to (e) The existing train services shall continue to be operated by Indian Railways and their fare shall be fixed by the Railways, as at present. For the trains to be operated under PPP route, the operator shall, in consideration of the investment and services provided by him, be entitled to levy and collect fare from the passengers users in accordance with what the market can bear and also raise other revenues in terms of a Concession Agreement.

Setting up of solar panel in the vacant land of railways

764. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government has any proposal to set up solar energy panels in the vacant land belonging to Indian Railways to generate new and renewable energy;
- (b) if so, the details thereof: and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Railways (IR) has planned to set up solar plants on its vacant land and along the tracks. As a part of this initiative, 4.7 Mega Watt (MW) land based Solar plants have already been commissioned. Action has been taken for installation of Solar power projects on unused Railway land at following locations:—

- (i) 50 Mega Watt (MW) at Bhilai (Chhattisgarh).
- (ii) 2 MW at Diwana (Haryana).

To further proliferate solar plants, IR has planned to install solar plants of 20 Giga Watt (GW) capacity by the year 2030 by utilizing its vacant land and to begin with, bids for 3 GW solar plants on vacant railway land parcels and land parcels along the railway track have already been invited.

Control and operation of Kolkata metro

†765. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the metro rail of Kolkata is the only metro rail network in the country which is controlled and operated by Indian Railways;
- (b) whether the State Government has its stake in Kolkata Metro Project and they also have the responsibility of financial provision;
- (c) whether some stretch of the metro rail project of Kolkata is pending, if so, the reasons therefor and details thereof; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) if so, whether Government is contemplating on transferring the operation of metro rail, Kolkata in future?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Yes, Sir. Metro Railway Kolkata is the only metro rail under the Ministry of Railways, Govt. of India.

(b) Kolkata Metro Project has been constructed in phases:—

Section	Remarks
Phase-I: Dum Dum to Toilygunge (16.45 km) (Mahanayak Uttam Kumar)	No contribution from State Government.
Phase II: Toilygunge (Mahanayak Uttam Kumar) to New Garia (Kavi Subhas) - 8.68 km & Dum Dum - Noapara (2.091 Km)	State Govt. of West Bengal has contributed ₹ 271.46 crore only.
Kolkata East West Metro Project	No contribution from State Government.

(c) Status of remaining stretches of projects of Metro Rail in Kolkata is as below:—

1. Noapara-Dakshineswar: Work has been taken up.
2. Joka - BBD Bagh: Work has been taken up, slow progress due to land issues & other clearances from State Govt.
3. New Garia - Airport: Work has been taken up, progress slow due to land issues & other clearances awaited from State Govt.
4. Noapara - Airport- Barasat: Work has been taken up in three phases:

Phase-I: Noapara - Bimanbandar (7.03 Km) - Work has been taken up.

Phase-II: Bimabandar - New Barrackpore (3.544 Km) - Work not taken up due to land issues.

Phase-III: New Barrackpore-Barasat (7.55 km) - Land acquisition and transfer issues from various stake holders are involved. Site is heavily infested with encroachments. Matter is being constantly pursued with State Government.

5. Baranagar-Barrackpore: The work could not be taken up due to clearance pending from State Government for alignment of the project.
- (d) There is no such proposal.

Loss incurred in railway sector

766. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there has been any loss in the railway sector in the last six months; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Profit or loss during a financial year is calculated at the close of the year.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the nationwide lockdown has adversely impacted railway operations and revenue in the current year. Scheduled passenger services were stopped and freight traffic is below normal. Till end of August 2020, freight loading has been 86.6% of the corresponding level of last year. Freight loading has picked up now. In August 2020 loading has been 4 percent more than that in corresponding month of last year. In September 2020 the loading has further increased by 13% compared to last year. Consequently, by the end of August 2020, Railway's traffic revenue at ₹41,844.31 cr has declined by 42.3% over the corresponding period of last year.

Status of railway projects in Odisha

767. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of railway projects which are presently incomplete in Odisha;
- (b) the reasons for the delay; and
- (c) by when these projects would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise, as, Indian Railways' network straddles across various State boundaries. However, as on 01.04.2020, 39 projects costing ₹61,949 crore for 4,877 km. length, falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha are at different stage of planning/approval/execution, out of which, 947 km. length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹16,264 crore has been incurred upto March, 2020. These include:

12 New Line Projects covering a length of 1,542 km at a cost of ₹27.072 crore, out of which, 155 km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹5.089 crore has been incurred upto March, 2020.

01 Gauge Conversion (GC) project covering a length of 159 km. at a cost of ₹1,455 crore, out of which, 90 km. length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹184 crore has been incurred upto March, 2020.

26 Doubling Projects covering a length of 3,176 km. at a cost of ₹3 3,422 crore, out of which, 702 km. length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹10.991 crore has been incurred upto March, 2020.

The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways' website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Pink Book (year)>Railway-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

(b) and (c) Completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project. As such, firm completion time of the projects can not be ascertained at this stage.

Coverage of railway network in Odisha

768. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of districts in Odisha that do not have a railway link or network;
- (b) the reason for these districts of Odisha not having railway lines or network; and
- (c) the measures taken by Railways to ensure the coverage of railway network in these districts?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Rail way-wise and not district-wise, as, Indian Railways' network

spans across various State boundaries. Sanction of Railway projects for development of Railway network is a continuous process. Railway projects are sanctioned based on operational requirements, missing links, alternate routes etc depending upon overall availability of funds and financial viability etc.

At present, six districts of Odisha namely Deogarh, Boudh, Sonepur, Kandhamal, Nabarangapur and Malkangiri are not on rail network. The alignment of following railway projects included/sanctioned in budget, passes through the above mentioned districts as well.

- (i) Talcher-Bimlagarh new line project passes through Deogarh district.
- (ii) Khurda-Bolangir new line project passes through Boudh and Sonepur districts.
- (iii) Jeypore-Malkangiri new line project passes through Malkangiri district.
- (iv) Jeypore-Nabarangpur new line project passes through Nabarangpur district.
- (v) Sambalpur-Gopalpur via Phulbani new line project passes through Kandhamal district.

The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways" website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Pink Book (year)>Railway-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

New railway projects announced for Odisha

769. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of various new railway projects that were announced for Odisha over the past three years;
- (b) the number of projects commissioned so far out of the announced projects; and
- (c) the status of those projects which have not been commissioned and by when they would be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Railway projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise and not State-wise, as, Indian Railways' network

spans across various State boundaries. However, the details of new railway projects included in Budget during last three years and current year falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha are as under:—

1. Extension of Naupada-Gunupur line upto Therubali.
2. Dumetra-Link - 'C' Line connections with Bisra station.
3. Talcher-Angul New line with 'Y' Connection at Talcher.
4. Flyover at Baghupal.
5. Rourkela-Bondamunda 'A' cabin 5th line.
6. Kiriburu-Barbil New line.
7. Sambhalpur to Gopalpur via Phulbani.

The above projects are in different stages of planning/approval/execution. However, so far, since 2014, total seven projects of 351 km length costing ₹4311 crore falling fully/partly in the State of Odisha have been completed and commissioned. Nevertheless, completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. All these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project. As such, firm completion time of the projects can not be ascertained at this stage.

Future action plan for Shramik trains

770. SHRI B. LINGAIAH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Shramik trains run so far and future action plan prepared regarding the same; and

(b) whether these trains would be useful to the shramiks?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Keeping in view the urgent requirement of movement of stranded persons Shramik specials were

organized in a mission mode. These Shramik specials were organized as trains on demand, as and when State Governments requisitioned these trains, in accordance with the protocol and guidelines given by the Government. In all, 4621 Shramik Special have been operated between 1st May, 2020 to 31st August, 2020 carrying 63.19 lakh stranded passengers to their home states. There is no pending demand for Shramik specials w.e.f 31.08.2020. The State-wise break up of Shramik train services so operated is as under:—

Outgoing trains from States

State	Number of trains
Gujarat	1033
Maharashtra	817
Punjab	429
Bihar	294
Uttar Pradesh	376
Delhi	259
Tamil Nadu	292
Karnataka	295
Telangana	166
Rajasthan	131
Kerala	190
Haryana	101
Andhra Pradesh	69
Other States	169
TOTAL	4621

Incoming trains to States

State	Number of trains
Uttar Pradesh	1726
Bihar	1627

State	Number of trains
Jharkhand	222
Odisha	244
West Bengal	284
Madhya Pradesh	129
Chhattisgarh	95
Assam	103
Rajasthan	55
Manipur	22
Other States	114
TOTAL	4621

Privatisation of Railways

771. SHRI M. SHANMUGAM:

SHRI K. R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government decided to privatise Railways in the coming years;
- (b) if so, how many trains in how many pair of routes will be given to private players, the details thereof;
- (c) whether private companies can procure train and locomotives from any source and if so, the fate of the existing production units like coach factories, etc.;
- (d) whether the decision to privatize Railways was discussed with the stakeholders including trade unions;
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (f) whether Railways would have control over fixing of fare, if not who would regulate, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (f) No, Sir. There is no proposal to privatise the Indian Railways (IR). However, it is estimated that Indian

Railways would need capital investment of ₹50 lakh crores up to the year 2030 for network expansion and capacity augmentation, rolling stock induction and other modernization works to enable better delivery of passenger and freight services and to improve its modal share in transport. To bridge the gap in Capital Funding and bring in modern technology and efficiencies, it is planned to use Public Private Partnership (PPP) model in few initiatives including induction of modern rakes to run passenger trains on select routes with an objective to provide improved service delivery to passengers. However, the work of train operations and safety certification will continue to be with Indian Railways in all such cases.

Accordingly, it has been decided to operate additional passenger trains over approximately 100 origin-destination pairs (divided into 12 clusters), through PPP, on Design, Build, Finance and Operate (the 'DBFO') basis. The private investors are required to invest in modern rolling stock, maintenance depot, etc. The operation of the existing services of Indian Railways is not going to be affected. This aspect has been informed to Railway Federations.

The Concessionaire/investor shall be free to procure trains and locomotives including through ownership or leasing from a source of its choice, including Indian manufacturers, provided such trains and locomotives are compatible with specification and standard specified in Concession Agreement.

The scheme entitles the Concessionaire/ investor to levy and collect fare from the users, as determined by market, in consideration of the investment and services provided, and also allows them to raise other revenues in terms of the Concession Agreement.

Upgradation and modernization of Ayodhya railway station

772. DR. ANIL AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal with Railways for upgradation and modernization of Ayodhya railway station in Uttar Pradesh for the devotees visiting Sri Ram Mandir;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the funds earmarked for the upgradation and modernization of the Ayodhya railway station; and
- (d) by when the work would start and by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. A work namely "Ayodhya-Redevelopment of station and circulating area etc. in connection with development of stations of religious & cultural importance" is sanctioned. The cost of the work is ₹104.77 crores. A total expenditure of ₹20.61 crores has been incurred. The outlay for F.Y. 2020-21 is ₹18.16 crores. The executive agency for the project is M/S RITES Ltd.

The scope of the work includes provision of new station building, two new modern foot over bridges, improvement to all existing platforms, development of existing circulating areas, improved signages, etc.

(d) The work is in progress and is planned to be completed during the financial year 2021-22.

Train connectivity to Bhubaneswar

773. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) by when Railways proposes to run Surat-Bhubaneswar train; and
- (b) by when Railways proposes to resume Bhubaneswar-Mumbai trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) At present, four pairs of special trains are operational between Surat and Bhubaneswar. Bhubaneswar-Mumbai Special train (train no.01019/01020) is being operated w.e.f. 01.06.2020, as a daily service.

Replacing railway level crossings with flyovers

774. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to replace all railway level crossings in the country with flyovers;
- (b) if so, the total level crossings taken up priority-wise for replacement with flyovers since 2015;
- (c) the allocation of budget and sanction and present status of such replacement since 2015;
- (d) if not taken up for replacement, the reason behind therein; and

(e) the details of plans of Railways to go for targeted elimination of Unmanned Level Crossing Systems (UMLCS) by the end of 2020?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (d) No, Sir. However, Government proposes to replace Level crossings (LC) in the country with Road Over Bridges (ROB) on cost sharing basis with State Govt., if Train Vehicle Unit (TVU) of LC is more than one lakh. Road Under Bridges (RUB) are provided to replace the level crossing, wherever technically feasible.

Total 2834 LCs were replaced by ROB/RUBs between 01.04.2015 till 31.03.2020.

Total expenditure of ₹15628 Cr. has been made towards replacement of LCs by ROB/RUBs from 01.04.2015 till 31.03.2020.

During the current year, an allocation of ₹3575 Cr. has been made for ROB/RUBs. Total 7785 LCs are sanctioned for replacement by ROB/RUB, which are in various stages of progress.

(e) Railways, in a mission mode, eliminated all Unmanned Level Crossings (UMLCs) on Broad Gauge (BG) by 31.01.2019. UMLC on Meter Gauge (MG) and Narrow Gauge (NG) routes, wherever found feasible, will be eliminated along with Gauge conversion projects.

Capital expenditure of Railways in Rajasthan

775. SHRI K. J. ALPHONS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the capital expenditure proposed by the Railways in Rajasthan in the current financial year;

(b) the length of tracks in kilometers being replaced in the current year in Rajasthan;

(c) the length of new tracks in kilometers being laid this year in Rajasthan; and

(d) the number of railway stations being modernised this year in Rajasthan?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Budget allocation for the projects are not provided State-wise, but Railway Zone-wise, as Indian Railways' network straddles across various State boundaries. However, total Budget outlay for infrastructure projects and safety works for the projects falling fully/partly in the State of Rajasthan for the year 2020-21 is ₹4582 crore.

(b) Similarly details of track renewal are also not maintained state-wise but Railway Zone-wise. The State of Rajasthan falls in Northern Railway, North Central Railway, North Western Railway, Western Railway and West Central Railway Zones. Length of tracks being replaced in the current year 2020-21 for these Zonal Railways is as under:—

In complete track renewal units (Track Km)	
Zonal Railway	Length of track being replaced in the year 2020-21
Northern Railway	400
North Central Railway	260
North Western Railway	180
Western Railway	170
West Central Railway	140

(c) As on 01.04.2020, 30 projects (11 new lines, 05 gauge conversion and 14 doubling) covering a total length of 5173 km and costing ₹57247 crore, falling fully/partially in the State of Rajasthan are in different stages planning/execution, out of which, 715 Km length has been commissioned and an expenditure of ₹7688 crore has been incurred on these projects upto March, 2020.

Completion of any Railway project depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions etc. and all these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project. As such, firm quantity of laying of new tracks cannot be ascertained.

(d) In addition to providing various amenities at station (Foot Over Bridges, High Level Platforms, PF sheds, Water Booths, toilets etc.), Beawar station is being developed/modernized under Adarsh Station Scheme & Ajmer Station under joint development with Ministry of Tourism in Rajasthan in FY 2020-21. Jaipur Station is under development with Ministry of Tourism; Marwar Jn. under Adarsh Station scheme. Various other works are also going on at Bikaner & Sadulpur stations of Rajasthan.

Unfinished railway projects

776. SHRI C.M. RAMESH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of railway projects in various States in the country are either lying unfinished or not yet started despite laying of foundation stones, the State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the details of funds sanctioned for these projects and funds that remained unutilised so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Railway Projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway wise and not State-wise, as, Indian Railway's network straddles across various state boundaries. Indian Railways has taken up 513 Railway Projects (New Line, Gauge Conversion and Doubling works). These projects are in different stages of planning/sanction/execution. The project-wise details including cost, expenditure and outlay are available in public domain on Indian Railways' website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) >Railways> Pink Book (year) >Railway-wise Works, Machinery & Rolling Stock Programme.

Completion of Railway project(s) depends on various factors like quick land acquisition by State Government, forest clearance by officials of forest department, shifting of infringing utilities, statutory clearances from various authorities, geological and topographical conditions of area, law and order situation in the area of project site, number of working months in a year for particular project site due to climatic conditions, etc. and all these factors differ from project to project and affect the completion time of the project(s).

(b) Average Annual Budget allocation for Infrastructure and Safety works during 2014-19 has increased to ₹26,026 crore per year from ₹11,527 crore per year (during 2009-14), which is 126% more than Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14. The Budget allocation during 2019-20 has further increased to ₹39,836 crore which is around 245% more than Average Annual Budget allocation of 2009-14 and is also the highest ever expenditure in any financial year for Infrastructure and Safety works.

Conversion of passenger compartments into isolation wards

†777. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passenger compartments which have been converted into isolation wards by Railways to combat Coronavirus and when they have been converted, the zone-wise details thereof;

(b) the number of compartments, out of the above, in which Coronavirus patients have been kept, the zone-wise details thereof;

(c) the expenditure incurred in converting passenger compartments into isolation wards, the zone-wise details thereof; and

(d) the expenditure incurred per patient in the above isolation wards, the zone-wise and item-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) 5601 coaches have been converted into Covid Care Centers by Indian Railways (IR) in the months of March, April, May and June of 2020 to combat Corona virus pandemic. The Zonal Railway wise details of the conversion of these coaches are as under:—

Sl. No.	Zonal Railways	Coaches converted into isolation coaches
1	2	3
1.	Central Railway	482
2.	Eastern Railway	381
3.	East Central Railway	269
4.	East Coast Railway	262
5.	Northern Railway	897
6.	North Central Railway	141
7.	North Eastern Railway	217
8.	Northeast Frontier Railway	315
9.	North Western Railway	266
10.	Southern Railway	573

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
11.	South Central Railway	486
12.	South Eastern Railway	338
13.	South East Central Railway	111
14.	South Western Railway	320
15.	Western Railway	410
16.	West Central Railway	133
TOTAL		5601

(b) As per guidelines issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, these special train coaches are to be used by the State Governments only after they have exhausted their own medical facilities. As on date, 813 coaches have been provided by IR as requisitioned by the State Governments (Delhi-503, Uttar Pradesh-270 and Bihar-40).

(c) and (d) For conversion of these coaches into Covid Care Coaches, minor modifications like removal of middle berth and conversion of one toilet into shower room was carried out with provision of medical facilities and other items. The average cost of carrying out modifications and provision of medical facilities including oxygen cylinders and other items is approximately ₹60,000/- per coach. Average expenditure of approximately ₹7,000/- has been incurred per patient in the covid care coaches.

Details of Shramik Special trains

778. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has details of total number of deaths that occurred on board the Shramik Special trains since they started operating;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Railways charged any passenger for tickets for boarding the Shramik Special trains and if so, the total number of passengers who bought tickets and the total revenue generated from selling those tickets?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Policing on Railways being a State subject, prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation and maintenance of law & order in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP)/District Police. Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP/District Police to provide better protection and security of passenger area & passengers and for related matters. Based on the data provided by State Police, 97 persons have been reported dead till 09.09.2020 while travelling on board Shramik Special Trains during current Covid-19 situation/crisis. The State Police registers case under Section 174 of Cr.PC in cases of unnatural deaths and follows, further legal process.

Out of these 97 cases of death, State Police sent dead bodies for post mortem in 87 cases. 51 Post Mortem reports have been obtained from respective State Police so far, in which the reasons for deaths have been shown as cardiac arrest/heart disease/brain hemorrhage/pre-existing chronic disease/chronic lung disease/chronic liver disease etc.

(c) Railway have not collected fare from Shramiks. Shramik Specials were booked by State Governments or representative of State Governments on payment of fare. Revenue of ₹ 433 crores has been collected from State Governments and their representatives for running of Shramik Special trains till 31.08.2020. Total 63.19 lakh Shramiks/Stranded passengers have travelled in these trains.

Impact of COVID-19 on Railways

779. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the impact of COVID-19 on Indian Railways;
- (b) whether Railways has estimated the total loss to the Indian Railways due to the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the total expenditure incurred by the Central Government as a percentage of total expenditure incurred in running and operating Shramik Special trains during the COVID-19 lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) The COVID-19 pandemic and the nationwide lockdown has adversely impacted railway operations and

revenue in the current year. Scheduled passenger services were stopped and freight traffic is below normal. Till end of August 2020, freight loading has been 86.6% of the corresponding level of last year. Freight loading has picked up now. In August 2020 loading has been 4 percent more than that in corresponding month of last year. In September 2020 the loading has further increased by 13% compared to last year. Consequently, by the end of August 2020, Railway's traffic revenue at ₹41,844.31 cr has declined by 42.3% over the corresponding period of last year.

The projections for the year under revenue receipts and expenditure are reassessed at the Revised Estimates stage every year.

(d) Train-wise expenditure is not maintained. Therefore, the total expenditure incurred by the Central Government as a percentage of total expenditure incurred in running and operating Shramik Special trains during the COVID-19 lockdown is not available.

Shramik special trains operated during lockdown

780. SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Shramik Special trains operated in the country to transport migrant workers during lockdown;

(b) the total amount collected by Railways from the migrant workers for their journey in the Shramik trains, and the reasons they were not operated free of cost to the migrant workers;

(c) the number of Shramik trains operated which lost their way and travelled in wrong direction, the reason for such incidents, and the actions taken on it; and

(d) the number of complaints received from the migrant workers on unavailability of food and water on Shramik Special trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Keeping in view the urgent requirement of movement of stranded persons Shramik specials were organized in a mission mode. These Shramik specials were organized as "trains on demand", as and when State Governments requisitioned these trains, in accordance with the protocol and guidelines given by the Government. In all, 4621 Shramik Special have been operated between 1st May, 2020 and 31st August, 2020 carrying 63.19 lakh passengers to their home states.

(b) Shramik Special trains were requisitioned by State Governments. In normal circumstances such special trains are booked by State Governments/any agency or by an individual on Full Tariff Rates which include normal fare for both directions, service charge, empty haulage charge, detention charge etc.

Indian Railways allowed booking of Shramik Specials on normal fare for one direction only. Special arrangements like enhanced sanitisation, special security, medical arrangement, rake sanitisation, free meals, water etc. for Shramik operations, further added to the overall cost of running these trains.

Railways have collected fare for Shramik Special trains from State Governments or their authorised representatives. Railways did not collect any fare directly from the passengers.

Fare collected from State Governments or from the representatives of State Governments for running of Shramik Special trains for period 1st May, 2020 to 31st August, 2020 is approximately ₹433 crore.

Railway could recover only a small fraction of expenditure incurred on running of Shramik Special trains, thereby incurring a loss in the operation of these trains.

(c) No train lost its way or travelled in the wrong direction. As most of the Shramik specials were run towards Eastern part of the country on specific routes, to ease congestion on these routes, very few trains were routed through alternate non-congested routes between 20th and 24th May, 2020 during the peak phase of Shramik special operations.

(d) 113 complaints have been received by IRCTC from passenger travelling on 4621 Shramik special trains on unavailability of food and water during the operation of Shramik Special Trains.

Increased railway connectivity in Andhra Pradesh

781. SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways plans to increase the connectivity between Visakhapatnam and Kurnool;

(b) whether there are any proposed trains between the three capitals of Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) No, Sir. There are no such proposal, at present. However, introduction of new train services and additional train services on Indian Railways is an ongoing process subject to operational feasibility, commercial viability, availability of resources, etc.

Recruitment exams of Railways

782. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of applications received against CEN 01/2018, CEN 02/2018, CEN 03/2018, RPF 01/2018 (Constable) and RPF 02/2018 (SI) Notifications, category-wise;

(b) the details of amount collected from payment of application fee against these recruitments, exam-wise;

(c) the details of money refunded to candidates after appearing in their respective exams; and

(d) the details of number of candidates whose money has still not been refunded by the Railway Board, exam-wise with reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) The category-wise details of number of applications received against CEN 01/2018, CEN 02/2018, CEN 03/2018, RPF 01/2018 (Constable) and RPF 02/2018 (SI) are as under:—

CEN No.	Number of applications received				
	UR	SC	ST	OBC	Total
01/2018	11,71,317	8,91,518	2,57,873	24,37,510	47,58,218
02/2018	45,46,202	44,41,587	13,46,652	86,48,278	1,89,82,719
03/2018	8,41,703	4,34,822	1,22,331	10,93,698	24,92,554
RPF 01/2018 (Constable)	12,86,368	14,56,841	5,57,751	26,07,921	59,08,881
RPF 02/2018 (SI)	3,14,249	3,52,630	1,26,571	6,32,305	14,25,755

(b) and (c) Exam-wise details of amount collected from payment of application fee and money refunded to the candidates after appearing for the exam are as under:—

CEN	Fee Collected (in crore ₹)	Fee Refunded (in crore ₹)	Remarks
01/2018	186.86	112.35	-
02/2018	692.71	333.46	
03/2018	97.17	42.67	-
RPF 01/2018 (Constable)	266.20	132.98	Single account number was operated for Both SI & Constable recruitment.
RPF 02/2018 (SI)			

(d) The refund could not be done due to error in bank details given by some of the candidates. To correct bank details, opportunities were given to the candidates who have appeared in 1st stage CBT. The details of number of candidates whose money has not been refunded are as under:—

CEN	No. of Candidates whose fee is not refunded
01/2018	1,32,465
02/2018	11,40,135
03/2018	1,26,220
RPF 01/2018 (Constable)	63,440
RPF 02/2018 (SI)	11,202

COVID-19 cases among railway employees

783. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the number of COVID-19 cases among various railway employees, zone- wise;

(b) the details of number of deceased due to COVID-19 among railway employees, zone-wise;

(c) whether any special compensation was given to the family of those deceased due to COVID-19;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) and (b) Detail of number of COVID-19 cases and deceased due to COVID-19 among railway employees is given below:—

Sl. No.	Name of the Zone/ Production Units	Number of COVID- 19 cases among Railway Employees (a)	Number of deceased due to COVID-19 among Railway Employees (b)
1	2	3	4
1.	Central Railway	1,323	67
2.	Eastern Railway	651	16
3.	East Central Railway	1,013	14
4.	East Coast Railway	827	10
5.	Northern Railway	1,307	17
6.	North Central Railway	342	04
7.	North Eastern Railway	803	17
8.	Northeast Frontier Railway	951	10
9.	North Western Railway	257	04
10.	Southern Railway	1,145	21
11.	South Central Railway	2,202	54
12.	South Eastern Railway	545	10
13.	South East Central Railway	363	06
14.	South Western Railway	827	13
15.	Western Railway	994	50

1	2	3	4
16.	West Central Railway	370	08
17.	Metro Railway	78	01
18.	Chittaranjan Locomotive Works	35	01
19.	Diesel Locomotive Works	77	00
20.	Diesel Loco Modernisation Works	37	00
22.	Integrated Coach Factory	422	09
22.	Rail Coach Factory	21	01
23.	Rail Wheel Factory	67	02
24.	Research Designs and Standards Organisation	39	00
25.	Modern Coach Factory	6	01
26.	Rail Wheel Plant	12	00
TOTAL		14,714	336

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Compensation to the family of deceased Railway servants who die during performance of their bonafide duties is granted in the form of ex-gratia payment as per guidelines of Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare. However, death on account of any disease is not included in these guidelines.

Abolition of posts in Railways

784. DR. SANTANU SEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways has abolished thousands of sanctioned posts of Railways in the last six years;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) the details of number of posts abolished in the last six years, year-wise; and

(d) whether there is any plan to further abolish vacant posts, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

Trains in Maharashtra

785. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new trains announced and started which originate from the State of Maharashtra during the last five years along with the details thereof;

(b) the number of new railway tracks laid or being laid in Maharashtra with special reference to Marathwada region during the said period along with the details of their progress; and

(c) the average budget expenditure on various railway projects undertaken in Maharashtra during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) Indian Railways does not run trains on State-wise basis as Railway Network straddles across State boundaries. However, during the last five years (01.04.2015 to 31.03.2020), 122 trains (in single) have been introduced serving the various stations located in the State of Maharashtra.

(b) and (c) Railway Projects are sanctioned Zonal Railway-wise; not State-wise / Region-wise as Railway Network spans across various State boundaries. However, presently, 39 projects, costing ₹86,696 crore for 6,722 km length, falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra including Marathwada, are in different stages of Planning/sanction/execution. Out of which, commissioning of 1,026 km length has been achieved and an expenditure of ₹17,841 crore has been incurred upto March, 2020.

During 2009-14, 292 km length of projects falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra, have been commissioned which increased to 596 km during 2014-19, which is 104% more than commissioning during 2009-14.

Details of all ongoing projects including cost, expenditure and outlay are made available in public domain on Indian Railways website *i.e.* www.indianrailways.gov.in >Ministry of Railways >Railway Board >About Indian Railways >Railway Board Directorates >Finance (Budget) > Pink Book (Year)> Railway wise Works, Machinery and Rolling Stock Programme (RSP).

Average annual Budget allocation on infrastructure projects and safety works, falling fully/partly in the State of Maharashtra, during 2014-19 has increased to ₹4,801 crore per year from ₹1,171 crore per year (during 2009-14), which is 310% more as compared to average annual allocation of 2009-14. The Budget outlay during 2019-20 has further increased to ₹7,281 crore, which is 522% more with respect to 2009-14.

Status of Aurangabad - Ahmednagar - Pune railway line

786. DR. BHAGWAT KARAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways has any proposal to start a railway line between Aurangabad -Ahmednagar - Pune for growth of Marathwada region of Maharashtra and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the work on the said project has been started, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken by Railways for expeditious completion of the above project in a time-bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL): (a) to (c) Survey for new lines between Aurangabad - Ahmednagar (115 km) and Ahmednagar - Pune (120 km) have been sanctioned in 2018-19. Survey works of both the projects have been taken up.

Depleting funds for MGNREGS

787. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government is drawn to the paper clipping published on 4August 2020 in a leading daily English newspaper under the heading "MGNREGS running out of funds", if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the measures being taken by Government to pump in and refurbish with the new funds for meeting the expenditure of projects taken up under MGNREGS?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Schemes (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a demand driven wage employment programme. Release of funds to States/UTs under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (Mahatma Gandhi NREGS) is a continuous process and Central Government is committed to making funds available to the States/UTs keeping in view the demand for work.

During the Financial Year 2020-21, the Budget Estimates is of ₹ 61,500 crore for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS. In order to meet additional demand for work due to return of workers from urban areas to rural areas, Government has decided to provide an additional allocation of ₹ 40,000 crore under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS, raising the total availability to ₹ 1,01,500 crore during the current financial year 2020-21. The Ministry seeks additional fund for Mahatma Gandhi NREGS as and when required for meeting the demand for work on the ground.

Non-release of central allocation under Annapurna scheme

788. SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ministry is fully responsible for Annapurna Scheme, a scheme which aims at providing food security to meet the requirement for senior citizens;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Central allocation under this scheme was not released for Odisha in FY-2019-20;

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

(e) when would the Ministry release the Central allocation of rice to the State of Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) Annapurna Scheme is a component of National Social Assistance

Programme (NSAP), implemented by Ministry of Rural Development. Under Annapurna scheme, 10 kgs of food grains (wheat or rice) is provided per month per beneficiary. The Scheme aims at providing security to meet the requirements of those eligible old age persons who have remained uncovered under the Old Age Pension Scheme. Food grains under the Annapurna scheme is allocated by the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution on the recommendation of Ministry of Rural Development (as per the food grain UC submitted by States/Union Territories and funds for availing allotted food grains are released by Ministry of Rural Development.

(c) to (e) No, Sir. During 2019-20, as per the requirement submitted by the State of Odisha, 3888.00 MT of rice was allocated to the State and ₹ 552.61 lakh was released to the State under Annapurna scheme.

**Funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under national rural /
livelihood mission**

789. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) in the country, including Telangana, during the last three years;

(b) the details of the targets set and achievements made so far under this mission;

(c) whether Government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with any NGOs under this Mission;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government would collaborate with Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP) of Telangana Government to bring more employment opportunities, especially for rural women; and

(f) if so, the response thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) The details of funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihood Mission (DAY-NRLM) in the country,

including Telangana State, during the last three years are given in the Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) The detail of target set and achievement made so far under the programme is given in the Statement-II (*See* below).

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Non-financial MoU with the following NGOs was signed, the details are as mentioned below:

Name of the NGO	Purposes	Continuing/ ended
PRADAN	Best practice documentation and action research on village livelihoods planning and supporting states in implementation of livelihoods intervention.	Continuing
TDF (Tasar Development Foundation)	For supporting states in roll out of Tasar silkworm based livelihoods interventions.	Continuing
Digital green	For developing videos and IEC material for training.	Ended
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)	To provide technical support to DAY-NRLM in the strengthening of digital design, financial inclusion, women economic empowerment, rural livelihoods and health & nutrition activities	Continuing

(e) and (f) DAY-NRLM is a flagship programme of Ministry of Rural development for 'Livelihoods' generation and promotion. Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty SERP, of Telangana Government is the implementing agency of DAY-NRLM in the Telangana State.

Statement-I*Status of Statewise Allocation, Release and Expenditure under DAY-NRLM*

(₹ in lakh)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18				2018-19**			2019-20		
		Total	Central Release		*Utilization	Total	Central Releases	*Utilization	Total	Central Releases	*Utilization
		Central Allocation	NRLM	NRLP		Central Allocation			Central Allocation		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Andhra Pradesh	6214.57	9321.86	0.00	15003.57	8638.93	11922.19	19562.52	11924.13	16652.51	7024.24
2.	Bihar	25343.75	25343.75	6503.20	60294.84	35230.54	35230.54	60615.60	48627.99	48627.97	63026.63
3.	Chhattisgarh	5629.01	8443.52	4523.34	20502.76	7824.92	10317.47	14919.80	10800.58	10763.97	20199.77
4.	Goa	300.00	150.00	0.00	0.00	300.00	150.00	0.00	400.00	200.00	213.49
5.	Gujarat	4010.20	3800.78	528.11	6118.05	5574.60	2787.30	7688.78	7694.51	7694.51	9599.35
6.	Haryana	2359.27	2282.54	0.00	3526.99	3279.64	3181.56	1997.12	4526.82	3997.97	6337.86
7.	Himachal Pradesh	993.58	748.78	0.00	590.92	1381.18	690.59	1058.93	1906.41	1454.79	1186.94
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1227.80	6590.53	0.00	7165.13	1709.40	5854.70	7873.31	2359.46	2299.09	3276.18
9.	Jharkhand	9556.09	8907.35	4396.60	20366.20	13283.99	12512.08	22200.86	18335.62	24828.75	27427.76

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
10.	Karnataka	8044.95	4022.48	582.44	5393.14	11183.34	10297.26	4965.86	15436.13	9571.50	18889.23
11.	Kerala	3609.74	5004.07	0.00	5463.76	5017.93	6925.01	11000.51	6926.15	3463.08	5562.97
12.	Madhya Pradesh	12058.92	10596.52	5082.96	22451.62	16763.19	8381.60	31968.82	23237.89	23237.89	26450.73
13.	Maharashtra	15902.89	15093.06	5731.58	30305.32	22106.73	29977.34	41804.17	30513.46	30513.46	47101.45
14.	Odisha	12185.48	12001.65	4342.20	31037.89	16939.12	20244.16	34231.20	23380.72	30686.99	48916.06
15.	Punjab	1146.58	573.29	0.00	308.93	1593.87	1380.61	1270.68	2199.98	1099.99	2676.01
16.	Rajasthan	6108.79	9110.24	2427.55	16127.98	8491.88	8442.36	13008.44	11721.17	8587.33	15273.02
17.	Tamil Nadu	9420.09	13907.84	995.73	17951.46	13094.93	17444.53	32340.38	18074.67	23260.01	27190.73
18.	Telengana	4438.98	3456.04	0.00	4982.21	6170.66	3085.33	4632.01	8517.24	6525.19	8693.71
19.	Uttar Pradesh	36486.54	27362.74	1752.06	37256.39	50720.22	39151.80	60168.39	70008.07	51115.11	91742.22
20.	Uttarakhand	1921.04	1921.04	0.00	2964.16	2670.45	3853.52	3364.80	3685.97	4643.32	5354.48
21.	West Bengal	13541.73	20164.33	4162.25	36009.06	18824.48	20978.27	34498.93	25983.03	31911.65	45090.87
22.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	100.00	99.70	0.00	0.00	100.00	150.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	104.02
23.	Daman and Diu	100.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	0.00	0.00	200.00	100.00	10.75

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[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

24.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	50.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	9.35
25.	Lakshadweep	100.00	50.00	0.00	0.00	100.00	50.00	0.00	200.00	0.00	0.00
	Ladakh										
26.	Pondicherry	400.00	327.80	0.00	0.00	400.00	306.70	0.00	600.00	558.13	451.94
27.	Arunachal Pradesh	920.00	1496.33	0.00	472.25	3177.00	2575.02	2239.01	5597.11	5181.12	3231.99
28.	Assam	9885.00	9595.10	0.00	16089.46	17694.00	19618.00	19533.94	20781.78	24015.56	24566.82
29.	Manipur	920.00	834.93	0.00	779.64	3091.94	1545.97	200.00	5447.25	2723.63	1418.98
30.	Meghalaya	1380.00	3502.80	0.00	1338.83	4944.00	4944.00	1919.68	8710.17	6295.40	7346.76
31.	Mizoram	1840.00	2991.78	0.00	1619.91	5442.38	4203.89	131.00	9588.20	7343.47	5095.00
32.	Nagaland	2760.00	1380.00	0.00	2061.86	7295.57	5475.17	2273.29	12853.08	9736.11	6862.53
33.	Sikkim	690.00	619.36	0.00	584.54	2134.00	1067.00	732.16	2948.06	1092.34	736.61
34.	Tripura	3105.00	3677.15	0.00	4075.84	8958.00	8575.63	4831.52	15705.14	10434.88	6531.48
GRAND TOTAL		202800.00	213427.36	43150.93	370842.71	304336.89	301369.60	441031.72	429290.79	408815.72	537599.93

* Utilization Against Total Available Funds which also includes State share, Opening Balance and Misc. Receipts

** NRLP is closed on 30th June, 2018 and no funds have been allocated for current financial year.

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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Statement-II*Physical progress under DAY-NRLM*

(in numbers)													
Sl. No.	State	2017-18						2018-19					
		Social mobilisation of SHGs		Total Number of SHGs provided Revolving Fund (RF)		Total Number of SHGs provided Community Investment Fund (CIF)		Social mobilisation of SHGs		Total Number of SHGs provided Revolving Fund (RF)		Total Number of SHGs provided Community Investment Fund (CIF)	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress	Target	Progress	Target	Progress	Target	Progress	Target	Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1.	Andhra Pradesh	108400	0	25000	0	4500	0	1000	0	30168	0	0	0
2.	Assam	26520	42700	23100	30007	12000	13581	59978	105055	35826	32404	13418	1 1975
3.	Bihar	85422	144293	110039	144315	71160	77221	20404 6	73730	107427	92884	90860	54972
4.	Chhattisgarh	31200	39181	15802	20795	8700	10259	35000	38476	13230	15789	5406	5346
5.	Goa	990	1231	700			300	1400	1386	1700	1351	1000	0

6.	Gujarat	11816	99704	9467	68240	7070	7436	40000	27609	1550	7477	7000	5421
7.	Jharkhand	41839	55219	34683	19340	18843	7374	68000	64626	40000	26332	10000	3859
8.	Karnataka	122640	13632	9175	1999	5410	4396	45000	65891	7500	643	10000	1422
9.	Kerala	13099	6639	11299	528	4358	227	4000	1227	3666	2367	4500	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	38778	48420	34296	21350	8875	8215	74094	47961	66532	16936	13975	3315
11.	Maharashtra	38458	69999	52698	32709	23368	8514	46154	142935	42378	54687	25000	1 1911
12.	Odisha	18335	67864	20000	16362	52500	20720	27545	40060	30572	8148	25608	13097
13.	Rajasthan	11760	23667	9650	11421	7270	8069	17331	22884	13693	14854	11678	9494
14.	Tamil Nadu	20000	15167	4000	5449	5899	13837	5000	8940	11000	12360	16000	30307
15.	Telangana	0	0	800	0	800	0	600	0	0	0	1000	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	48680	44027	40460	22457	29120	18510	52049	51479	56302	30027	38090	29362
17.	West Bengal	19640	199032	34025	86355	24000	39926	17257 8	251808	154358	46461	32168	18158
18.	Haryana	5500	5900	5000	3905	1350	801	12500	13392	12000	5793	7500	3401
19.	Himachal Pradesh	2523	1410	2500	917	1300	139	2500	4088	3000	1171	1500	73
20.	Jammu and Kashmir	7880	8009	7086	6117	6676	5664	13453	12021	14106	8296	11856	6525
21.	Punjab	5215	2790	4761	1212	1751	164	4525	2793	3864	1803	1598	940

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
22.	Uttarakhand	7050	6802	5500	5233	1500	1572	8000	10849	7550	5994	2775	1979
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	1771	1025	1231	402	465	36	1355	1078	950	1061	327	
24.	Manipur	1410	749	1168	352	970	10	1600	430	1277	0	1394	104
25.	Meghalaya	2676	2322	2692	635	1784	203	32404	5289	3350	3161	2010	1265
26.	Mizoram	13052	1552	1259	1514	882	877	1300	961	1383	1303	1530	815
27.	Nagaland	4150	1454	3862	912	1250	242	3500	2414	4000	1248	1500	267
28.	Sikkim	1341	506	1341	229	1200	644	391	178	931	327	1062	459
29.	Tripura	1505	1713	1828	1599	1046	695	5000	4172	2500	2781	2000	1348
30.	Andaman and Nicobar		298				0	500	364	300	322	80	61
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli		18				0	680	287	300	21	150	0
32.	Daman and Diu		82				0	190	76	155	83	100	0
33.	Lakshadweep		119					200	45	238	138	150	0
34.	Puducherry	0	509	0		0	180	664	181	300	324	1100	888
TOTAL		691650	906033	473422	504354	304347	249512	913373	1002685	6721063	396546	342335	216766

320 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

Sl. No.	State	2019-20					
		Social mobilisation of SHGs		Total Number of SHGs provided Revolving Fund (RF)		Total Number of SHGs provided Community Investment Fund (CIF)	
		Target	Progress	Target	Progress	Target	Progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	10000	0	11000	0	0	0
2.	Assam	39876	46683	30000	35889	21300	22332
3.	Bihar	80000	54914	100619	55819	145900	38496
4.	Chhattisgarh	35000	36789	22000	20294	10000	6532
5.	Goa	400	139	1145	152	288	0
6.	Gujarat	13240	13619	1860	3724	11160	2001
7.	Jharkhand	56303	50291	100000	23736	8000	205
8.	Karnataka	30000	29846	25000	920	15000	10469
9.	Kerala	6500	3199	18685	31	529	0
10.	Madhya Pradesh	50000	43753	40000	32727	25000	8077

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Maharashtra	130012	162468	88763	64693	25012	10045
12.	Odisha	49204	61201	10000	104	31046	17359
13.	Rajasthan	55083	55578	41500	21136	16900	13016
14.	Tamil Nadu	5000	12634	7000	5515	15000	13231
15.	Telangana	1000	1	0	0	1000	0
16.	Uttar Pradesh	93379	136437	65000	62084	39500	51448
17.	West Bengal	76114	209875	133627	95580	52684	19981
18.	Haryana	20000	13087	10000	9638	8000	2575
19.	Himachal Pradesh	2580	2915	3900	2567	860	155
20.	Jammu and Kashmir	4100	4494	0	5832	0	3040
21.	Punjab	10040	8142	5951	4272	3951	871
22.	Uttarakhand	10000	8312	8500	5813	10000	4621
23.	Arunachal Pradesh	2252	672	1225	625	1875	241
24.	Manipur	5080	419	4155	372	2860	209
25.	Meghalaya	10200	10810	5800	6022	3204	1317

322 Written Answers to

[RAJYA SABHA]

Unstarred Questions

26.	Mizoram	945	752	1311	602	749	570
27.	Nagaland	5500	2896	6000	1664	2707	634
28.	Sikkim	62	1402	465	106	845	64
29.	Tripura	6000	4636	3800	2563	2465	1231
30.	Andaman	250	188	350	33	50	0
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	800	4	800	21	100	0
32.	Daman and Diu	120	30	150	0	15	0
33.	Lakshadweep	180	0	180	0	214	0
34.	Puducherry	950	131	800	0	765	23
TOTAL		810170	976317	749585.9	462534	456979	228743

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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Housing units under PMAY-G in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

790. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

SHRI VAIKO:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of housing units constructed or proposed to be constructed in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu under the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) for the last five years;
- (b) the details of the housing units allotted so far;
- (c) the budget sanctioned for the same;
- (d) whether the amount allocated by the Central Government has been utilized completely; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) In order to achieve the objective of "Housing for All" by 2022, the erstwhile rural housing scheme Indira Awaas Yojana (IAY) has been restructured into Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) with effect from 1st April, 2016. The State of Telangana had been allocated a total target of 70,674 houses for the financial years 2016-17 and 2017-18 under PMAY-G and accordingly, an amount of ₹ 19078.865 lakh as Central Share of 1st installment for the financial year 2016-17 was released in 2016-17 and 2017-18. However, the State of Telangana did not implement the PMAY-G Scheme and did not populate any figures in the PMAY-G MIS, AwaasSoft till date. The Empowered Committee in its meeting held on 03.10.2018 had discussed the matter and decided that since the State of Telangana is not implementing PMAY-G Scheme and also unable to populate the progress on AwaasSoft MIS, the State may refund the amount of ₹ 19078.865 lakh to the Ministry of Rural Development.

The details of targets allocated by the Ministry, houses sanctioned, houses completed and proposed to be constructed/completed in respect of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu States since 2016-17 to 2020-21 are given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(c) to (e) Budget allocation, Central releases and utilization figures in respect of the two States *viz.* Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu under PMAY-G are given in the Statement-II (*See below*). The State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu

have reported that Permanent Wait List of PMAY-G have been exhausted. However, they are yet to formally remove all the ineligible entries.

Statement-I

Details of Target allocated, Houses sanctioned by the State, houses completed and proposed to be constructed till date under PMAY-G

(units in No.)

Year	Andhra Pradesh				Tamil Nadu			
	Target Allocated by MoRD (1)	Houses sanctioned by the State (2)	Houses completed (3)	Proposed to be constructed 4= (1-3) (4)	Target Allocated by MoRD (5)	Houses sanctioned by the State (6)	Houses completed (7)	Proposed to be constructed 8= (5-7) (8)
2016-17	75054	61516	40101	34953	176338	176338	134390	41948
2017-18	48058	10160	6622	41436	130214	130214	86473	43741
2018-19	0	0	0	0	21000	20999	10434	10566
2019-20	0*	0	0	0	200000	71617	24643	175357
2020-21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL				0				0

* The State of Andhra Pradesh had surrendered 92,646 houses (44,846 houses pertaining to PMAY-G for the FYs 2016-17 and 2017-18, targets were not allocated during 2018-19 and 47,800 houses for the FY 2019-20).

Source: AwaasSoft as on 15.09.2020

Statement-II

Details of Budget sanctioned, central release and utilization of funds till date under PMAY-G

(₹ in lakh)

Financial Year	Andhra Pradesh			Tamil Nadu		
	Budget Allocation	Central Releases	Utilization*	Budget Allocation	Central Releases	Utilization*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2016-17	56200.25	21007.86	0	132041.91	9702.15	2.08
2017-18	35985.83	35207.89	26446.59	97504.24	74848.47	93907.83

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
2018-19	0	18605.43	26455.21	15724.8	50279.81	135368.17
2019-20	0	0	976.19	144000	48752.12	97507.05
2020-21	0	0	0	0	0	27388.64
TOTAL	92186.08	74821.18	53877.99	389271	183582.55	354173.77

* Utilisation includes previous year's balance, Central Share, State Share, Misc. receipts and interest accrued etc.

Source: Report of Awaasoft as on 15.09.2020.

Rise in number of households under MGNREGA

791. SHRI RIPUN BORA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as many as 145 million households had applied for work under the MGNREGA between April to July, compared to 90 million households during the same period last year, signifying a rise of nearly 60 per cent;

(b) if so, the number of beneficiaries and/or people employed upto 31 August, 2020 therein; and

(c) the proposal of Government to employ all applicants and the time frame therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) and (b) The details of demand of works by households under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA) during current FY 2020-21 is given below:—

No. of Household demanded Employment under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA

FY	April	May	June	July	Total Demand of 4 months
2020-21	1,28,48,220	3,61,79,489	4,39,76,638	3,17,72,015	12,47,76,362
2019-20	2,11,51,702	2,49,00,970	2,55,74,404	1,83,15,006	8,99,42,082
% Increase					38.73%

Number of beneficiaries provided employment under Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA) during the current FY 2020-21 upto 31.08.2020 is 8,13,67,966.

(c) The mandate of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005 (Mahatma Gandhi NREGA) is to guarantee 100 days of wage employment in a financial year to every rural household whose adult member volunteers to do unskilled manual work. Before the commencement of new financial year, a shelf of works is prepared by the states/UTs keeping the anticipated demand for jobs under the scheme and the shelf of works is revised upwards, depending upon the demand of jobs in the field.

The beneficiaries are entitled for unemployment allowance from the concerned State, if they are not provided employment within stipulated time of 15 days of receipt of their application seeking employment or from the date on which employment has been sought in case of an advance application, whichever is later.

Job cards to migrant labourers and employed workers

†792. SHRI P.L. PUNIA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether job cards have been issued to migrant labourers and employed workers in the country during lockdown, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) the total number of days of employment provided and total wages given to the migrant labourers and employed workers during lockdown, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) whether it is a fact that besides migrant labourers, persons such as skilled labourers, managers and supervisors working in the companies too, are involved in working under MGNREGA, if so, the details of payment made to them and the numbers thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment scheme. Every adult member of a household in a rural area, having job card (as per Mahatma Gandhi NREG Act), is eligible for a demand for a job under the scheme. There is no

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

provision to register a Job card holder categorised as migrant labourers/ family in the job card in the scheme. A job card can be issued to a migrant labour/family as per the provision of the Act against a demand by the migrant labour/family. A total of 86,81,928 new job card during the current FY so far, has been issued as compared to 36,64,368 new job card issued during the same period of the FY 2019-20. The details of job card issued is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) State-wise details of persondays generated and total wage expenditure during 1st April to 12th September, 2020 under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(c) Mahatma Gandhi NREGS is a demand driven wage employment scheme. The Act mandates to provide for the enhancement of livelihood security of the household in rural areas of the country by assuring upto one hundred days of guaranteed wage employment in every financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual works. The adult member of every household residing in any rural area and willing to do unskilled manual work may submit the names, age and the address of the household to the Gram Panchayat at the village level, in whose jurisdiction they reside, for registration of their household for issuance of a job card. No data of past employment history is maintained under Mahatma Gandhi NREGS.

Statement-I

No. of Jobs Cards issued from 1st April to 12th September

Sl. No.	State	2019-20	2020-21
1.	Andaman And Nicobar Islands	276	408
2.	Andhra Pradesh	79,241	3,97,519
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	10,291	12,584
4.	Assam	2,19,121	1,49,654
5.	Bihar	6,91,562	11,76,084
6.	Chhattisgarh	83,256	2,44,900
7.	Goa	29	178
8.	Gujarat	1,01,630	1,77,842
9.	Haryana	25,686	71,391

Sl. No.	State	2019-20	2020-21
10.	Himachal Pradesh	15,638	43,104
11.	Jammu and Kashmir	28,817	31,537
12.	Jharkhand	1,91,898	4,06,278
13.	Karnataka	2,17,125	4,15,482
14.	Kerala	72,289	98,610
15.	Lakshadweep	5	5
16.	Madhya Pradesh	2,10,579	5,87,548
17.	Maharashtra	1,10,769	1,27,521
18.	Manipur	5,382	9,152
19.	Meghalaya	23,218	21,617
20.	Mizoram	6,722	7,428
21.	Nagaland	8,610	3,413
22.	Odisha	2,39,286	4,50,955
23.	Puducherry	1,109	3,324
24.	Punjab	95,650	1,02,950
25.	Rajasthan	2,42,157	6,76,309
26.	Sikkim	1,181	1,400
27.	Tamil Nadu	1,59,143	2,74,719
28.	Telangana	70,295	2,12,966
29.	Tripura	7,705	11,657
30.	Uttar Pradesh	4,89,013	21,45,346
31.	Uttarakhand	19,320	59,977
32.	West Bengal	2,37,365	7,01,677
TOTAL		36,64,368	86,23,535

Statement-II

*Employment Generated and Wage Expenditure in FY 2020-21 from
1st April to 12th Sep. 2020*

Sl. No.	State/UT	Persondays Generated (in lakh)	Wage Expenditure (in ₹ lakh)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2043.16	460685.03
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	55.46	20362.46
3.	Assam	243.23	51455.38
4.	Bihar	1119.80	213347.56
5.	Chhattisgarh	961.71	178460.76
6.	Goa	0.23	64.12
7.	Gujarat	317.99	61948.79
8.	Haryana	80.79	24911.56
9.	Himachal Pradesh	159.23	31826.31
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	95.79	51153.89
11.	Jharkhand	419.74	79587.43
12.	Karnataka	835.09	221635.84
13.	Kerala	317.86	93230.3
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1625.51	291209.07
15.	Maharashtra	312.84	67698.88
16.	Manipur	107.57	36911.13
17.	Meghalaya	125.90	26974.84
18.	Mizoram	116.82	26315.5
19.	Nagaland	104.72	11629.66

1	2	3	4
20.	Odisha	925.54	203730.77
21.	Punjab	151.06	38450.21
22.	Rajasthan	2707.38	445104.7
23.	Sikkim	17.74	3764.19
24.	Tamil Nadu	1418.51	260040.03
25.	Telangana	1216.54	196679.54
26.	Tripura	189.95	35200.16
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2303.42	456499.61
28.	Uttarakhand	127.90	26003.17
29.	West Bengal	2091.69	401041.36
30.	Andaman and Nicobar	0.91	494.98
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.00	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0.00	0
33.	Lakshadweep	0.01	1.95
34.	Puducherry	8.83	1863.14
TOTAL		20,202.92	40,18,282.32

Effect of COVID-19 on employment under MGNREGA

793. SHRI DEREK O' BRIEN: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise details of total persons employed under MGNREGA from April to August, for the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether there has been a drop in average persondays generated under MGNREGA due to the COVID-19 pandemic and if so, the details thereof;

(c) the year-wise details of total work demanded under MGNREGA from April to August, for the last three years, State-wise; and

(d) the average persondays generated per year per person for the last three years, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) State-wise details of total persons employed under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA from April to August, during the last three years is given in the Statement-I (*See below*).

(b) No, Sir. On the contrary, there has been an increase of 52.11% in total employment generation during April to August 2020 as against the same during April to August 2019 under the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA as detailed below:

Comparison of Total Persondays Generated

Month	2019	2020
April to August	131,21,07,913	199,59,85,122

(c) Year-wise and State-wise details of total work demand by the households under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA from April to August, for the last three years and current financial year during April to August are given in the Statement-II (*See below*).

(d) State-wise details of average person-days generated per year per person for the last 3 years are given in the Statement-III.

Statement-I*Details of number of Persons employed under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA*

Number of Persons employed under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA

Sl.No	State/ UT	April			May			June			July			August		
		FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
		2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1.	Andaman and Nicobar	2327	1469	1332	2923	2087	2020	1867	1350	1962	1931	1722	2391	1246	1682	2225
2.	Andhra Pradesh	3066470	3603852	3795004	4449930	4649635	4707541	3805935	4187017	3974149	1972106	2485306	2001055	907417	1363172	798414
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	48955	13655	4008	27074	14912	11551	20318	22098	41026	11768	18886	41785	8724	22976	48524
4.	Assam	456192	391144	789261	769207	584614	1143433	661666	606477	959545	390071	403457	553241	389920	500114	443407
5.	Bihar	883314	1011841	1276416	1562935	1607924	1487990	1822096	1820841	1580926	640962	708019	831133	263445	416019	532706
6.	Chhattisgarh	1899707	2383571	2402013	2467240	2900113	2661007	1948081	2298134	2265885	439553	429803	460043	345446	420244	234166
7.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Goa	901	63	27	1010	140	50	2355	185	112	3231	95	18	2793	99	36

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
10.	Gujarat	337868	312237	424847	737191	764691	687834	613578	701989	558323	191582	228554	199575	216225	163110	104907
11.	Haryana	54272	43421	28449	145931	109357	43223	190856	102223	141166	126494	63505	131136	123677	71373	125730
12.	Himachal Pradesh	126237	200916	206869	215937	257659	200821	204741	263363	231058	203844	224161	198110	163210	162812	167542
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	53315	80695	106942	85330	113273	105063	98534	101079	62558	131577	102376	71777	153465	165684	48519
14.	Jharkhand	833335	616290	721194	904284	742164	690098	876981	788136	673083	737713	700034	624241	630027	518181	612755
15.	Karnataka	902566	539036	1295961	1338900	647406	1665653	1426755	792172	1626567	1361195	899724	1583566	974206	914537	1051632
16.	Kerala	61373	233005	317692	238940	482605	651021	346716	694932	788045	390995	980424	927536	555275	836979	961515
17.	Lakshadweep	0	77	5	0	84	2	0	34	0	0	62	6	50	43	24
18.	Madhya Pradesh	1768000	1415991	2082905	2940826	1896423	2502578	3240036	2905097	2546551	1997485	2385050	1654895	1330517	1743381	1171877
19.	Maharashtra	1228551	1426793	890153	1466799	1659136	1218593	1239737	1279295	1178332	523469	602716	502426	479274	460590	367712
20.	Manipur	25726	10398	25287	11340	1613	8167	38733	645	57605	111256	163748	83095	111262	220591	295675
21.	Meghalaya	24384	46550	43698	71668	60043	58587	123462	95916	83703	151206	155636	162197	177009	175100	205120
22.	Mizoram	185879	187515	179421	186200	187880	185617	185775	188085	192311	186049	177434	174986	186204	123048	194602
23.	Nagaland	369019	190639	25884	355742	85409	68249	291666	63352	86060	83228	81555	30214	19574	65066	42163
24.	Odisha	792866	961052	641317	1165453	1347560	940399	1213235	1383523	905371	986390	806997	603213	951232	728089	574957
25.	Puducherry	4514	2346	1853	25316	3622	6086	27145	15544	17600	22702	24997	27240	8176	17722	24956

26.	Punjab	107399	121504	218486	383937	269443	329147	363598	273745	381308	214644	176926	361788	289879	196888	340285
27.	Rajasthan	2417758	2150832	3885471	3729856	1984875	4423525	3584562	3184797	4375614	1668917	2430090	2553831	888550	1693973	1514306
28.	Sikkim	15621	22799	10290	11233	19153	18448	14382	18716	16684	30666	28265	22487	34791	32272	24006
29.	Tamil Nadu	2319882	716493	2971541	3368106	704684	3487229	4242321	1229218	3666702	3834245	2215997	3699374	3197790	3699418	3849437
30.	Telangana	2232673	2462019	2323399	3244247	3227993	2911464	2257418	1861021	1911546	829903	796566	673283	574564	516470	470312
31.	Tripura	4406	41956	9942	93335	197034	330607	273365	291241	509626	344411	278487	434860	446308	301557	355335
32.	Uttar Pradesh	677170	1174220	1303447	2096598	2471815	1660085	2752587	2918532	2741218	1922234	2172298	2489365	1225560	1229630	2069644
33.	Uttarakhand	141079	179981	161742	177508	192990	131590	179784	178674	107623	183146	160750	117265	173434	144924	133015
34.	West Bengal	1484060	1046283	824487	3078343	1463732	1172279	3779337	2940137	1439203	2626641	2749528	760397	1409165	2240639	572428
GRAND TOTAL		22525819	21588643	26969343	35353339	28650069	33509957	35827622	31207568	33121462	22319614	22653168	21976529	16238415	19146383	17337932

Written Answers to

[18 September, 2020]

Unstarred Questions

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Statement-II*Households Demanded Work during April to August*

State/ UT	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Andhra Pradesh	13836664	14604365	14946516	18287498
Arunachal Pradesh	153415	120615	155180	345883
Assam	1812016	1783947	2799618	2185710
Bihar	4201724	4754545	4998313	7757063
Chhattisgarh	4046610	4761754	4618844	6693950
Goa	10222	664	240	2429
Gujarat	1336034	1397365	1260714	2067971
Haryana	451297	280937	337854	812692
Himachal Pradesh	758692	924069	834542	1047052
Jammu and Kashmir	334848	364274	244830	499498
Jharkhand	3035250	2660664	2702801	3717152
Karnataka	3074853	2197811	4210297	5405606
Kerala	1363632	2721665	3113782	3175166
Madhya Pradesh	6566370	6396736	6217251	10236815
Maharashtra	2633041	2938559	2316532	2286280
Manipur	297633	427430	487024	787445
Meghalaya	421198	404373	419984	717971
Mizoram	916234	866565	927210	993705
Nagaland	1157839	775670	320395	1225385
Odisha	3004413	3163812	2308944	5819241
Punjab	1113524	885843	1403101	1558061
Rajasthan	9187934	8695916	12987203	16686083
Sikkim	95052	106754	83160	118031

State/ UT	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21
Tamil Nadu	15381026	7949448	16225217	15616739
Telangana	7660698	7153841	7473264	3959176
Tripura	1022844	1012880	1422730	1607833
Uttar Pradesh	6983545	7973655	8372443	21699367
Uttarakhand	676765	674403	504984	950880
West Bengal	8745997	7174070	3289293	12569705
Andaman and Nicobar	9039	6917	8285	9730
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	52	303	37	98
Puducherry	79380	59047	70455	140710
TOTAL	10,03,67,841	9,32,38,897	10,50,61,043	14,89,80,925

Statement-III*Average Persondays generated per person*

State/ UT	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
Andhra Pradesh	32	35	30
Arunachal Pradesh	28	40	47
Assam	18	21	22
Bihar	30	36	36
Chhattisgarh	28	30	29
Goa	15	12	19
Gujarat	25	27	26
Haryana	22	23	25
Himachal Pradesh	32	38	36

State/ UT	FY 2017-18	FY 2018-19	FY 2019-20
Jammu and Kashmir	36	37	34
Jharkhand	31	33	36
Karnataka	22	26	27
Kerala	42	57	48
Madhya Pradesh	26	30	31
Maharashtra	26	25	22
Manipur	11	20	39
Meghalaya	49	50	51
Mizoram	69	89	92
Nagaland	44	31	32
Odisha	24	24	29
Punjab	27	24	25
Rajasthan	36	39	40
Sikkim	46	46	43
Tamil Nadu	34	39	38
Telangana	26	27	26
Tripura	24	34	43
Uttar Pradesh	30	34	37
Uttarakhand	33	34	31
West Bengal	38	45	34
Andaman and Nicobar	22	27	31
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
Daman and Diu	0	0	0
Lakshadweep	41	39	34
Puducherry	17	18	17

Considerations under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana

794. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether on the basis of geography and related factors, considerations are made in the allotment of the budget for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the manner in which Government would ensure a fair distribution of funds under the scheme, given that roads in various regions are comparatively more prone to damage caused by natural factors?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI NARENDRA SINGH TOMAR): (a) to (c) The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched, as a one-time special intervention, with the objective to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations of designated population size (500+ in plain areas and 250+ in North-Eastern States, Himalayan States, Deserts and Tribal Areas as per 2001 census) in the core network for uplifting the socio-economic condition of the rural population. Hence, the primary objective of the scheme was to provide all-weather road connectivity to eligible un-connected habitations. No physical targets in terms of Kilometers or financial targets or allocations were fixed for states. The fund allocation to states has been made in subsequent years commensurate with the value of projects sanctioned to states.

The Government of India subsequently launched PMGSY-II in 2013 for upgradation of 50,000 kms of existing rural road network to improve its overall efficiency and PMGSY-III in 2019 for consolidation of 1,25,000 km Through Routes and Major Rural Links connecting habitations, *inter-alia*, to Gramin Agricultural Markets (GrAMs), Higher Secondary Schools and Hospitals. For each of the above two verticals of PMGSY, state-wise physical targets have been allocated and requisite central share of funds are provided to states based on the value of projects sanctioned to states to construct the allocated length.

Rural roads under PMGSY are constructed and maintained as per the technical specifications and geometric design standards given in the Ministry of Rural Development Specifications for Rural Roads, Rural Roads Manual of the Indian Roads Congress (IRC) (IRC-SP:20) and also, where required, the Hill Road Manual (IRC:SP:48)

and other relevant IRC Codes and Manuals. The choice of design and surface for the road is determined, *inter-alia*, by factors like traffic, soil type and rainfall, following the technical specifications laid down in the Guidelines for the design of flexible pavements for low volume rural roads (IRC: SP: 72-2015 or IRC: 37-1018, as applicable) and guidelines for design of rigid pavements (IRC: SP: 62-2014). .

The works under the scheme are sanctioned by the Ministry based on the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) submitted by the respective State Governments. In preparation of DPRs, the State Governments factor into the cost necessitated due to physical and environmental factors such as, topography, soil type, climate, traffic density, rainfall and also considering the requirements of cross drainage (CD) works, drains, and protection works as per site duly following the technical specifications prescribed by the IRC and Ministry of Rural Development. The geography and related factors are, thus, taken into account at the time of preparing the cost estimates for the individual road work. As targets are allocated on the basis of eligible habitations in case of PMGSY-I, and on the basis of length of roads in case of PMGSY-II and III, there is no adverse consequence in terms of fund allocation to states based on geography and related factors.

As a measure of special dispensation, the Union Government bears 90% of the project cost in respect of projects sanctioned under the scheme in North-Eastern and Himalayan States, whereas for other states the Union Government bears 60% of the cost.

Change in skill development programmes post COVID-19

795. SHRI MALLIKARJUN KHARGE: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to ensure that people get proper skill training in the midst of COVID-19 lockdown;
- (b) whether Government has any data on as to how many people trained, so far, under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) are currently employed;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps being taken to ensure employability of people trained under PMKVY; and
- (e) the manner in which Government proposes to change the skill development programmes in a post-COVID world?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) and (e) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is imparting on-line skilling through 'e-SkillIndia' platform in the midst of COVID-19 lockdown. Further, Ministry of Home Affairs has permitted the conduct of skill training programmes in physical form from September 21, 2020 onwards. Accordingly, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) has been issued by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) for restarting the training.

(b) and (c) Under PMKVY, as on 17.03.2020, 42.02 lakh and 33.66 lakh candidates have been trained and certified, respectively, under Short Term Training (STT) courses. Out of these certified candidates, 17.54 lakh candidates have been provided with placement. Also, 49.12 lakh candidates who already have the informal skills but are not formally certified have been oriented under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) component of the scheme.

(d) Various initiatives have been taken to enhance placement of the certified candidates. Some of the major initiatives are as follows:

- Training Providers/ Training Centres (TPs/TCs) have to organize Rozgar Melas with the support of Sector Skill Councils;
- Last tranche of payment (*i.e.* 20% of total training funds) to TPs/TCs is based on placement of certified candidates;
- Additional incentives are given to TPs/TCs for placing candidates above the minimum required level;
- Allocation of fresh targets to TPs/TCs is based on their placement performance.

Skill development and entrepreneurship for tea plantation/tea garden

796. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether skill development and entrepreneurship is required with regard to Tea Plantation/ Plantation / Tea Garden;

(b) whether Skill Development Centres have been established in North Bengal with regard to Tea Plantation/Tea Garden; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) Yes Madam. Skill development and entrepreneurship are required in the tea industry, especially in the light of the fact that industry is seeing a shift from large tea estates to small scale individual ownership. Skill Training helps in improving productivity and reducing wastage, thus enhancing quality production. Re-skilling and up-skilling of tea plantation workers also help in improving knowledge on plants, spraying of medicines and examination of the soil.

(b) and (c) While Agriculture Sector Skill Council of India has developed a Qualification Pack for training tea plantation works, no separate skill development centres has been established in North Bengal with regard to tea plantation/tea garden. However, under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana [PMKVY 2.0-2016-20], training has been provided to 5620 candidates so far under Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) for Tea Plantation workers in North Bengal as per details given below:—

Sl. No.	District	Number of persons given training under RPL
1.	Alipurduar	917
2.	Cooch Behar	515
3.	Darjeeling	32
4.	Uttar Dinajpur	224
5.	Jalpaiguri	3,932
TOTAL		5,620

Online courses for skill development

797. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the measures being taken by the Ministry to ensure that skill development courses start again post the withdrawal on nationwide lockdown;

(b) whether the Ministry proposes to expand the scope of skill development programme, considering the unprecedented health crisis; and

(c) the online courses that have been undertaken to impart upskilling during the nationwide lockdown?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, at the instance of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship,

has issued a Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on 8th September 2020 to ensure resumption of training activities post Covid-19 lockdown in skill and entrepreneurship training institutes including Industrial Technical Institutes (ITIs) and Short Term Training Centres under National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) or State Skill Development Missions or other Central or State Ministries /Departments, National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) and their training partners. The SOP outlines various generic precautionary measures to be adopted in addition to specific measures to be taken at these Institutes to prevent spread of Covid-19.

(b) COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated change in workplace dynamics that was already happening due to automation and artificial intelligence and changing workplace roles. The need has now emerged for skilling/reskilling/upskilling in all sector including health sector where courses are developed in areas like telemedicine, sanitization etc.

(c) The Ministry through its online portal BharatSkills which provides courseware for 29 popular courses, e-learning video content for 71 courses and Question Bank for all the 137 trades under Craftsmen Training Scheme (CTS) for ITIs including other National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) aligned courses, has conducted online training programme during lockdown benefitting 9,38,851 trainees. Further, another 1,31,241 trainees have availed online training facilities through BharatSkill Mobile App. Similarly, National Instructional Media Institute (NIMI), an autonomous body under the Ministry, has conducted 3080 online classes benefitting 16,55,953 trainees. Besides, the Industrial partners of the Directorate General of Training (DGT) under the Ministry viz; Quest Alliance, IBM, Nasscom-Microsoft and CISCO have conducted online training having 1,84,296 participants. In addition to the above, 16,767 exclusive online classes for 35 CTS trades and 34 Craft Instructors Training Scheme (CITS) running across 33 National Skill Training Institutes have been conducted. In short term training, a very large number of trainees under NSDC Skilling ecosystem have utilised the services of its eSkill India -an eLearning portal, which leverages technology in continuing the skilling momentum and enables skill seekers accelerate their learning through methods like virtual learning and remote classroom.

Establishing international skill hubs in eastern States of India

†798. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the type of skill training planned in the proposed international skill hub in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Goa and the initiatives being taken by Government for providing basic framework and necessary assistance for it; and

(b) whether Government would consider establishing more such types of skill hubs in the States of Eastern India, including Jharkhand, which have tendency of migration, if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) The Directorate of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of Goa entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), an organization under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) for Technical Assistance for the International Skill Hub on 11th August, 2020. The Government of Goa plans to conduct fee based and Government supported Short Term Training programmes in Healthcare sector and later on in Hospitality, IT-ITes job roles. NSDC is providing technical support for development of standards and protocols for selection of Training Agency, framework for National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) compliant infrastructure and courses, management of the project.

(b) The Skill India Mission works towards providing high quality skill training to youth of the nation for employment in national and international market by working in close collaboration with the State Governments, private agencies and other stakeholders across the country. State Governments including Government of Jharkhand may adopt a similar approach as mentioned above to establish International Skill Hub specifically focusing on aspirations of the youth and market demand. On such projects technical assistance and support is provided by MSDE and NSDC on request from the State Govt.

Status of skill development in the country

799. DR. SASMIT PATRA: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) the number of youth who have been skilled through the skill development programme over the past three years; and

(b) the year-wise and State-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is implementing a flagship scheme known

as Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana-2016-20 (PMKVY 2.0) across the country with the objective to impart short duration skill development training. Under PMKVY 2.0, in the last three years, as on 17.03.2020, 88.91 lakh candidates have been trained / oriented across the country. The State-wise and year-wise number of candidates trained/oriented in the last three years under PMKVY 2.0 (Short term training and Recognition of prior learning) is given in the Statement-I (See below).

In addition to above short-term training, Directorate General of Training (DGT) under MSDE is implementing long duration vocational courses through Industrial Training Institutes (ITI) which offer range of one or two years' vocational /skill training courses. The State-wise and year-wise number of trainees enrolled under ITIs is given in the Statement-II.

Statement-I

State-wise and year-wise number of candidates trained/oriented during last three years under PMKVY 2.0 (Short term training and Recognition of prior learning)

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	74	1,274
2.	Andhra Pradesh	58,368	64,421	98,740
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	1,022	4,598	15,951
4.	Assam	37,873	50,549	1,94,434
5.	Bihar	92,087	88,099	1,76,394
6.	Chandigarh	1,925	5,463	12,227
7.	Chhattisgarh	23,095	42,905	40,571
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	186	1,746	1,108
9.	Daman and Diu	240	1,630	4,857
10.	Delhi	88,646	84,379	3,88,239
11.	Goa	846	1,764	4,119
12.	Gujarat	32,897	86,534	1,47,019
13.	Haryana	1,87,246	1,18,814	1,89,170
14.	Himachal Pradesh	16,939	32,409	43,097
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	44,873	36,588	1,20,495

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
16.	Jharkhand	31,352	37,317	71,983
17.	Karnataka	72,393	1,13,611	1,71,035
18.	Kerala	65,594	41,339	71,654
19.	Lakshadweep	0	0	60
20.	Madhya Pradesh	1,89,634	1,56,669	2,03,996
21.	Maharashtra	97,621	1,69,533	6,78,328
22.	Manipur	4,894	4,430	29,685
23.	Meghalaya	4,058	7,543	12,307
24.	Mizoram	0	2,855	11,326
25.	Nagaland	1,745	1,510	16,599
26.	Odisha	66,260	93,258	2,15,566
27.	Puducherry	3,451	6,328	7,324
28.	Punjab	1,03,130	65,260	1,07,677
29.	Rajasthan	2,14,911	1,42,535	4,60,214
30.	Sikkim	525	1,968	5,017
31.	Tamil Nadu	1,33,589	1,27,850	1,73,156
32.	Telangana	91,424	58,627	1,02,063
33.	Tripura	13,334	7,741	47,606
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3,56,769	3,10,144	5,67,274
35.	Uttarakhand	27,769	47,241	63,148
36.	West Bengal	91,142	81,565	1,84,356
TOTAL		21,55,838	20,97,297	46,38,069

Statement-II*State-wise and year-wise number of trainees enrolled under ITIs*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	355	385	441
2.	Andhra Pradesh	52736	60339	55446

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	598	648	566
4.	Assam	2697	2827	3611
5.	Bihar	100370	107603	111670
6.	Chandigarh	1070	907	1043
7.	Chhattisgarh	17638	21838	22077
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	114	116	112
9.	Daman and Diu	223	207	152
10.	Delhi	8624	13177	10559
11.	Goa	2081	1913	1837
12.	Gujarat	71994	92082	70967
13.	Haryana	44410	68440	55822
14.	Himachal Pradesh	20712	21556	21726
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	2721	2847	5040
16.	Jharkhand	29413	29972	33475
17.	Karnataka	72275	81893	74342
18.	Kerala	29625	38411	36004
19.	Lakshadweep	87	87	268
20.	Madhya Pradesh	57154	82703	71685
21.	Maharashtra	118050	122219	111909
22.	Manipur	122	117	88
23.	Meghalaya	568	683	613
24.	Mizoram	421	443	329
25.	Nagaland	111	168	265
26.	Odisha	48508	51337	49984
27.	Puducherry	1038	943	858
28.	Punjab	37193	41934	40309

Sl. No.	State/UT	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
29.	Rajasthan	135447	125527	157181
30.	Sikkim	339	401	216
31.	Tamil Nadu	38443	42934	36470
32.	Telangana	33732	36242	32687
33.	Tripura	1504	2792	1745
34.	Uttar Pradesh	247784	355399	371103
35.	Uttarakhand	10558	12879	10877
36.	West Bengal	28933	33461	32762
TOTAL		1217648	1455430	1424239

Skill training of youth due to pandemic

800. DR. AMAR PATNAIK: Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there are any measures to estimate the number of youth who may require skill training due to unforeseen unemployment in the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (b) whether there are any plans to launch skill trainings for the afore-mentioned youth; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (SHRI RAJ KUMAR SINGH): (a) to (c) Based on the data of reverse migrants as compiled by Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) has formulated a plan for skill training of reverse migrant under PMKVY2.0 (2016-20) for 116 districts of 6 States as identified under Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan (GKRA). Under this plan, target of training 3 lakh candidates (1.5 lakh each for Short Term Training and Recognition of Prior Learning) has been allocated to 116 districts of 6 States namely; Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.

MATTERS RAISED WITH PERMISSION**Need to review the Census data on minority community in Odisha**

श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान (ओडिशा): सभापति महोदय, मैं सेंसस के बारे में जानना चाहता हूँ कि ओडिशा में जो माइनोंरिटी का सेंसस होता है। मैं पिछले चालीस साल से सुन रहा हूँ कि दो परसेंट या तीन परसेंट माइनोंरिटीज़ हैं।

श्री सभापति: प्लीज़, आप लोग आपस में बात मत कीजिए। अगर बात करनी है तो बाहर जाकर आपस में बात करके वापस आइए, if you are having any problems. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री मुजीबुल्ला खान: सभापति महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि माइनोंरिटीज़ का जो सेंसस है, जो जनसंख्या है, वह सिर्फ दो-तीन परसेंट ही बतायी जा रही है। ऐसा तो हो ही नहीं सकता। मुझे लगता है कि ज़रूर सेंसस में कुछ प्रॉब्लम है, जो rectify होनी चाहिए, वरना ज्यादा लोग रहेंगे और कम लोगों की लिस्ट आएगी तो सरकार के द्वारा मिलने वाले बेनिफिट्स में वे वंचित रह जाएंगे, उनको बेनिफिट्स नहीं मिल पाएंगे। इसीलिए मैं अनुरोध करता हूँ कि आप केंद्र सरकार को बोलकर प्रॉपर सेंसस ओडिशा के लिए कराएं।

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): I associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member. **SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha):** I also associate myself with the mention made by the hon. Member.

Need to take steps to address high transmission charges imposed by State Electricity Boards

SHRI T.G. VENKATESH (Andhra Pradesh): Respected Chairman, Sir, I wish to say that many core power projects in India are closed because the charges of Electricity Boards are very high. Consumers are not able to buy this power. The affected thermal power projects are mainly Nellore and Odisha. More than one lakh crores have been invested in these projects because of wheeling charges. Globally, wheeling charges are not more than 40 paise. Here, they are charging Rs. 4. Their generation cost is Rs. 3. They are charging Rs. 4 for power wheeling. Nowhere in the world it is happening this way. The Electricity Boards are unnecessarily charging more overheads. There also, they are not giving global tariff prices. Their charges are also very high. So, the power industries have closed, the consuming units have closed, institutions are affected, labour has been affected and the GDP is also affected. So, my request is that immediately we have to bring an ordinance. So, we have to keep 40 paise as wheeling charges like

[Shri T.G. Vankatesh]

how globally it is done. They have to do it. This has to be included in the coming electricity bill also. Thank you.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri T. G. Venkatesh.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri T. G. Venkatesh.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Shri T. G. Venkatesh.

**Need to release pending subsidy on custom milled rice to the
State of Tamil Nadu**

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI (Tamil Nadu): I would like to request, through you, Sir, that the Government of India should release the pending CMR subsidy amount of Rs. 5, 445 crores to Tamil Nadu because you know very well that Tamil Nadu is performing very well in the agricultural sector. The Tamil Nadu Government headed by Edappadi Palanisamy continues to get national award for agricultural performance in India. That is the way we are concentrating by giving more importance to farmers. We are a friendly Government to the farmers. When the Session started, he praised the farmers, how the farmers produced more in spite of Corona which we are facing now. Tamil Nadu also had a bumper crop. Farmers have produced more, but we have to procure for them. Without procurement, the farmers will suffer a lot. Therefore, money is more important. The Tamil Nadu Government is regularly paying money to the farmers. Nearly Rs. 6,500 crores has been spent by the State Government for procurement and adjustment to DCP. Why I am requesting to you is, this amount is pending for a long time as against custom milled rice subsidy claims..

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude. I understand.

DR. M. THAMBIDURAI: I am concluding, Sir. I want to highlight some points. From April 2018 to March 2019 and from April 2019 to March 2020, Rs. 2,116 crores and Rs. 3,000 crores respectively have been released by the Tamil Nadu Government. The pending amount is still Rs. 5,445 crores. It is high time. Corona is there and farmers are suffering. We have to be friendly to the farmers. We have to give benefits and release the subsidy to the farmers immediately.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Dr. M. Thambidurai.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Dr. M. Thambidurai.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your demand is release of pending custom milled rice subsidy to Tamil Nadu from the Food Ministry. That is the issue. शमशेर सिंह जी, आप कहाँ हैं?

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो: सर, लोक सभा से।

श्री सभापति: हां, प्लीज़, लोक सभा से बोलिए।

Need to probe the nexus of liquor mafia in Punjab and adjoining States

श्री शमशेर सिंह दुलो (पंजाब): महोदय, आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। पंजाब में liquor माफिया द्वारा गैर-कानूनी तौर पर और सरगर्मी के साथ चलाई गई distilleries की ज़हरीली शराब पीने से 136 लोगों की मृत्यु हो गई। उसके बाद करीब डेढ़ सौ लोग हॉस्पिटल में admit हैं, जिनका इलाज हो रहा है। उनमें से कई लोग अंधे हो गए हैं, कई लोगों की किडनी खराब हो गई है। पंजाब में जो liquor माफिया है, उनको political तौर पर patronise किया जाता है और उनका पुलिस के साथ एक nexus है, जिसकी वजह से पंजाब में ऐसी 9 distilleries पकड़ी गई, जो गैर-कानूनी शराब बनाती थीं। यह शराब हरियाणा, राजस्थान, जम्मू और हिमाचल में भी बिकी। पड़ोसी राज्यों में ये जो बड़े smugglers हैं, इनको political तौर पर patronise किया जाता है। मेरी मांग है कि जो लोग मारे गए हैं और जो इलाज के लिए हॉस्पिटल्स में admit हैं, उन लोगों को compensation भी मिलना चाहिए। मैं केन्द्र सरकार से यह विनती करता हूँ कि किसी हाई कोर्ट जज, CBI या किसी अन्य जांच एजेंसी से इसकी जांच कराई जाए। पंजाब में माफिया तो बहुत तरह के हैं, जिनमें माइन land माफिया भी हैं। उनको कंट्रोल करने के लिए सेंटर intervene करे और सेंटर की तरफ से सीबीआई या independent agency के ज़रिए इसकी तहकीकात हो। अभी तक भी जो शराब बनाने वाले माफिया distilleries के मालिक हैं, तो उसमें से एक भी आदमी को पंजाब में पकड़ा नहीं गया है, इसलिए मेरी रिक्वेस्ट है कि उन गरीबों को compensation भी दिया जाए और इसकी इन्वेस्टिगेशन भी हो। सर, मैं और बाजवा जी, हम दोनों एमपीज़ गवर्नर साहब से भी मिले थे, लेकिन उन शराब बनाने वालों के खिलाफ अभी तक Govt. ने कोई एक्शन नहीं लिया क्योंकि यह smuggling inter-State हुई भी है और इससे financial loss भी हुआ है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... क्योंकि इससे सेंटर और स्टेट दोनों में टैक्स की चोरी होती है। सर, मैं आपके ज़रिए यह मांग कर रहा हूँ कि इसमें सेंटर की सरकार intervene करे और smugglers के खिलाफ सीबीआई इन्क्वायरी और independent Agency द्वारा फेयर जस्टिस मिले, धन्यवाद।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव (राजस्थान): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

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

डा. सस्मित पात्रा (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Ashok Seth. Not present. Dr. Fauzia Khan from the Lok Sabha Chamber.

Need for reforms in maintaining land records to resolve land disputes

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Respected Chairman, Sir, the ownership of land property is one of the main reasons for injustice, disputes, disturbances, violence and even crime in society. The courts are overloaded with such litigations.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, under the National Land Records Modernisation Programme (NLRMP) almost all States are completing or have already completed digitization of land records. So, now, it is the right time to transform records of land rights to concrete evidence of ownership or titles from presumptive land titles. This shall bring in transparency in matters of land ownership and bring down disputes to an almost zero level; thus, offloading the congestion in courts.

Sir, it is learnt that in 2011, the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, had released a draft version of land titling Bill. Sir, such legislation can bring about a solution to problems that I have mentioned. Thus, lands can become concrete evidence, provided the updation has been done electronically.

So, I urge the Government to come up with such legislation immediately. Thank you.

SHRI RAJEEV SATAV (Maharashtra): Sir, I associate myself with the Zero Hour submission made by Dr. Fauzia Khan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is a very relevant point about records of land rights. They should not only be updated but have to be digitized. It will be very useful for farming community, so that they would not face harassment from the local revenue officials. Some of the States have done it. I was Minister of Rural Development. I remember, we initiated this process at that time. Shri Tiruchi Siva.

Need to reserve ninety per cent appointments for the residents of the respective States in Central Government Institutions

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Thank you Mr. Chairman, Sir, in Tamil Nadu 84 lakh persons have registered their names in various Employment Exchanges. And, the unemployment rate in Tamil Nadu is 7.6 per cent, against 6.1 per cent of national average. And, during the pandemic situation, it has gone down to 13.5 per cent in Tamil Nadu! Sir, there are very qualified people and they get ranks in the UPSC Examinations. But, recently, for the post of a Sanitary Worker, most of the applicants were postgraduates, engineering and MBA graduates.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sivaji, you have given notice for reservation in appointments for locals.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, in this situation, due representation for these qualified candidates is not there and hence are not finding place in the Central Government jobs. Sir, the day before yesterday, a study published which says that for various positions in the Excise and GST, in 2017, out of 197, only 1 is from Tamil Nadu! In Chennai Petroleum, only 4 out of 37 are from Tamil Nadu! In Income Tax Inspector posts, out of 505, only a very few are from Tamil Nadu. Sir, very recently, in a workshop in my place, out of 300 apprentices, not a single one is from Tamil Nadu! There was a big upsurge and restless among youth and we had to pacify and assure them that we will raise the same issue on the floor of the House and bring it to the notice of the Government. And, for technician grade, out of 581 only 12 are from Tamil Nadu, 163 are from Bihar and 150 from Rajasthan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Siva, you have to make your point; don't bring in other States.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: In Madurai Railway, out of 651, only 11 are from Tamil Nadu.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You make your point. You want reservation for the locals. Thank you.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: I am completing, Sir. For SSC, out of 10, 659 appointments, less than 100 are from Tamil Nadu.

So, I would bring to the notice of the Government of India that there is unequal representation of States in the Central Government employment. I would request the Government to abridge this gap and ensure that every State has equal representation and opportunities for its people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: Sir, 90 per cent of the appointments made in the Central-Government-run institutions in the States be reserved for the residents of the respective States.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, has said.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, has said.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, has said.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Tiruchi Siva, has said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Now, Shri Binoy Viswam.

Corporatization of ordnance factories

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to invite the attention of the House and the country to a very serious issue, that is, the corporatization of the Ordnance Factories. Our country has more than 41 Ordnance Factories and 9 DPSUs. The history says that they are almost 200 years old. Their turnover, in 2018-19, was Rs. 45,776 crores. Now, the Government is on a move to corporatize them. The country, the people, and the workers believe that this may go, and this will go, against the interests of the nation.

Sir, 'Defence' is the most important issue. देश की रक्षा सर्वप्रधान है। इसके बारे में the employees of the Ordnance Factories, the people, the nation, as a whole, are of the view that this move should be reviewed and the Government should drop this move. ...(*Interruptions*)...

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

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Sir, the Ordnance Factories are not only making arms and ammunition, but during the COVID pandemic time, they are making masks and repairing ventilators too. They are helping the people. The employees of the Ordnance Factories are on the struggle path. ...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: I would like to say one thing more. ...(Interruptions)...

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

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: Please give me just one more minute. Sir. The National Defence Workers Federation and the Bharatiya Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh are opposing this move. ...(Interruptions)... I would like to quote one sentence from a document of the Bharatiya Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh, "Under no circumstances, the Bharatiya Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh will tolerate....." ...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, thank you. ...(Interruptions)... Those who want to associate may please send their slips. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री राजमणि पटेल (मध्य प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को संबद्ध करता हूँ।

SHRI T.K.S. ELANGO VAN (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

SHRI ASHOK SIDDHARTH (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

SHRI M. SHANMUGAM (Tamil Nadu): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

SHRI SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with what the hon. Member, Shri Binoy Viswam, has said.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri Elamaram Kareem.

Need to increase the minimum pension for the pensioners of the Provident Fund

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is a long-pending demand for the revision of pension under the Provident Fund Pension Scheme, 1995.

10.00 A.M.

[Shri Elamaram Kareem]

There are about 65 lakh pensioners in the country who are raising this burning issue. They have played a major role in the advancement of modern India. At the time of introduction of the EPS, 1995, the trade unions and the pensioners had opposed the scheme since they were being offered much less benefits, as compared to the contributions made by the workers during their service tenure.

Their argument was favoured by the Kerala High Court and it was upheld by the Supreme Court too. But, so far, the Government has not implemented the recommendations. Therefore, the pensioners, the organizations, and the trade unions are on the path of struggle. I urge upon the Government to take necessary action in this regard and implement the verdict of the hon. court.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Kareemji. ...*(Interruptions)*... Those who want to associate may please send their slips. Now, Shri K.T. S. Tulsi.

Issues in implementation of the Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI (Chhattisgarh): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to draw the attention of the House to the manner in which the Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyaan is being implemented. While I congratulate the Government for initiating the scheme under which 125 days of employment is to be provided to the workers, but only six States have been chosen for implementation of this scheme. The State of Chhattisgarh has been left out, despite the fact that they have more than five lakh migrant labourers who have returned to Chhattisgarh on account of losing their livelihood as a result of lockdown that was announced.

That apart, Chhattisgarh also has the highest percentage of population living below poverty line. The percentage of below poverty line population in Chhattisgarh is 47.9, which is higher than Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar and Rajasthan.

MR. CHAIRMAN: So, what is your suggestion?

SHRI K.T.S. TULSI: Sir, I just want to submit that it seems that there is no objective criterion in the manner in which the States have been chosen and Chhattisgarh must not be meted with step-motherly treatment. Thank you.

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

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

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

**Closure of BSNL 4G services by the Odisha Telecom Circle in rural areas of
Kalahandi district of Odisha**

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you for having given me the opportunity to speak on an issue which has agitated and perturbed people of my district, Kalahandi, and other rural districts of Odisha. The BSNL has in a letter dated 28th July, 2020, notified to close its proposed 4G services in rural areas of Kalahandi and neighbouring districts citing revenue loss and commercial non-viability. Should development be hostage of commercial considerations; should development be only about profit and loss; should people of Kalahandi or for that matter any part of rural India pay the price for the inefficiency of the BSNL? On the one hand, the hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, has been championing digital inclusion and on the other hand, the BSNL, which is a Government body, is planning to deprive the people of rural India of latest cellular technology.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your suggestion?

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR: Sir, I am just coming to that. The worst affected by this move will be the women. The Government of Odisha has a very successful programme called Mission Shakti where 70 lakh women are empowering themselves through digital technology. This move, an attempt by the BSNL, to shut down cellular services, 4G services, is bound to derail this empowerment process. Sir, my humble submission is, we also want to be part of the digital India, we also want to be part of e-Kranti, we also want to be part of the five trillion dollar economy. ...*(Interruptions)*...

Sir, I appeal through you, to the Government, to start this.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you Sujeet Kumarji. Those who want to associate please send their slips.

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

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

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Shrimati Arpita Ghosh. Please be brief.

Need to regulate the rise in prices of essential commodities

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, मैं अपनी मातृभाषा बांग्ला में बोलूंगी।

श्री सभापति: ठीक है।

SHRIMATI ARPITA GHOSH: *"Sir, the Central government is trying to de-control the prices of essential commodities including vegetables like potato and onion. Price of oil is coming down across the world, yet for reasons unknown to us, the price of oil is going up in India. As a result, the price of essential commodities is fast increasing all over the country including in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Besides these, for various reasons there has been an increase in charges of transporting goods from one place to another - including damages of crops due to excessive rain and Cyclone Amphan, and a situation of panic in the minds of the people during the prevailing Covid situation. It has been observed that the prices of essential commodities like potato and onion have shot up by 50-80 percent. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has been trying immensely to keep the upward prices in control in West Bengal. Potato is being made available @Rs.25 per kilogram to the people through 'Sufal Bangla'. Regular campaigns are being organized to curb black marketing. She has made arrangements to provide ration free of cost to the people till June 2021 to tackle Corona situation. Arrangements have also been made to preserve 70 lakh tonnes of potato across 400 cold storages. Sir, common people are facing distress due to the Corona situation. Various surveys have indicated that people are buying a large amount of vegetable and commodities of daily needs because they have to survive." सर, पापी पेट का सवाल है। आखिर में मेरी आपके माध्यम से प्रधान मंत्री जी से विनती है, आप नेशनलाइज्ड सैक्टर को बेच रहे हैं। जीडीपी कहां गई किसी को पता नहीं है। जिस डेमोक्रेसी की बात ...**(व्यवधान)**...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to confine to your subject.

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Bangla.

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष: सर, मैं एक सेकन्ड में खत्म कर दूंगी। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have to confine to your subject.

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष: सर, जिस डेमोक्रेसी की बात चल रही है, उसी डेमोक्रेसी की खातिर ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: यहां पर अभी डेमोक्रेसी के बारे में चर्चा नहीं हो रही है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष: सर, आलू, प्याज जैसी सब्जियों से नियंत्रण मत हटाइए। ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are a new Member. Please try to follow the rules.

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष: सर, अगर आप बीच में बोलेंगे, तो हम कैसे बोलेंगे? ...(व्यवधान)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you.

श्रीमती अर्पिता घोष: नहीं, तो आपको प्रधान मंत्री बनाने वाला कोई नहीं बचेगा। ...(व्यवधान)...

Thank you very much, धन्यवाद, नमस्कार।

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

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Uttar Pradesh): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

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

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I also associate myself with the matter raised by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am happy that you are making a good point in your mother tongue. Why do you go out of point?

SHRIMATI ARPITA GHOSH: Sir, I am not going out of my point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: No; you are not going out of the House. You are staying here only. But my point is, try to understand, you are just new. You have given notice about price rise. You have to confine yourself to that. डेमोक्रेसी में क्या है? Arpita ji, if it was a general speech, I would have been a little bit liberal also. This is specific, the Zero Hour. Okay.

***SPECIAL MENTION**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, we will take up Special Mentions. Today, time is very less. So, one has to just stand up and say, 'I lay my Special Mention.' Shrimati Mausam Noor. मौसम नूर जी कहां हैं?

Demand to restore the names of freedom fighters on Cellular Jail plaques

SHRIMATI MAUSAM NOOR (West Bengal): The Cellular Jail, known to many as Kala Pani, has been an enduring symbol of India's colonial past since 1906. Hundreds of freedom fighters have been incarcerated there and tortured during the British regime. According to the Ministry of Culture, between 1909 and 1938, 585 revolutionaries were jailed here.

Recently, reports have emerged that the Government has removed the names of over 400 political prisoners from the plaques in Central Jail. The entire list of freedom fighters, who were lodged there between 1906 and 1909, has been removed. They have also removed the exact year in which each freedom fighter was incarcerated there. Instead, they have chosen to divide them in groups of ten years at a time. This has given rise to multiple problems. Historians, scholars, tourists and students visit the Cellular Jail to remember all those who gave up their lives for their country. Removing the year of incarceration and dropping these names is an insult to the memories and sacrifices of our brave revolutionaries. Among these, as per the Ministry of Culture, undivided Bengal had the highest number of revolutionaries at 398 followed by Punjab at 95. Bengal's contribution to the Indian struggle for Independence has been documented widely all over the world. Therefore, such neglect of history is very unfortunate.

I would like to pose a question to the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Tourism as to why. Bengal's contribution has been forgotten. I urge them to correct this grave mistake at the earliest.

DR. AMAR PATNAIK (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

SHRI BHASKAR RAO NEKKANTI (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

* Laid on the Table.

SHRI SUJEET KUMAR (Odisha): Sir, I too associate myself with the Special Mention made by the hon. Member.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahesh Poddar. He is not there. Shri Birendra Prasad Baishya. ...*(Interruptions)*... 'Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma Committee recommendations and implementation of the Assam Accord.' That is the issue. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): Sir. It is 'Implementation of Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma Committee recommendations to implement Assam Accord.' ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is what I am saying. ...*(Interruptions)*... Right. ...*(Interruptions)*...

**Demand to accept the recommendations of the Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma
Committee and implementation of clause 6 of the Assam Accord**

SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA (Assam): The Assam Accord was signed between representatives of Government of India and the leaders of the Assam Movement in New Delhi on 15th August, 1985. Clause 6 of the Assam Accord is the heart of the Accord. The Assam Accord will have no meaning if Clause 6 of the Accord is not implemented. But after 35 long years, the Government failed to implement Clause 6 which provides constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of Assamese people. The Union Home Ministry had constituted a Committee headed by retired High Court Judge, Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma, to recommend on implementation of Clause 6 of the Assam Accord. Hon. Home Minister assured the people of Assam on the floor of the Parliament that the Government will accept all the recommendations, in total, given by Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma Committee and implement Clause 6 of the Assam Accord. Although the Committee had submitted the Report on 25th February, 2020 and more than six months have passed, we see no progress so far in this regard. So, I would like to request the Union Home Ministry to consider the recommendations of Justice Biplab Kumar Sarma Committee and implement the Clause 6 of the Assam Accord at the earliest to protect the Assamese people, Assamese culture and the Assamese language. I would also like to request the Government to implement the Assam Accord in letter and spirit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Shri Partap Singh Bajwa.

**Demand for commissioning of All India Radio Tower at Gharinda Village,
Amritsar District, Punjab**

SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA (Punjab): Sir, in 2007, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, ordered the construction of a 300-metre tall radio-cum-TV tower on the G.T. Road at Gharinda Village, about eight kilometres from the Wagah Border in Amritsar District, Punjab. This tower was constructed to increase the radio coverage to the entirety of the Majha Region of Punjab. The tower was supposed to cover a population of one crore in India. Work on the tower began in May of 2007 and the construction was completed by the end of 2013. This 300 metre (1,000 feet) high tower could be used to transmit programmes across the border as well, along with ensuring better relay through the Majha Region of Punjab. This tower is yet to be commissioned and operated by the All India Radio.

A shorter (300 feet) tower is being used instead. This smaller tower reduces the coverage across the region and is an under-utilisation of the capacity of the All India Radio. Moreover, the larger tower is of vital importance that can counter any cross-border propaganda being spread from Pakistan. Until March, 2020, the AIR used this smaller tower to run the External Urdu Services that was well received. I submit this matter with the hope that the taller 300-metre radio tower is commissioned immediately and the All India Radio is able to utilize its capacity to the fullest, which would allow the AIR to ensure better coverage of its Urdu programming across the region.

DR. SASMIT PATRA (Odisha): Sir, I associate myself with the Special Mention made by Shri Partap Singh Bajwa.

Demand to accord ST status to Dhangar community in Maharashtra

डा. विकास महात्मे (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, महाराष्ट्र में धनगर एसटी आरक्षण का विषय बहुत सालों से प्रलंबित है। केवल "र" की जगह "ड" होने की वजह से वे एसटी आरक्षण से वंचित हैं। केन्द्र सरकार की अनुसूचित जनजाति की लिस्ट में धनगर की जगह धनगड हुआ है। ऐसा अक्सर होता है कि हिन्दी में उच्चारण के वक्त "र" का "ड" होता है - जैसे एकर को एकड कहा जाता है। महत्वपूर्ण बात यह भी है कि महाराष्ट्र में जिस "धनगड" जनजाति को एसटी आरक्षण दिया गया है, वह "धनगड" जनजाति महाराष्ट्र में है ही नहीं। मेरा सरकार से अनुरोध है कि इस पर तुरंत अमल हो और महाराष्ट्र में धनगर जनजाति को एसटी आरक्षण लागू किया जाए।

डा. सस्मित पात्रा (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय से संबद्ध करता हूँ।

Demand to improve the quality of online teaching

श्री अखिलेश प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): महोदय, कोविड महामारी से छात्रों का पठन-पाठन सर्वाधिक प्रभावित हुआ है। लगभग छः महीने से देश भर के स्कूल, कॉलेज बंद पड़े हैं और ऑनलाइन पढ़ाई के नाम पर स्कूली और कॉलेज शिक्षा की खानापूर्ति की जा रही है। शिक्षा के क्षेत्र में काम करने वाली एक प्रतिष्ठित अंतर्राष्ट्रीय एजेंसी ने हाल ही में भारत में कोविड के दौरान डिजिटल शिक्षा की स्थिति जानने के लिए पाँच राज्यों में एक अध्ययन कराया है। इस सर्वेक्षण में जिन अभिभावकों से बात की गई, उनमें से 80 प्रतिशत का कहना था कि वे उनके बच्चों को दी जा रही डिजिटल शिक्षा से संतुष्ट नहीं हैं। बिहार में तो सर्वे में शामिल शत-प्रतिशत अभिभावकों का कहना था कि लॉकडाउन में वे अपने बच्चों की पढ़ाई से संतुष्ट नहीं हैं।

महोदय, ऑनलाइन पढ़ाई पूरी तरह टेक्नोलॉजी-आधारित है। गाँवों और पिछड़े इलाकों में 80 प्रतिशत लोग विभिन्न कारणों से टेक्नोलॉजी के इस्तेमाल में अक्षम हैं। ऐसी दशा में ऑनलाइन पढ़ाई का दावा मज़ाक नहीं तो और क्या है? सरकारी स्कूलों के शिक्षकों को भी टेक्नोलॉजी का कितना ज्ञान है, ये हम सब जानते हैं। बिहार में 5 प्रतिशत शिक्षक भी ऐसे नहीं हैं, जिन्हें डिजिटल एजुकेशन में ट्रेनिंग दी गई है। मार्च में सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने आदेश दिया था कि लॉकडाउन के दौरान स्कूलों में मिड-डे मील को सुनिश्चित किया जाए, लेकिन इस सर्वे के अनुसार, लगभग एक-तिहाई बच्चे इससे वंचित रहे हैं। इसलिए, लॉकडाउन के दुष्प्रभावों से शैक्षिक तंत्र की रक्षा के लिए तत्काल सार्थक हस्तक्षेप किया जाए।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. अमर पटनायक (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सस्मित पात्रा (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री भास्कर राव नेक्कांति (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: 'Improving the quality of online teaching.' That is the subject. ठीक है।

श्री अखिलेश प्रसाद सिंह: सर, आप बोलने नहीं दे रहे हैं।

श्री सभापति: टाइम नहीं है। This is laying on the Table. ...(Interruptions)...

श्री अखिलेश प्रसाद सिंह: कभी-कभी मौका मिलता है।

श्री सभापति: इसमें होता नहीं है। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्रीमती जया बच्चन: सर, बोलने दीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री सभापति: आप व्याख्या मत करिए। If you want to decide the Rules, there is a Rules Committee. Write to that Rules Committee. Shri Rajeev Satav.

Demand to reconsider the ban on export of onion

श्री राजीव सातव (महाराष्ट्र): महोदय, महाराष्ट्र भारत में प्याज के सबसे अधिक निर्यात करने वाले राज्यों में से एक है। वर्ष 2019-20 में महाराष्ट्र से 18.50 लाख मीट्रिक टन प्याज का निर्यात किया गया था। यह राज्य के प्याज किसानों के लिए राजस्व का एक प्रमुख स्रोत है। प्याज के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध लगाने वाली केंद्र सरकार की अधिसूचना किसानों के लिए नुकसानदायक है। गरीब किसान पहले से ही खराब अर्थव्यवस्था और कोविड से पीड़ित हैं और प्याज के निर्यात पर प्रतिबंध उनके कष्टों को और बढ़ा रहा है। सरकार से मेरा अनुरोध है कि वह इस फैसले पर पुनर्विचार करे और गरीब किसानों की दुर्दशा के बारे में सोचे और यह किसान विरोधी अधिसूचना रद्द करे।

श्री भास्कर राव नेक्कांति (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

डा. सस्मित पात्रा (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी स्वयं को इस विषय के साथ संबद्ध करता हूँ।

श्री सभापति: Right. ओनियन एक्सपोर्ट का बैन हटाना चाहिए। ठीक है, राजीव जी।

Demand to supply adequate sugar to the poor through Public Distribution System in Chhattisgarh

श्रीमती छाया वर्मा (छत्तीसगढ़): महोदय, सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत गरीबी रेखा के नीचे जीवनयापन करने वाले लगभग 58 लाख छत्तीसगढ़ राज्य के परिवारों हेतु लोकहित में शक्कर की मांग 5,785 मीट्रिक टन के सापेक्ष केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा मात्र 4628 मीट्रिक टन शक्कर उपलब्ध कराई जा रही है। मांग से 1,157 मीट्रिक टन कम शक्कर उपलब्ध कराए जाने के कारण राज्य की जनता की आवश्यकताओं के अनुरूप शक्कर नहीं मिल पा रही है, इसलिए राज्य की गरीब जनता खुले बाजार से शक्कर खरीदने के लिए बाध्य हो रही है। इसमें जनता को आर्थिक हानि का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। कोरोना काल में गरीब जनता के पास रोजगार की कमी है, इसलिए गरीबों के भरण-पोषण हेतु खाद्य पदार्थों की कमी को पूरा करना सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है।

राज्य सरकार गरीबों की आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में रखकर राज्य के सरकारी कारखानों से कोटे की शक्कर खरीद कर सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत एकमुश्त गरीबों को शक्कर जारी करने हेतु केन्द्र से कई बार पत्र लिख कर आग्रह कर चुकी है, जिस पर अपेक्षित निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है। इस कारण जनता को समय पर और मांग के अनुरूप शक्कर नहीं मिल पा रही है।

अतः मेरी सदन के माध्यम से केन्द्र सरकार से मांग है कि सार्वजनिक वितरण प्रणाली के अंतर्गत राज्य सरकार के सरकारी कारखानों से शक्कर की खरीद कर गरीबों को एकमुश्त शक्कर मांग के अनुरूप उपलब्ध कराने हेतु अविलम्ब जनहित में आवश्यक कदम उठाए।

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

डा. सस्मित पात्रा (ओडिशा): महोदय, मैं भी माननीय सदस्य द्वारा उठाए गए विषय से स्वयं को सम्बद्ध करता हूँ।

STATUTORY RESOLUTION AND GOVERNMENT BILLS

***Statutory Resolution disapproving the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 6 of 2020)**

***The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

And

***Statutory Resolution disapproving the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 7 of 2020)**

***The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very good, Madam; PDS. We will take up the Bills now. This is about the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020 and the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020. Both the Bills are of the Health and Ayush Ministry. So, we will discuss it together. The total time allocated is two hours. Accordingly, the parties will be sending names and they will be given time. After that, there is another one also. Then, we have one more Bill today about the Ministers' salaries and also MPs' salaries. Broadly, we know positions of everybody. So, let us make it brief in one hour. I want all these Bills to be taken up and completed today itself.

Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and K.C. Venugopal to move the Statutory Resolution regarding disapproving Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 6 of 2020) promulgated by President of India on 24th April, 2020. Mr. Elamaram Kareem, are you moving it?

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM (Kerala): Sir, I move the following Resolution:—

"That this House disapproves the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 6 of 2020) promulgated by the President of India on 24th April, 2020."

*Discussed together.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Dr. Harsh Vardhan to move a motion for consideration of Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill. ...(*Interruptions*)... अभी नहीं। वह आएगा। It will come. Dr. Harsh Vardhan.

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (DR. HARSH VARDHAN): Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is a Statutory Resolution by Shri K.K. Ragesh, Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal disapproving the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020. Are you moving it, Mr. Ragesh?

SHRI K.K. RAGESH (Kerala): Sir, I move the following Resolution:—

"That this House disapproves the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No.7 of 2020) promulgated by the President of India on 24th April, 2020."

...(*Interruptions*)...

Sir, I want to speak for two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will get an opportunity to speak on the Bill.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, while moving the Statutory Resolution, please permit me to speak for two minutes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay; please.

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, the Government had already promulgated, during the Covid pandemic period, around 12 Ordinances, and many of them were promulgated as Covid packages. Now, if you look at the Ordinances, here the Ordinance itself states that the Central Council would be constituted within one year and that during the interim period a Board of Governors would be assigned. The Central Council needs to be constituted within a period of one year. Then why bring this Ordinance when it has been assigned to a Board of Governors?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you. You know about the constraint of time also. Shri Elamaram Kareem may speak on the earlier subject.

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: Sir, I take this opportunity to register my strong 'protest' over the ordinance raaj which is prevailing in this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is 'protest' not 'protection'! Do you want protection from me or wish to protest?

SHRI ELAMARAM KAREEM: In the absence of parliamentary scrutiny, it is very objectionable to use such manners to prepare legislation. I am not going into the merits of the Bill, but I register my strong protest.

श्री सभापति: डा. हर्षवर्धन जी, मैं resolution के बारे में आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हम दोनों resolution एक साथ ले रहे हैं, क्या आपको उसके बारे में कुछ कहना है या हर बिल के बारे में चर्चा करेंगे? ...(Interruptions)... It is about time. We have discussed it in the all-party meeting.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, be taken into consideration."

Sir, regarding these two Bills, I would like to briefly apprise the hon. Members by giving a brief background on these Bills.

Basically, we must know that in 1970 and in 1973, Parliament had enacted the Central Council for Indian Systems and Homoeopathy Bills. Now, regarding the first Bill for consideration that I had requested for, the issue is that the Central Council of Homoeopathy had failed in its responsibilities and not cooperated with the Government to carry out its duty to safeguard the standards of education. We know that these Acts were made in 1970 and 1973 for regulation of educational standards of Homoeopathy and Indian systems of medicine and also for maintenance of a Central Register of practitioners of these systems. In the case of the Homoeopathy Bill, in 2018, because there were so many charges of irregularities and lack of transparency and corruption in the Homoeopathy Council, the Government decided to bring about an Ordinance, so as to supersede the Central Council of Homeopathy by a Board of Governors, so that a new Central Council could be formed within one year. The fact is that there was no adequate Register for the practitioners of Homeopathy and within one year, that part could not be completed. So, in 2019, the Government had to bring another Ordinance. Similarly, in the case of Ayurveda also, it so happened that the Government had, in 2019, brought both the National Commissions for Homoeopathy as well as Indian

[Dr. Harsh Vardhan]

Systems of Medicine. In 2020, the term of the President of the Council for Indian Systems of Medicine was expiring on 31st May and elections of many other members from various States in the country had to take place. In the meantime, what has happened in the case of both the Bills is that in 2019, the Government brought the National Commission of Homeopathy as well as Ayurveda and they were passed by the Rajya Sabha in March, 2020. Now, both of them have been passed by the Lok Sabha. So, in both the cases, in Homeopathy as well as in Ayurveda, there was a situation the Council had to inspect the colleges for the 2020 period.

Since the Commissions cannot start functioning and the Parliament also was not in Session because of Covid situation, this was the compelling reason and the Government had to ensure that the existing Board of Governors were able to carry out their duties to take care of the inspections of the colleges of Homoeopathy.

The questions were proposed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Dr. Harsh Vardhan, thank you. The Statutory Resolution of Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal as well as the Statutory Resolution of Shri K.K. Ragesh, Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal and the motions for consideration of the Bills are now open for discussion. Now, the Members will speak and later on the hon. Minister will reply. The first speaker is Shri Ripun Bora. Please remember the time and stick to time, as I told you that there are other Bills also today. Today, after some time, the new panel of Vice-Chairmen will also be given opportunity. Bear with them because they are new. Of course, the Deputy Chairman will be there; he will be guiding. We will be starting with Shrimati Vandana Chavan today. In the beginning of the discussion, the Deputy Chairman will be there and then afterwards Shrimati Vandana Chavan. Now, Shri Ripun Bora to speak.

SHRI RIPUN BORA (Assam): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity to take part in the discussion on the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill, 2020. As we know, the original Act is of 1973. Now, what is the background of separation of this Council? What is the background of this Amendment? The background of this Amendment is this. In 2016, the President of the Homoeopathy Central Council allegedly was complicit in taking bribe for granting permission to set up homoeopathy institutions. Then, the Council was suppressed. In order to continue day-to-day

functioning of the Council, an interim Board of Governors was constituted. When the Board of Governors was constituted in 2018, it was decided that the Council was required to be reconstituted within one year from the date of suppression. But the Government has not done it. The Council was not constituted within one year. Thereafter, in 2019, the Government again brought another amendment seeking the extension of this suppression period from one year to two years. That was also alright. Now, again in the year 2020, this Government has brought another Amendment. What is this Amendment? The Amendment is that this extension for suppression period should be extended from two-years to three years. This is our objection. Why are we objecting? The reason is repeated extensions. Why is there inordinate delay in reconstituting the Council? Is this Atmanirbhar Bharat? Is this modern India where the Government has been taking three-year time to constitute only a simple Homoeopathy Central Council? This is our objection. We are objecting because by this delaying tactics, by this deliberate delay, by this deliberate extension, the Government is just buying time to run the Council with their own choice of people as Board of Governors. Now, the Ministry of AYUSH has taken over the entire administration of the Homoeopathy Council and this Ministry of AYUSH is now the regulatory authority of this Council. This way the autonomy of this Council has been taken away. It is a very bad sign for the democracy. This Government is in the habit of encroaching upon the autonomy of the institutions. Not to speak of Jammu and Kashmir, the Government has encroached upon the autonomy of the UGC, the Government has taken the autonomy of the Reserve Bank of India and there are so many other institutions. The Government is in the habit of curtailing the autonomy or encroaching upon the autonomy of the institutions. That is why, we are objecting to the Bill. This Homeopathy Council is an autonomous body. In this way, the Government is suppressing the Council. The Government is taking away the autonomy of these institutions, and, therefore, we object to this Bill.

Now, Sir, through you, this is my humble submission. Today, no doubt, the Bill will be passed because the Government has the majority. But my submission, through you, is that today, the House should pass a stricture to the Government that there should not be any further extension from now onwards and everybody should respect the autonomy of the institutions. The autonomy of the institutions must be restored.

Finally, one very dangerous impact of this Amendment is that it is promoting clause 39 of the National Medical Commission Bill, 2017. This has a very dangerous implication. What does it provide? It focusses on a Bridge Course to allow homeopathic

[Shri Ripun Bora]

professionals to prescribe allopathic medicines. This is very dangerous. Why? The MBBS is a course of five-year duration. After that, one-year internship is also there. But, now, this Bridge Course for the homeopathic professionals is a short-cut course. By doing a course of a very short duration, how will the homeopathic professionals get all the education about the allopathic medicines? There are so many implications involved in the study of medicines. This will not only lower the standard of allopathic practice, this will not only lower the standard of the MBBS, but it will also play with the lives of the human beings'. In our country, we get so many reports every day about the MBBS doctors or even the specialists also that due to wrong diagnosis, due to wrong medicine, or, due to wrong treatment, so many lives are lost. Now, this Government, through this Amendment, is going to play with the lives of the human beings by allowing homeopathy practitioners, just by doing a short-duration course, to prescribe allopathic medicines. How will they be able to prescribe allopathic medicines, for which one MBBS doctor is required to do a course for a period of six to seven years? So, this is my submission. That is why, we are objecting to the Bill. Again, my submission is that this supersession should not be further extended. The autonomy of the institutions must be respected by the Government. So, this is my submission. Thank you, Sir.

डा. सुधांशु त्रिवेदी (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आज मैं यहां Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill and Ordinance, 2020 के संदर्भ में अपने विचार व्यक्त करने के लिए उपस्थित हूं। हम सभी जानते हैं कि भारत में होम्योपैथिक, आयुर्वेदिक इत्यादि चिकित्सा पद्धतियां हैं, जो जन-जन में बहुत लोकप्रिय हैं और व्यावहारिक दृष्टि में भी बहुत प्रयोग में लाई जाती हैं, परन्तु जिस प्रकार की इनकी एक व्यवस्थित संरचना होनी चाहिए थी, यानी established dedicated infrastructure और procedures होने चाहिए थे, कहीं न कहीं लम्बे समय से उन चीजों की कमी महसूस की जाती रही थी। वर्तमान समय में देश में होम्योपैथी के 248 colleges हैं, 19,000 से अधिक UG seats हैं, 1300 से अधिक PG seats हैं, साथ ही लगभग 2,46,000 registered homoeopathic practitioners हैं। यह बात माननीय सदस्यों ने अभी अभी के संज्ञान में लाई कि 1973 में एक्ट बना था। माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी आप लोगों के समक्ष यह बात रखी कि उस एक्ट के प्रावधानों के तहत जो काउंसिल काम कर रही थी, उसमें अनेक प्रकार की आपत्तियां, अनेक प्रकार की समस्याएं दिखाई पड़ रही थीं। उन्हीं को ध्यान में रखते हुए सरकार ने उनका निराकरण करने के लिए इस बिल को लाने का प्रावधान किया। इसमें जो मुख्य विचार सरकार ने रखे, वे यह थे कि इनकी संख्या बढ़ाकर 27 की गई, जिसमें कि एक चेयरमैन के अलावा 7 एक्स-ऑफिशियो होंगे और 19 लोग पार्ट टाइम होंगे, जिनमें से 6 इलेक्ट्रेड होंगे। इसके अलावा एडवाइजरी काउंसिल रिक्मण्डेशन कर सकेगी। जो चेयरपर्सन होंगे और जो मेम्बर्स चुने जाएंगे, वे एक सर्च कमिटी के द्वारा चुने जाएंगे, जिसे केबिनेट सेक्रेटरी चेयर करेंगे और सबसे

महत्वपूर्ण परिवर्तन यह किया गया कि इससे पूर्व के विधेयक में यह व्यवस्था थी कि जो सदस्य बनेंगे, वे निश्चित समय के अलावा जब तक अगला कोई व्यक्ति बन नहीं जाएगा, तब तक वे काम करते रहेंगे। इस प्रावधान का कई बार बड़ा दुरुपयोग हुआ, इसलिए इस बार सरकार ने यह निर्णय लिया कि चार वर्ष का ही एक निश्चित कार्यकाल होगा, उससे आगे का नहीं होगा। इसके साथ सरकार ने इसमें यह व्यवस्था भी की कि जो सदस्य हों, उनको हटाने की भी एक स्ट्रक्चर्ड व्यवस्था की गई।

अब इसके बाद आता है कि जब हम इसकी एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव स्मूथ फंक्शनिंग को एनश्योर कर लेते हैं तो अगला विषय आता है कि होम्योपैथिक चिकित्सा और होम्योपैथिक शिक्षा की गुणवत्ता को किस प्रकार से निर्धारित किया जाए। चाहे वह Eligibility Test हो, जैसे नीट का टैस्ट होता है, उसके साथ एक व्यवस्थित टैस्ट हो अथवा पोस्ट ग्रेजुएशन के लिए उनके एन्ट्रेंस एग्जाम की व्यवस्था हो अथवा जो रजिस्टर्ड प्रैक्टीशनर्स हैं, उनके लिए एक प्रॉपर रजिस्टर हो, जिसका उल्लेख अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने किया कि सब लोगों का एक नियमबद्ध और documented record सरकार के पास होना चाहिए, ताकि उनकी गुणवत्ता की परीक्षा और सरकार को उनसे संबंधित एक प्रॉपर जानकारी हर व्यक्ति के बारे में रहे कि इनकी क्वालिफिकेशन क्या है, इनके क्या एक्सपीरियेन्सेज़ हैं और किस प्रकार से उन्होंने काम किया हुआ है? इसको ध्यान में रखकर सरकार ने इस चीज़ की व्यवस्था की और होम्योपैथी टीचिंग के लिए National Eligibility Test का प्रावधान इसमें किया गया है, ताकि उन महाविद्यालयों में जो शिक्षक अपॉइंट होंगे, उनके चयन की भी एक प्रॉपर प्रक्रिया रहे, जिसके द्वारा वे एक अच्छी गुणवत्ता के शिक्षक सिद्ध हों।

महोदय, उससे भी अधिक इम्पोर्टेंट एक निर्णय जो सरकार ने लिया है, वह यह लिया है कि जो Indian System of Medicine है, उसके साथ जोड़कर एक रिसर्च करवाने की व्यवस्था और एक Inter-disciplinary कोऑर्डिनेशन, Inter-disciplinary Research की व्यवस्था करने का प्रावधान भी सरकार ने इसमें किया है, ताकि जो अन्य चिकित्सा पद्धतियाँ हैं, जिनके विषय में अभी एक पूर्व माननीय सदस्य ने ध्यान आकर्षित करने का प्रयास किया था, उन विधाओं के साथ भी होम्योपैथी का एक तारतम्य स्थापित हो सके। इससे अधिक महत्वपूर्ण बात में यह कहना चाहूंगा कि आज जब होम्योपैथी अथवा इंडियन सिस्टम्स की बात आती है तो सबसे बड़ा एक परिवर्तन होने की बात यह आती है कि कहा जाता है कि इसका कोई बहुत एस्टाब्लिश्ड साइंटिफिक

[उपसभाध्यक्ष, (श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण) पीठासीन हुई]

प्रफू दिखाई नहीं पड़ता है। हमने यह भी प्रयास किया है कि Inter-disciplinary Research के माध्यम से अब होम्योपैथी और इंडियन सिस्टम्स के बीच में एक साइंटिफिक रिसर्च की व्यवस्था सुनिश्चित की जाए। जैसे आपने देखा कि आयुष मंत्रालय ने आयुर्वेद और सीएसआईआर के बीच में पहली बार एक joint collaboration किया है, जिससे उनमें रिसर्च के द्वारा उनके scientific evidence को एस्टाब्लिश किया जा सके। मेरे विचार से यह बहुत बड़ा परिवर्तन है, जिसके सकारात्मक प्रभाव आने वाले वर्षों में हमें दिखाई पड़ेंगे। एक मूलभूत अंतर जो इन चिकित्सा पद्धतियों

[डा. सुधांशु त्रिवेदी]

और अन्य सामान्य चिकित्सा पद्धतियों में होता है। जैसे मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि Homoeopathy is that type of system which looks at the person in disease and not the disease in person. Sometimes, what happens is that the focus becomes too much on disease while the respective and related effects on the person are ignored. तो अगर हम यह कहें कि यह सिर्फ रोग का निदान नहीं करती है, बल्कि यह रोगग्रस्त व्यक्ति का निदान करती है, तो यह ज्यादा बेहतर होगा। संयोग की बात यह है कि established scientific basis के अभाव में कई बार उपहास भी झेलना पड़ता है और अनेक प्रकार के आरोप-प्रत्यारोप भी होते थे, इसलिए यह आवश्यकता कही जा सकती थी कि एक scientific development की जरूरत थी। अगर मैं on a lighter note कहूँ, तो कहा जाता था कि होम्योपैथी में क्या है, दो मीठी गोलियाँ दे दी जाती हैं और दो बूँद पानी मुँह में टपका दिया जाता है और कहते हैं कि इससे शायद ठीक हो जाए। उसके पीछे का जो effort है, वह research, वह शायद प्रकट होकर नहीं आ पाता था, जिसे अगर कहें, तो एक पंक्ति में कह सकते हैं कि:

"किसी ने लिखी बड़े जतन से कहानी,
और किसी ने पढ़ा किन्तु दो बूँद पानी।"

परन्तु, इस दो बूँद पानी का effect क्या था? मैं एक fact quote करना चाहूँगा। इस समय विश्व में जो researches हो रही हैं और उनमें जो facts निकल कर सामने आ रहे हैं, National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia in its report in October, 2013 has said that the serial dilution of the various animals, plants, minerals and systematic substance to create a homeopathic remedy which occurs to the point in which it is highly unlikely that a single molecule and original substance on the principles of potentization based on that, even though it is highly diluted solvents, have the memory of the original structure. इसका मतलब यह हुआ कि अगर हम किसी पानी में किसी दवा या पदार्थ को डालते हैं, तो एक dilution के बाद, एक limit ऐसी आती है, जो अभी स्थापित सिद्धांत हैं, जिनमें हम सब में से अगर किसी ने Class 10th तक भी किसी ने Chemistry पढ़ी होगी, तो Avogadro Number या एवोगाद्रो सिद्धांत पढ़ा होगा, जिसमें एक मोल (Mole) में 6.022×10^{23} होते हैं, परन्तु अब यह बात आ रही है कि उससे ज्यादा dilution होने पर उस substance की memory वहाँ मौजूद रहती है, जैसे nano technology जो आयी है, इसी ढंग से इसमें एक nano dynamics of concept आया है, जो लखनऊ के हमारे एक बड़े परिचित और स्थापित डॉक्टर हैं, उन्होंने मुझे दिखाया था और मैं सदन के संज्ञान में भी यह लाना चाहता हूँ कि एक बहुत स्थापित French virologist, जिनको virologist के ऊपर नोबल पुरस्कार भी मिल चुका है, उन्होंने भी इस बात की तसदीक की है कि highly diluted dilutions के अन्दर ऐसे elements होते हैं, जो कि औषधि की गुणवत्ता को बहुत बढ़ा देते हैं। वैसे यह ठीक है कि उनका बहुत विरोध भी हुआ है और अन्य चीजों को लेकर अनेक प्रकार की बातें कही भी जाती हैं और थोड़ा उपहास

भी उड़ाया जाता है, इसमें कोई बहुत आश्चर्य की बात नहीं है। मैं सिर्फ एक उदाहरण देना चाहूँगा कि जब हम नये scientific era में जाते हैं, तो कई बार जो स्थापित मान्यताएँ होती हैं, वे नये जो स्वरूप हैं, उनका उपहास उड़ाती हैं। मैं एक उदाहरण देना चाहूँगा कि जिस जमाने में अमेरिका में Project Manhattan चल रहा था, यानी एटम बम बनाने का प्रोजेक्ट, उस समय हैरी ट्रूमैन अमेरिका के प्रेजिडेंट थे और उनको one of the advisors, जिनका नाम Admiral William Leahy था, उन्होंने ट्रूमैन से कहा कि whatever we are going is a foolish thing. This bomb will never tick off. This I am saying as an expert on explosives. तो वे गलत नहीं थे। उस समय तक explosives की जो technology थी, वह chemical forces के ऊपर based थी, जैसे ही हम atom के अन्दर गये, तो वह technology बदल गयी। उसी प्रकार से हम यह कह सकते हैं कि आज जो रासायनिक सिद्धांतों के आधार पर दवाओं का प्रतिपादन है, जब यह nano technology के आधार के ऊपर होगा, तो हमारे विचार से इसमें एक नया स्वरूप आ सकता है और इस नये स्वरूप को स्थापित करने की जरूरत है, इसलिए भी कि इस प्रकार की कुछ ऐसी बीमारियाँ होती हैं, जिनका इलाज सामान्यतः स्थापित एलोपैथी में देखने को नहीं मिलता है। जैसे, skin diseases होती हैं, autoimmune diseases होती हैं, liver और kidney-related diseases होती हैं, viral infections, allergies हैं, इनके बारे में नहीं होता है। परन्तु इन चिकित्सा पद्धतियों से चूँकि लोग प्रभावित हो रहे हैं और वे लाभान्वित भी हो रहे हैं, तो आज आवश्यकता है कि उसको एक structured base बनाया जाए, ताकि फिर उसके base के ऊपर न सिर्फ लोगों को बेहतर लाभ मिल सके, बल्कि आगे हम इसका प्रयोग करके दुनिया में आगे और बेहतर ढंग से अपनी बात को रख भी सकें।

अब मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि चाहे animal source हो, mineral source हो या plant source हो, उससे मिलने वाली जो भी medicines हैं, उनका एक व्यवस्थित स्वरूप, जो scientific स्वरूप उभर कर आगे आना चाहिए, इसीलिए आयुष मंत्रालय ने inter-disciplinary co-relation establish करने की बात कही। जब हम inter-discipline की बात करते हैं, तो कभी-कभी लोग कहते हैं कि आपने तो केवल आयुर्वेद और होम्योपैथी कैसे जोड़ दिया, इनका आपस में क्या संबंध है और ऐसा प्रतीत होता है जैसे केवल यह एक पोलिटिकल आधार पर लिया गया निर्णय है। मैं यह कहना चाहूँगा कि सरकार ने जो यह निर्णय लिया है, यह बहुत ही व्यवस्थित और साइंटिफिक आधार पर लिया है। चूँकि यदि होम्योपैथी के बारे में कहा जाता है कि similia similibus curantur यानी like force जो है, वह like को ही cure करता है, तो आयुर्वेद में भी यह कहा गया है, 'सम समः शमति', यानी समान पदार्थ, समान पदार्थ का शमन करता है। यदि यह कहा जाता है कि हम कोई ऐसी चीज को, जो नुकसानदेह भी हो सकती है, उसके द्वारा हम इलाज कर सकते हैं, तो आयुर्वेद में भी कहा गया, 'विषस्य विषमौषधम्' यानी विष से विष का इलाज होता है। यदि ultra dilution की बात होम्योपैथी में है, तो आयुर्वेद में भी कहा गया है, 'मर्दनम् गुण वर्धनम्', which means that there are certain remedies in which you keep on diluting and keep on going into the finer element, and its power will keep on increasing, इसलिए मैं यह कहता हूँ कि यह आवश्यक है कि इसको आगे बढ़ाया जाए।

[डा. सुधांशु त्रिवेदी]

सर, इसका एक दूसरा पक्ष सामाजिक भी है। यदि हम 'हेल्थ फॉर ऑल' की बात करते हैं, तो जब तक आर्थिक दृष्टि से सहज और सुगम चिकित्सा पद्धतियाँ उपलब्ध नहीं होंगी, तब तक 'हेल्थ फॉर ऑल' कैसे हो सकता है? अब यदि आप देखिए, तो होम्योपैथी में अपेक्षाकृत एक बटे दस कॉस्ट आती है स्थापित मेडिसिन्स की। दूसरा यह है कि इनको लेने का तरीका इतना सिम्पल है कि छोटा बच्चा, जो साल, दो साल, तीन साल का हो या बहुत बुजुर्ग, जिनके लिए हैवी मेडिसिन्स को consume करना मुश्किल होता है, वह भी आसानी से ले सकता है। तीसरा, एक economic aspect तो यह भी आता है कि इनकी expiry date नहीं होती है। ऐसा नहीं है कि दवा बनी और कुछ समय के बाद वह gone by हो गई, expire हो गई। इस प्रकार से इसके बहुत सारे सामाजिक प्रभाव भी हैं। यदि हम इस पूरे सिस्टम को व्यवस्थित कर सकें, तो इसके सामाजिक प्रभाव का भी उपयोग होगा।

अब यदि हम कोविड के दौर में देखें, तो पहली बार ऐसा हुआ कि भारत सरकार ने आधिकारिक रूप से किसी आयुर्वेदिक और होम्योपैथिक की दवा को यह कहा कि इसका प्रयोग करना चाहिए, जो आपने देखा कि चाहे आर्सेनिक एल्बम हो या च्यवनप्राश के लिए कहा गया। उसका कारण यह है कि जब हम कोविड का सामना कर रहे हैं, तो अभी तक उससे बचने के दो तरीके हैं, एक तो है कि वैक्सीन का निर्माण हो और एक है इम्युनिटी बूस्ट हो। इम्युनिटी बूस्ट होने के जितने भी आधार उपलब्ध हैं, वे आयुर्वेद और होम्योपैथी में ही उपलब्ध हैं। अभी तक के ज्ञात एलोपैथी सिद्धांत में वे उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। इसलिए सरकार ने इसे न सिर्फ इम्युनिटी बूस्टर के रूप में प्रतिपादित किया, बल्कि यह रिसर्च करवाने की भी शुरुआत की और मेरा यह मानना है कि यह आने वाले समय में देश के लिए बहुत महत्वपूर्ण होगी।

मैं एक बात और कहना चाहूँगा कि यदि हमारे पास यह विचार पहले होता, तो शायद आज हम और बेहतर स्थिति में होते। मैं होम्योपैथी के संदर्भ में quote करना चाहूँगा, जो गुरु रबीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर ने 30 अगस्त, 1936 को शांति निकेतन में कहा, "I have long been an ardent believer in the science of Homoeopathy and I feel happy that it has got now a greater hold in India than even in the land of its origin. It is not merely a collection of a few medicines but a real science with a rational philosophy at its base. We require more scientific interest and inquiry into the matter with special stress upon the Indian environment". यह मैंने इसलिए कहा कि जो कुछ गुरु रबीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर जी ने 1936 में कहा, यदि हमने बाद के वर्षों में स्वतंत्रता के बाद के कार्यकाल में आयुर्वेद और होम्योपैथी के कुछ research institutes establish कर लिए होते और उनमें हमारे पास कुछ पेटेंट्स होते, तो मैं कह सकता हूँ कि आज हम दुनिया में एक अलग ढंग से खड़े होते।

मैं अंत में यह कहना चाहूँगा कि जब हम एक नई चुनौती के सामने हैं और नई शताब्दी में नए तरीके से आगे बढ़ रहे हैं, तो अगर हमें वर्ल्ड का लीडर बनना है, तो हमें alternative

technology के थू ही जाना होगा। Established technology को follow करते हुए हम follower बन सकते हैं लीडर नहीं, जैसे जो traditional Chinese medicine system है, उसमें जहाँ तक मुझे ज्ञात है, उसके अनुसार उन लोगों ने इतनी रिसर्च की कि मलेरिया की एक दवा traditional Chinese medicine system के माध्यम से रिसर्च करके...., एक महिला साइंटिस्ट थी, मुझे उनका नाम ध्यान में नहीं आ रहा है, उनको शायद नोबेल पुरस्कार भी मिला है। हमारे यहाँ ऐसी रिसर्च क्यों नहीं हुई? शायद कहीं न कहीं हमारे अंदर जो भारत के आत्मगौरव का भाव था, वह शायद उतना confidence नहीं रहा होगा, इसलिए हमने उसको establish नहीं किया।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Dr. Trivedi, you will have to start winding up now.

DR. SUDHANSHU TRIVEDI: I am coming to the end. फाइनली, मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहूँगा कि आज 21st century में पिछले सौ सालों में बहुत से ऐसे साइंस थे, जो वहाँ से शुरू हुए, मगर हमारे साइंटिस्टों ने आगे बढ़ाया। चाहे सी. वी. रमन हों, चाहे डीएनए के क्षेत्र में हरगोविन्द खुराना जी हों या अभी जो गॉड पार्टिकल निकाला गया, जिसका नाम Higgs boson है, जो इंग्लैण्ड के साइंटिस्ट Peter Higgs और भारत के Satyendra Nath Bose के नाम पर है। आज जब हमने करके दिखाया है, तो हम इन नई विधाओं में वर्ल्ड लीडर बन सकते हैं और हमारी सरकार में, मोदी जी में जो अभिनव प्रयोग करने की क्षमता है, उसी के चलते हम इसमें एक नए dimension के साथ आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। यदि वेदों का वह वाक्य सार्थक करना है,

"पश्येम शरदः शतं

जीवेम शरदः शतं

श्रुणुयाम शरदं शतं

प्रब्रवाम शरदः शतमदीनाः स्याम शरदः शतं

भूयस्य शरदः शतात्।।"

अर्थात् सौ वर्ष तक जिएं, सौ वर्ष तक देखें, सौ वर्ष तक सुनें और सौ वर्ष तक रोग से प्रभावित न हों, तो वह इन्हीं व्यवस्थाओं के द्वारा संभव है। यह कहते हुए, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Now, Dr. Santanu Sen.

DR. SANTANU SEN (West Bengal): Madam, am I supposed to speak on both the Bills together?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Yes, together; you have six minutes.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Thank you, Madam. It is really good to see you in the Chair.

I must start with that in the history, I have seen that there was only one Dhritrashtra and one Gandhari who were sufficient enough to ruin the Gurukul. But nowadays, we have seen that everywhere this Government, which is absolutely undemocratic, by privatization, is spoiling the entire health system by ruining the ancient systems of medicine. Everywhere they are putting seven Gandharis. I must not say that our hon. Health Minister, who belongs to our own profession, is Dhritrashtra. But I am sure that Dhritrashtra is sitting somewhere else and giving signals to ruin the entire health of the country.

Madam, I think I am a fool because till date, I am expecting something good from this Government, the leaders of which say that you don't need to take any medicine to fight Covid; Bhabhiji's papad will give you the cure and cow's urine will be the remedy for Covid. What more can be expected from this type of Government? This Government is in a mood to ruin all the ancient systems of medicine and to promote quackery which is obvious even in the National Education Policy 2020 where it is clearly mentioned that after 2030, there will be no existence of any individual system of medicine in the country. The Indian Medical Association has been opposing it since the beginning.

Madam, so far as the issue of homoeopathy is concerned, I must let you know that everywhere this Government is in a mood to dissolve elected bodies. The Homoeopathy Council was an elected body which was running the system very smoothly. They formed nearly 285 colleges. But, unfortunately, when they were running democratically and had 50 representatives from different States of the country, this elected body was simply dissolved and they formed a board of governors of seven members, seven Gandharis. The Indian homoeopathy system is very popular in West Bengal but not a single representative is from West Bengal. When this board of governors was formed, initially, it was for one year, 2018-19. They failed miserably to function; they did not visit medical colleges; they could not provide adequate number of teachers. So, they asked for an extension from 2019 to 2020. Now, indirectly, by admitting their failure, once again, they are seeking extension by another one year. There has been no election in the recent past; there is no transparency. They could not make any further progress. If you come to West Bengal, you will see that there is a National Institute of Homoeopathy there. It is in a miserable condition. You will find it unbelievable. They do not have teachers. They are running pediatric course without having a specialist doctor. On the contrary, in the new proposed Bill, they are saying

that for appointment to the post of lecturer, a person should be a post-graduate. I must let you know that there are many disciplines in homoeopathy like anatomy, gynaecology, pathology, community medicine, surgery, FMT, etc. But there is no specialization. So, how are they going to appoint lecturers in this system, this is my question, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Dr. Sen, you have only two minutes left.

DR. SANTANU SEN: Yes, Madam. Now, they are indirectly promoting quackery. They are telling that those, who have an experience of practising Homeopathy for last five years, would get registered, thus indirectly, they are promoting private medical colleges. Here and there, there is costuming of private medical colleges. Especially, if you go to the State of Gujarat, you would see.

Now, if I come to the IMCC Ordinance, Madam, National Medical Commission has been formed. Gazette Notification has been done but it is not functioning. What is the use of the Indian Medical Council once the National Medical Commission has been formed? I am a member of the National Medical Commission from West Bengal but since the formation of the National Medical Commission, I was never called in a meeting. No meeting took place. Only a Chairman is sitting on the chair, from AIIMS. He is good for nothing. He is doing nothing. Once again, they are asking for extension of this board of governors, again, the seven gandharis. Madam, I must let you know, it is absolutely essential...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Hon. Member, only one minute is left. Please start concluding.

DR. SANTANU SEN: This board of governors is simply a parasite on the public exchequer. They are enjoying their power and doing nothing. Once the National Medical Commission has been formed, I think, there is no use for the extension of this board of governors because, practically, they are doing nothing. Extension is not at all needed. This board of governors is not functioning. My humble submission before our hon. Health Minister is that we need to know, we have the right to know, why, after getting Gazette Notification, the NMC has not yet been implemented properly?

My final submission, I would like to make before this Dhritarashtra, who is sitting somewhere else, and sending instructions to the Gandharis through hon. Health Minister, please count on politics, no problem; play religious card, as you do, no problem; feed peacock during pandemic, no problem; but please do not play with the health of the country. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VAN DANA CHAVAN): Thank you, hon. Member. Now, Shri Prasanna Acharya. You have four minutes.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA (Odisha): Madam, at the outset, I would compliment that you have been nominated by the hon. Chairman as a Panel Member.

Madam, we all know that Homeopathy is a very old system of medicine. If I am correct, it came to India in 1810. The other Indian system of medicines like Ayurveda is much older than Homeopathy also. Both these systems are very well prevalent in our country. Particularly, so far as the Homeopathy is concerned, the poor people of this country can afford Homeopathy treatment because it is comparatively cheaper. Therefore, we need to make this system, the Indian system of medicine and the Homeopathy system more robust.

But my contention is about this Ordinance. What was the necessity of clamping an Ordinance to bring these changes? My appeal to the Government would be, not to try administering this country through ordinances only. There is a Parliament here. Madam, I want to quote one line of Justice Bhagwati. During a judgment in one case, he observed that the power to promulgate an ordinance is essentially a power to be used to meet an extraordinary situation. In an extraordinary situation, the Government should bring ordinances. What was the extraordinary situation? As the hon. Minister said, it was the corruption prevalent in the Council, therefore, it was essential to supersede the Council and have another board of governors appointed by the Government. So, when was this corruption detected? If I am correct, in 2016, the Chairman of the then Council was arrested by the CBI on charges of corruption. So, what for was the Government sleeping for another two to three years? The Government came out with this Ordinance after two years. Then, it has been extending the Ordinances. Within that period, several sittings of Parliament were held. The Government could have very well come with these amendments to the Parliament.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Acharyaji, two minutes are left.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: Secondly, Madam, Prof. Saheb is sitting here and at that time, he was the Chairman of the Standing Committee. The Standing Committee, then, under his Chairmanship, had made a very detailed recommendation to the Government to bring certain changes in the Act but the Government did not act upon that. Madam, my contention is that, okay, now we support the Bill and my party also

supports the Bill. Regarding the Indian Central Medical Council Amendment which the Government has now brought in the form of a Bill, according to the recommendation of the NITI Aayog and what the NITI Aayog says, "The IMCC needs clear demarcation of powers and functions while this Ordinance does not clear that." सरकार यह जो बिल लायी है, इस बारे में कोई...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): You have to start winding up please.

SHRI PRASANNA ACHARYA: So, the Bill needs a visionary look to identify the institutional deficiency and improve their functions before any excess powers to the Council. Thank you, Madam.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Next is, Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav. You have four minutes to speak.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम, धन्यवाद। महोदया, पिछले दिनों पहले मेडिकल काउन्सिल ऑफ इंडिया को सुपरसीड किया गया और इसके स्थान पर नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशन बनाया गया, शायद वह अभी पूरा बन नहीं पाया है या अगर बन गया है तो मुझे मालूम नहीं है। उसके बाद ये दोनों काउन्सिल्स सुपरसीड की गई - होम्योपैथी से संबंधित और आयुर्वेद और आयुष से संबंधित। उनको सुपरसीड करने के लिए अध्यादेश लाया गया और दोनों के लिए बिल आए, जिनमें एक नेशनल होम्योपैथी कमीशन के रूप में और एक National Commission for Indian System of Medicine के रूप में, दोनों बिल स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के पास गए, उनकी रिपोर्ट्स आयीं, रिपोर्ट्स की कुछ संस्तुतियां स्वीकार की गईं। इस सदन से वे दोनों बिल पास हो चुके हैं, जो लोक सभा में under consideration हैं, यदि लॉकडाउन न होता तो शायद वे दोनों बिल पास हो गए होते। अध्यादेश लाने की जो ज़रूरत हुई, वह इसलिए कि समय पर एक कमीशन को बना ही नहीं पाते हैं। मेडिकल काउन्सिल ऑफ इंडिया को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने एक साल का समय दिया था। एक साल में नहीं बनाए गए तो वहां से डांट पड़ी, फिर वह भंग हुआ, तब जाकर वह बना। इसमें भी मैं सरकार से यह चाहूंगा, क्योंकि ये दोनों बिल बहुत लिमिटेड उद्देश्य के लिए हैं, ये बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स का कार्यकाल बढ़ाने के लिए हैं। जब तक National Commission for Homoeopathy और National Commission for Indian System of Medicine नहीं बन जाते, तब तक ये बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स रहेंगे, यह अध्यादेश लाने की संवैधानिक बाध्यता गवर्नमेंट के सामने है, क्योंकि लॉकडाउन के चलते लोक सभा में ये बिल आ नहीं सके। मैं सिर्फ दो बातें कहना चाहूंगा। एक तो गवर्नमेंट से यह अनुरोध है कि यह जो National Commission for Homoeopathy और National Commission for Indian System of Medicine बिल पास हो जाएंगे, एक्ट बन जाएंगे तो फिर इतना विलम्ब मत कीजिए कि एक बार फिर आपको अध्यादेश लाना पड़े।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Prof. Ram Gopal Yadav, you have two minutes left.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: दोनों विधाएं, दोनों प्रणालियां बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं, देश के 70 परसेंट लोग अब भी आयुर्वेद और होम्योपैथी से इलाज कराते हैं। ऐलोपैथी इतनी महंगी है कि प्राइवेट अस्पताल में कोरोना का मरीज जाए जो एक-एक दिन में एक-एक लाख रुपये चार्ज कर रहे हैं। सबसे सस्ती तो होम्योपैथी है और कई ऐसे रोग हैं, जिनका ऐलोपैथी में कोई इलाज नहीं है, जैसे मस्से हो जाते हैं, मुहांसे हो जाते हैं, इनका केवल होम्योपैथी में इलाज है। आयुर्वेद में बहुत सारे ऐसे रोग हैं, जिनको जड़ से नाश करने की क्षमता है, लेकिन ऐलोपैथी नहीं कर सकती। आयुर्वेद हिन्दुस्तान की बहुत पुरानी प्रणाली है। वाल्मीकि रामायण ने और गोस्वामी तुलसीदास ने तो सुषेण वैद्य को अमर कर दिया, लक्ष्मण को संजीवनी से ज़िंदा कर दिया था, यह आयुर्वेद ही था। हमारा पूरा अथर्ववेद आयुर्वेद है।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): You have to start winding up.

प्रो. राम गोपाल यादव: मैं समाप्त कर रहा हूँ। मैं जानता हूँ कि यह सरकार की मजबूरी है कि जब वे अभी तक उस कमीशन को बना ही नहीं पा रहे हैं तो ऑर्डिनेंस लाना पड़ेगा। हमें इसको सपोर्ट करना ही पड़ेगा, लेकिन मैं यह ज़रूर चाहूंगा कि जब ये लोक सभा से पास हो जाएं और एक्ट बन जाएं तो समय के अंदर इन दोनों कमीशन को एक साल के अंदर बना लीजिए, वरना फिर आपको इस सदन में अध्यादेश लाना पड़ेगा और शर्मिंदगी उठानी पड़ेगी। इसके साथ ही मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूँ और इन दोनों विधेयकों का समर्थन करता हूँ। इसके साथ ही मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूँ और इन दोनों विधेयकों का समर्थन करता हूँ।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): I thank all the Members who have been keeping the time. Next is Shri Tiruchi Siva. You have three minutes.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA (Tamil Nadu): Madam, Vice-Chairperson, we congratulate you for being a member of Panel of Vice-Chairmen. This Bill is one more attempt of this Government to strike at the roots of federalism. From the day one they assumed the office, most of the Bills that have been passed, with the majority which they are having now in the Parliament, have taken away the powers of the State Governments. There are many reasons, I will confine to the time that has been allotted to me. I don't want to embarrass you when you are in the Chair. The Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973 and the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, they were amended again by way of an Ordinance. The Council was superseded and they appointed a Board of Governors for a term of one year, and the Ordinance in the year 2018, later brought as a Bill,

extended that as two years and now it is extended for three years. As everyone raised their concern, it cannot be extended further and further instead of constituting the Commission. Our concern is, the Standing Committee has very clearly stated about the Commission that there is no representation of State Medical Councils in the Advisory Council. That is why it was recommended that there should be a provision for representation of elected members of State Medical Councils and further, it is recommended that the Advisory Council should include Vice-Chancellors of recognised Homoeopathy Colleges as well as for the other one. The Government, of course, is against what it has stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): You have one minute left.

SHRI TIRUCHI SIVA: It defeats the very purpose of the 2018 Amendment. Presently, the Board of Governors, all the seven are appointed by the Central Government. I think there is no representation and all the things now are under the Central Government. They are unifying everything instead of multi-dimensional country and, especially, when Federalism is the basic principle of our Constitution, all the powers are taken by the Centre. Now, the Board of Governors is appointed by the Central Government and there is no voice or nothing is heard from the State Government. So we suggest that, at least, hereafter, the State Governments should be taken into consideration and the Standing Committee's recommendations should be included when they constitute the Commission.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. You have three minutes.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I congratulate you at the outset. In Andhra Pradesh, we have been strictly following the system of 50 per cent reservation to women by the hon. Chief Minister, Shri Y.S. Jaganmohan Reddy *garu*. So I hope you will give more time because you are sitting in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you, it is the beginning.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Madam, first I am addressing the Central Council Bill. I have two suggestions to make to the hon. Minister in this regard. The hon. Minister is sitting in the Lok Sabha Chamber. Under Section 3, sub-section (C), sub-

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[Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy]

clause (1), the Board of Governors or Central Council in performance of its functions shall be bound by such directions on questions of policy other than those relating to technical and administrative matters as Central Government may give in writing. This is the Section in verbatim. Hon. Minister, why cannot we have an independent Board for promotion of Indian medicine and not depend on the Central Government to issue directions each time? This is what my suggestion is. Secondly, Section 3, sub-section (C), clause (2) says that the decision on whether it is a question of policy shall be final. Can the Minister explain this overreach of the Central Government in this issue? This is definitely overreach, hon. Minister. Now coming to Homoeopathy, there was a proposal in 2014 in the Ministry to amend the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act to allow Ayurveda acharyas and Homoeopathy doctors to conduct medical termination of pregnancy.

What happened to this proposal? Is it still pending or has it been given up? Homeopathy market share in India is more than ₹ 4,000 crores and it is growing at the rate of about 20 per cent. Only 15 per cent is in organized sector and 85 per cent is in unorganized sector.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Hon. Member, you will have to start winding up. Only one minute left.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Madam, I will take one more minute. What efforts is the Government taking in this regard? The third point is, the Ministry has set a target to open up 4,200 AYUSH Health and Wellness Centres. What is the status now? How many Health and Wellness Centres of AYUSH have been opened in Andhra Pradesh so far? Finally, my last point is, 50 bedded AYUSH hospital at Visakhapatnam under National AYUSH Mission was approved and ₹ 2.2 crore was allotted to it also. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the status of the same and why can the Ministry not have AYUSH medical college in Visakhapatnam as there is also a regional Ayurvedic Research Institute at Vijayawada. With this, I support the Bill. Thank you very much.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you for keeping up the time and so was Tiruchi Sivaji also. Now, Shri Ram Chandra Prasad Singh.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, आपको बहुत-बहुत बधाई। मैं इन दोनों बिल्स का समर्थन करता हूँ। मैं सबसे पहले तो यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि होम्योपैथी की

शुरुआत जरूर जर्मनी में हुई, लेकिन आज हिंदुस्तान के हरेक कोने में लोग इस चिकित्सा पद्धति का लाभ ले रहे हैं। हम कोई डॉक्टर तो नहीं हैं, लेकिन बताया जाता है कि इसमें symptoms सबसे महत्वपूर्ण हैं। अगर symptoms का सही पता चल जाता है, तो जैसा अभी प्रोफेसर साहब बोल रहे थे कि होम्योपैथी की दवा सबसे कारगर सिद्ध होती है। इसी के चलते आप देखेंगे कि पूरे हिंदुस्तान में आज होम्योपैथी के तीन तरह के practioners हैं। पहला, जो डिग्री लिए हुए हैं और वे सरकारी अस्पतालों में प्रैक्टिस कर रहे हैं। दूसरे, जो ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में हैं और जिन्हें हम बिहार में ग्रामीण चिकित्सक कहते हैं और लोग उन्हें quack भी बोलते हैं, तो वे लोग भी अपने अनुभव के आधार पर और जो भी literature उपलब्ध है, उसके आधार पर लोगों की सेवा कर रहे हैं। तीसरे, ऐसे बहुत सारे पढ़े-लिखे लोग हैं, जो होम्योपैथी की अच्छी-अच्छी किताबें हैं, उनको अपने पास रखते हैं। होम्योपैथी की दवाएं, जो बिल्कुल स्टैंडर्ड की होती हैं, उनको रखते हैं और उसके आधार पर खुद का और लोगों का इलाज करते हैं। इस बिल के आ जाने के बाद मैं यह जरूर अपेक्षा करूंगा कि हमारा जो पूरा का पूरा होम्योपैथी का सिस्टम है, उसका जो education का सिस्टम है, उसका एक standardization होना चाहिए और साथ ही जो भी दवाएं हैं, उनकी quality भी अच्छी हो और कोई spurious medicine मार्केट में न रहे, उसकी भी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए और literature, क्योंकि बहुत-से लोग इसे पढ़ते भी हैं, तो उच्च quality का literature भी मिलना चाहिए। इसके साथ जो Indian systems of medicine है, जिसमें हमारा आयुर्वेद सबसे पुराना है...

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण): सर, एक मिनट बाकी है।

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह: और इस पद्धति से हमारे देश में लोग वर्षों से सभी बीमारियों का इलाज करते रहे हैं और निश्चित रूप से इसमें भी अगर पूरे का पूरा हमारा जो मेडिकल एजुकेशन सिस्टम है, उसको standardize किया जाएगा, दवाओं के बारे किसी को ensure किया जाएगा, तो निश्चित रूप से इससे भी हमारे देश के लोगों को चिकित्सा में बहुत लाभ मिलेगा। महोदय, मैं इन दोनों बिल्स का समर्थन करता हूं और निश्चित रूप से सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस प्रकार की व्यवस्था होम्योपैथी में और Indian systems of medicine में भी की जाए, जिससे कि हमारे यहां की जो स्वास्थ्य की सुविधा है, वह बेहतर हो सके। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

उपसभाध्यक्ष (श्रीमती वंदना चव्हाण): धन्यवाद, सर। Now, Shri K. Somaprasad.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Madam, I am sitting in Lok Sabha Chamber.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Yes, please. You have three minutes to speak.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: I would like to comment on this. Homeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill. Madam, this Bill is introduced to avoid the administrative stagnation and to extend the period of Board of Governors for one more year. The

[Shri K. Somaprasad]

Government had extended the period for one year, last year. This year, the Government is extending by one more year. I am afraid that the Government would come in the next year for another only. I would like to know how many years the Government would take to form the National Commission. The Homeopathy branch has also played a remarkable role in this pandemic period. No doubt at all. Even though it is not an indigenous branch, it is a fast growing branch in India. A large number of patients depend on this branch. But, Homoeopathy does not get much attention from the State Governments or from the Centre. I would like to point out one thing. There are many unqualified Homoeopathy doctors who are practising all over India. There is no effective regular mechanism to find out the unqualified doctors. This needs to be stopped and the States need to be supported to do more research and clinical trials with the Homoeopathy medicines. Now the States are not doing any clinical works due to lack of funds. The Central Government should see to it that the State Governments are assisted. So, the Central Government should fund the State Governments to promote this system of medicine. That is all. Thank you.

THE VICE CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): The next speaker is Prof. Manoj Kumar Jha, you have three minutes' time.

PROF. MANOJ KUMAR JHA (BIHAR): I know, Madam. शुक्रिया, माननीय उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया, मैं जानता हूँ कि उस कुर्सी में ही कुछ है कि मौसम और माहौल वैसा ही रहता है। Madam, my first intervention would be कि मैं सरकार से आपके माध्यम से और सदन के माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ कि आयुष मंत्रालय के गठन के बाद एक बार उसका भी मूल्यांकन होना चाहिए कि 2014 में इस मंत्रालय के गठन के बाद हमने कौन सी उपलब्धियाँ हासिल कीं। मेरी समझ में यह भी नहीं आता है कि Yoga और Naturopathy को आप IMCC Act से लगातार बाहर क्यों रख रहे हैं? हज़ारों छात्र हैं जो Ph.D किए हुए हैं, BNYS, MD, Ph.D programme किए हुए हैं, पचास मेडिकल कॉलेज ऐसे हैं - उनके बारे में जो बेरुखी है, वह बेरुखी हमारी समझ में नहीं आ रही है।

तीसरी चीज़ जो मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहता हूँ, referring to the point 2 of Statement of Objects and Reasons, कि यह इतना sweeping denigration है, इससे पहले के structures and process का, कि कहीं न कहीं एहसास होता है कि क्या उन्होंने कुछ भी, दस प्रतिशत भी अच्छा नहीं किया, क्या सब कुछ ज़मींदोज़ था, इतना बुरा था! मैं समझता हूँ कि इसे ध्यान में रखना चाहिए और इस तरह के Statement of Objects and Reasons में थोड़ी सावधानी बरतनी चाहिए, it should be more balanced.

मैडम, ऑर्डिनेंस के संबंध में मेरे कई साथियों ने कहा। अब इस सरकार से मैं शिकायत भी नहीं करना चाहता। यह सरकार नहीं है, ऑर्डिनेंस फैक्ट्री है। ऑर्डिनेंस की क्या exigency है, क्या immediacy होती है, उसका कोई ज़िक्र नहीं होता है, बस ऑर्डिनेंस चाहिए, पार्लियामेंट recess में है, ऑर्डिनेंस चाहिए। Now, I look at the board powers of the Central Government. आज अगर मैं IMCC की बात करूं तो यह कौन सा सहकारी संघवाद है, इस सरकार का? प्रधान मंत्री जी और तमाम मंत्रीगण बार-बार Cooperative Federalism कहते हैं और मैंने दो-ढाई वर्षों में इस सदन में बैठकर देखा है कि Cooperative Federalism तो कतई नहीं है, सहकारी संघवाद कहीं से दिखता नहीं है। मैं समझता हूं कि अगर मैं एक शब्द का प्रतीक के रूप में इस्तेमाल करूं तो वह है - अहंकारी संघवाद, जो अलग-अलग नस्लों पर - चाहे आर्थिक क्षेत्र का मामला हो, चाहे स्टेट का hand-holding का मामला हो - उन सब चीजों में दिखता है। मैं सिर्फ इतना आग्रह करूंगा कि इस बिल को थोड़ा balanced बनाइए। Board of Governors में तमाम powers आपके पास हैं, राज्यों और केन्द्र के बीच में टकराव के कई लक्षण हमने बीते दिनों में देखे हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Hon. Member you have only one minute left. So, please start winding up your speech.

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा: बिल्कुल, मैंने पहले ही कहा कि उस कुर्सी में ही कुछ है। Anyway, मैं सिर्फ इतना कहकर अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा कि आप Yoga and Naturopathy को इसमें शामिल करें। आयुष मंत्रालय बनने के बाद बहुत अच्छा लगा था और ऐसा लगा था कि कोई बहुत बेहतरीन चीज़ देखने को मिलेगी। एक जो मैंने पहले माननीय मंत्री महोदय से कहा था कि इस तरह की चीजों के नाम पर जो बाज़ार में कई चीज़ें चल रही हैं, उन पर अंकुश लगाने की भी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए और इसका spread पूरे हिन्दुस्तान में हो। मैं पुनः आपको बहुत-बहुत बधाई देता हूं और जय हिन्द के साथ आपका शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं, शुक्रिया।

SHRI BINOY VISWAM (Kerala): Madam, I am so glad to see you on that Chair. I join all my friends to congratulate you on this assignment. Madam, these two Bills are to be opposed because this is not a solution for the ailments. We often say about the drug-induced ailments. The drug itself will cause ailments. This is what is happening in the Homoeopathy, Ayurveda and all other systems of medicines here. I should say that Minister personally is not to be blamed. He is only a part of the system. The system, we all know, is causing all ailments. In Malayalam we used to say, "*kurundotikke vadam picuchhal*". '*Vadam is paralysis*', '*kurundotikke*' is the medicinal herb, which is the best treatment for that. If that herb itself will be affected by that ailment of paralysis, what can we do? This is the problem here. The Government is telling about Homoeopathy Council and other Council. Both of them are corrupt. So, they came with a treatment of Board of Governors. Are they free from corruption? No, Madam. They are also

[Shri Binoy Viswam]

equally involved and immersed in corruption. All the selections are mainly made by the Government itself. There is no democracy and no criterion is followed. Whoever the Government wants he can be a Governor. Those Governors without protest are trying to do whatever they like.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Viswamji, you have one minute more. You will have to conclude.

SHRI BINOY VISWAM: That, of course, leads to more and more ailments. So, I request that the treatment is something else. So, the Government should see to it that and try to have a rebirth for the democratic functioning of the Councils with a lot of measures, with honest measures. I hope that the Minister will see to it that once again he will not come with such an Ordinance in this House. This is my humble request. With this, I oppose the Bill.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Madam, I must congratulate you for being in the Chair. The Central Council of Homoeopathy regulates and controls the education and practice of homoeopathy. The Government intends to supersede the Central Council of Homeopathy and it wants to re-constitute another Council in a time-bound manner. But it is not happening. Hence, it keeps on extending the year by which the Central Council has to be constituted. As a stop gap arrangement the affairs of the Central Council are entrusted to the Board of Governors. Through this amendment, the Government is extending the existing period from 2 years to 3 years. With this limited purpose the Government has brought this amendment. Madam, at this juncture, I wish to place some request before the Government. Homoeopathy is a system of medicinal treatment in which there is no side effect. The Homeopathy system of medicine is to be promoted in a big way. In order to achieve this target, we have to increase number of Homoeopathy Colleges across the country particularly in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Madam, as on date, there are only 5 Homoeopathy Colleges in the State of Andhra Pradesh. Out of these colleges, 3 are Government Colleges and 2 are private colleges. All these colleges are affiliated to Dr. N.T.R. University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada. I also request the Government to upgrade the status of the Dr. N.T.R. University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada in to an Institute of National Importance.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANADAN CHAVAN): Hon. Member, you have to start winding up, please.

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR: Lifestyle-related diseases are on the rise. Indian System of Medicines has to be re-oriented in such a way that they have to cure the lifestyle related diseases such as diabetes, blood pressure, thyroid problem, heart related problems, etc. New diseases are coming one after another. With these submissions, I support the Bill. Thank you, Madam.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ (उत्तर प्रदेश): मैडम, आपका बहुत-बहुत स्वागत है और आपको बहुत-बहुत बधाई है। मैडम, मैंने अभी स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी को सुना और अपने तमाम सदस्यों को भी सुना है। उन्होंने यह कहा कि भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धति और होम्योपैथी चिकित्सा पद्धति बहुत ही अच्छी पद्धतियाँ हैं। देश की गरीब जनता के स्वास्थ्य के लिए सस्ती पद्धतियाँ होने के बाद भी, जो इस पद्धति के माध्यम से इलाज करने की प्रक्रिया है, उसके बारे में हमारे तमाम साथियों ने चर्चा की। मैं माननीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री जी और सरकार से कहना चाहता हूँ कि चाहे वह भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धति हो, चाहे होम्योपैथिक चिकित्सा पद्धति हो, ये पद्धतियाँ देश की जनता के लिए तो अच्छी हैं। लेकिन सरकार के द्वारा बार-बार ऑर्डिनेंस लाना लोकतंत्र के स्वास्थ्य के लिए अच्छा नहीं है। इसलिए मैं सरकार से यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बात की क्या गारंटी है कि 1973 के एक्ट की कमियों में सुधार करने के लिए जो बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स की काउंसिल बनाई गई थी, उसने अपना कार्य समय पर पूरा नहीं किया। जिन लोगों ने अपना कार्य समय पर पूरा नहीं किया, क्या उनके खिलाफ या उनके ऊपर कार्यवाही करने की आगे की कोई योजना सरकार के पास है या नहीं है? अगर ऐसी कोई योजना नहीं है, तो फिर यदि बार-बार उन्हीं का समय बढ़ाकर अवसर दिया जाएगा, तो क्या गारंटी है कि वे अगले और एक साल के लिए दिए गए समय में इस कार्य को पूरा करने का काम करेंगे, इस कार्य को पारदर्शिता के साथ करेंगे और भ्रष्टाचार नहीं होगा? जैसा कि प्रायः देखा जाता है कि पूरे देश में, चाहे वह भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धति के अस्पताल हों, मेडिकल कॉलेज हों या होम्योपैथी के अस्पताल हों, उनको दोयम दर्जे का अस्पताल समझा जाता है। उन्हें दोयम दर्जे का अस्पताल क्यों समझा जाता है? उन्हें ऐसा इसलिए समझा जाता है, क्योंकि यह माना जाता है कि वे लोग झोलाछाप डॉक्टर्स हैं।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Hon. Member, please start winding up.

श्री अशोक सिद्धार्थ : मैडम, आपके निर्देश के अनुसार मैं बस एक मिनट में खत्म कर रहा हूँ। इन पद्धतियों को हमेशा दोयम दर्जे का इसलिए माना गया, क्योंकि जो एलोपैथी पद्धति भारत में आई, वह अंग्रेजों के द्वारा लाई गई थी और हमारी मानसिकता में अंग्रेजों की गुलामी अभी तक खत्म नहीं हुई है, इसलिए भारतीय पद्धतियाँ, जो जीवक के समय से लेकर Hahnemann के समय की होम्योपैथिक पद्धति है, जिससे हम गरीबों को सस्ता और आसान तरीके का इलाज दे सकते हैं, उस पद्धति से इलाज नहीं किया जाता है। मैं सरकार से यह बात जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स बनेंगे, क्या उनमें एस.सी./एस.टी. वर्ग के लोगों को भी गवर्नर बनाने का काम किया जाएगा? मैं चाहूँगा कि मंत्री जी अपने उत्तर में इसका जवाब जरूर दें। आपने मुझे यहाँ बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री संजय सिंह (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): धन्यवाद उपसभाध्यक्ष महोदया। मैडम, इस होम्योपैथी बिल के बारे में, इस पद्धति के बारे में यह कहा गया है कि भारत में यह ऐसी तीसरी चिकित्सा पद्धति है, जिसके माध्यम से लोगों को लाभ पहुंच रहा है, स्वास्थ्य लाभ पहुंच रहा है। मैडम, आयुष मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट है कि 26.3 प्रतिशत की दर से प्रति वर्ष इस चिकित्सा पद्धति की ग्रोथ हो रही है यानी होम्योपैथी को अपनाने की जो स्वीकार्यता है, वह 26.3 प्रतिशत हर साल हिन्दुस्तान में बढ़ रही है। लेकिन जब सरकार बजट अलॉट करती है, 2,122 करोड़ रुपये का टोटल बजट आयुष मंत्रालय का है, लेकिन उसमें से होम्योपैथी के लिए मात्र 138 करोड़ रुपये का बजट निर्धारित किया गया है, जो इस चिकित्सा पद्धति को देखते हुए बहुत कम है। इस बजट को बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए। देश में होम्योपैथी के जो सरकारी अस्पताल हैं, उनकी संख्या 207 है, जो डॉक्टर्स की संख्या है, वह 2 लाख 24 हजार के आसपास है, जो डिस्पेंसरीज़ हैं, वे 7,856 हैं और इतना बड़ा नेटवर्क होने के बावजूद, अगर आप सोचते हैं कि होम्योपैथी को हिन्दुस्तान में बढ़ावा आप 138 करोड़ रुपये के बजट से दे पायेंगे, तो मुझे लगता है कि यह बहुत मुश्किल काम है। अभी यहां पर कहा गया, सरकार की तरफ से भी और विपक्ष की तरफ से भी कि होम्योपैथी वह पद्धति है, जिसमें जड़ से बीमारी को खत्म किया जाता है। यह ऐसी होम्योपैथी है, यह ऐसी विधा है, जिसमें मीठी गोली दी जाती है। मैडम, यह सरकार भी मीठी गोली देकर हिन्दुस्तान में जड़ से सारी चीज़ों को खत्म करने पर लगी हुई है। वह चाहे सरकारी नौकरियां हों, वे जड़ से खत्म हो रही हैं, हिन्दुस्तान में रोजगार जड़ से खत्म हो रहा है। हिन्दुस्तान में नफरत की राजनीति लगातार बढ़ रही है। सरकार की काम करने की जो पद्धति है, होम्योपैथी की तरह मीठी गोली देकर, असत्य वायदे देकर....

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Sanjayji, please start winding up.

श्री संजय सिंह: मैडम, मैं बस खत्म कर रहा हूँ। असत्य वायदे करके, देश को गुमराह करके जड़ से सारी चीज़ों को खत्म करना। मैडम, मैं आज आपके सामने बोल पा रहा हूँ, यह मेरा सौभाग्य है। आपको इस चेयर पर देखकर मुझे प्रसन्नता हो रही है, लेकिन इस सरकार ने इस काबिल भी शायद मुझे नहीं छोड़ा है और हो सकता है कि चार दिन बाद मैं जेल में दिखूँ। देशद्रोह का मुकदमा लगा दिया, मैडम, देशद्रोह का मुकदमा। * देशद्रोह का मुकदमा लगा दिया? ...**(व्यवधान)**...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Sanjayji, please stick to the issue.

श्री संजय सिंह: क्या इस सदन में बैठने वाला सदस्य देशद्रोही है, मैं इस सरकार से पूछना चाहता हूँ?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Sanjayji, please stick to the issue.

* Exploded as ordered by the Chair.

श्री संजय सिंह: मैडम, अगर हम देशद्रोही हैं, तो मुझे उठाकर जेल में डाल दिया जाए...(व्यवधान)...

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you, Sanjayji.

श्री संजय सिंह: इस देश के सर्वोच्च सदन में बैठकर एक देशद्रोही आपके सामने बोल रहा है, तो मुझे जेल भिजवाइए।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you, Sanjayji.

श्री संजय सिंह: मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूँ, धन्यवाद।

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you. The next speaker is Dr. Hanumanthaiah. You have eight minutes. But, we have a message to wind up the discussion by 11.30. So, if you can keep it short, I will really be obliged.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH (Karnataka): Okay, Madam. Madam, I thank you very much for giving me this opportunity. I just wanted to bring to the notice of this august House as well as the hon. Minister one thing. Sir, from 2014, you have issued seven Ordinances, in spite of Parliament running regularly. Of course, during COVID, there is a gap. Otherwise, the Parliament was functioning regularly. What was the necessity to issue so many Ordinances? And, I have no other option but to call this as 'Ordinance raj' and 'Ordinance Government.' You had brought many Ordinances in 2014. You have issued the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Ordinance; the Coal Mines (Special Provisions) Second Ordinance; the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Ordinance, 2014; it was issued the second time in 2015; the Negotiable Instrument (Amendment) Ordinance, 2015; it was issued again in 2015; you have issued The Enemy Property (Amendment Validation) Ordinance, 2016, for five times; The Indian Medical Council Ordinance was issued in 2018, 2019 and again in 2019. It was issued three times! The Muslim Women (Protection of Rights on Marriage) Ordinance in 2018, 2019 and again issued in 2019! This Homoeopathy Central Council Ordinance was issued in 2019 and again in 2020. Sir, what is the necessity? I wanted to know whether the Government is interested to run administration on Ordinances or to make legislation when Parliament is regularly meeting, except during COVID period.

Madam, first, I wanted to speak on the Indian Medical Central Council (Amendment) Bill. It is a stop-gap arrangement. The Bill is a stop-gap arrangement to temporarily supersede the Central Council of Indian Medicine owing to its poor functioning. It is

[Dr. L. Hanumanthaiah]

going to be replaced with the proposed National Council of Indian System of Medicine. The supersession of the Central Council, through this Bill, is for a period of one year until the Board of Governors is constituted to exercise its powers. The Board of Governors consists of 10 members. This is what is proposed in the Bill. I wanted to ask you one thing. You have mentioned in the Bill that you will appoint eminent persons in the field of Indian medicine or eminent administrators. The Board is bound by the directions of the Central Government on policy matters. Madam, I wanted to ask the Government, through you, why 10 members have not been prescribed as to how many members are the Indian medical experts and how many will be with administrative background. See, the day may come that you may not appoint Indian medical experts at all. There will only be the administrative or *ex-officio* members. What will happen then? The entire Board will be run by the officers or run at the directions of the Government! Hon. Minister, you should prescribe this. In other Bills, you have mentioned that there will be three experts. When you brought a Bill on teaching and research of Ayurveda in Gujarat, you have mentioned in that very Bill that there will be three experts and there are three others, including Secretary (AYUSH) and Minister of Ayush. But, in this Bill, why such specification is not there? If you don't appoint experts. Professors, field experts who have done research in that, who have taught medicine for so many years, what will happen to this Board?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Please observe silence.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: You have already mentioned that the Central Government will give direction on policy matters. If that is the case, I wanted to ask what about the autonomy of this Board. Madam, there would not be any autonomy even in academics! If you don't maintain autonomy in academics, what will happen? The Indian Medicine Council Board will run under the Government and Minister directly. It is fine that you are a doctor and you are heading the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. But, if there is a Minister who is not a doctor, does not have knowledge about health and family welfare, then the entire Board will run under a person who does not have any knowledge about medicine! What will happen then? So, at least, for God's sake, I request you to precisely mention it here.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): You will have to start winding up, Hanumanthaiahji.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: Out of ten members, five should be experts and the rest you can appoint as *ex-officio* members.

Madam, there is one more important factor. Yoga and Naturopathy is totally kept away from this. Who is interested in this? And, I wanted to know the vested interest playing in this.

Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi*ji*, every year, after this Government came to power, has been following the International Yoga Day as a National Day and celebrations are also done.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Please observe order here. Excuse me, Members, please observe order. On the right side, please observe order in the House.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: At the same time, you don't want to prescribe syllabus. You don't want to have Naturopathy as study material. You don't want to have it as degree. But, you wanted to take advantage of it. Sir, I wanted to ask you: How can it be done when Yoga and Naturopathy are kept away from this Bill?

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Hon. Member, you will have to wind up, please.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: One minute, Madam.

Madam, autonomy must be maintained in all the Government bodies. In UGC we are maintaining autonomy. So, here also, you please maintain autonomy.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Please wind up, Hanumanthaiah*ji*.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: So, I request you to ensure that Board of Governors will exercise their powers based on directions given by the Government should not be there in the Bill.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Okay. I am calling the next speaker. Hanumanthaiah*ji*, please wind up.

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIAH: There should be experts. The Ayush Ministry's regulating the Council is not proper. So, Madam, I request, through you, the hon. Minister to make these amendments and we will pass the Bill. Thank you.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you. Shrimati Roopa Ganguly. She is absent. Dr. Vikas Mahatme. Mahatmeji, you have eight minutes. But, if you can make it shorter, I will be obliged.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME (Maharashtra): It is very nice to see an eminent lady from Maharashtra in the Chair.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (SHRIMATI VANDANA CHAVAN): Thank you.

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: I think, we should change the routine nomenclature to 'Chairperson', from 'Chairman' because 'Chairman' is not gender-neutral. It will be better if we say 'Chairperson.'

Thank you Madam. As you know, the Bill is a very important one. ये जो The Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Bill और The Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Bill हैं, हमें इनकी पार्श्वभूमि जाननी चाहिए। 2016 में अरविंद पणगरिया जी की अध्यक्षता में एक कमिटी form की गई थी, ताकि हम इनके सुधार कर सकें, क्योंकि जिनके ज़रिए Indian Medicine Central Council और Homoeopathy Central Council तैयार की गई थीं, वे Acts 1970 और 1973 के थे। इसकी वजह से इनमें कुछ कमियाँ थीं।

(श्री उपसभापति पीठासीन हुए)

जैसे कि इसके लिए जो basic mandate था, वह यह था कि uniform standard of education रहना चाहिए, लेकिन हम सबको पता है कि आयुष की एक ही डिग्री महाराष्ट्र से, बिहार से, दिल्ली से, तमिलनाडु से अलग-अलग तरह की थीं, अलग-अलग तरह के उनके skills थे, knowledge था। हम Uniform Standards नहीं कर पा रहे थे, यह एक कमी थी। अभी हम NEET के माध्यम से यह काम करने वाले हैं। वैसे ही इस एक्ट के ज़रिए registration का दूसरा एक mandate था। इसमें registration का जो process है, वह अच्छी तरह से follow नहीं हो रहा था। आपने अभी सुना कि होम्योपैथी में तीन तरह के practioners हैं। एक degree holders हैं, जो गाँव में खुद homoeopathy की practice कर रहे हैं, दूसरा, जो कहते हैं कि पत्र-व्यवहार (correspondance course) से हमें पूरा ज्ञान हो गया है, जैसा हमारे colleague ने कहा और तीसरा, जिन्होंने किताबें पढ़ कर खुद की treatment ही नहीं, दूसरों की भी treatment करते हैं, यह बहुत dangerous है। तो यह जो रजिस्ट्रेशन है, यह रजिस्ट्रेशन ठीक से नहीं हो रहा था।

तीसरा यह था कि कॉलेजेज़ को जो रिकग्निशन मिलना चाहिए, उसके लिए जो inspection की process थी, उसमें हमेशा इसके ऊपर जोर दिया जाता रहा है कि वहां इन्फ्रास्ट्रक्चर क्या है, लेकिन क्वालिटी ऑफ एजुकेशन पर कभी भी जोर नहीं दिया गया। इसलिए मैं भी हमेशा चाहता था कि ये सब कमियाँ दूर हों और सरकार भी यही चाहती है।

चौथा बहुत महत्वपूर्ण पॉइंट एथिक्स है। इस पूरे एक्ट में, जिसके माध्यम से ये बॉडी इलेक्ट होती थी, यह बॉडी अगर पेशेंट की भलाई के लिए है तो पेशेंट के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव इसमें होना जरूरी था लेकिन इस एक्ट के अंतर्गत पेशेंट के प्रतिनिधि बॉडी में नहीं होते थे। सभी जो इलेक्टड केन्डिडेट्स थे, वे डॉक्टर्स या उसी यूनिवर्सिटी के चान्सलर वगैरह रहते थे। हालांकि ऐसे एक्ट में पेशेंट रिप्रेजेंटेशन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात है, तो वह नहीं था। इसलिए एथिक्स के बहुत बड़े प्रॉब्लम्स आए थे। उसमें एक कन्फ्लिक्ट ऑफ इंटरेस्ट भी था कि जो कॉलेज चलाते थे, वे खुद ही इस बॉडी के मेम्बर थे और वे खुद ही इन्स्पेक्शन भी करते थे, यानी कन्फ्लिक्ट ऑफ इंटरेस्ट था। यह सब परेशानियां दूर करने के लिए हम नेशनल कमीशन ऑफ इंडियन मेडिकल सिस्टम और नेशनल कमीशन फॉर होम्योपैथी बिल लाये और यह पास भी हुआ। परन्तु यदि यह एक्ट पास भी होता है तो नया इलेक्शन करने के लिए पहले यह बहुत जरूरी है कि इनका रजिस्ट्रेशन ठीक से हो। क्योंकि रजिस्ट्रेशन में बहुत प्रॉब्लम्स होने की वजह से जो इलेक्शन होता है, उसमें भी बहुत चैलेंज आ रहे थे। हम वही लोग चुनकर देते थे, जो पहले से उनके साथ में जुड़े हैं और नये लोगों का रजिस्ट्रेशन ही नहीं हो रहा था। इसमें यह कठिनाई थी। सबने कहा कि ऑर्डिनेन्स क्यों लाया गया, ऑर्डिनेन्स की क्या जरूरत थी? लेकिन इलेक्शन होने के लिए पहले रजिस्ट्रेशन होना जरूरी है। रजिस्ट्रेशन का काम कौन करता है? रजिस्ट्रेशन का काम स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट के ज़रिये, स्टेट बॉडीज़ के ज़रिये होता है। वह आंकड़ा यदि नहीं आया कि कितने रजिस्ट्रेशन्स हैं, या इसका ठीक से रिकॉर्ड नहीं है तो यह इलेक्शन सही रूप से नहीं हो सकता। यह बात इस नए एक्ट के ऑब्जेक्ट्स में शामिल है -- हमारे ऑनरेबल मंत्री जी, डा. हर्ष वर्धन ने भी कहा है कि उसमें ऑब्जेक्ट्स में भी लिखा हुआ है। मेरा यह कहना है कि इलेक्शन होने में जो समय लगेगा, इसके लिए ऑर्डिनेन्स लाना बहुत जरूरी था, ताकि हम अच्छे से यह जो कमीशन का एक्ट बनाया हुआ है, उसे इम्प्लिमेंट कर पायें। अब हम इसके पहले देखें, वर्ष 2010 के करीब यूपीए सरकार के समय में एक ऑर्डिनेन्स लाया गया था, जिसमें एमसीआई एक्ट बर्खास्त किया गया था और वह ऑर्डिनेन्स लागू हुआ था। लेकिन इसके बावजूद वही प्रेसिडेंट फिर से आया, क्योंकि ऑर्डिनेन्स लैप्स होने के बाद फिर से वही पूर्व परिस्थिति कायम रह गई है। मैं एमसीआई के विरोध में नहीं हूँ, लेकिन जो system अपनाई गयी वह गलत थी। यदि ऑर्डिनेन्स लाया गया तो उसके लैप्स होने तक कुछ भी कदम नहीं उठाए और फिर से वही स्थिति पैदा हो गई, वैसा अब नहीं होना चाहिए। इसलिए यह ऑर्डिनेन्स लाना बहुत जरूरी था। उस ऑर्डिनेन्स को लाते वक्त यहां के ज्येष्ठ सांसद, राम गोपाल यादव जी ने टिप्पणी की थी कि एमसीआई को कोई बाजू में हटा नहीं सकता, क्योंकि यह ऑर्डिनेन्स बार-बार लाया जाता है और लैप्स हो जाता है, लेकिन मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि मोदी सरकार एक निश्चयी सरकार है और इसके रास्ते में जो भी रोड़े आएंगे, जिसमें पेशेंट को तकलीफ हो, वह इस सरकार को मंजूर नहीं। इसके लिए यह ऑर्डिनेन्स लाना बहुत जरूरी था। यह ऑर्डिनेन्स फिर से रिपीट इसलिए हुआ है कि रजिस्ट्रेशन के काम में बहुत कठिनाइयां हैं और उसमें एक फेडरल स्ट्रक्चर का सहयोग चाहिए। इसके बगैर हम आगे नहीं बढ़ सकते। इसके लिए हमारे कुछ एमपीज़ के माध्यम से number of persons की बात भी कही गई थी। हमारा जो National Medical Commission है, उसमें

[Dr. Vikas Mahatme]

भी elected number of persons बढ़ाए गए हैं। उस पर चर्चा हुई थी और हमने वह बिल भी आगे बढ़ाया है। National Medical Commission ने क्या किया यह भी पूछा गया था, लेकिन National Medical Commission का विषय न होते हुए भी मैं बताना चाहूंगा कि एक ही साल में मेडिकल की 25% सीट्स बढ़ गई हैं और 6,000 से ऊपर नये डॉक्टर्स तैयार हो रहे हैं। यह बढ़ी हुई संख्या केवल Government Medical Colleges की है, इसमें private colleges के डॉक्टर्स की संख्या शामिल नहीं है।

महोदय, इसमें मेरे कुछ सुझाव भी हैं। मंत्री जी से मेरा आग्रह है कि जिस भी बोर्ड के ज़रिए रजिस्ट्रेशन किया जाए, रजिस्ट्रेशन live and active रहना चाहिए, क्योंकि Homoeopathic and Ayurvedic doctors, इन सभी के रजिस्ट्रेशन में दस-दस साल लग जाते हैं। कई बार ऐसा भी होता है कि उस डॉक्टर की डेथ हो जाती है, फिर भी वह एक रजिस्टर्ड डॉक्टर रहता है। दूसरा, जो एक्टिव डॉक्टर्स नहीं हैं, जो कहते हैं कि हमने तो बीस साल से प्रैक्टिस छोड़ दी है, फिर भी वे रजिस्टर्ड रहते हैं। इस तरह से हमारी नीति नहीं बन सकती है, इसलिए live and active doctors का ही रजिस्ट्रेशन होना चाहिए।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: डा. महात्मे जी, आप समाप्त कीजिए। समाप्त कीजिए। ...(व्यवधान)...

DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Sir, the Chairperson just told me that I have been allotted eight minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes. She had said, 'Eight minutes'. आठ मिनट ऑलरेडी कम्प्लीट हो चुके हैं। ...(व्यवधान).... प्लीज़।

डा. विकास महात्मे: दूसरी बात यह है कि National Education Policy में integrated approach ज्यादा बढ़ी है, जो अच्छी बात है। आयुर्वेद में पोस्ट ग्रेजुएशन की जगह एक साल का Certificate Course हो, दो साल का Diploma Course हो, तीन साल का Degree Course हो, इससे इसका integration होगा और integration से दोनों पैथीज़ को फायदा होगा। तीसरा, Exit exam में...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, डा. विकास महात्मे जी। ...(व्यवधान)...

डा. विकास महात्मे: सर, मैं एक मिनट में अपनी बात खत्म करता हूँ। Exit Exam में सभी स्टुडेंट्स सिर्फ पढ़ाई कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि उनको पता है कि हमें सिर्फ मार्क्स लाने हैं। ...(व्यवधान).... इसलिए practical examination में ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, कन्क्लूड कीजिए।...(व्यवधान).... अब मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को बुलाऊंगा। माननीय मंत्री जी, कृपया आप briefly अपना जवाब दें, क्योंकि हमें यह बिल पास करना है और फिर दूसरा बिल टेकअप करना है।

डा. हर्ष वर्धन: माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं सभी सम्माननीय सदस्यों का हृदय से आभार व्यक्त करता हूँ।

SHRI K.K. RAGESH: Sir, I have to speak on the Resolution.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will come. There is a procedure to be followed, Mr. Ragesh. Don't disturb like this. When your turn comes, I will call you.

डा. हर्ष वर्धन: जैसा आपने आदेश किया है, समय की मर्यादा और प्रतिबद्धता के कारण बहुत संक्षेप में मैं केवल कुछ major concerns को ही लूंगा, जो आज डिबेट में रज़ किए गए हैं। बहुत लोगों ने बार-बार ऑर्डिनेंस लाने के इशू को रज़ किया है। जस्टिस भगवती के बारे में, उनके जजमेंट के बारे में और extraordinary situation के बारे में पहले कहा जा चुका है। मैंने जब शुरुआत में इसका वक्तव्य दिया था, तो दोनों बिल्स को ऑर्डिनेंस के रूप में लाने के लिए जो असाधारण परिस्थिति थी, उसका जिक्र किया था कि उस समय कोरोना के कारण पार्लियामेंट सेशन में नहीं थी। ऐसा नहीं है कि इस प्रकार का ऑर्डिनेंस सिर्फ यही सरकार लाई है। आज़ादी के बाद से आज तक देश में जो भी सरकारें रही हैं, जब-जब भी आवश्यकता पड़ी है, तब-तब वे इस प्रकार के ऑर्डिनेंस लाती रही हैं। इसमें कोई ऐसी abnormal बात नहीं है।

मुझे एक बात का दुःख है, एक माननीय सदस्य ने Indian System of Medicine, भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धतियों, होम्योपैथी, योग, नैचुरोपैथी इत्यादि सिस्टम्स को बढ़ावा देने, इन सिस्टम्स में medical reforms लाने, इनकी medical education को और ज्यादा बेहतर ढंग से regulate करने की जो प्रक्रिया इन बिल्स के माध्यम से आगे बढ़ाई जा रही है, उसको एक प्रकार से quackery को बढ़ावा देने जैसा कहा। मुझे इस शब्द के ऊपर बहुत कष्ट हुआ। भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धतियाँ हमारे देश की प्राचीन चिकित्सा पद्धतियाँ हैं और उन सबका अपने-अपने तरीके से scientific basis है। मैं इस बात को दोहराना चाहता हूँ कि भारत सरकार अपने हृदय से, आत्मा से और पूरे मन से, प्रधान मंत्री जी के नेतृत्व में भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धतियों के प्रचार-प्रसार के लिए पूरी तरह से प्रतिबद्ध है। हम अगर Medical education के reforms के प्रति committed न होते और सभी सिस्टम्स के प्रति committed न होते, तो Medical Council of India को replace करके National Medical Commission न लाया गया होता, जिस पर आप सबने चर्चा की है। Indian Systems of Medicine और होम्योपैथी के बारे में National Medical Commission को राज्य सभा ने भी पास किया है और लोक सभा भी उसको पास कर चुकी है। यहाँ पर नैचुरोपैथी और योग के बारे में भी एक माननीय सदस्य ने यह concern raise किया है। तो मैं इस सदन को यह जानकारी देना चाहता हूँ कि नीति आयोग ने एक ऐसा सुझाव दिया था कि योग और नैचुरोपैथी के महत्व को देखते हुए, जिसको आज प्रधान मंत्री जी के सुझाव पर सारी दुनिया में इतना बड़ा recognition मिला है, इसका भी एक separate National Medical Commission होना चाहिए और उस दिशा में डिपार्टमेंट में प्रयास चल रहा है। थोड़े समय के अन्दर आप देखेंगे कि योग और नैचुरोपैथी के लिए भी एक separate Medical Commission हमारे यहाँ आयेगा।

[डा. हर्ष वर्धन]

कुछ लोगों ने, यद्यपि इस बिल से सम्बन्धित नहीं है, लेकिन पिछले साल Modern Systems के लिए जो National Medical Commission बनाया गया था, उसके बारे में बताया। उस समय भी यह बताया गया था कि उसको शुरू करने में, उसकी सारी प्रक्रियाओं को पूरा करने में लगभग एक साल का समय लगेगा। बहुत ही शीघ्र, यह समझिए कि वे सारी प्रक्रियाएँ लगभग पूरी हो चुकी हैं और कोरोना काल के बावजूद उन सब प्रक्रियाओं को पूरा करके जो Board of Governors है, उसके स्थान पर National Medical Commission देश के अन्दर काम करना शुरू करेगा।

यहाँ पर एक ऐसा sweeping statement भी दिया गया कि यह सरकार नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में देश में हेल्थ को ruin कर रही है, देश के स्वास्थ्य के साथ न खेला जाए। तो मैं बड़ी authority के साथ और बड़े conviction के साथ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जब भी स्वास्थ्य के संदर्भ में भारत की सरकारों के कामों का इतिहास लिखा जाएगा, तो प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में हेल्थ के जितने reforms देश में हुए हैं और उनको जितना international recognition मिला है, उसके लिए समय हमेशा इनको बहुत अच्छे तरीके से स्मरण करेगा। यहाँ पर Board of Governors जो बनाये गये हैं, इन सिस्टम्स के बारे में, उनके बारे में इस तरह के आरोप रखे गये कि शायद वे करप्शन से प्रभावित हैं। तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह भी बिना जानकारी के एक प्रकार का sweeping statement है। Board of Governors के अन्दर जो भी लोग हैं, वे बहुत highly reputed technical experts हैं, जो national institutes हैं, उनके Directors हैं, Research Council के DGs हैं। उन्होंने पिछले समय में जो काम किया है, बहुत limited period के अन्दर, तीन महीने के अन्दर, सारे inspections को complete करना या जो पिछले साल 2019 में होम्योपैथी के जो Board of Governors थे, उन्होंने NEET के माध्यम से online admissions की प्रक्रियाओं को बहुत सुलभ ढंग से सुदृढ़ किया। उन्होंने बहुत सारे अच्छे काम किये हैं।

इसी प्रकार आयुष की उपलब्धियों के बारे में भी, आयुष मंत्रालय की उपलब्धियों के बारे में भी यहाँ पर प्रश्न चिह्न खड़े किये गये। उसके संदर्भ में मुझे माननीय सदस्यों को इतना कहना है कि पिछले समय के बारे में हम आयुष पोर्टल पर जाकर देख सकते हैं। आयुर्वेद, योग, सिद्धा और होम्योपैथी, ये जितने भी हमारे Indian systems of traditional medicines हैं, इनके संदर्भ में 29,000 research publications को वहाँ पर जाकर हम लोग देख सकते हैं।

एक माननीय सदस्य ने यह भी शंका जाहिर की थी कि शायद इन बिल्स के माध्यम से आयुर्वेद में और होम्योपैथी बिल्स में जो एक bridge course है, उसको club किया जाएगा, जिसके माध्यम से जो होम्योपैथी के और आयुर्वेद के लोग हैं, वे Modern Systems को practice करेंगे। तो ऐसे किसी भी bridge course का इन बिल्स के अन्दर प्रावधान नहीं है। ऑटोनॉमी के एनक्रोचमेंट की जो बात की गयी है, तो इनकी ऑटोनॉमी के ऊपर सरकार का किसी भी प्रकार का किसी तरह से एनक्रोच करने का न तो कोई लक्ष्य है, न उसकी मंशा है। अगर ऐसा होता, तो जो नेशनल कमीशन है, कभी भी इन सारी मेडिकल की विधाओं में नेशनल मेडिकल कमीशंस को आगे

प्रोत्साहित नहीं करती। सरकार केवल इन इंस्टीट्यूशंस को पॉलिसी गाइडेंस का तो काम कर सकती है, लेकिन इनकी day-to-day working के अन्दर सरकार किसी भी प्रकार से न तो involved है, न ही वह involve होना चाहती है। बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अन्दर यह जो एससी/एसटी इत्यादि के बारे में बात की गयी, तो शायद किसी भी जाति या मज़हब या इस आधार पर कहीं पर भी बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स को नहीं बताया गया है और अभी जो भी होंगे, उनका भी विश्लेषण करेंगे, तो ध्यान में आयेगा कि जो क्वालिटी है, कॉम्पीटेंस है, उसके अंतर्गत कोई भी आता है वह एससी है, तब भी वह उसके अन्दर आयेगा और वह एसटी है तो भी वह उसके अन्दर आयेगा और इस नाते इस प्रकार का उसमें कोई रिज़र्वेशन इत्यादि नहीं है। जो होम्योपैथी इत्यादि के बजट्स के बारे में बात की गई है, सरकार निश्चित रूप से इन सब चीजों के प्रति प्रतिबद्ध है। एक माननीय सदस्य ने देश में और खास करके आन्ध्र प्रदेश में कौन-सी आयुष फ़ैसिलिटीज़ किस स्थान पर हैं, इसके संदर्भ में बात की है। इस संबंध में मैं समझता हूँ कि शायद यह इस बिल के प्रावधान के तहत डिस्कशन का पार्ट नहीं हो सकता है, लेकिन यदि वे मंत्रालय से separately इसके बारे में जानकारी प्राप्त करना चाहेंगे, तो विस्तृत जानकारी जरूर दी जाएगी।

मैं दोबारा यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन दोनों बिल्स को लाने के पीछे सरकार की मंशा बहुत ही पारदर्शी है, बहुत ही स्पष्ट है। इसमें किसी भी प्रकार की कोई ऐसी intention नहीं है कि हम कोई चीज जबरदस्ती थोपना चाहते हैं। सरकार मेडिकल एजुकेशन में और सारे इंडियन सिस्टम्स में तथा दूसरे मॉडर्न सिस्टम्स में जो हर तरह के most modern और most useful reforms होने चाहिए, वह कर रही है और उसके नतीजे भी पिछले पाँच सालों के अंदर नज़र आ रहे हैं। हम यह देख रहे हैं कि लगातार कॉलेजेज़ की संख्या बढ़ रही है, मेडिकल कॉलेजेज़, मेडिकल स्टूडेंट्स, पीजी सीट्स, यूजी सीट्स की संख्या बढ़ रही है। शायद यह समय उनके बारे में विस्तार से बात करने का नहीं है और यह इस बिल के context में उचित नहीं होगा, लेकिन देश के हर नागरिक को उच्च कोटि की स्वास्थ्य सुविधा उपलब्ध हो, सारे सिस्टम्स ऑफ मेडिसिन उसके लिए सुलभ ढंग से उपलब्ध हों, इसके लिए सरकार पूरी तरह से प्रतिबद्ध है। इसी के लिए आयुष्मान योजना है, इसी के लिए डेढ़ लाख जो हेल्थ एण्ड वेलनेस सेंटर्स हैं, जहाँ पर आयुष के भी हेल्थ एण्ड वेलनेस सेंटर्स हैं, इन सब चीजों का प्रावधान है। इसी के लिए आने वाले समय में नेशनल डिजिटल हेल्थ मिशन है और बहुत सारी जो योजनाएँ हैं, जैसे पीएमएसएसवाई योजना है, जिसके तहत नए medical institutes बन रहे हैं, हर medical institute के अंदर एक separate institution है, पूरा ब्लॉक है, जो इंडियन सिस्टम्स ऑफ मेडिसिन को ही डील कर रहा है। सारे सिस्टम्स मिल-जुल कर पूरे समन्वय के साथ एक-दूसरे का पूरक बन कर काम कर रहे हैं ताकि समाज के गरीब से गरीब व्यक्ति को भी सुलभ ढंग से स्वास्थ्य सेवा उपलब्ध कराई जा सके। इसके लिए सरकार पूरी तरह से प्रतिबद्ध है, यही सरकार की भावना है।

अंत में मैं आप सभी माननीय सदस्यों से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर आप इन बिल्स को unanimously पास करेंगे, तो देश में, देश के लोगों के बीच में और भारतीय चिकित्सा पद्धतियों के लिए समर्पित लोगों के बीच में एक बहुत अच्छा संदेश जाएगा।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, माननीय मंत्री जी।

I shall first put the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal to vote. Shri Elamaram Kareem is absent. The question is:

"That this House disapproves the Homoeopathy Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No. 6 of 2020) promulgated by the President of India on 24th April, 2020."

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Homoeopathy Central Council Act, 1973, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 2, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I move: That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the Statutory Resolution moved by Shri K.K. Ragesh, Shri Elamaram Kareem, Shri Binoy Viswam and Shri K.C. Venugopal to vote.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I have a point of order.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Do you want to speak?

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, my point of order is that as per the Constitution and also as per the Rules of Procedure, the mover of the Statutory Resolution has the right of reply. But I am not given the time to reply.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You reply.

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV (Rajasthan): Sir, I also have a point of order. Where is it written in the Constitution? Let him first clarify that.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: It is given under Article 123 (2) (a) of the Constitution and Rule No. 242 of the Rules of Procedure. As per the Rules of Procedure, the mover of a Resolution has the right to speak.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Rageshji, it is not in the Constitution; it is in the Rules of Procedure.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Under the Constitution, I can move the Statutory Resolution and the mover has the right of reply.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, you have.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: At the very outset, I am appealing this House to reject the points made by the hon. Minister to justify the Ordinance. Why am I saying so?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Be brief.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: I will take three minutes.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Not three minutes; just take two minutes.

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, I am the mover, of the Resolution. Please give me three minutes.

It is a part of the Government's decision to dissolve all the regulatory bodies. Yes, there were certain complaints and corruption charges levelled against these regulatory bodies. But, at the same time, these bodies were elected bodies and also these bodies ensured States' representation. Now, what the Government is doing is that they are making or de-promoting these bodies as mere Government departments because these bodies are going to be nominated ones; nominated by the Central Government. What about the States' representation? What about the component of election? ...*(Interruptions)*... If the Government is really serious, ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you have made your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI K. K. RAGESH: Sir, one more point. ...*(Interruptions)*... If the Government is really serious to combat corruption, they have to bring about a legislation to regulate fee and admission in private medical colleges. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you have put your point. ...*(Interruptions)*...

[Mr. Deputy Chairman]

The question is:

"That this House disapproves the Indian Medicine Central Council (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020 (No.7 of 2020) .promulgated by the President of India on 24th April, 2020."

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now put the motion moved by Dr. Harsh Vardhan to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Medicine Central Council Act, 1970, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill. In Clause 2, there is one Amendment (No.1) by Shri K.C. Venugopal. He is not present.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

DR. HARSH VARDHAN: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

***The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020;**

And

***The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020**

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020 is the next Bill that we are taking up. Shri G. Kishan Reddy to move a motion for consideration of the Bill.

* Discussed together.

12.00 Noon

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, आपकी अनुमति से प्रस्ताव उपस्थित करता हूँ:-

"कि मंत्रियों के सम्बलमों और भत्तों से संबंधित अधिनियम, 1952 का और संशोधन करने के लिए विधेयक पर विचार किया जाए।"

मान्यवर, मैं अपनी बात brief में कहूँगा। विश्व के सभी देशों की तरह भारत में भी लोगों को कोविड-19 महामारी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है, जिसके कारण देश के लोगों की अवस्था और आर्थिक स्थिति पर गंभीर प्रभाव पड़ा है। इस महामारी को फैलने से रोकने के लिए और उस पर नियंत्रण के लिए immediate और quick राहत पहुँचाने तथा आपात सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए केन्द्र सरकार की तरफ से all angles पर प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं। कोरोना वायरस महामारी से शीघ्र राहत और सहायता इस बात के महत्व को दर्शाता है कि इस महामारी के फैलाव को नियंत्रित करने के लिए कुछ घरेलू उपाय करना आवश्यक हो गया था। ऐसी स्थिति में, इस पर नियंत्रण के उद्देश्य से अन्य कई उपायों के साथ-साथ सांसदों तथा मंत्रियों के वेतन एवं भत्तों में कटौती पर विचार किया गया है।

मंत्रिमंडल ने दिनांक 6.4.2020 को हुई अपनी बैठक में संसद सदस्यों का वेतन, भत्ता और पेंशन अधिनियम, 1954 में संशोधन से संबंधित संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय के प्रस्ताव पर अनुमति देते हुए यह भी निर्णय लिया कि मंत्रियों को दिए गए वेतन और भत्तों में 30 परसेंट की कमी कर दी जाए। चूंकि उस समय संसद सत्र नहीं चल रहा था और कानून बनाना अत्यंत आवश्यक था, इसलिए दिनांक 9.4.2020 को संविधान के अनुच्छेद 123, खंड (i) के अंतर्गत मंत्रियों के वेतन और भत्तों से संबंधित एक Ordinance तत्काल promulgate किया गया। इस अध्यादेश के तहत, मंत्रियों को मिलने वाले वेतन और भत्तों में दिनांक 1.4.2020 से एक वर्ष की अवधि, यानी मार्च, 2021 तक 30 परसेंट की कटौती की गई है।

उपर्युक्त Ordinance को Act में बदलने के लिए संसद में यह "मंत्रियों के सम्बलमों और भत्तों से संबंधित (संशोधन) विधेयक, 2020" लाया गया है। इसके लिए मैं आपके द्वारा सभी माननीय सांसदों से विनम्रपूर्वक आग्रह करता हूँ कि इस बिल को सर्वसम्मति से पारित किया जाए।

The question was proposed.

श्री राजीव सातव (महाराष्ट्र): उपसभापति महोदय, आपने मुझे इस महत्वपूर्ण बिल पर बोलने का मौका दिया, आपका धन्यवाद। सरकार कोरोना महामारी से लड़ने के लिए मंत्रियों और सांसदों के वेतन कटौती का जो बिल लायी है, उसका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ। देश हित में और आम जनता के हित में जो भी...

SHRI BHUPENDER YADAV: Rajeev ji, I am not interrupting you. Sir, there is Rule 266 regarding Residuary Powers to the Chair. महोदय, अभी तक सदन में दो बिल यदि same

[Shri Bhupendr Yadav]

मिनिस्ट्री के होते हैं तो हम लोग उन्हें साथ लेते हैं। यहां पर दो ऑर्डिनेंस ऐसे हैं, जिनका subject-matter same है, एक मंत्रियों की तनखाह के संबंध में है और दूसरा सांसदों की तनखाह के संबंध में है। बोलने वाले मेम्बर्स का विषय हो सकता है, लेकिन एक साथ भी विषय रखा जा सकता है। महोदय, आपके पास रूल 266 में पावर है कि जहां पर आप नियमों को शिथिल करके अनुमति दे सकते हैं। अगर सदन यह चाहे तो दोनों बिलों पर हम एक साथ चर्चा करें, एक साथ विषय रखें और हम यह कर सकते हैं।

श्री जयराम रमेश (कर्नाटक): दोनों विषय पर एक साथ चर्चा कर लें।

श्री भूपेन्द्र यादव: सर, सदन की सहमति है कि दोनों की एक साथ चर्चा कर सकते हैं।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, हमने यह तय किया था कि दोनों ऑर्डिनेंस एक साथ लिए जाएंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: चूंकि दोनों के मंत्रालय अलग-अलग हैं, एक का पार्लियामेंटरी अफेयर्स है और एक का होम अफेयर्स है, लेकिन यदि माननीय सदस्य चाहते हैं तो हम सब इनको एक साथ ले सकते हैं।

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, दोनों एक साथ ले सकते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: ठीक है।

श्री दरेक ओब्राईन (पश्चिम बंगाल): सर, भूपेन्द्र जी ने जो सुझाव दिया है, यह अच्छा सुझाव है, क्योंकि यह मंत्री का, जो हम लोग ऑर्डिनेंस डिस्कस कर रहे हैं, वह एक हजार रुपये की बात है। Only for ₹ 1,000/-, we are making such big deal about it. From 3,000 or something, it is coming down to 2,000. Of course, we can discuss the two Bills together because the Salary Bill is only coming to ₹ 64 crores. Yes. We should actually discuss it only in half-an-hour.

AN HON. MEMBER: Sir, I think, we can save a lot of time.

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE; THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING; AND THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR): Sir, everybody is supporting it.

श्री जयराम रमेश: सर, इसमें confusion क्या है? क्या दोनों को हम एक साथ नहीं कर सकते हैं?

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्य, अगर सदन सहमत है, आप सबकी सहमति है तो दोनों को हम लोग एक साथ लेते हैं। माननीय राजीव सातव जी, मैं इस अमेंडमेंट बिल को भी introduce करा दूँ, फिर आप बोलिएगा।

Let us also take up The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020; Shri Pralhad Joshi to move a Motion for consideration of the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament (Amendment) Bill, 2020.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL; AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Sir, with your permission, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The question was proposed.

श्री उपसभापति: अब इन दोनों बिलों पर सारे सांसद एक साथ बात करेंगे। माननीय राजीव सातव जी।

श्री राजीव सातव: उपसभापति महोदय, मुझे कितना समय मिला है, क्या मुझे 15 मिनट का समय मिला है?

श्री उपसभापति: आपको 10 मिनट का समय मिला है और आप संक्षेप में बोलें, क्योंकि माननीय चेयरमैन साहब का आग्रह था कि इस पर सारा सदन एकमत हो।

श्री राजीव सातव: सर, मैं 9 मिनट 55 सेकंड में अपनी बात समाप्त करूंगा। महोदय, यह जो बिल इस सदन में लाया गया है, हम इस बिल का समर्थन करते हैं। जनता के हित में जो-जो बातें इस सरकार ने लाने की कोशिश की, हमने और कांग्रेस पार्टी ने इसका हर वक्त समर्थन किया है। कोरोना की इस जंग में हम 50 लाख के पार हुए हैं और 80 हजार से ज्यादा लोगों ने अपनी जान गंवाई है, मैं उन सभी लोगों को यहां श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूं और जो कोरोना के हमारे फ्रंटलाइन वॉरियर्स हैं, उनको सलाम करता हूं। जो डॉक्टर्स हैं, नर्सें हैं, एलाइड सर्विसेज हैं, पुलिस हैं, इन सबको हम सैल्यूट करते हैं और हमारा इससे भी आगे यह आग्रह रहेगा। आपने 30 प्रतिशत कटौती की बात की है। अगर आप इसमें और ज्यादा कटौती की बात करते हैं, अगर आप एक साल या दो साल के लिए एक रुपया लेकर काम करने का प्लान तैयार करते हैं, अगर आप सरकार और मंत्रियों के लिए इस प्रकार का बिल लाएंगे, तो हम निश्चित रूप उसका समर्थन करेंगे। आज हम जिस ढंग से कोरोना की लड़ाई लड़ रहे हैं, इसमें आप हमारी सैलेरी तो पूरी तरह से कट कर दीजिए, लेकिन सांसद को अपने क्षेत्र में जाकर काम करने का अगर कोई अधिकार है, तो वह सांसद निधि से काम करने का अधिकार है। सरकार ने यहां पर MPLADS कट करने की बात भी की है, तो जो हमारे पास आम जनता के कल्याण के लिए, आम जनता के दुख व पीड़ा के लिए धन है, आप उसको बंद करने जा रहे हैं। आप करोड़ों लोगों की उम्मीद को छीनने की दिशा में जा रहे हैं। इस MPLADS रोकने के पीछे आपकी

[श्री राजीव सातव]

मंशा और तरीका सही नहीं है। जब MPLADS introduce हुआ था, तब सदन में चर्चा हुई थी। अब आप हम से MPLADS लेना चाह रहे हैं, जबकि आपने कभी इसकी चर्चा नहीं की है। आपकी सरकार का जो कार्यकाल रहा है, वह असफलता, mismanagement का जीता-जागता उदाहरण रहा

उपसभापति महोदय, जब 2014 में इनकी सरकार आई, तब GDP 7.41 per cent थी। आपने 16-16 घंटे काम किया, आपने 18-18 घंटे काम किया और GDP - 23.9 per cent पर लेकर आए। आपको धन्यवाद है, आपने 24 घंटे काम नहीं किया, नहीं तो GDP - 50 per cent पर चली जाती। उपसभापति महोदय, इसीलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से कहना चाहूंगा कि आपका असफलता का नमूना नोटबंदी भी थी, जिसमें हजारों, लाखों लोग लाइन में लगे और उनके हाथ में कुछ नहीं आया। बैंकों में 99 प्रतिशत से ज्यादा रकम आई, गरीब परेशान हो गए। उनको 15 लाख रुपए तो नहीं मिले, लेकिन कैसे तो हम सबके सामने आए हैं। आप GST को भी देखिए, जिस प्रकार से महंगाई बढ़ी और सभी उद्योग-धंधे चौपट हो गए। आपने बिना तैयारी के lockdown किया। आपने lockdown करते समय कभी मुख्य मंत्रियों से बात नहीं की, कभी मुख्य मंत्रियों के साथ चर्चा नहीं हुई कि कैसे lockdown करना है। आपने तो कहा था कि यह कोरोना की जंग 21 दिनों में जीतेंगे। आप देश को 21 दिन में कोरोनामुक्त तो नहीं कर पाए, लेकिन यह देश रोजगारमुक्त हो गया। देश में पूरी तरह से लोगों के धन्ये बंद हो गए और लोग परेशानी में आ गए। मैं यहां पर यह कहना चाहूंगा कि आपने जो वेतन कटौती का फैसला किया है, तो उसमें आपने कोरोना योद्धाओं की वेतन कटौती का भी फैसला किया। आप एक तरफ तो उनके लिए थाली, ताली बजा रहे हो और दूसरी तरफ कोरोना योद्धाओं की वेतन कटौती कर रहे हो, यह पूरी तरह से गलत है। आपने जो PM CARES FUND बनाया है, यह fund किसकी care कर रहा है? यह बात पूरा देश नहीं समझ पा रहा है। देश ने उसमें एक-एक रुपया दिया है, लेकिन कितना पैसा आया? आज जो आपका PM CARES FUND है, उसका कोई हिसाब नहीं मिल रहा है। हमारे MPLADS के एक-एक रुपए का हिसाब, कहां खर्च हुआ और कैसे खर्च हुआ, सब वेबसाइट पर available है। जो आपका MPLADS लेने का प्लान है, वह पूरी तरह से गलत है, इसलिए सरकार को इस पर फिर से सोचने की जरूरत है। आपकी असफलताओं के कारनामे इतने ज्यादा हैं कि मैं उनको क्या गिनाऊं। लोग कहते हैं-

"न पूछ शिकायतें कितनी हैं तुझ से,

सिर्फ ये बता कि कोई और सितम तो बाकी नहीं। "

क्योंकि रात के आठ बजे, ऐसा होता है कि कहीं कुछ और तो नया नहीं आने वाला है? इसीलिए मैं यहां पर यह कहना चाहूंगा कि कल लोक सभा की डिबेट में सभी पार्टीज़ के MPs ने यह बात कही कि MPLADS फिर से restore होना चाहिए। यह पांच करोड़ से अधिक बढ़ना चाहिए और इस पर पिछली बार भी चर्चा हुई थी। मेरी यह विनती है कि आपको 25 करोड़ का MPLADS देना चाहिए। यह सरकार क्या कर रही थी, जब 12 फरवरी को राहुल गांधी

ने ट्वीट करके कहा था कि आप कोरोना से लड़ने का प्लान बनाओ, तो सरकार लिट्टी-चोखा खाने में मस्त थी, मनोरंजन करने में मस्त थी। अगर देश में इलेक्शन खत्म हो जाए, तो हम विदेश के इलेक्शन में 'नमस्ते ट्रम्प' के लिए भी लग जाते हैं। हमारी यह approach रही है और इसीलिए जब हम कोरोना से लड़ रहे थे, तब यहां पर 'नमस्ते ट्रम्प' का end हो रहा था। आपका उस वक्त भी मध्य प्रदेश सरकार गिराने का एजेंडा था। मैं इसीलिए यहां पर आपके माध्यम से यह कहना चाहूंगा कि जिसको आपने असफलता का स्मारक कहा था, वही मनरेगा भी काम के लिए आया है। मैं यहां पर यह कहना चाहूंगा,

"तारीख की आंखों ने वह हाल भी देखा है,
लम्हों ने ख़ता की थी, सदियों ने सज़ा पाई है। "

इसलिए आप गलत फैसले मत लीजिए। इससे देश का बहुत नुकसान होने वाला है। यदि खर्च में कटौती करनी है, तो कटौती करने का प्लान जरूर बनाइए। क्यों आज ही सेंट्रल विस्टा प्रोजेक्ट करने की दिशा में आपका प्लान है? क्यों अभी आपका 20 हजार करोड़ रुपये खर्च करने का एजेंडा है? आप क्यों हमारे एमपीलैड का सात हजार-आठ हजार करोड़ लेना चाह रहे हो, लेकिन बीस हजार करोड़ की सेंट्रल विस्टा बनाने का आपका एजेंडा है। आप कह रहे हैं कि पार्लियामेंट की बिल्डिंग पुरानी हो गई है, लेकिन मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूं कि डच की संसद भवन की बिल्डिंग तेरहवीं शताब्दी की है, वहां पर आज भी पार्लियामेंट का सेशन हो रहा है। इटली का संसद भवन सोलहवीं शताब्दी का है, फिर भी वहां पर आज भी पार्लियामेंट का सेशन हो रहा है, फ्रांस की संसद भवन की बिल्डिंग सत्रहवीं शताब्दी की है, लेकिन वहां पर आज भी पार्लियामेंट का सेशन हो रहा है, हमारे जो दोस्त ट्रम्प साहब हैं, उनके यहां की पार्लियामेंट की बिल्डिंग 1800 की है, वहां पर आज भी पार्लियामेंट का सेशन हो रहा है। ब्रिटेन की 1840 की है, वहां पर आज भी सेशन हो रहा है, हमारी तो सिर्फ 100 साल पुरानी है। अगर हम चार-पांच साल के बाद इस पर सोचेंगे, तो क्या दिक्कत है? मंत्रियों के लिए अभी नए ऑफिस की क्या जरूरत है? हम पहले कोरोना से लड़ें। सांसदों के लिए अभी नए ऑफिस की जरूरत नहीं है, लेकिन कोरोना से संघर्ष का हमारा एजेंडा होना चाहिए। क्या हमारे मंत्रियों और सांसदों के नए आवास हमारे लिए जरूरी हैं? हमारे यहां कोरोना से लोग परेशान हैं, ऑक्सीजन की सप्लाई नहीं हो रही है और आप यहां पर ऐसे खर्चा करना चाह रहे हो, यह पूरी तरह से गलत है।

उपसभापति महोदय, इस बजट में भी आपने बुलेट ट्रेन के लिए पैसे रखे। आप एक लाख करोड़ रुपये बुलेट ट्रेन के लिए खर्च कर रहे हो। आपने इस बजट में भी बुलेट ट्रेन के लिए 6 हजार करोड़ रुपये के आस-पास का प्रावधान रखा। मुझे यह समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि कोरोना से लड़ाई हमारी प्राथमिकता होगी या बुलेट ट्रेन लाना हमारी प्राथमिकता होगी। हमारी प्राथमिकता कोरोना से लड़ने की होनी चाहिए। मुझे अभी भी समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि जिस प्रकार से ये फिजूलखर्च आपकी तरफ से हो रहे हैं कि अभी भी प्रधान मंत्री जी के एयरक्राफ्ट पर आप 810 करोड़ रुपये खर्च करने की दिशा में प्लान बना रहे हो, यह हम किसलिए कर रहे हैं?

[श्री राजीव सातव]

उपसभापति महोदय, मेरा आपके माध्यम से सरकार से यह आग्रह है कि सैंट्रल विस्टा का प्रोजेक्ट आप कीजिए, लेकिन कोरोना की जंग खत्म होने के बाद कीजिए। कोरोना की जंग के बाद अच्छा सैंट्रल विस्टा बनाइए, लेकिन तब तक ये बीस हजार करोड़ रुपये आपको पूरी तरह से कोरोना की लड़ाई में लगाने चाहिए। आप यह जो बिल लाए हैं, तो हम सब लोग इसका तो समर्थन करते हैं, लेकिन समर्थन करते वक्त आपसे यह आग्रह है कि आने वाले समय में सरकारी खर्च में कटौती, यह एजेंडा हम कब बनाने वाले हैं? सांसदों का सांसद निधि कट करना यह आपका एजेंडा है, क्योंकि सांसद तो बिना अधिकार के रहें, लेकिन आप आपके अधिकार में कोई कटौती नहीं करेंगे। आप आपके खर्चों में कटौती नहीं करेंगे, तो यह नहीं चलेगा। जब हम 1993 में यह बिल लाए थे, तो इस प्रकार से प्रोविज़न किया था, तो संसद के दोनों सदनों से बात की थी, इसलिए मेरा आग्रह रहेगा कि जब आप एमपीलैड कट करने की दिशा में जाते हो, तो क्या आपने हाउस के बाकी नेताओं से बात की, बाकी पार्टियों के नेताओं से बात की? नहीं की है और इससे यह संसद के सदस्य के अधिकार के ऊपर आक्रमण है।

उपसभापति महोदय, इसलिए मैं आपके माध्यम से यहां पर आखिरी दो बातें रखना चाहूंगा कि मंत्रियों के सुख-सुविधा, उनके भत्तों में कटौती कीजिए, एमपीज़ के भी सभी सुख-सुविधा और भत्तों में कटौती कीजिए। एक रुपया हम अगले दो साल, तीन साल के लिए लेने का प्लान बनाएं, लेकिन मैं यहां दो बातें रखना चाहूंगा कि:-

"बुलंदवादों और जुमलों की बस्तियां लेकर हम क्या करेंगे।

हमें हमारी जमीं दे दो, आसमां लेकर हम क्या करेंगे?"

इतना ही कहकर मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ, लेकिन एमपीलैड रिस्टोर करें। 25 करोड़ का निधि एमपीलैड में दें। आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

MESSAGES FROM LOK SABHA

- (I) **The Farmers (Empowerment And Protection) Agreement On Price Assurance And Farm Services Bill, 2020**
- (II) **The Farmers' Produce Trade And Commerce (Promotion And Facilitation) Bill, 2020**

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

(I)

"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 Farmers

(Empowerment and Protection) Agreement on Price Assurance and Farm Services Bill, 2020, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th September, 2020."

(II)

"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 Farmers' Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion and Facilitation) Bill, 2020, as passed by Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 17th September, 2020."

Sir, I lay a copy each of the Bills on the Table.

GOVERNMENT BILLS - Contd.

The Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020

And

**The Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament
(Amendment) Bill, 2020**

श्री श्वेत मलिक (पंजाब): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और नमन करता हूँ। हम उस संस्कृति से आए हैं:-

"जहाँ तन समर्पित, मन समर्पित और यह जीवन समर्पित,
चाहता हूँ देश की धरती तुझे कुछ और भी दूँ, तुझे कुछ और भी दूँ।"

मैं प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी का धन्यवाद करता हूँ। महोदय, सदियों में ही कोई युग परिवर्तक जन्म लेता है और हम सौभाग्यशाली हैं कि इस सदी के अगर कोई युग परिवर्तक हैं तो वे प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी हैं - यह आज सारा विश्व देख रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: कृपया टीका-टिप्पणी न करें।

श्री श्वेत मलिक: मुझे कांग्रेस के अपने भाई की बात सुनकर अचरज हो रहा था, जिस तरह से उन्होंने आज criticism किया - सारी दुनिया में तो आज मोदी जी के डंके बज रहे हैं, उनकी जय-जयकार हो रही है, मोदी-मोदी हो रहा है और इन्हें सुनाई नहीं देता है, इनके कान बहरे हो गए हैं क्योंकि ये 70 वर्ष तक बहरे रहे।

SHRI ANAND SHARMA: This is wrong. ...**(Interruptions)**... Please stop that. ...**(Interruptions)**... This cannot be said by the Member. ...**(Interruptions)**...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...**(Interruptions)**... Nothing else will go on record.

श्री श्वेत मलिक: मैं वही बता रहा हूँ कि राजनीति उन्होंने की, उन्हें आज नज़र नहीं आ रहा है, जो नए भारत का निर्माण हो रहा है। ...**(व्यवधान)**... उन्हें आज वह नज़र नहीं आ रहा है, जो आज भ्रष्टाचारियों पर पहली बार हमला हुआ है। आपकी सरकार क्यों गयी? 70 वर्ष से आप सरकार चला रहे थे, आपको इसीलिए लोगों ने रिजेक्ट किया क्योंकि आप governance करने में असफल हो गए। एक पूर्ण बहुमत की सरकार काफी समय के बाद, दशकों के बाद भारतीय जनता पार्टी के नेतृत्व में प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी को क्यों मिली - क्योंकि आपकी कथनी और करनी में बहुत फर्क है। पंजाबी में एक कहावत है, "छज्ज बोले ते बोले, छाननी वी बोले, जिन्दे विच इक हज़ार छेद ने।" 12 लाख करोड़ के भ्रष्टाचार के वे मुकदमे आप भूल गए जो आपके ऊपर चल रहे हैं, जिनकी वजह से जनता ने आपको रिजेक्ट किया। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: आप विषय पर बोलिए।

श्री श्वेत मलिक: सर, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि राजनीति नहीं करनी चाहिए। यह वैश्विक महामारी है, हमें ऐसे समय में प्रधान मंत्री जी के साथ खड़ा होना चाहिए - जो मैसेज इस हाउस से जा रहा था लेकिन जैसे मेरे भाई ने अभी बात की, तो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो सुविधाएं मिली हैं - जब यह वैश्विक महामारी आयी, तब अच्छाई अपने घर से ही शुरू होनी चाहिए - मैं नमन करता हूँ, सभी पार्टियों के सांसदों को और मंत्रिगण को भी कि उन्होंने यह सिद्ध किया कि पहले हम अपने भत्तों में कटौती करेंगे, तभी जाकर जनता को प्रोत्साहित कर सकेंगे, तभी उन्हें प्रेरित कर सकेंगे। जो NGOs हैं, जो धार्मिक संस्थाएं हैं, सामाजिक संस्थाएं हैं और जो राजनीतिक पार्टियां हैं, मैं उन सबको नमन करता हूँ। मैं वह बात नहीं करूंगा कि हम सिर्फ एक राजनैतिक भाषण देकर चले जाएं। मैं सब पार्टियों से कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस वैश्विक महामारी में जिसने भी अपना-अपना योगदान दिया है, हम उनके साथ हैं। प्रधान मंत्री मोदी जी ने इस पर राजनीति नहीं की - उन्होंने हर मुख्य मंत्री से बात की, हर मुख्य मंत्री का समर्थन लिया, हर मुख्य मंत्री की बात सुनी और उसके हिसाब से उन्होंने पाबंदी भी हटायी। आपने देखा होगा कि लॉकडाउन में उन्होंने कहा कि हमारी तरफ से ये गाइडलाइन्स हैं, फिर भी अगर मुख्य मंत्री इसमें कुछ बदलाव करना चाहें तो वे बदलाव कर सकते हैं। इस तरह की वैश्विक बीमारी के मैनेजमेंट के लिए आपने 70 वर्ष में क्या दिया है? कहां थीं वेंटिलेटर्स की फैक्ट्रियां, कहां थीं पीपीई किट्स? क्या आपने आज तक आपदा प्रबंधन, Disaster Management के बारे में कभी कुछ सोचा? यही कारण था कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने उस वक्त समय लेने के लिए, क्योंकि infrastructure तैयार करना था - 21 मार्च को जनता कर्फ्यू announce किया और उसके बाद लॉकडाउन किया गया। उसका कारण क्या था? वह कारण आप लोग थे कि आपने 70 वर्ष तक कोई infrastructure नहीं बनाया, जिसकी जरूरत थी। अगर उस समय आपने वह infrastructure बनाया होता तो एक दिन भी लॉकडाउन न करना पड़ता। प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जनता को बचाने के लिए लॉकडाउन किया। इसके लिए जो संबंधित सुविधाएं थीं - वेंटिलेटर्स चाहिए थे, oxygen cylinders चाहिए थे, PPE kits चाहिए थीं, डॉक्टर्स को educate करना था, paramedical staff को educate करना था, पुलिस को educate करना था, उसके लिए समय चाहिए था। ...**(व्यवधान)**...

श्री उपसभापति: श्वेत मलिक जी, कृपया विषय पर बोलिए।

श्री श्वेत मलिक: प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जो प्रबंधन किया ...(व्यवधान)... मैं वेतन में कटौती के संबंध में कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो वेतन में कटौती का निर्णय है, वह कोविड मैनेजमेंट के लिए है। मैं कोविड मैनेजमेंट पर ही बोल रहा हूँ। आज जो उदाहरण हमने कोविड मैनेजमेंट के समय में प्रस्तुत किए, उनके बाद झड़ी लग गयी। जो प्रधान मंत्री जी का रिलीफ फंड है, वह सारा transparent है, वह इन्हें नज़र नहीं आता है कि वह सारा फंड कोविड मैनेजमेंट में यूज हुआ। आज जिस प्रकार से देश ने कोविड के संबंध में मैनेजमेंट किया है, उसको विश्व में सराहा जा रहा है। विश्व में और भारत में Best Corona Warrior अगर कोई बनकर निकले हैं, तो प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी निकले हैं। उनको Best Corona Warrior का अवार्ड मिलना चाहिए। यह चीज़ इनको नज़र नहीं आती है। मैं विकास पर आज बोलूँ, तो शायद सदन का सारा समय निकल जाएगा, पर मैं नहीं बोलूँगा। क्या आपको नज़र नहीं आता है कि आज किस प्रकार से जनता को सुविधाएं मिली हैं? आज किस प्रकार से देश आगे गया है? Corona management के संबंध में भी, मैं समझता हूँ कि हम इस महामारी पर विजय प्राप्त करेंगे और सब मिलकर विजय प्राप्त करेंगे। मैं आपसे फिर निवेदन करूँगा कि सरकार से साथ चलें। यह ऐसा समय नहीं है कि हम राजनीति करके नोटबंदी को याद करें या हम राजनीति करना शुरू करें। कांग्रेस के और साथ ही बाकी बंधुओं को मैं कहूँगा कि कोविड मैनेजमेंट में कम से कम राजनीति न करें। इकट्ठे होकर इस वैश्विक महामारी से लड़ाई लड़ें और प्रधान मंत्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के नेतृत्व में, सभी मुख्य मंत्रियों के नेतृत्व में जनता का साथ लेकर इस महामारी पर विजय प्राप्त करें।

श्री उपसभापति: श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी जी।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी (पश्चिमी बंगाल): सर, मेरे पास कितना समय है?

श्री उपसभापति: आपके पास तीन मिनट का समय है।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: सर, तीन मिनट में तो हम पूरी बात नहीं रख सकते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय दिनेश जी, वर्षों पहले पार्लियामेंट की सादगी पर आपका एक यादगार लेख मैंने पढ़ा था। आप तीन मिनट में अपनी बात बहुत अच्छी तरह से कह सकते हैं।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: सर, चार मिनट दे दीजिएगा। मैं bullet points ही रखूँगा। सर, पहले तो मैं आपसे परमिशन मांग रहा हूँ कि क्या मैं विषय पर बोल सकता हूँ?

श्री उपसभापति: मुझे यह मालूम है कि आप विषय पर ही बोलेंगे।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: राजीव जी ने जो कहा, उससे मैं पूरी स्वीकृति रखता हूँ। मुझे तीन-चार मिनट का समय मिला है, सिर्फ मैं bullet point पढ़ दूँगा, क्योंकि समय नहीं है। इस बिल को सभी स्वीकार करेंगे, इसमें मुझे कोई डाउट नहीं है। मगर, मैं एक democratic spirit की बात कर रहा हूँ। एक तो होता है - letter और दूसरा होता है - spirit. सर, अब इस बिल का

[श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी]

background देते हैं। 12 सांसद जो कि Joint Committee के मेम्बर हैं, उन्होंने WhatsApp पर मीटिंग की। 15 मिनट की मीटिंग में यह कहा कि 30 परसेंट कटौती हो जाए, हो जाने दो। मगर इस प्रकार से WhatsApp पर मीटिंग की गई। यह democracy है। आप मैसेज क्या देना चाहते हैं? सर, मैसेज यह देना चाहते हैं कि आपके 50-60 करोड़ से यह हमारी कोरोना का क्राइसिस दूर हो जाएगा। सर, यह हमारी संसद है। आपको चाहिए था कि लीडर्स को बुलाएं, जैसे Opposition leaders को, सबको बुलाते...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय सदस्य, कृपया बीच में न बोलें।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: वे आपको तरीका बता सकते थे। ममता जी को आप बुलाते, तो वे बतातीं 50 नहीं 5,000 करोड़। उन्होंने एक रुपया सैलेरी...जब से वे मंत्री हैं, तब से कुछ नहीं लिया। MPLADS की बात की गई है, that is development, हम उससे पूरी सहमति रखते हैं। But, Sir, आपको यही चाहिए था कि हमें ही सब करना है। You just wanted to go alone and take the credit. That is why you did it. Sir, Parliament and MPs do not have the relation of employer and employee. Nine to five का जॉब नहीं है, ये 24X7 का जॉब है। The concept of salary itself is wrong. The Parliament is not a company that you have twelve board of directors and you decide that we increase the salary or decrease the salary or cut the salary. It is not like that. We all here are sevak. Most of us are sevak. आप प्रमुख सेवक हो सकते हैं या प्रधान सेवक हो सकते हैं, मगर हम भी सेवक हैं। हमारा compensation एक ही है। सर, मुझे दो मिनट और दे दीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति: नहीं-नहीं। माननीय त्रिवेदी जी, ऑलरेडी तीन मिनट हो गए हैं।

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Please, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Sum up, please.

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: सर, क्योंकि दो बिल साथ हैं। सर, हम सेवक हैं और हमारा compensation है - एक बूढ़ी माँ की मुस्कान कि मेरे बच्चे को आपने एडमिशन दिला दिया। सर, अभी पार्लियामेंट की क्रेडिबिलिटी खतरे में है। The spirit of democracy has to be on the top. Today, the country is going through a huge crisis. In this crisis, there cannot be a satta paksh and there cannot be a vipaksh. It has to be a paksh for Hindustan, has to be a paksh for Bharat. There cannot be a vipaksh and satta paksh. Sir, just one minute. I am just concluding.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, it was so nice to hear yesterday, Shri Rajnath Singh, when he spoke. There was नारा of "जय हिन्द" and there was नारा of "भारत माता की

जय" It was very nice to hear. This is the crisis. Lastly, the country is looking not for your salary cut; the country is looking for a direction; the country is looking for survival and the country is looking for "रोटी, कपड़ा और मकान". Under the NDMA Act, the country has given you all the powers. The country has stood behind you.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you Trivediji.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I will conclude by saying last, हमारे दोस्त त्रिवेदी जी हैं, उन्होंने हवन की बात कही। सर, इस हवन में हमें भी शामिल कीजिए।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: हम अपोजिशन में होंगे।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, धन्यवाद।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: आप समझते हैं कि आप हवन में घी डालेंगे और हम हवन में हड्डी डालना नहीं चाहते हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: क्योंकि हम भी एक भारत माता के पुत्र हैं, सपूत हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, धन्यवाद। त्रिवेदी जी, आप ऑलरेडी तय समय से बहुत ज्यादा समय ले चुके हैं।

श्री दिनेश त्रिवेदी: जय हिन्द, वंदे मातरम, जय भारत।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय श्री ए. विजयकुमार। ...(व्यवधान)... माननीय श्री ए. विजयकुमार।

Shri A. Vijayakumar from Lok Sabha. Please speak. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR(Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, on behalf of our party, I support this Bill. ...(Interruptions)...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please speak. ...(Interruptions)... Please speak. ...(Interruptions)... Please speak. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)... Please. ...(Interruptions)...

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, my party...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: You should give us more time. This is not in the spirit of democracy. You want to push all the Bills. What is the point?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House has decided it unanimously. ...*(Interruptions)*... Shri A. Vijayakumar, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Yes, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Nothing is going on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Vijayakumarji, please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please speak. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: *

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: Sir, on behalf of AIADMK Party, I support this Bill ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: *

SHRI A. VIJAYAKUMAR: In the pandemic time, I gave ₹ 106 lakhs for our District for a hospital for purchasing ventilators, monitors and everything from my MPLADS Fund. But, unfortunately, our Government has cancelled MPLADS for 2020-21 and 2021-22. I am asking about my previous MPLADS amount. There are so many MPs who are not getting their previous MPLADS funds. Especially, in my district, I am not getting 2018-19 & 2019-20 MPLADS funds. The MPLADS amount was not sanctioned for our district to me. That is why, I humbly request the Government to look into the matter and whatever arrears are there for the old MPs, please consider it in a good manner and release it as early as possible. Thank you, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Okay, concluded. Now, Shri Prasanna Acharya.

श्री प्रसन्न आचार्य (ओडिशा): आदरणीय उपसभापति महोदय, इन दोनों बिलों का विरोध करने का सवाल ही नहीं उठता है। मेरी पार्टी दोनों बिलों को समर्थन देती है। सर, सवाल पैसे का नहीं है। सरकार इससे 54-55 करोड़ रुपये या 60 करोड़ रुपये की बचत करेगी। सवाल यह है कि हम एक मैसेज देशवासियों को दे रहे हैं कि यहां तो लोगों को खाली उपदेश देते हैं, लेकिन इसको हम अपने ऊपर कारगर कर रहे हैं, इसकी यह मिसाल है और यह बहुत अच्छी चीज़ है।

सर, जो MPLADS के बारे में बाकी सदस्यों ने बताया है, मुझे नहीं लगता है कि MPLADS को बंद करने का कोई औचित्य है, क्योंकि इस MPLADS को हम अपने घर के लिए नहीं लेते हैं, यह हमारे लिए नहीं है, जैसे हम तनखाह घर के लिए लेते हैं, MPLADS को तो लेते नहीं हैं। हम अपने-अपने क्षेत्र में, अपने-अपने राज्य में इसको खर्च करते थे। कोरोना के लिए भी हम

*Not recorded.

इसको खर्च कर सकते थे। मान लीजिए हम ओडिशा के 31 एम.पी. लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के हैं, जितना पैसा मिलता, वह कोरोना के लिए ओडिशा में खर्च होता, अब वह पैसा कौन सी स्टेट में खर्च होगा, कहां खर्च होगा, उसका हमें पता नहीं है। मेरा सरकार से यह निवेदन है कि आप MPLADS को फिर से restore करिए। हम इसको कोरोना के लिए ही खर्च करेंगे, हम इसको दूसरे काम में खर्च नहीं करेंगे।

सर, एक और चीज़ है, जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य बता रहे थे कि पहले का पैसा MPLADS का हमें नहीं मिल रहा है। केवल मेरे अकाउंट में पिछले साल का 7 करोड़ रुपया मुझे अभी तक नहीं मिला है। वह पैसा तो कम से कम दे दें। तीसरी बात यह है कि विश्व में भारत ही एक ऐसा देश है, जहां हम स्वयं ही अपनी तनखाह तय करते थे। मैं धन्यवाद दूंगा माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी को कि अब उन्होंने कानून बदल दिए हैं और हर पांच साल में मूल्य सूची के अनुसार अब तनखाह तय होगी और यही एकमात्र देश है जहां न्यायालय के न्यायाधीश अपने उत्तराधिकारी का चयन खुद करते हैं। दुनिया के किसी देश में ऐसा नहीं है। इसको चेंज करने के लिए हमने भी कानून पारित किया था, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य यह है कि उस कानून को भी अदालत ने नकार दिया। मेरा यह निवेदन है कि हमें इस बारे में भी दोबारा सोचना चाहिए। मैं इसके साथ-साथ सरकार से एक बार फिर से अपील करूंगा कि आप MPLADS को जल्दी restore करें। आपने मुझे यहाँ पर बोलने का अवसर दिया है, इसके लिए आपका बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद माननीय प्रसन्न आचार्य जी। माननीय विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी, आप बोलिए। ...**(व्यवधान)**... प्लीज़ बीच में बैठकर नहीं बोलिए। माननीय विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद जी, आप बोलिए।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद (उत्तर प्रदेश): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, सांसद वेतन और माननीय मंत्रीगणों के वेतन कटौती का जो बिल आया है, मैं उसका समर्थन करता हूँ।

महोदय, विश्वव्यापी कोविड - 19 महामारी के कारण जो कटौती की गई है, उसके समर्थन के साथ ही मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस तरह से माननीय सांसद ने अभी चिंता व्यक्त की है कि salary तो ठीक है, आप चाहे और काट लेते, लेकिन जो एम.पी. लैंड काटा गया है, यह उचित नहीं है। मैं यह बताना चाहता हूँ कि MPLADS में तो एम.पी. केवल प्रस्ताव देता है, एम.पी. के खाते में कोई पैसा नहीं जाता है। कोविड - 19 महामारी के मद्देनजर हम लोग अपने-अपने क्षेत्र की जो मदद करना चाहते हैं, इस कटौती की वजह से अब वह मदद नहीं कर सकते हैं। अभी सभी सांसदों ने बताया है कि 2020-21, 2021-22 का MPLAD खत्म किया गया है, इसके अलावा जो माननीय सांसद हैं, वे चाहे लोक सभा के हों, चाहे राज्य सभा के हों, उनकी जो 2018-19 और 2019-20 की पिछली जमाएं पड़ी हुई हैं, कम से कम उनको तो वापस करना चाहिए। हम यह भी बताना चाहेंगे कि इसी तरह की उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य ने भी नकल की है। वहाँ माननीय विधायकों की एक साल की विधायक निधि ली गई है और हमारे यहाँ पर दो साल की ली गई है। हमारी समाजवादी पार्टी के राष्ट्रीय अध्यक्ष माननीय अखिलेश यादव जी

[श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद]

ने, माननीय मुलायम सिंह यादव जी ने कोविड - 19 में मदद के लिए 50-50 लाख रुपये एम.पी. लैंड फंड से उसी समय, तत्काल दिए, जब सरकार ने इसका निर्णय भी नहीं लिया था और हमारे जितने भी सांसद हैं, उन्होंने भी पैसा दिया था। माननीय विधायकों, MLCs ने भी कोविड - 19 में मदद करने के लिए अपने-अपने जनपद में जिलाधिकारियों को सबसे पहले हेल्प देने का काम किया था। जितने भी मजदूर थे, निराश्रित लोग थे समाजवादी पार्टी ने उनकी मदद के लिए बढ़-चढ़कर भाग लिया, तमाम समाजसेवी संस्थाओं ने भी मदद करने का काम किया, लेकिन हमें बड़ा दुख है कि अभी सत्र के दौरान, जब माननीय मंत्री जी जवाब दे रहे थे, तो उनसे पूछा गया था कि कितने doctors, nursing staff या चिकित्सा में जो लोग लगे रहे, जो स्वास्थ्यकर्मी, सफाईकर्मी या सुरक्षाकर्मी थे, उनमें से कितने लोगों की जान गई, उनको कीर्तिमान मिलना चाहिए, लेकिन सरकार ने कहा कि हम ये आंकड़े नहीं रखते हैं। महोदय, कितने लोग मर गए हैं। उन्होंने पैदल चलते-चलते पूरी सड़क नापी है, वे एक-एक, दो-दो हजार किलोमीटर तक चले, लेकिन सरकार को बिल्कुल दया नहीं आई। जो तमाम अमीर घरों के बच्चे हैं, आप उनको तो राजस्थान से बसों में फ्री लेकर गए, लेकिन वे मजदूर चलते-चलते मर गए। ये तमाम विसंगतियाँ हैं।

महोदय, इसी बीच कोविड - 19 के बहाने तमाम फैसले कर डाले गए। आपने लॉकडाउन के समय में, चाहे रेलवे स्टेशन बेचने का काम किया हो, प्राइवेट सेक्टर को देने का काम किया हो, चाहे एयरपोर्ट बेचने का काम किया हो, आपने ये तमाम काम किए। आपने नई शिक्षा नीति बना दी, लेकिन उसमें भी बच्चों का कुछ पता नहीं है। इसी बीच, इस कोविड - 19 के पीरियड में, पिछड़े वर्ग के लोगों के लिए क्रीमीलेयर में कृषि और अन्य इनकम के साथ वेतन वगैरह जोड़ने के लिए बी.पी. शर्मा कमेटी बना दी गई। श्री बी.पी. शर्मा एक रिटायर्ड अधिकारी हैं, सामान्य क्लास के हैं, अगर बनाना ही था तो आपके पास OBC Commission बना हुआ है, ओबीसी कमेटी ने जो डिपार्टमेंट ...(व्यवधान)... रिलेटेड रिपोर्ट दी, उसके बाद बनाते। ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय निषाद जी, धन्यवाद।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: हम लोगों ने ...(व्यवधान)... हमारे सुझावों ने ...(व्यवधान)... हम लोगों ने लगातार ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय निषाद जी, आपका समय खत्म हो चुका है, इसलिए अब खत्म करें। माननीय पी. विल्सन।

श्री विशम्भर प्रसाद निषाद: माननीय उपसभापति जी, ठीक है, मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI P. WILSON (Tamil Nadu): Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, the then Parliamentary Affairs Minister in September, 2012 said that the expenses incurred for conducting Parliament per session is Rs.2.5 lakhs per minute. This Bill is a classic example to show

how the Treasury Bench is wasting the time of this august House with these two Bills, which has eaten away the valuable time meant for the discussions like Question Hour, Private Member's Business and Zero Hour. These are tools used by the hon. Members to hold to account the Executive for their actions and inactions, and it has been taken away from us under the guise of transacting Government Business. These two Bills have been introduced to cut down 30 per cent of sumptuary allowances of Prime Minister, Ministers and 30 per cent of MP's salary and allowances, purportedly to meet the exigencies arising out of Coronavirus pandemic. The savings due to introduction of these two Bills is roughly ₹ 4, 55, 41, 400 in one year. However, the money spent by us in considering and passing this Bill is around ₹ 6 crores since it is going to occupy four hours in both the Houses to pass these Bills. Thus, these Bills do not cut down the expenses but has created loss to the Exchequer to the tune of ₹ 1, 44, 58, 600. This is perhaps the meaning of the saying, "penny wise, pound foolish." Sir, I wanted to say that DMK MPs have donated one month's salary to Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Relief Fund. Our DMK President, .Mr. M.K. Stalin, during pandemic time introduced a noble programme called 'Ondrinaivom Vaa' through which helplines were established in Tamil Nadu and food and medicines and medical kits were given free of cost at callers' doorsteps. We have served more than one crore people in Tamil Nadu. We are not against these two Bills. We are ready to donate voluntarily. Instead of spending 2 hours of this August House and 2 hours in Lok Sabha...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Shri P. Wilson, please conclude.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, you are cutting down MPLAD funds for two years amounting to ₹ 7900 crores which will go to the Consolidated Funds of India. This reminds me of another saying, "robbing Peter to pay Paul". The decision to suspend the MPLAD funds up to 2022 lacks foresight. The MPLAD Scheme empowers the people's representatives to directly address the needs of the constituency. This Scheme has yielded excellent results as it funds projects that are most needed in that constituency. And also generates local employment and development in that economy.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Hon. Member, please conclude.

SHRI P. WILSON: I will take one more minute, Sir. Now, these funds have been hijacked to be solely managed by the Executive. Tamil Nadu, which has got 57 MPs, is set to lose a sum of ₹ 770 crores over the next two years. This move is a glaring breach of co-operative federalism, which is the backbone of our political organization under the Constitution. Utilising ₹ 770 crores is not only for welfare measures of the people. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri V. Vijayasai Reddy. Shri Wilson, please conclude. ...(*Interruptions*)... You have already taken more time.

SHRI P. WILSON: Sir, I will take only half a minute.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No half minute. Just the concluding sentence.

SHRI P. WILSON: I would conclude it, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, conclude.

SHRI P. WILSON: Lastly, it is extraordinary that the Centre has turned to the MPLAD Scheme to generate funds when vanity projects like ₹ 20,000 crore Central Vista Project which is useful to none are still on the table. The Government owes about Rs.1147 crores to Air India for the travel of VVIPs...*

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Now, hon. V. Vijayasai Reddy. ...(*Interruptions*)... Now, it will not go on record. Vijayasai Reddyji, now you speak.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I stand to support this Bill. I would request the hon. Minister to consider restoring the MPLADS fund because that is very important. All the Members across the House, irrespective of the parties, are all on one page saying that the MPLADS fund which the Government has not been giving, has to be restored. Point number two, which is very, very important, which in the earlier occasions also had come up for discussion, is that those Members who are involved in disrupting the proceedings of the House, their salary should be cut in proportion and because they are squarely responsible for the disruptions of the House, irrespective of the Party, whether it is Treasury Benches or Opposition Benches, their salaries have to be cut. In fact, apart from cutting of salary, even a penalty should also be considered to be imposed on those Members. It is my considered opinion. ...(*Interruptions*)... Sir, one more point.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please.

SHRI V. VIJAYASAI REDDY: Sir, it is only a symbolic step. Cutting salary for this purpose is only a symbolic step and step in the right message that India's Ministers also are with the people of India in the fight against the pandemic. Globally also, the political leaders have sent a message to their people by taking a salary cut. For example, in New Zealand, there is a 20% cut, in Singapore also, one month's salary cut. While

*Not recorded.

the cut would not significantly change the financial position of the Government, the move is about demonstration in a right direction. Sir, one last point only. Lastly, I would like to appreciate all the private companies in India, who have resolved to have a pay-cut for their higher level management so that the new and junior staff gets their full salary. We, the public representatives, should lead the example by passing the Bill. We are supporting it. Thank you.

श्री राम चन्द्र प्रसाद सिंह (बिहार): उपसभापति महोदय, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद। मैं इन दोनों विधेयकों का समर्थन करता हूँ। अपने देश में जब भी आपदा आती है, चाहे देश पर आए या किसी प्रदेश में आए, जैसे अभी कोरोना के रूप में आई है, ऐसे समय में संसाधनों की आवश्यकता होती है। ऐसे में हमारे पास इस हेड में इतने संसाधन उपलब्ध नहीं होते हैं कि हम इतना अधिक खर्च कर सकें, चाहे केन्द्र सरकार हो या राज्य सरकारें हों। मेरा अनुरोध होगा कि सबसे पहले तो हम सब लोगों को एक निर्णय लेना चाहिए, जैसा हमारे बिहार में होता है कि जब भी आपदा आती है, तो जो आपदा से ग्रसित लोग होते हैं, हमारे राजस्व या हमारे खजाने पर सबसे पहला अधिकार उनका होता है। अभी हमारे पास तरह-तरह के रिलीफ फंड हैं, जो पर्याप्त नहीं होते हैं, क्योंकि उनमें कटौतियां होती रहती हैं। मेरा एक प्रस्ताव है, जिस पर विचार किया जाना चाहिए। हमारे देश में आगे भी आपदा आएगी और आती रहेगी, तो हमारे यहां इसके लिए एक कॉरपस होना चाहिए। हालांकि अभी भी हमारे पास कॉरपस है, लेकिन वह पर्याप्त नहीं है। हम जो बजट बनाते हैं, जैसे इस वर्ष 30 लाख करोड़ रुपये का हमारा बजट है, प्रदेशों में भी अपने-अपने बजट हैं, तो उसमें हम प्रावधान करें कि एक कमिटी बनाकर उसका एक particular percentage 3%, 5% या 7% तय किया जाए, जो हमारे पास कॉरपस के रूप में रहे, ताकि कभी भी देश में या प्रदेशों में इस प्रकार की कोई आपदा आए, तो हम लोग अपने संसाधन के लिए दाएं-बाएं नहीं झांके। यह सबसे जरूरी है, क्योंकि जब भी आपदा आती है, तो उससे हमको लड़ाई लड़नी होती है। मेरा यह अनुरोध होगा कि केन्द्र सरकार इस प्रस्ताव पर विचार करे और सब पार्टीज़ के हमारे जो साथी हैं, उनसे भी मेरा यही अनुरोध है। अंत में इन दोनों बिलों का समर्थन करते हुए मैं अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ, बहुत-बहुत धन्यवाद।

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD (Kerala): Sir, I support this Bill. India, alongwith rest of the world, is facing a critical situation. In order to manage and control the situation, it is necessary to raise resources from different sources. Everybody has to contribute. The economic activities of our country have been slowed down. Our GDP was downgraded even to negative figures signaling a deep recession. GDP growth in India had been falling since the beginning of last year. The Coronavirus shock has an overwhelming impact on India's economy and job.

Sir, the latest ILO ADB report has come. For India, the report estimates job loss for 4.1 million youth. Construction and agriculture have witnessed major job losses

[Shri K. Somaprasad]

among seven key sectors. The report is based on regional assessment of the "Global Survey on Youth and COVID-19". Sir, the social impact is beyond our imagination. Lakhs and lakhs of people have lost their jobs. Most of them do not have money for their livelihood. Sir, while supporting this Bill, I would like to bring to the notice of the Government that a drastic situation has been formed after the curtailment of the MPLAD Scheme. Sir, instead of declaring holiday to MPLAD Scheme, it should have been redesigned to meet the emergency situation arising out of this pandemic. I request the Government to reconsider the decision and restore the MPLAD Scheme. Sir, moreover, when the order came out, it is stated that there shall be no further release of installments of MPLAD fund and this includes the unreleased installments.

श्री उपसभापति: आपका टाइम ओवर हो चुका है, please conclude now, please conclude.

SHRI K. SOMAPRASAD: Sir, please give me thirty seconds. There shall be no further release of installments of the MPLAD fund and this includes the unreleased installments. This instruction has created many intricacies and legal issues. As per the guidelines, only first half of the installment will be released in advance. Further installments would be released....

श्री उपसभापति: के. सोमप्रसाद जी, धन्यवाद। माननीय मनोज कुमार झा जी।

प्रो. मनोज कुमार झा (बिहार): माननीय उपसभापति, यह विपदा की घड़ी है और इस संकट का आभास हमें जनवरी के महीने में नहीं था। विपदा की इस घड़ी में, शुरू में जो दोनों executive decisions लिए गए थे और जो अब बिल में तब्दील हो रहे हैं, मैं इनके पक्ष में बोलने के लिए खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

महोदय, मैं समझता हूँ कि विपदा के प्रति संवेदनशीलता के कई स्तर होने चाहिए। जो Central Vista Project है, वह अभी के दौर में शायद विलासिता की तरह लग रहा है। कल मैंने सुना था कि संसद का एक नया भवन बनेगा। सर, कई घरों में दिया बुझ चुका है। अर्थव्यवस्था के बारे में मैं कम बोलूँ तो बेहतर होगा। क्या यह संभव नहीं है कि हम अपनी प्राथमिकताएँ पुनः तय करें? सर, मैं एक और टिप्पणी करना चाहूँगा। राज्य सरकारों और केन्द्र सरकारों के स्वयं के महिमामंडन के लिए बड़े-बड़े इश्तिहार छपते हैं। कम से कम एक वर्ष या दो वर्ष तक इस पर बैन लगना चाहिए।

आखिरी टिप्पणी में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे कई साथी सदस्य, चाहे वे बीजेपी के हों या अन्य दलों के हों, मैंने एमपीलैड्ज को लेकर प्रधान मंत्री जी को पत्र भी लिखा था। मैं जिस राज्य से आता हूँ, वहाँ संसाधनों का घोर अभाव है। ऐसे कई और भी राज्य ओडिशा, मध्य प्रदेश

आदि हैं, जहां आप सांसदों को यह इजाज़त देते कि कोविड स्पेसिफिक एक्सपेंडिचर हो, प्रोजेक्ट्स हों, वह शायद बेहतर निर्णय होता, बनिस्बत इसके कि इसको कंसॉलिडेटेड फनन्ड में भेजा जाए। जहां ब्यूरोक्रेसी सहरसा, पूर्णिया की हकीकत से वाकिफ़ नहीं है, उनको दिया गया है।

मैं इतना कहकर अपनी बात खत्म करूंगा और मैं पुनः आग्रह करूंगा कि जब दौर बुरा आता है तो सिर्फ सांकेतिकता से काम नहीं चलेगा। हमें तय करना होगा कि आज के बाद कोई विज्ञापन नहीं, कम से कम दो वर्ष के लिए सारे भवन निर्माण रोक दिये जाएं। पहले लोग बच जाएं, फिर हम भवन बनायें। शुक्रिया, जय हिन्द।

SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR (Andhra Pradesh): Sir, I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak. I rise to support both the Bills. The step is for gathering the resources to tackle any contingency if it arises. A strong financial backup is the need of the hour to control the problem of Coronavirus. However, I request the Government—and every Member of the House may be supporting it—for restoring the MPLADS Funds. It is crucial for each and every Member. Arrears of MPLADS Funds have also not been released on the premise of the COVID. In fact, before this announcement, I had donated rupees one crore for Corona. But due to withdrawal of MPLADS Funds, Sir, that could not be fructified. However, the Central Government is allotting funds to the State Governments. As far as Andhra Pradesh is concerned, some Corona funds were misused. There are allegations of some sort of diverting this fund. Some corruption allegations are also there. It should be checked by the Central Government because the Central Government is distributing the funds to the States. Similarly, if the MPLAD Funds are not released, every Member is not in a position to address the grievances of the public at appropriate time. Sometimes in some areas, the COVID facilities are not available. MPLADS Funds can be utilised for this purpose. I once again urge the hon. Minister to consider it and restore the MPLADS Funds immediately. Thank you.

श्री नारायण दास गुप्ता (राष्ट्रीय राजधानी क्षेत्र, दिल्ली): माननीय उपसभापति महोदय, मैं अपनी ओर से और अपनी पार्टी की ओर से इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ। जब मैंने इस ऑर्डिनेन्स को पढ़ा तो मेरे दिल में एक ख्याल आया कि दोनों सदनों के जितने भी मेम्बर्स हैं, हमारे देशवासियों को कहीं न कहीं एक मैसेज गया है कि जो सांसद हैं, इनकी तनखाहें काटनी पड़ती हैं। इसका मतलब यह है कि आपदा के समय ये अपने आप ऑफर नहीं करते। मुझे इस तरह का एहसास हुआ। हो सकता है कि मैं गलत होऊँ कि यह मैसेज गया कि हमारी तनखाह काटनी पड़ती है, लेकिन पास्ट में देखा गया है कि जब केरल में फ्लड की बहुत बड़ी आपदा आई और हमारे

[श्री नारायण दास गुप्ता]

चेयरमैन साहब के आदेश यहां से हुए और एमपीज़ से रिक्वेस्ट की गई कि एक-एक महीने की तनखाह दी जाए, ऐसा उनका आदेश हुआ और एक-एक महीने की तनखाह दी गई।

इसी प्रकार से एमपीलैडज़ फंड से उस महीने पैसा दिया गया, जैसे-जैसे आदेश हुए। मैं समझता हूं कि इसकी जरूरत नहीं थी। इसमें दोनों सदनों का इतना समय भी खराब हुआ। प्रधान मंत्री जी या चेयरमैन साहब आदेश कर देते तो सभी एमपीज़ वॉलन्टियर करते और जैसा अभी माननीय सदस्य, श्री पी. विल्सन ने बताया कि इन दोनों बिलों के डिस्कशन में सरकार का कितना पैसा खर्चा हुआ, वह बचता। यह मेरा एक निवेदन है।

दूसरी बात मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अभी सभी माननीय सदस्यों ने अपनी बात रखी कि विलासिता के भवन बनाने के लिए हम किस प्रकार से बजट बना रहे हैं, वह रोका जाए।

इसके अलावा मैं दिल्ली के बारे में आपके माध्यम से सदन से कहूंगा कि हमारे मुख्य मंत्री जी ने आज जो कोरोना का संकट चल रहा है...

श्री उपसभापति: गुप्ता जी, धन्यवाद। आप तुरन्त कन्क्लूड करिये और कन्क्लूडिंग सेन्टेन्स बोलिये।

श्री नारायण दास गुप्ता: सर, मैं अंत में कहूंगा कि एमपीलैडज़ फंड के बारे में जो आदेश हुआ है, उसे वापस लिया जाए, क्योंकि अल्टिमेटली जैसे दिल्ली से दस सांसद हैं, उनके 70 करोड़ रुपये खर्च होंगे।

DR. FAUZIA KHAN (Maharashtra): Respected Sir, I would like to welcome the decision of the Government to pool all the resources to battle against this Covid pandemic. What of its salary? What of its curtailment? I think we all MPs are here to serve the nation and we are dedicated to this cause. However, as everyone else here has voiced regarding MPLADS, my concern is that this Rs. 5 crores a year which makes it Rs. 10 crores in two years would have been spent in my constituency on the situation and the need that we, as MPs, feel, say, on Covid-19-specific hospitals, ambulances etc. But now we are deprived of this and we are left at the mercy of PM CARES Fund and we don't know if the P.M. really cares, whether this amount is going to come back to our constituency, whether the distressed in our constituency are going to be benefited out of it. I would request you, like everybody else, to please restore the MPLADS fund, and, at the end, I would only say that the GST payments which are pending for States may be released and kindly ensure that whatever assistance the Government has been providing, which has been stopped, is resumed. Thank you very much.

श्री वीर सिंह (उत्तर प्रदेश): उपसभापति महोदय, मैं इन दोनों बिल्स का समर्थन करता हूँ।

महोदय, जब यह विश्वव्यापी बीमारी कोरोना हमारे देश में आयी, उसी समय हमारी नेता आदरणीय बहन कुमारी मायावती जी ने हमारे राज्य सभा और लोक सभा के सभी संसद सदस्यों को आदेशित किया था कि आप अपने-अपने फंड से 50-50 लाख रुपये दें। हमने दिये थे, महोदय।

महोदय, सांसदों की और मंत्रियों की सैलेरी में कटौती का यह जो प्रस्ताव आया है, हम इसे स्वीकार करते हैं, किन्तु सांसदों का जो MPLADS दो सालों का काटा गया है, इसको नहीं काटा जाए, क्योंकि सांसदगण अपने क्षेत्र में जाकर काम कराते हैं। हम कहते हैं कि भले ही यह कोविड-19 पर खर्च किया जाए, परन्तु हमारे द्वारा किया जाए, जिससे कि सांसदों को अपने क्षेत्र में जाने का एक मौका मिले।

महोदय, जब कोरोना काल आया, यह बीमारी आयी, तो उस समय सबसे ज्यादा मुसीबत प्रवासी मजदूरों पर आयी। जो 27 करोड़ प्रवासी मजदूर अपने-अपने जिलों को गये, गाँवों को गये, उनको बहुत परेशानियाँ उठानी पड़ीं। हजारों प्रवासी मजदूर रास्ते में मर गये और सरकार ने उनका कोई आंकड़ा आज तक प्रस्तुत नहीं किया। मेरी माँग है कि जितने प्रवासी मजदूर रास्ते में मरे हैं, उनके आंकड़े प्रस्तुत करके उनको मुआवज़ा दिलाया जाए।

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय वीर सिंह जी, conclude कीजिए।

श्री वीर सिंह: दूसरा, केन्द्र सरकार के द्वारा प्रवासी मजदूरों और खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिए जो मनरेगा की व्यवस्था की गयी है, उसमें साल में 100 दिनों का काम दिया गया है और मात्र 200 रुपये दिये गये हैं।

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद।

श्री वीर सिंह: मेरा निवेदन है कि उसे 200 रुपये से बढ़ा कर 300 रुपये किया जाए और उनको 100 दिन से बढ़ा कर 200 दिन काम दिया जाए। यही मेरी माँग है, धन्यवाद।

श्री नज़ीर अहमद लवाय (जम्मू-कश्मीर): मोहतरमुलमुकाम डिप्टी चेयरमैन साहब, मैं इस बिल को 50:50 समर्थन देता हूँ, क्योंकि मुझे लगता है कि मैं आप सब की तवज्जो MPLADS की तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ।

जैसा कि भारत सरकार ने 2020-21 और 2021-22 के लिए MPLADS रोक दिया है और साथ-साथ जो pending installments थे, उनको भी रोक दिया गया है, जिसकी वजह से बहुत से मुश्किलात दरपेश हैं। खास करके वे काम जो मुकम्मल हो चुके हैं, उनकी पेमेंट के लिए हमारे नोडल डिस्ट्रिक्ट के पास जरूरी रकूमात नहीं हैं, जिसकी वजह से गरीब ठेकेदारों और लोगों को मुश्किलात का सामना करना पड़ रहा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि यही हालात पूरे देश में हैं और मेरे साथी एमपी साहेबान भी इस मुश्किलात के शिकार हैं। मेरी आपके माध्यम से सरकार को गुजारिश है कि MPLADS रोकने के बजाय इसमें इजाफा किया जाना चाहिए, ताकि local

[श्री नजीर अहमद लवाय]

level पर जो छोटे-छोटे काम हैं, वे मुकम्मल हो सकें। इसके साथ ही साथ जितने भी फंड्स बंद पड़े हुए हैं, इनको जल्दी से जल्दी से वागुज़ार किया जाए, क्योंकि जब हम गाँवों में बैठते हैं, तो हमारे पास गरीब लोग आते हैं, तब जहाँ एक तरफ कोविड है, ऐसी स्थिति में हम उनकी कुछ मदद नहीं कर सकते हैं।

†جناب نذیر احمد لوانے (جموں-کشمیر) : محترم المقام ڈپٹی چیئرمین صاحب، میں اس بل کو 50:50 سمرتھن دیتا ہوں، کیوں کہ مجھے لگتا ہے کہ میں آپ سب کی توجہ MPLADS کی طرف دلانا چاہتا ہوں۔

جیسا کہ بھارت سرکار نے 2020-21 اور 2021-22 کے لئے MPLADS روک دیا ہے اور ساتھ ساتھ جو pending installments تھے، ان کو بھی روک دیا گیا ہے، جس کی وجہ سے بہت سی مشکلات درپیش ہیں۔ خاص کر کے وہ کام جو مکمل ہو چکے ہیں، ان کی پیمینٹ کے لئے ہمارے نوڈل ڈسٹرکٹ کے پاس ضروری رقومات نہیں ہیں، جس کی وجہ سے غریب ٹھیکیداروں اور لوگوں کو مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑ رہا ہے۔ میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ یہی حالات پورے دیش میں ہیں اور میرے ساتھی ایم پی۔ صاحبان بھی ان مشکلات کے شکار ہیں۔ میری آپ کے مادھیم سے سرکار سے گزارش ہے کہ MPLADS روکنے کے بجائے اس میں اضافہ کیا جانا چاہئے، تاکہ لوکل لیول پر جو چھوٹے چھوٹے کام ہیں، وہ مکمل ہو سکیں۔ اس کے ساتھ ہی ساتھ جتنے بھی فنڈس بند پڑے ہونے ہیں، ان کو جلدی سے جلدی سے واگزار کیا جائے، کیوں کہ جب ہم گاؤں میں بیٹھتے ہیں، تو ہمارے پاس غریب لوگ آتے ہیں، تب جہاں ایک طرف تو کووڈ ہے، ایسی حالت میں ہم ان کی کچھ مدد نہیں کر سکتے ہیں۔

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, नज़ीर अहमद लवाय जी।

श्री नज़ीर अहमद लवाय: सर, मेरी यह गुज़ारिश है कि इस एमपीलैडज़ को दोबारा restore किया जाए। यही हमारे देश के लिए भी अच्छा होगा, धन्यवाद।

†جناب نذیر احمد لوانے : سر، میں یہ گزارش ہے کہ اس ایم پی لیڈس کو دوبارہ ریسٹور کیا جائے۔ یہی ہمارے دیش کے لئے بھی اچھا ہوگا، دھنیواد۔

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद, नज़ीर अहमद लवाय जी। डा. के. केशव राव जी।

DR. K. KESHAVA RAO (Telangana): Sir, we, in Telangana, ourselves offered to give the entire year's MPLADS and legislators funds totaling to Rs. 100 crores - the hon. Minister here knows about it - for COVID. An order was passed by CM that it will be used only for COVID rehabilitation measures. As the hon. Members said, while I also oppose your taking away MPLADS; yet, I say that all these funds that we are trying to give should go to COVID rehabilitation. Thank you.

श्री उपसभापति: थैंक यू, डा. के. केशव राव जी। माननीय राकेश सिन्हा जी, आपके पास पाँच मिनट हैं।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा (नाम निर्देशित): उपसभापति महोदय, आज हम जिस संकट से गुजर रहे हैं, ऐसी extraordinary situation में extraordinary step की जरूरत पड़ती और extra ordinary leadership की आवश्यकता होती है। प्रधान मंत्री श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने जिस प्रकार से extra ordinary step लिए, वह इसी बात से जाहिर होता है कि आज सदन में, एमपीज़ और मिनिस्टर्स की सैलेरी में जो कटौती हुई है, उस पर एक सहमति है। भारतीय लोकतंत्र अपने वैशिष्ट्य के साथ आज पूरी दुनिया में खड़ा है। 1930 में अमेरिका में जब great depression हुआ और House of Representatives में कटौती का बिल आया था, तो वहाँ उस पर वोटिंग हुई और 373 सदस्यों ने उसका समर्थन किया तथा 19 सदस्यों ने उसका विरोध किया था। आज भारत में सदन एकमत से नरेन्द्र मोदी जी के इस कदम का समर्थन कर रहा है, लेकिन मुझे दुख है कि समर्थन करते हुए कुछ सूक्ष्म मुद्दे उठा कर जिस प्रकार से भ्रम पैदा करने की कोशिश हो रही है, उस पर मैं दो-तीन टिप्पणियाँ करना चाहता हूँ।

उपसभापति महोदय, भारत में विपक्ष की जो भूमिका है, उसे मैं Frankenstein दृष्टि मानता हूँ, जो self destructive है। मैंने विपक्ष से एक ही बात सीखी है और एक ही सूत्र सीखा है कि यदि जीवन में विफल होना है, तो हर चीज का हर समय विरोध करना चाहिए। विपक्ष आज भी वही कर रहा है। जहाँ वे बिल का समर्थन कर रहे हैं, वहाँ ऐसे मुद्दे उठा रहे हैं। मैं उस पर एक टिप्पणी करना चाहता हूँ। Gorkhi का नाम हम सबने सुना है। Gorkhi ने 20 अप्रैल, 1998 को एक पत्र लिखा। उस पत्र में Gorkhi ने एक बहुत महत्वपूर्ण बात कही। उन्होंने लिखा, "मुझमें कुछ लोग उल्लेखनीय देखते हैं और मुझे इस बात की खुशी भी होती है, आकर्षित भी करता है और यह बात उत्प्रेरित भी करती है कि मैं अपने प्रति, अपने आप के प्रति कठोर और यथावत बना रहूँ।" आज नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने यही संदेश दिया है। जब देश में ऐसी कठिनाई का दौर है, तो हम अपने प्रति कठोरता और यथावत बने रहें।

इसमें जो एक दूसरा महत्वपूर्ण पक्ष उठता है, वह यह है कि हम जिस संसदीय जनतंत्र के हिस्से हैं, विपक्ष यह मानता है कि यह एक moral goodwill का मैसेज है। नरेन्द्र मोदी जी इसे moral goodwill से कहीं आगे देखते हैं। वे क्या देखते हैं, यह मैं विपक्ष को बताना चाहता हूँ। हम जिस परंपरा के हैं, उस परंपरा में Max Webber का वह सिद्धांत कि politics is a

1:00 P.M.

[श्री राकेश सिन्हा]

vocation यानी राजनीति एक व्यवसाय है, वह नरेन्द्र मोदी जी नहीं मानते हैं, उनकी सरकार नहीं मानती है। यह मानती है कि राजनीति सेवा का एक माध्यम है और सेवा करते समय.... उन्होंने जिसे सेवा का माध्यम बताया, उसमें हम अपनी सैलेरी, अपनी सुख-सुविधाओं का महत्व नहीं देते हैं। मैं इसका दो उदाहरण देना चाहता हूँ। हम आज जिस चैम्बर में बैठे हुए हैं, जिस हॉल में बैठे हुए हैं, जिस संविधान निर्माता के कारण संसदीय जनतंत्र इस तीव्रता के साथ आज देश में चल रहा है, बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर जी की एक जीवनी श्री शंकरराव खरात ने लिखी थी। शंकरराव खरात जी ने एक बात कही कि जब बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर के पुत्र राजरत्न की मृत्यु हुई...

श्री उपसभापति: राकेश जी, अब आप conclude कीजिए।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: सर, मैं एक मिनट में खत्म करता हूँ। जब राजरत्न की मृत्यु हुई, तब बाबा साहेब अम्बेडकर के लिए राजरत्न के लिए कफन के पैसे नहीं थे, तब उनकी पत्नी ने अपनी साड़ी दी थी। आज हम जिस राजनीति का हिस्सा हैं...

श्री उपसभापति: राकेश जी, अब आप conclude कीजिए।

श्री राकेश सिन्हा: सर, मैं 30 second में समाप्त करता हूँ। जिस प्रकार से आज left democracy और left to the centre की बात कॉंग्रेस पार्टी एवं अन्य पार्टियाँ कर रही हैं, मैं उनको बताना चाहता हूँ कि नरेन्द्र मोदी जी ने भारत की राजनीति को....

श्री उपसभापति: प्लीज़, आप conclude कीजिए, बंद कीजिए। माननीय मंत्री जी।

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; THE MINISTER OF COAL;
AND THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI): Thank you, Sir.
...(Interruptions)...

श्री उपसभापति: हम सब हाउस extend करेंगे। जितना जल्द संभव हो खत्म करेंगे, क्योंकि आप जानते हैं कि यहाँ दूसरे हाउस ने मिलना है। मेरे पास समय बहुत कम है। ...(व्यवधान)... उसके extension के लिए प्लीज़ ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: सर ...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी, आप पहले कहें कि हम सहमति से हाउस extend कर रहे हैं।...(व्यवधान)...

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: सर, ये दोनों बिल पारित होने तक हाउस extend किया जाए।
...(व्यवधान)...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय एलओपी, आप कुछ कहना चाहते हैं?

विपक्ष के नेता (श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद): माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन सर, मैं सिर्फ दो-तीन मिनट लूँगा। इस बिल के दो भाग हैं - पहला, pay and allowances में कटौती और दूसरा, MPLADS दो साल के लिए बंद।

सर, मैं अपनी तरफ से दोनों सदनों के एमपीज़ को बधाई देता हूँ कि सबने इकट्ठे एक आवाज़ से अपने pay and allowances में कटौती को स्वीकार किया है। हालांकि, मैं अच्छी तरह से जानता हूँ और माननीय डिप्टी चेयरमैन से अच्छी तरह कौन जानेगा कि 70 परसेंट मेम्बर्स ऑफ पार्लियामेंट, चाहे इस सदन के हों या उस सदन के हों, सिर्फ तनखाह पर ही गुजारा करते हैं और public perception है कि बड़े अमीर हैं, बिज़नेसमैन हैं। इसमें हो सकता है कि यह शायद 70 परसेंट से भी ज्यादा हो और लोक सभा सदस्यों को तीन-तीन घर चलाने पड़ते हैं। राज्य सभा सदस्यों को तो दो ही घर चलाने पड़ते हैं। लेकिन फिर भी इस आपदा में देश के हित के लिए, गरीबों के लिए वे इस छोटी सी तनखाह में से तनखाह और allowances देने के लिए तैयार हैं, मैं उनको बधाई देता हूँ। हमारी पार्टी, दूसरे मेम्बर्स के साथ इसका बराबर समर्थन करती है, क्योंकि यह हमारा पैसा है, चाहे हम कम रोटी खाएं, लेकिन MPLADS हमारा पैसा नहीं है, यह गरीब इंसान का पैसा है।

सर, हिन्दुस्तान में कोई भी सरकार आए, आप जितनी स्कीम्स देखेंगे, उनका even distribution किसी में नहीं होता है। किसी में प्रोजेक्ट बड़े आएंगे, किसी में ज्यादा आएंगे, स्टेट भी बांटेगी, लेकिन जितना even distribution MPLADS का है, उतना कहीं नहीं है, क्योंकि जितनी लोक सभा constituency है, उनको बराबर पैसा मिलता है और जो उनसे छूट जाता है, उन्हें राज्य सभा supplement करती है। सर, इससे बनता क्या है? इससे बड़े महल नहीं बनते हैं, छोटी-छोटी चीज़ें बनती हैं। जहाँ एम्बुलेंस पहुँचाने में सरकार 70 साल फेल हो गई, चाहे कोई राज्य सरकार हो या केन्द्रीय सरकार हो, वहाँ MPLADS के द्वारा एम्बुलेंस मिलती थी और मजदूरों और बीमारों को लाभ मिल जाता था। गरीब लोगों की कहीं छोटी झोपड़ी बन रही है, उनका 50 हजार, एक लाख रुपए का समाधान होता था। एक गाँव को दूसरे गाँव से जोड़ने के लिए छोटी रोड न किसी ने बनाई है और शायद सौ साल तक और नहीं बनेगी, कच्ची रोड्स, वे इससे बनती थीं, छोटी पुलिया बनती थी, Community Centres बनते थे। ये तमाम चीज़ें, जिन्हें राज्य सरकार नहीं बनाती थी, कोई दूसरी सेल्फ गवर्नमेंट नहीं बनाती थी या सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट नहीं बनाती थी, वे MPLADS से बनती थीं और इतनी मॉनिटरिंग कोई नहीं कर सकता, क्योंकि लोक सभा और राज्य सभा के 800 लोग इसकी मॉनिटरिंग करते हैं। इतनी मॉनिटरिंग कोई डिपार्टमेंट नहीं कर सकता। मेरा सरकार से यह निवेदन होगा कि यह दो साल के लिए तो नहीं करना चाहिए। हमने कैसे presume कर लिया कि कोरोना दो साल चलेगा? अगर करना भी था, तो इसे एक साल के लिए करते और आधा करते, ढाई करोड़ रखते। अब यहाँ सरकार के साथ-साथ सभी बोलते हैं कि एमपीज़ को involve होना चाहिए। सर, खाली हाथ क्या करें? मैं मास्क भी नहीं दे सकता। जब एक एमपी जाएगा, तो वह किसी को मास्क नहीं दे सकता है, किसी को सैनिटाइजर नहीं दे सकता है, तो मेरा सरकार से आखिरी निवेदन होगा कि एमपीज़ की

[श्री गुलाम नबी आज़ाद]

जो भावनाएं हैं, उसको देखकर इसे दो साल के बजाय एक साल किया जाए और एक साल में भी ढाई करोड़ रखा जाए, ढाई करोड़ दिया जाए, ताकि एम्पीएज़ और लोगों का कुछ तो समाधान हो।

†**قائد حزب اختلاف (جناب غلام نبی آزاد):** مانینے ڈپٹی چئیرمین سر، میں صرف دو تین منٹ لونگا۔ اس بل کے دو بھاگ ہیں۔ پہلا، pay and allowances میں کٹوتی اور دوسرا، MPLADS دو سال کے لیے بند۔

سر، میں اپنی طرف سے دونوں ایوان کے ممبران کو مبارکباد دیتا ہوں کہ سب نے اکٹھے ایک آواز سے اپنے pay and allowances میں کٹوتی کو سویکار کیا ہے۔ حالانکہ میں اچھی طرح سے جانتا ہوں اور مانینے ڈپٹی چئیرمین سے اچھی طرح کون جانتا ہوگا کہ سٹرفیصد ممبرس آف پارلیمنٹ، چاہے اس سدن کے ہوں یا اس سدن کے ہوں، صرف تنخواہ پر ہی گزارہ کرتے ہیں اور public perception ہے کہ بڑے امیر ہیں، بزنس مین ہیں۔ اس میں ہوسکتا ہے کہ یہ شاید سٹرفیصد سے بھی زیادہ ہو اور لوگ سبھا سڈسیوں کو تین تین گھر چلانے پڑتے ہیں۔ راجیہ سبھا سڈسیوں کو تو دو ہی گھر چلانے پڑے ہیں۔ لیکن پھر بھی اس آفت میں ملک کے مفاد کے لیے، غریبوں کے لیے وہ اس چھوٹی سی تنخواہ میں سے تنخواہ اور الاؤنسز دینے کے لیے تیار ہیں، میں ان کو بدھائی دیتا ہوں۔ ہماری پارٹی، دوسرے ممبرس کے ساتھ اس کا برابر سمرتن کرتی ہے، کیوں کہ یہ ہمارا پیسہ ہے، چاہے ہم کم روٹی کھائیں، لیکن MPLADS ہمارا پیسہ نہیں ہے، یہ غریب انسان کا پیسہ ہے۔

سر، ہندستان میں کوئی بھی سرکار آئے، آپ جتنی اسکیمیں دیکھیں گے، ان کا even distribution کسی میں نہیں ہوتا ہے۔ کسی میں پراجیکٹ بڑے آئیں گے، کسی میں زیادہ آئیں گے، اسٹیٹ بھی بانٹے گی، لیکن جتنا MPLADS even distribution کا ہے، اتنا کہیں نہیں ہے، کیوں کہ جتنی لوگ سبھا constituency ہیں ان کو برابر پیسہ ملتا ہے اور جو ان سے چھوٹ جاتا ہے، انہیں راجیہ سبھا سپلیمنٹ کرتی ہے۔ سر، اس

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

سے بنتا کیا ہے؟ اس سے بڑے محل نہیں بنتے ہیں، چھوٹی چھوٹی چیزیں بنتی ہیں۔ جہاں ایمبولینس پہنچانے میں سرکار ستر سال فیل ہوگئی، چاہے کوئی راجیہ سرکار ہو یا مرکزی سرکار ہو، وہاں MPLADS کے ذریعہ ایمبولینس ملتی تھی اور مزدوروں اور بیماروں کو فائدہ مل جاتا تھا۔ غریب لوگوں کی کہیں چھوٹی چھوٹی جھونپڑی بن رہی ہے، ان کا پچاس ہزار، ایک لاکھ روپے کا سمادھان ہوتا تھا۔ ایک گاؤں کو دوسرے گاؤں سے جوڑنے کے لیے چھوٹی روڈ نہ کسی نے بنائی ہے اور شاید سو سال تک اور نہیں بنے گی، کچی روڈس، وہ اس سے بنتی تھیں، چھوٹی پلیا بنتی تھی، کمیونٹی سینٹر بنتے تھے۔ یہ تمام چیزیں جنہیں راجیہ سرکار نہیں بناتی تھی، کوئی دوسری سیلف گورنمنٹ نہیں بناتی تھی یا سینٹرل گورنمنٹ نہیں بناتی تھی، وہ ایمپی لیڈس سے بنتی تھیں اور اتنی مانیٹرنگ کوئی نہیں کر سکتا، کیوں کہ لوک سبھا اور راجیہ سبھا کے آٹھ سو لوگ اس کی مانیٹرنگ کرتے ہیں۔ اتنی مانیٹرنگ کوئی ڈیپارٹمنٹ نہیں کر سکتا۔ میرا سرکار سے یہ نویدن ہوگا کہ یہ دو سال کے لئے تو نہیں کرنا چاہئے۔ ہم نے کیسے presume کر لیا کہ کورونا دو سال چلے گا؟ اگر کرنا بھی تھا، تو اسے ایک سال کے لئے کرتے اور آدھا کرتے، ڈھائی کروڑ رکھتے۔ اب یہاں سرکار کے ساتھ ساتھ سبھی بولتے ہیں کہ ایمپیز کو involve ہونا چاہئے۔ سر، خالی ہاتھ کیا کریں؟ میں ماسک بھی نہیں دے سکتا۔ جب ایک ایمپی۔ جائے گا، تو وہ کسی کو ماسک نہیں دے سکتا ہے، کسی کو سینیٹائزر نہیں دے سکتا ہے، تو میرا سرکار سے آخری نویدن ہوگا کہ ایم۔ پیز کی جو بھاونائیں ہیں، اس کو دیکھ کر اسے دو سال کے بجائے ایک سال کیا جائے اور ایک سال میں ڈھائی کروڑ رکھا جائے، ڈھائی کروڑ دیا جائے، تاکہ ایمپیز اور لوگوں کا کچھ تو سمادھان ہو۔

श्री उपसभापति: अब श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी जी का जवाब होगा। मंत्री जी, आप कृपया briefly बोलें। प्रहलाद जोशी जी, आपका जवाब सेकंड नम्बर पर होगा, क्योंकि दो बिल्स हैं।

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी): महोदय, मैं सभी दलों के सांसदों को धन्यवाद देना चाहता हूँ। कोविड के कारण आम जनता की इनकम पर बहुत प्रभाव पड़ा है। चाहे प्राइवेट सेक्टर में काम करने वाले लोग हों, वर्कफोर्स कम्युनिटी इम्प्लॉइज हों, कैजुअल वर्कर्स हों, शॉप-कीपर्स हों, स्ट्रीट वेंडर्स हों, उन सभी लोगों पर इस कोविड के कारण इम्पैक्ट पड़ा है। इसके लिए आदरणीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने सोचा है कि हमें एक आदर्श कायम करना चाहिए। इसी दृष्टि से यह सोचा गया कि मंत्रिमंडल के सभी सदस्यों के जो allowances होंगे, उनमें 30 परसेंट कमी करके सर्विंग करनी चाहिए। इसमें पैसे का सवाल नहीं है। कुछ माननीय सांसदों ने कहा कि इतनी बचत के लिए इतनी चर्चा! यह पैसा कितना है, इसका महत्व नहीं है। प्रधान सेवक

†Transliteration in Urdu script.

[श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी]

से लेकर सभी मंत्रियों तक, सभी लोगों को बचत के लिए आगे आकर एक आदर्श दिखाना चाहिए। हमारे भारतीय जनता पार्टी के अध्यक्ष, नड्डा जी ने हमसे अपील की है कि भारतीय जनता पार्टी के सभी कार्यकर्ताओं के घर में जो भी खाना पकता है, अगर उनके घर में दो लोग हैं, तो वे पाँच लोगों का खाना पकाएँ, जिसमें से तीन लोगों के खाने को वे गरीब और भूखे लोगों को खिलाएँ। ऐसा आदेश हमें नड्डा जी ने दिया है। ऐसे करोड़ों गरीब कार्यकर्ता हैं, जिन्होंने घर में न खाते हुए भी इस कोविड के समय में करोड़ों लोगों को खिलाने का प्रयास किया है। इसमें पैसे का सवाल नहीं है, बल्कि यह एक आदर्श का विषय है, इसीलिए माननीय प्रधान मंत्री जी ने यह निर्णय लिया है और फिर सरकार ने मंत्रियों के वेतन और भत्तों में कटौती करने का निर्णय लिया है। इस प्रस्ताव को आप सभी लोगों ने समर्थन दिया है, इसके लिए मैं आप सभी को सरकार की ओर से धन्यवाद देता हूँ, जय हिन्द!

श्री उपसभापति: धन्यवाद। माननीय प्रहलाद जोशी जी।

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Thank you very much, Sir. इस चर्चा में जिन माननीय सदस्यों ने भाग लिया है, उन सभी ने इन दोनों बिल्स को सपोर्ट किया है। मैं सभी को धन्यवाद समर्पित करता हूँ, but I would like to place one point on record that ऐसे कई मेम्बर्स हैं, डीएमके के एक मेम्बर साहब ने यह कहा था कि इस छोटे अमाउंट के लिए दो घंटे की चर्चा और इससे चार करोड़ रुपये बचते हैं, ऐसा कुछ उन्होंने कहा था। First of all, there are two things in it. One is that स्वामी विवेकानन्द जी ने कहा था, those who live for others, they alone are alive and rest are more dead than alive. हम कितना देते हैं, सवाल इसका नहीं है, बल्कि we should be a role model to the people. With this concept, मंत्रियों का और मेम्बर्स का...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Sir, I have been misquoted. I must get a chance to clarify.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: No. I have not said about you. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: I had said, "You are giving a wrong message. The country expects you to give direction." ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Dineshji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Trivediji. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Dineshji, I have got a lot of regards and respect for you, which you also know. You have not said that. Some other Member said that. I have not taken your name also.

SHRI DINESH TRIVEDI: Okay. Then, I take my words back.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: You have not said that. The DMK Member said, चार करोड़ की बचत होती है, छः करोड़ खर्चा होता है। This is what he said. First of all, what I said is, this is the question mark. Charity should begin at home. This is the concept we have started. Number two, it is not Rs.4 crores. I would place the record straight, it is Rs. 53,89,92,000/- per year from Members' salary and मंत्रियों की सैलरी का आँकड़ा मेरे पास तुरंत उपलब्ध नहीं है, हो सकता है यह किशन रेड्डी जी दे सकें। Secondly, I do not want to elaborate my speech or reply. Initially itself इसमें पोलिटिक्स घुसाने की कोशिश की, which is unfortunate, because I had requested Ghulam Nabiji and he agreed and Anand Sharmaji, Jairamji, everybody is kind enough to agree that this is a thing which we have to pass unanimously, and we will not discuss much on that. But, inspite of that, Satavji brought all the things like bullet train, that train, *notebandi*, GST, etc. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN (West Bengal): You support your speakers. ...*(Interruptions)*... Your speakers should speak on the subject. ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Derekji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Derekji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please.

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: मैं वहीं कह रहा हूँ। आप बोलें, हमारे स्पीकर्स बोलें, यही चलता नहीं रहना चाहिए। मैं यही बता रहा हूँ।

श्री दरेक ओब्राइन: आपका स्पीकर तो बोल ही रहा है।

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: मैंने सबको बोला है। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Derekji, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Please listen. We do not want to hear these sermons, only sermons — 'We are not doing politics, only Opposition is doing politics.' ...*(Interruptions)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister speak. ...*(Interruptions)*... Let the Minister speak. Please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: This is not a college debate. This is a political House. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: दरेक जी, पोलिटिकल हाउस है। उन्होंने जब पोलिटिकली शुरू किया तो हमारे लोगों ने रिप्लाई दिया। मैं यही बताना चाह रहा हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... If argument goes

[श्री प्रहलाद जोशी:]

like this, there are so many arguments. At least, हमारे प्रधान मंत्री नेशनल रिलीफ फंड से किसी फाउंडेशन को पैसा नहीं दिया। आप इसे ध्यान में रखिए। We have not given it to any foundation. ...*(Interruptions)*... For which foundation? ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव सातव: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*... Nothing will go on record. Only the Minister's reply will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*... Please. We have to move forward. We have limited time. ...*(Interruptions)*... Only your speech will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव सातव: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Only your speech will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: जिन लोगों ने प्रधान मंत्री नेशनल रिलीफ फंड से प्राइवेट फंड ट्रस्ट को पैसा दिया, वे लोग आज प्रधान मंत्री जी के बारे में बात करते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

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

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: मैं एक चीज़ बोलना चाहता हूँ। ...*(व्यवधान)*... चाहे नोटबंदी हो या जीएसटी हो, ऐसे कई मिथ्या आरोप इन लोगों ने वर्ष 2019 के चुनाव में लोगों के बीच में जाकर सभी...

श्री उपसभापति: माननीय मंत्री जी आप प्वाइंट पर बात कीजिए। हम लोगों के पास समय कम है।

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: सर, मैं complete कर रहा हूँ। ये सब जीएसटी, नोटबंदी आदि के बारे में लोगों के बीच में जा-जाकर बहुत बोले, बाद में सुप्रीम कोर्ट भी चले गए और लोगों ने हमें वर्ष 2019 में resounding victory दी। जनता के न्यायालय से बड़ा कुछ नहीं होता है। Let us try to understand this. ...*(Interruptions)*... बार-बार यह कहना कि इटली की संसद ऐसी है। इनको इटली से थोड़ा ज्यादा मोह है, आप सब जानते हैं। ...*(व्यवधान)*...

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please. Nothing will go on record. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री राजीव सातव: *

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: *

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please, please. ...*(Interruptions)*...

श्री प्रहलाद जोशी: आप कहते हैं कि सब बंद करो, बुलेट ट्रेन बंद करो, सेंट्रल विस्टा बंद करो। ये सब क्या है? I don't understand this. ...*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI P. BHATTACHARYA: *

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, as far as our handling of Covid is concerned, the WHO and many world organizations have appreciated India's handling of the Covid, and, for that, many State Governments have done well and I also appreciate that. ...(*Interruptions*)... जिन लोगों ने अभी एमपीलैड फंड के बारे में बात की है, MPLAD Fund is out of the scope of the Bill. But this is temporary. I would like to tell only that. Also Central Vista doesn't come up within the scope of this Bill. I can only say that all these things चाहे बजेट ट्रेन हो या और कुछ हो, these are all projects.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: On the one hand, we tell that public spending should become more, and, on the other hand, you are saying that बजेट ट्रेन आदि सब बंद करो। यह क्या तरीका है? This is not good. But, still, I say, this is only for two years. This is suspended only temporarily and all other things will be there. This Bill relates to only two things; the deduction in the Ministers' salary and MPs' salary. Limiting to that, I do not want to add more. I appeal to all to pass it unanimously. Thank you very much.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I shall first put the Motion regarding consideration of the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Amendment) Bill, 2020 to vote. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers Act, 1952, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

गृह मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी. किशन रेड्डी): महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि विधेयक को पारित किया जाए।

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up the salary, allowances and pension of members of parliament (amendment) Bill, 2020. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Salary, Allowances and Pension of Members of Parliament Act, 1954, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

*Not recorded.

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up Clause-by-Clause consideration of the Bill.

Clauses 2 and 3 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI PRALHAD JOSHI: Sir, I move:

That the Bill be passed.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, Shri V. Muraleedharan to lay, on behalf of Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, Minister of Finance, the Paper mentioned in the Supplementary List of Business issued today.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE - *Contd.*

Notification of the Ministry of Finance

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS; AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN): Sir, on behalf of Shrimati Nirmala Sitharaman, I lay on the Table:—

A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Notification No. 34/2020-Customs, dated 17th September, 2020 of the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue), seeking to further amend Notification No. 50/2017-Customs, dated 30th June, 2017, so as to reduce the import duty from 30% to 10% on Lentils (Masur) originated in or exported from countries other than USA and to reduce the import duty from 50% to 30% on Lentils (Masur) originated in or exported from USA from 18.09.2020 to 31.10.2020 in both cases, along with Explanatory Memorandum, under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962. [Placed in Library. See No. L.T. 2599/17/20]

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned till 9.00 a.m. on Saturday, the 19th September, 2020.

*The House then adjourned at seventeen minutes past
one of the clock till nine of the clock on
Saturday, the 19th September, 2020.*