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Tuesday, December 13, 2005
Agrahayana 22, 1927 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(English Version)

Sixth Session
(Fourteenth Lok Sabha)

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, December 13, 2005/Agrahayana 22, 1927 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

REFERENCE BY THE SPEAKER

Re: Homage to memory of those who died in terrorist attack on Parliament House

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members may recall, that on 13 December, four years back, our Parliament had been the target of a cowardly terrorist attack.

The attack was foiled by the alertness displayed by the security personnel of Central Reserve Police Force, Delhi Police, Indo-Tibetan Border Police and Parliament Watch and Ward Security. In their effort to safeguard the precincts of the Parliament and its occupants, five security staff of Delhi Police, one Mahila Constable of Central Reserve Police Force and two Security Assistants of the Parliament's Watch and Ward, namely, S/Shri Nanak Chand, Ram Pal Singh, Ghan Shyam, Om Prakash, Vijayendra Singh, Shrimati Kamlesh Kumari, Shri J.P. Yadav and Shri Matbar Singh Negi, made the supreme sacrifice of laying down their lives. One gardener Shri Desh Raj also lost his life in the terrorist attack. Also a person from the electronic media Shri Vikram Singh Bisht sustained injuries in the attack and later succumbed to his injuries.

This solemn occasion calls for renewed efforts, to combat the menace of the global terrorism. Let us, therefore, rededicate ourselves to protect the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the country from all dangers, both internal and external.

The House may now stand in silence for a short while as a mark of respect to the memory of the departed.

11.01 hrs.

The Members then stood in silence for a short while.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Q. No. 282.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given on adjournment motion for your consideration. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It will be after the Question Hour. I will hear you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please cooperate.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Mr. Speaker, Sir, five persons of minority community in Bihar have been murdered *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Five persons of minority community have been shot dead in Bihar. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am not minimising the importance. Will you please take your seat?

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Five persons of minority community have been murdered in Bihar. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It will be after the Question Hour. Heavens will not fall in one hour.

11.03 hrs.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri N.N. Krishnadas Q No. 282

Import of Spices

*282. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether spices are presently permitted to be imported;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any quantitative restriction on the import of spices from SAARC countries;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) whether the Government has assessed the impact of such imports on the domestic production;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the steps being taken by the Government to protect the interests of the farmers of our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(b) to (g) Import of spices are possible through the following routes.

(i) Spices except fresh ginger and poppy powder are freely importable subject to payment of import duty.

(ii) Export Oriented Units and units situated in SEZ's can import duty free for re-export purposes.

(iii) Duty Free imports against Advance license for re-export purposes. In case of pepper, currently advance licences are issued only for import of 'light black pepper' for extraction by oleoresin industry for export purposes.

(iv) Under the Free Trade Agreement from Sri Lanka at Zero Duty irrespective of end use.

There are no Quantitative Restrictions on the import of spices from SAARC countries. The removal of Quantitative Restrictions does not automatically remove all the protection available to the domestic producers. India can regulate imports through adjustments in Customs Tariff within the bound rates. This mechanism has effectively been used in the case of Pepper. The import of 300 sensitive items including spices is being monitored on a regular basis by the Government for checking any surge in import.

In order to protect the interest of farmers the following measures have been taken:

(i) Government has suspended issuance of advance licence for the duty free import of pepper except light berries to exporters (June 2005).

(ii) The Department of Agriculture and Co-operation has, this year launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'National Horticulture Mission'. Under this Scheme, the spices are also included and support is being provided for the following components to the spice farmers:

(a) **Area expansion:** Subsidy up to 75% of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 11250/ha. limited to 4 hectares is provided for area expansion under spices.

(b) Integrated Pest Management (IPM): 50% of the cost incurred on IPM, subject to a ceiling of Rs. 1000/ha. up to 4 hectares is allowed to be reimbursed to farmers under this scheme.

(c) **Post Harvest Management etc.:** Credit link back-ended subsidy at the rate of 25% of the project cost is also provided through the State Government on Post Harvest Management Projects.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: Sir, it is a reality that due to the import of spices to our country, there is a steep fall in the prices of spices in our country. The farmers are not getting the remunerative prices. At present, the protection measures taken by the Government to protect

the interests of the farmers of spices in our country are not at all adequate. May I know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether the Government would take new protection measures to protect the interests of the farmers of our country who are engaged in spices production?

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: Sir, the Government has been taking a lot of steps through the spices Board to safeguard the interests of farmers. The Government has suspended issuance of advance licence for the duty free import of pepper except light berries to exporters.

The Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has, this year, launched a Centrally sponsored scheme known as 'National Horticulture Mission'. Under this scheme, the spices are also included and support is being provided for the following components to the spice farmers:

Subsidy up to 75 per cent of the cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 11,250 per hectare limited to four hectares, is provided for area expansion of spices cultivation.

MR. SPEAKER: It is already there in the Statement.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: Yes, Sir, it is there in the Statement.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Krishnadas, now, you may ask your second supplementary.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: He has read out the written Statement. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You put it a little differently.

SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS: All right, Sir.

One more important thing, which is a cause of concern for the farmers who are engaged in the spices production in our country, which is badly affecting the reputation of our spices in the country, is that some of the companies are importing low quality of spices especially from SAARC countries, and mixing them up with the spices of our country and then again exporting them in the international market. Therefore, it is badly affecting the reputation of our producers.

So, what are the measures, which are being taken by the Government to check and protect the reputation of our spices in the international market?

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: As the hon. Member has said, it has been alleged that the imported pepper and cardamom of inferior quality are mixed with the Indian items of premium quality at the time of export, and this is damaging the reputation of the Indian products in the international market. Sir, in this regard, through the Spices Board, we have done a thorough investigation and inquiry but we have not come across any such instance taking place. But if the hon. Member could provide me specific information and particulars about it, the Spices Board would definitely look into it.

SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN: Sir, spices and rubber are considered to be the favourite cash crops of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is a known fact that the prices of spices have considerably come down, thereby, causing great loss to the farmers.

May I ask the hon. Minister that in these circumstances, what is the necessity to import spices, and what is the policy of the Government for import of spices?

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: Sir, the Foreign Trade Policy permits import of spices in the following ways—import of spices is there under Chapter IX of International Tariff Classification (ITC) of Export and Import. It is a free subject under payment of customs duty. But import of fresh ginger and poppy powder is, however, restricted. Export Oriented Units (EOUs) and Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are allowed duty free import of spices for value addition and re-export. Import against advance licences is allowed for value addition for re-export purposes. These imports are duty free imports ad in case of pepper, currently advance licences are issued only for import of light black pepper for extraction by oleoresin industry for export purposes. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: I hope, it is relevant.

Now, Shri Jaswant Singh Bishoni. Do you really want to ask the Supplementary?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI: The farmers work hard for their crops but our Government imports various spices like Cumin, Corriander. Through you, I would like to know from hon. Minister—whether, before importing any agri-products the Government obtains any information regarding shortage or adequacy of quantity of that particular item in the country? Whether the Government propose to increase import duty on products which are already surplus so that their import is checked and our farmers can be saved from getting ruined ?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking whether you are going to control imports.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: We cannot control imports right now. What we have done is that we have got some restrictions on some sensitive spices.

If the hon. Member seeks information on specific spices, I can get the information and pass it on to him.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: During the course of Calling Attention which we have discussed some months ago, the hon. Minister of Commerce declared that all types of imports of pepper will be stopped, stating that the price of pepper had come down from Rs. 250 per kg to Rs. 50 per kg. It was quite some time back and now the farmers cannot sustain it. This is the case of other spices also. Thereafter, imports have been allowed of all sorts of spices—advance license is there; SAARC-route is there; thus, inferior pepper is allowed to be imported, stating that it was for industrial purposes.

Even though the hon. Minister has said that Spices Board is controlling and that it had done something, we find that apart from the import of inferior pepper, a lot of smuggling is also taking place. What action the Government will take at least to implement the assurance which was given by the hon. Minister of Commerce in this House, when the Calling Attention was taken up, so that all types of imports could be stopped? Of course, we know that there are limitations and there are loopholes which we can make use of.

MR. SPEAKER: Instead of giving information, please put questions.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: That is my question. What action the Government will take to see that the assurance given is implemented and that the imports as well as smuggling could be stopped?

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: The hon. Member says, they are being smuggled through Nepal. We have instructed the check-posts to see that they are not smuggled. In case any persons is found guilty of smuggling spices into India through Nepal, legal actions will be taken against him.

As far as import of pepper is concerned, it is being taxed; 70 per cent duty is being levied on that.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: On the basis of some inquiry conducted, regarding adulteration being done by various agencies here, the hon. Minister had stated that he had no information. May I know whether the Minister is aware of the fact that using the concessions given to SAARC countries, the countries which are not members of SAARC, but who are producing spices, are sending the spices through Colombo Port to India, that is, from Sri Lanka to India? This is a fact which is reported in the Press repeatedly in Kerala. May I know whether the Government would take some action so that this sort of illegal entry of spices from countries outside SAARC, using the benefit which has been given to SAARC countries, is stopped?

MR. SPEAKER: He is asking whether the misuse of the system can be stopped?

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: As the hon. Member has said, the Spices Board has investigated all these cases; and as it is, we could not find any person involved in this. As I told earlier, if the hon. Member has some information, he could give it.

SHRI C.K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, he is repeating the same answer. I am asking about the illegal entry of spices by countries using the Sri Lankan route.

MR. SPEAKER: You have said that. The Minister is asking for particulars from you.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: If the hon. Member has any specific case and if he gives that information, the Government of India will definitely take action on that.

MR. SPEAKER: I hope Shri Kurup has a relevant question to ask. In future I will not allow irrelevant questions.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: As you are well aware, Kerala is the most important spices growing State in our country. Most of the cultivators are small farmers. So, this price crash is affecting the whole economy of Kerala. One important criticism is made by the farmers against the Spices Board and the Government. Take for example, cardamom. Nepal imports cardamom *via* Kolkata port. A lot of cardamom is imported through Kolkata and this finds its way into the Indian market This has been the constant complaint of the cultivators in Kerala. In spite of this being repeatedly raised in this House, the Government

has not taken any action. The moment this import is stopped, the prices of cardamom will rise in the internal market. So, I would like to know what action the Government would take to stop this practice of illegal import of cardamom into our market.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: The hon. Member is talking about the fall of price of cardamom. Cardamom price is coming down because Guatemala is producing a lot of cardamom. That is the main reason for the international prices to come down. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURESH KURUP: What action you are taking against the illegal import? ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow him to finish. I know all of you are trying to help the Minister. But he does not need your help.

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: As I have explained, to support the spices growing farmers, including cardamom growers, the Spices Board has taken a lot of steps.

SHRI SURESH KURUP: The Board has taken no step in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Let him complete.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: This has been raised time and again in this House but this is the answer the Minister is giving. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN: Vanilla price has also come down very badly. STC is trying to make purchase of Vanilla. The Government is taking all steps to see that the price of spices do not fall.

Safety of Senior Citizens

+

*283. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD AILAS SADHU YADAV:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether senior citizens had become victims of several criminal incidents in Delhi in the recent past;

(b) if so, the details of such incidents in Delhi during the last three years;

(c) whether the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has issued any directive to all the States including Delhi with regard to the safety/welfare of senior citizens in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Details of crimes against senior citizens reported in Delhi during the years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 (up to 30th November) are indicated below:

Crime Head	2002	2003	2004	2005 (up to 30th November)
Dacoity	9	1	2	1
Murder	20	17	17	17
Attempt to Murder	3	5	4	4
Robbery	12	11	9	11
Total	44	34	32	33

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) 'Police' and 'public order' being the State subjects, it is the responsibility of the State Governments to take steps for prevention of crimes, including those against senior citizens. However, the Government of India has issued advisory to the State Governments/UT Administrations to take measures for the Safety and Welfare of Senior citizens. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formulated a National Policy on Older Persons in 1999 and set up a National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) under the chairmanship of the Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment and an Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) headed by Secretary (SJ&E) for effective implementation of the National Policy on Older Persons;

Delhi Police has taken a number of steps for safety and welfare of senior citizens living in Delhi which include establishment of two Special Toll-fee helplines; identification of elderly people living alone; verification of antecedents of their employees, particularly domestic servants and drivers; periodic visits to the residences of elderly persons by the Beat Staff and Station House Officers; setting up of a Senior Citizen's Security Cell in the Crime Branch under an Additional Commissioner of Police (Crime); contacting the senior citizens by the officers of the Senior Citizen Security Cell both personally and on telephone to give them emotional support and to create a sense of security; briefing the senior citizens about security devices and security related issues; adoption of senior citizens by school children; involving NGOs for special projects; and organizing security awareness camps for the benefit of senior citizens, etc.

MR. SPEAKER: Let us spend some time for senior citizens also.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the House will not be satisfied by the reply of the hon. Minister. In his written reply, he has stated that 44 incidents took place against Senior Citizens in 2002, 34 in 2003, 32 in 2004 and 33 in 2005. Mr. Speaker, Sir, perhaps you may remember and it was reported by our print media and electronic-media that Senior Citizens staged a protest march against failure of the Government to ensure their safety. I would like to quote a few datas published by some of the newspapers.

MR. SPEAKER: You may ask the Question.

[Translation]

KUMAR MANVENDRA SINGH: The Hindu published from Chennai has reported that

[English]

eight per cent of the population. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: We are concerned with Delhi and not Chennai.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: This is a matter concerning all over the country. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Your question is related to Delhi. Law and order matters of other States cannot be raised here.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Sir, this is a question of elderly persons all over the country. They are in trouble.

MR. SPEAKER: No. Kindly read your own question.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: The Times of India has reported that 8 to $11^{1}/_{2}$ percent such incidents take place in the country.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: If you are not putting a question on Delhi, I will have to call some other Member.

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: I would like to ask hon. Minister what steps the Government have taken to prevent such kind of incidents against Senior Citizens and to provide them security? Mainly, domestic servants, drivers, milk-man and others, especially their care-takers are reported to be involved in such incidents. Senior Citizens living alone easily fall prey to such incidents. What steps the Ministry of Home Affairs propose to take in this regard?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Government have taken many a step. Firstly a list of old

aged people living alone has been prepared. Incharge of police stations in whose proximity senior citizens live alone have been asked to visit them and inquire about their well-being or any problem, if they are facing. They are asked to provide photos of their attendants. Antecedents of their servants are verified. Senior Citizens are given instructions as to how they can live safely, how to move outside and whom to contact in case any help is needed, Police personnel deployed at beats in concerned areas are asked to take care of security of senior citizens. To sum up, the Government have taken more than 100 steps, which I can't explain in such a short-time.

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to quote 'The Hindu' again, which reported that,

[English]

"High mortality rate in the 60 to 65 age group. It further reported

[English]

"This is a matter of illness, matter of psychological loneliness and even the physical abuse."

[Translation]

A Bill was proposed in this regards as reported by The Times of India dated 2nd July, 2005. The newspaper further reported that—

[English]

"The Government argues that the Older Persons Maintenance, Care and Protection Bill, 2005 will compel children to take care of their parents and the grand parents. It is in pursuance of article 41 read with Entry 23 of the concerned list of the Constitution."

MR. SPEAKER: What is your question?

[Translation]

KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH: I would like to inform hon. Minister that if children of older people are persuaded to take care of them it will be very good. As you are aware, the Ministry of Home Affairs proposes to set up Old-age homes. Retired or old persons on the basis of their status and income and whose children fail to protect them will be able to stay in said homes. The experience of NGOs can be utilized in this regard. Health, wealth, shelter and everything should be provided by the Government. Do the Government of India propose to provide such facilities to the older persons?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The basic question is regarding providing security to old aged persons. Other question, are related to it from different angles. Therefore, I would like to say that the Government have taken many a step for their security. Not only the Ministry of Home Affairs, even the Ministry of Social Welfare and Empowerment and the Ministry of Rural Development have also taken steps with regard thereto. A policy framed by them is under implementation. The new legislation has been drafted by the Ministry of Social Welfare and Empowerment. It would be placed in the House after being passed by the Cabinet. It concerns the State Governments and not the Central Government and therefore, the State Governments are going to take steps in this regard. So far as his worry is concerned, the Central Government have already taken steps in this regard. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Anirudh Prasad alias Sadhu Yadav—Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat may put his supplementary.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Mr. Speaker, Sir, Delhi, the capital of our country is heart of India. The figures relating to crimes against Senior Citizens presented by the Government reflect that the condition between 2002-2005 has been more or less the same. Hon. Minister has said that the police is aware about security of senior citizens, whereas, a large number of posts of officers and other ranks in Delhi Police is vacant. Delhi Police comes under the control of Ministry of Home Affairs. Their main task is to ensure safety of VIPs, be it Indians or

*Not recorded.

foreigners. In addition to it Delhi Police daily caters to the need of rallyists, so it hardly finds time to take care of older people staying alone in their houses. Sir, through you, I would like to ask hon. Minister what steps the Government proposes to take in this regard and also for filling up to vacant posts and for creating a special cell for looking after Senior Citizens?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: There is lack of VIP security.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Hon. Member very rightly pointed out the task performed by the police force during any agitation or big assemblies festivals or fight against terrorists or providing protection to the college students and institutes etc. In view of all this, measures have been taken to fill the vacancies in the police force. There are no longer many vacancies. We have not only tried to fill up vacancies but have also given permission to increase police battalions so as to beef up security and allow them to function in a better manner. The services of paramilitary forces are taken in order to assist the police.

The figures given here show that the incident of crime has declined and that too in a situation when the population of Delhi is growing by 5 to 7 lakhs every year. Hon Member talked of VIP's security which is also important. It is also a part of police system. And if it would not be done then it may give chance to terrorists spreading terrorism. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please given up this habit of interrupting.

[Translation]

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: They can increase terror by targeting certain V.I.Ps. which should not happen.

[English]

SHRIMATI MINATI SEN: Sir, through you, I would like to know from the hon. Minister as to whether the Government has made any study or survey on the problems faced by senior citizens, particularly those who live in the rural areas and belong to the BPL families.

MR. SPEAKER: This Question is regarding safety of senior citizens of Delhi and law and order in Delhi, and not the general security.

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: The Government has collected some information in this regard. Old people living in villages are being helped through the Ministry of Rural Development, the Ministry of Social Welfare and other Ministries. There are homes built or established in which old people are given shelter and help. There are also NGOs who are helped with the funds of the Government of India to the extent that 90 per cent of their expenditure is borne by the Government of India to help old people in rural areas.

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is on safety of senior citizens of Delhi.

SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA: Sir, it is a very important Question and I am happy that we are discussing it. It is very important that we have to protect our senior citizens at any cost.

[Translation]

This question reminds me that when parents get separated from their children they feel insecured and lonely. It becomes the duty of our State Governments and Union Government to provide protection to every senior citizen and parent but unfortunately the figures given here shows no such difference. Progressively it is maintaining the status quo—be it dacoity, murder, an attempt to murder or loot. In this regard, I would like to ask that how many culprits have been arrested in the cases registered so far and in how many cases people have been convicted?

SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL: Earlier we had joint family system in our country, as a result of which the senior citizens used to get full protection but gradually this system is reducing. The figures asked for by her are with me in writing. I will give all the figures in writing to her showing the number of cases registered and the number of cases pending and the number of cases disposed of.

[English]

Implementation of Programme

*284 SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:

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

(a) whether Government is facing certain difficulties in the implementation of Mid-Day-Meal Programme, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Programme etc. as reported in The Hindu dated August 26, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the difficulties reported in the implementation of the schemes have been examined;

(d) if so, the details alongwith the outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to overcome such difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) The press report mentioned in part (a) of the Question refers to the Outcome Budget 2005-06, presented to Parliament in August, 2005. Certain risk factors mentioned therein, in regard to Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) and Mid-Day Meal Programmes have been identified by the Central Government itself.

(e) Implementation of both programmes is closely monitored so as to minimize difficulties and risk factors.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Sir, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme was evolved out of the recommendations of the State Education Ministers' Conference held in 1998 to pursue universal elementary education in a mission mode. The Scheme was launched by the Government in the year 2001 with the goal that all the children between 6 and 14 years of age should be enrolled in primary schools by the year 2003 so that they would be able to complete five-year primary education by the year 2007. But the achievement is far away from the target despite spending crores of rupees on this Scheme.

As of now, the Scheme is applicable only up to elementary and primary schools run by the Government. As a result, secondary level schools run by the private institutions are not able to achieve the desired result of improving the educational standards. So, there is a need to extend this Scheme up to secondary level, that is from 8th to10th standards and to all the private schools which are not getting any kind of assistance from the Government but are approved. They need to be included in the Scheme. There are several deficiencies in the monitoring and supervision of the Scheme. The Government is providing funds for school buildings under this Scheme as per the standard architectural design.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. Minister is supposed to know all this. So, put your question.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry would consider extending the SSA Scheme up to secondary level and whether funds would be granted for other works, like school buildings. I would also like to know from the Minister whether permission and funds would be granted to change the architectural design of school buildings according to the geographical conditions.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: The Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan Scheme being run is aimed at enrolling children between 6 and 14 years of age in primary section from class one to eighth. So far it is limited up to this age group. As far as private institutions are concerned, we are not seeking help from them instead we are seeking help from NGOs to make the MSA successful.

[English]

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: My second supplementary is related to Mid Day Meal Scheme. The Mid Day Meal Scheme was launched in 1995 with an aim to boost the universalisation of primary education and to improve the nutritional level of students of primary classes. But, today the Scheme has become a way of death of children instead of improving their nutritional levels.

Today, we receive various complaints about the spurious quality of food being provided to children at schools. Under this Scheme, children are falling ill after consuming the food. Low quality standards are being followed either by the school or by the supplier of the food grains. Besides the cases of pilferage of the food grains meant for Mid Day Meal provided at the schools, it is noticed from many corners that the suppliers are selling food grains in midway instead of supplying to the schools. In some cases, school teachers are also found involved in pilferages. Students are not getting food quality. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Will you take proper steps for the implementation of the Mid Day Meal Scheme?

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Sir, my question is not complete.

MR. SPEAKER: Then, it is not a question; it is your statement. Put a question.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Sir, it is very important because. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Of course, it is important. That is why, I am allowing you.

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: In spite of the fact that the taxpayers pay cess on education—I have no regrets in saying that we paid cess and the Government made a mess. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Is that your question?

SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: I would like to know whether the Government has any proposal to constitute a monitoring or supervisory system at Central level to check the quality and pilferage of food grains supply.

MR. SPEAKER: That is why, I am putting a question on your behalf.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, full attention is paid in this regard. During the year 2004 seven such cases came to our notice whereas in the year 2005 three cases have been reported so far. Action is taken in such cases for which monitoring Committees have been set up. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: This is a very important matter, Mr. Minister. Proper attention should be paid and that this Scheme is properly monitored.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Yes, Sir. We are taking full care.

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that recently our Finance Minister has stated that certain risk factors involved in the *Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan* Programme, which is aimed at enrolling all the children in the 6-14 years of age group in primary school, may be hampered on account of the problems of proper updating the Village Education Register by the State Government. Sir, difficulties are also being faced with regard to the filling up of the vacancies for the post of teachers coupled with the problems of absenteeism.

I would like to know from the Minister what steps he is going to take for the proper implementation of this Programme which is really the best Programme for the poor, rural and tribal children.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in regard to the question raised by the hon. Member I would like to tell him that these risk factors have been calculated by us and not by the Finance Ministry. How we have to streamline it has to be seen. There should be village education register as suggested by the hon. Member, vacancies of teachers are not being filled in many States, there is absenteeism among teachers from schools, besides we have pointed out the measures to be taken for risk factors like time overrun, State releasing its share and court cases etc. Action is being taken on them and further work is also being done.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have got only 25 names. I am sorry, I will only allow 3 lady Members today and will allow an Half-an-Hour discussion, if you want.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI RANJEET RANJAN: Mr. Speaker, under the Mid-day meal programme being run particularly in Kosi division of Bihar for the last one and a half year, the items supplied to various places like rice, vegetables and pulses Khicchdi, even the fuel supplied for this programme is not being supplied for the last six months. Not only this the supply of rice is not regular every month. As a result this scheme has been a failure. Even if the supply of rice is there it is of substandard quality which gives rise to the apprehension of children falling ill. I would like to know that whether the Government would hold an inquiry of the irregularity committed in Bihar particularly in Kosi division? It is my humble request to the hon. Minister to hold an inquiry of this case.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: We are making the share of cooking and other things available to the States, but it is the responsibility of the State Government to see that how it should be implemented. As far as the case of Kosi division raised by the hon. Member is concerned we will hold and inquiry into it. If there is any difficulty and there is a need to take some action we will definitely do that.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You should take up the matter with the different State Governments and see that the important scheme is properly implemented.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Sure, Sir.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI: The proper procedure of the implementation of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan and the Mid-Day-Meal Programme varies from State to State. In most of the States, the local bodies are not given any role in the implementation of the scheme. In my State of Kerala, the district panchayat is acting as the implementation agency. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministry would take any steps for the uniform method of implementation of these schemes by providing the local bodies and the local panchayats as the implementation agency of these schemes.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Sir, a Committee has already been set up for, mid-day meal scheme in schools. It comprises of Panchayat heads, teachers and villagers as well. The scheme is run by the Committee of all these Members. If there is any particular problem in Kerala, we will conduct an inquiry there.

MR. SPEAKER: She is not talking of any problem, she is asking you to follow it.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: This scheme is being implemented differently in each State.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: But I believe the entire House agrees that this important scheme should be properly implemented.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: Sir, Committee is already constituted in the school for mid-day meal. Local bodies *viz.* the Panchayat Pramukh, teachers and villagers are involved in it. This is carried out through the Committee comprising all these people. If there is any particular problem in Kerala, we will sort it out.

MR. SPEAKER: There is no difficulty, he is asking to follow it.

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: This scheme is being implemented differently in every State.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: But I believe the entire House agrees that this important scheme should be properly implemented.

[Translation]

*SHRIMATI PARAMJIT KAUR GULSHAN: Thank you, Sir, this scheme had been evolved to increase the number of poor students in schools in the villages. But I am sorry to say that the food that is provided under the Mid Day Meal Scheme is of very bad quality. As many other hon. Members have said, the food is sub standard. Fungus grows on the food. A lot of complaints have come in this regard. So I want to know from the hon. Minister as to what steps have been taken against such

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Punjabi.

people who are responsible for such sub standard, fungus laced food being given to the poor school children. Sir, I demand that a one hour discussion should be held in this House on this issue as it is a very serious issue. This is a common problem faced by all the States. Secondly, Sir, teachers who should be teaching are asked to prepare Mid Day Meal. We should put an end to such a practice. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there has been a change in this policy?

MR. SPEAKER: The second part is for me! The first part is for the hon. Minister!

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: I could understand a little Punjabi. But so far I could understand. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The ultimate analysis is proper implementation of it.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: I submitted that complaints had been received from seven places in the year 2004 and action thereon were taken. In the year 2005, complaints of poor quality meal has been received from three places and action thereon has been taken.

[English]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI: Sir, ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. I have not called you.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: You are a most disciplined Member. Therefore, I am saying that I am inviting a notice for a Half-an-Hour discussion on this.

[Translation]

SHRI M.A.A. FATMI: We take proper action on the complaints against poor quality meals from wherever we receive it. Our effort is to ensure proper, hygienic and good quality food to the children. You know that 13 crore children are served meal in one day. Tough the sporadic complaints can not be ruled but in this regard, the Government is trying to provide proper mid-day meal to the children without any chance of complaint against it.

*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, you should realise that from all sections of this House there is a feeling that it is not being properly implemented.

Therefore, I will allow an half an hour.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

Review of ICDS

*285. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL:

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

(a) the details with regard to the achievements of Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) during the last three years;

(b) whether the Government periodically review the scheme;

(c) if so, the details of the last three reviews;

(d) whether any irregularity in the implementation of the scheme has come to the notice of the Government on the review of the Scheme;

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard;

(f) whether the Government has taken any action with regard to UNICEF observation on the pace of implementation of the scheme; and

(g) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (g) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) There has been significant progress in the implementation of Integrated Child Development Services

(ICDS) Scheme during the last 3 years both, in terms of increase in number of operational projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs) and coverage of beneficiaries as indicated below:—

	No. of operational projects	No. of operational AWCs	No. of Supplementary nutrition beneficiaries	No. of pre-school education beneficiaries
31.03.2003	4903	600391	387.84 lakh	188.02 lakh
31.03.2004	5267	649307	415.08 lakh	204.38 lakh
31.03.2005	5422	706872	484.42 lakh	218.41 lakh
31.07.2005	5632	741038	494.80 lakh	230.87 lakh

(b) and (c) Review is a continuous process and necessary action is also taken, from time to time, to improve the effectiveness of the Scheme. In the recent past, Government has taken major decisions such as sanction of 456 new projects and 1.88 lakh new Anganwadi Centres, enhancement of financial norms and sharing of cost of supplementary nutrition, inclusion of non-BPL families in the list of beneficiaries eligible for supplementary nutrition, etc. The implementation of the Scheme is also reviewed with the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time. The issues discussed in the last three review meetings held in July, September and December 2005, *inter alia*, included universalisation of Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme with quality, operationalisation of all pending ICDS projects and Anganwadi Centres, strengthening of supplementary nutritional support; Enhancing quality-outreach for children under the three years; convergence with the government schemes related to health, education, drinking water, monitoring and evaluation mechanism, etc.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No such observation by the UNICEF has come to the notice of the Government.

(g) Does not arise.

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, only Rs. 3.17 out of Rs. 100 are spent on education, health and schemes pertaining to bringing down the child mortality rate due to which approximately one crore children who are the future of the country lose there lives. The UNICEF has strongly regretted the poor implementation of these schemes. Due to the failure of these schemes we have failed to check child labour, which has also caused an increase in the number of vagabond children. Lack of political will in the cause for the failure of these schemes. There is a huge gap between the fund provided by the Government and the actual work performed thereby. The Government machinery will be held responsible for the negative image of the child welfare schemes. Through you, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government have till date held responsible any official for the failure of the Integrated Child Development Scheme? If not, the reasons therefor.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The Integrated Child Development Scheme is 100 per cent Centrally sponsored scheme for the whole country. Its components are— providing supplementary nutritious diet and immunization, health testing expert services, pre-school informal education as well as health and nutrition education. I think that 5652 such project and 7.41 lac centres are being run in the whole country. We are going to enhance the number of additional projects on the basis of population to bring about more improvement in this. So far as penalizing someone is concerned, no allegations have been levelled so far from any quarters. I would also like to submit to the hon. Member that no adverse reaction thereto has been expressed by the UNICEF.

SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL: My second supplementary question is as to how many of Members of Parliament have complained against the implementation of the Integrated Child Development Schemes after the formation of the UPA Government at the centre and the number of officials held guilty on the basis of those complaints and the action taken by the Government in this regard.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: No Member of Parliament from anywhere have made any such complaint.

AN HON. MEMBER: Many complaints have been made.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Silence please!

[Translation]

If there is any complaint send a copy of that to the hon. Minister.

[English]

Shri Sarbananda Sonowal—Not present.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Hon. Speaker, Sir, the lady worker, assistant or Aya (maid) working under the ICDS is given such a paltry remuneration that mostly they dispose of nutritious diet meant for the children. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether she would make such a provision that the lady worker, assistant or Aya (maid) be deemed as third or fourth grade employee and be given pay equal to them so as to curb the rampant corruption in the scheme and to provide them also some respect.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The Aanganbadi Sahayak and Sahayikas taken on the roll are given remuneration which has been increased compared to sometimes back. Earlier Rs. 250 and Rs. 500 were being given, now we have increased it to Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000. Along with it, we have launched an insurance scheme for them. In it, Rs. 100 is annually contributed by the Government and Rs. 80/- by the Aanganabadi Sahayak. Besides, people doing Government job are granted on that lines leaves and also maternity leave.

At the same time, rewards are given in all the States to the Sevikas and Sahaikas of Aanganbari for their good work. Rs. Twenty five thousand is given to the Sahaikas and Sevikas. The amount of Rs. two and a half thousand that was being given earlier in the States has been raised to Rs. Five thousands. I acknowledge that too much work is being taken from them and it is not limited to just four hours, but despite that it is our effort to provide them remuneration in a proper manner and also to render them more powers. ...*(Interruptions)* No such thing has been thought of.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You be seated. Now Shri Haribhau Rathod.

SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD: Mr. Speaker, Sir, ten thousand children in Mumbai are indulged in removing the scales of fishes. Despite, several laws made by the Government in this regard, no attention is being paid to prevent it. The Government is not providing any facility for them. The situation is so bad that the unborn babies still in their mother's womb, are being sold. I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether the Government would take any action in this regard?

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Sir, This scheme has been started for BPL families, for the benefit of children of 0-6 years age group, pregnant women and lactating mothers and girl child of 11-18 yrs. age group. All these people have been included under the Integrated Child Development Scheme. We think of opening more Anganwadi Centres to improve the s ation. As our population has increased as compared to the year 2001, we have taken about 467 Anganwadi projects in the Tenth Plan and are going to establish 1.88 lakh additional centres.

Another arrangement is to double the amount sanctioned for supplementary nutrition, i.e. from Re. 1 to Rs. 2. The malnutritioned women are now given just double the amount. The supplementary nutrition programme is the duty of State Governments, but for States with weaker economic position we have flowed in 50% of the amount incurred by them as Union Government's share through Planning Commission, from 1st April. ...*(Interruptions)*

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*Not recorded.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. Please take your seat.

*...(Interruptions)**

SHRI LAKSHMAN SETH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, at present there is one Anganwadi Centre per thousand population. In the last Budget it was announced that more and more centres will be set up and also the municipalities will be covered under the scheme. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the number of centres will be increased and also whether the municipalities will be covered under the scheme.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Sir, as I have told earlier that we have constituted a core committee according to the population-norms to consult the different Ministries. As per the previous population-norms there was an Anganwadi centre for every one thousand population, now this figure stands at 500-1500 population. In rural and SC/ST dominated areas, the centre is opened for a population of 700 people. We have also arranged for 'Mini Anganwadi' Centres at a population of 150-300. We have assured the states to provide them with Anganwadi centres as per their demand, in accordance with the population-norms.

Sir, that is why I have said, we are going to open 1.88 lakh Anganwadi Centres all over the country and clearance has been given to States is this regard.

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Anganwadi Programme is a very good programme of the Government. Every year there are many complaints of child-deaths due to malnutrition from Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. A PIL was also filed in the Mumbai High Court in this regard. The High Court instructed the Maharashtra Government in this case to immediately started Anganwadi Programme in the tribal areas of the state and the meet the target at the earliest. I want to know from the Minister, through you, that whether she is aware of this fact. Besides Maharashtra, there are also complaints of malnutrition population from other tribal areas of the country, especially the hilly regions. There is an increasing number of deaths of BPL-people and their children due to malnutrition. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether her Ministry propose to launch a Special Anganwadi Programme in these areas to work off incidence of malnutrition.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to tell the hon. Member that last time, I alongwith, hon. Minister Shri Arjun Singh ji, visited Maharashtra and discussed this matter with the State Government. I would like to tell him that many State Governments are also going to start their own nutrition programmes, apart from this programme of the Central Government. We are doing our best to reach with our this programme to the hilly areas, tribal belt or small hamlets. We have asked the State Governments to provide us the information of such areas having a population less than 150 and where they intend to start this programme. We would like to link these areas with this programme after due discussions with the States.

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Mr. Speaker, Sir, though the ICDS scheme is going on in the country yet we have a big number of street and slum children in India. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether she has any idea of launching a special ICDS programme for street and slum children?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: The question is about street children and slum children.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have already included slum children in this programme because maximum children to be covered under this programme are those who are deprived and need help. We have also covered pregnant and malnutritioned women. Then, there are girls who are not properly nutritioned, they are also covered under this programme. Thus, we have extensively covered BPL families, street children, slum children-every sort of these people and opened additional Anganwadi centres for this purpose.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, hon. Minister has told in her answer that the Government of India is allocating huge funds under this programme and they aim at opening more and more Anganwadi centres, but in reality that these centres are not functional on ground. I belong to the State of Bihar and when I find

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*Not recorded.

this situation there, I feel that by and large similar situation prevails in the entire country. I want to ask the hon. Minister whether she would arrange to monitor the flow and use of funds provided to these Anganwadi centres at her level so that the proper access and use of this amount is ensured for the welfare of those children and women whom it is meant for.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Give her time for an answer.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, an intensive monitoring system is already there for this programme which monitors it at national, state, district and even the block level. We are specially concerned for its effective implementation. As the State Governments are responsible for its implementation we from time to time check, evaluate and monitor the reports obtained from them.

[English]

Review of Foreign Direct Investment Policy

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*286. SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI GURUDAS DASGUPTA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain restrictions had been imposed in the matter of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to remove barriers to attract FDI in certain sectors;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with action taken in this regard;

(e) whether the Government proposes to review FDI policy; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Under the extent policy, FDI upto 100% is permitted in most sectors/activities. Sectors attracting limits on FDI equity or where FDI is prohibited are indicated in the enclosed Statement.

(c) to (f) In the light of the past experience, the Government is further simplifying the procedures for FDI in India and revisiting some of the policy measures.

Statement

I. FDI EQUITY CAPS IN VARIOUS SECTORS/ACTIVITIES

A. Print Media

1. **Publishing newspaper and periodicals dealing with news and current affairs**—foreign equity up to 26%.

B. Broadcasting

2. **FM broadcasting**—Foreign equity up to 20%

3. Setting up hardware facilities such as up-linking, HUB, etc.—Foreign equity up to 49%.

4. **Cable network**—Foreign equity up to 49%.

5. **Direct to Home Broadcasting**—Foreign equity up to 49%. FDI cannot exceed 20%.

6. **Establishment and operation of satellites**—FDI up to 74%.

C. Telecommunication

7. **Basic and cellular services**—Foreign equity up to 74%.

8. **Internet Service Providers with gateways, radio-paging, end-to-end bandwidth**—FDI up to 74%.

D. Financial services

9. **Insurance**—Foreign equity up to 26%.

10. **Private sector banks**—Foreign equity up to 74%.

E. Defence Sector

11. **Defence Industry—FDI upto 26%.**

F. Airlines

12. **Domestic airlines**—FDI up to 49%. NRIs are allowed to invest up to 100%. No direct or indirect participation of foreign airlines is permitted.

G. Atomic minerals

13. **Atomic minerals**—FDI up to 74%.

H. Mining

14. **Exploration and mining of coal and lignite for captive consumption other than power projects**—FDI up to 74%.

15. **Mining of diamonds and precious stones**—FDI up to 74%.

II. SECTORS PROHIBITED FOR FDI

1. Retail trading
2. Atomic energy
3. Lottery business
4. Gambling and betting sector
5. Housing and real-estate business except development of integrated townships.
6. Agriculture (excluding Floriculture, Horticulture, Development of Seeds, Animal Husbandry, Pisiculture and cultivation of vegetables, mushrooms, etc. under controlled conditions and services related to agro and allied sectors) and Plantation (excluding Tea Plantations).

12.00 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Just be very brief and specific.

SHRI SURAVARAM SUDHAKAR REDDY: Sir, the Foreign Direct Investments are no doubt necessary in the field where there is dearth, but in BSNL and in basic telephones where there is big profit, also the FDI is allowed. I would like to know from the hon. Minister, through you, whether it is because of the philosophy to dismantled the public sector or do you feel there is any necessity.

MR. SPEAKER: It is enough. He has no time to reply.

...(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): So far as the philosophy is concerned, I cannot discuss the philosophy during Question Hour. The public Foreign Direct Investment is required to ensure higher growth, higher technology and better management. It is not to dismantle the public sector enterprises.

MR. SPEAKER: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana

*287. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) details with regard to the houses built under Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) in each State against the target fixed;

(b) whether the Government regularly monitor the progress of the implementation of VAMBAY;

(c) if so, the States where construction of houses under VAMBAY is yet to be commenced;

(d) if so, the reasons for delay;

(e) whether various State Governments have approached the Union Government to modify the Scheme; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (f) Statement showing status of the houses built under Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY) is enclosed.

Government has been regularly monitoring the progress of the implementation of the Scheme.

Primarily, the reasons for delay in commencing the construction of houses under the Scheme are—(i) non-

availability of suitable land; (ii) identified land under litigation; (iii) frequent change in beneficiaries.

Various State Governments had made suggestions to the Government for modifications in the VAMBAY guidelines. Inputs from the State Governments were duly considered while framing the new Scheme, *viz.*, 'Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP)', which subsumes VAMBAY and National Slum Development Programme (NSDP). Some of the major modifications, which have been considered and incorporated in the new IHSDP Scheme, are as under:—

(i) Integrated development of housing and basic services to the urban poor in the slum areas.

(ii) Increase in the ceiling cost per dwelling unit.

(iii) Increase in the minimum floor area per dwelling unit

(iv) Minimum beneficiary contribution

(v) Increase in Central subsidy

(vi) Additional increase in Central subsidy for special category States.

(vii) Coverage of the Scheme to all Sections of the urban slum population.

Statement

State-wise Details of Status of Implementation of VAMBAY (from 2001-02 to 2005-06)

Sl.No.	State/U.T.	Dwelling Units Targeted from 2001-02 to 2005-06	Dwelling units covered from 2001-02 to 2005-06	Physical Progress (as on 31.10.2005)		
				Dwelling Units		
				Completed	In Progress	Not started
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	39783	72441	42079	19043	11319
2.	Andaman and Nicobar	338	0	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	542	80	0	0	80
4.	Assam	8414	0	0	0	0
5.	Bihar	17577	50	0	0	50
6.	Chandigarh	1410	0	0	0	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	4991	5545	4360	0	1185
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	26	0	0	0	0
9.	Daman and Diu	91	0	0	0	0
10.	Delhi	21532	167	167	0	0
11.	Goa	755	0	0	0	0
12.	Gujarat	22737	20562	20294	0	268
13.	Haryana	6656	3263	0	0	3263
14.	Himachal Pradesh	1067	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	5146	1389	373	326	690
16.	Jharkhand	5859	6986	0	0	6986
17.	Karnataka	11745	29252	25824	117	3311
18.	Kerala	10879	25921	17372	1451	7098
19.	Lakshadweep	23	0	0	0	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	13493	7026	2941	525	3560
21.	Maharashtra	70992	74302	34626	11442	28234
22.	Manipur	1634	888	888	0	0
23.	Meghalaya	1676	0	0	0	0
24.	Mizoram	1669	0	0	0	0
25.	Nagaland	880	926	806	120	0
26.	Orissa	7410	620	276	266	78
27.	Pondicherry	1407	1196	822	374	0
28.	Punjab	12521	0	0	0	0
29.	Rajasthan	21589	7767	3700	1300	2767
30.	Sikkim	178	0	0	0	0
31.	Tamil Nadu	28818	97522	54714	24341	18467
32.	Tripura	1290	1665	1179	486	0
33.	Uttar Pradesh	48430	24926	8116	3078	13732
34.	Uttaranchal	2549	1979	464	401	1114
35.	West Bengal	43495	8586	2943	2922	2721
	Total	417602	393059	221944	66192	104923

Reservation in Professional Institutions

*288. SHRI TATHAGATA SATPATHY:
SHRI M. APPADURAI:

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

(a) whether the policy of the Government with regard to the reservation of seats for the students is being strictly implemented in all professional educational institutions in the country;

(b) if not, whether any instance has come to the notice of the Government wherein students belonging to SC/ST/OBC community were denied admission;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard;

(d) whether the Government proposes to give reservation to the students belonging to the minority communities in professional educational institutions like IIT, IIM, IIF, etc. as recommended by the National

Monitoring Committee for Minorities Education as reported in *The times of India* dated November 17, 2005;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the Government provides/proposes to provide support to the students belonging to BPL family studying in such institutions; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (g) The policy of providing reservation of seats to the extent of 15% of SC students, 7.5% to ST students and 3% to persons with disabilities is being implemented in the professional educational institutions administered by the Central Government including Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs), etc. In the institutions run by the State Governments, the reservation percentages vary as per the State Government's policy. The Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* its judgement dated 12.8.2005 in the case of P.A. Inamdar & Others *Vs* State of Maharashtra & Others has laid down that neither the policy of reservation can be enforced by the State nor any quota or percentage of admissions can be carved out to be appropriated by the State in a minority or non-minority unaided educational institution. The Central Government is in the process of formulating a policy in this regard.

The question of reservation for members of the minority communities for admission in IITs, IIMs, etc., is not presently under the consideration of the Government.

The Central Government is committed to ensure that nobody is denied professional education because he or she is poor. IITs offer merit-cum-means scholarships to its students. In IIMs, all students whose annual gross family income in Rs. 2 lakhs and below are eligible for full tuition fee waiver.

[Translation]

Rubber Roads

*289. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any feasibility study was conducted before laying of rubber roads in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has assessed the progress of the work pertaining to the laying of rubber roads;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the funds allocated for the purpose and utilized during each of the last three years and current year, State-wise;

(f) whether the objective of laying of rubber roads is being achieved; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (g) There is no classification of roads as rubber road. A study was sponsored by this Ministry in the year 1993 by laying test sections on National Highway No. 2 near Allahabad to assess the performance of road using rubber modified bitumen. Thereafter, Indian Roads Congress brought out a Special Publication IRC: SP: 53 in 1999, which has been revised in the year 2002 and now entitled 'Guidelines on use of polymer and rubber modified bitumen in road construction'. According to these guidelines use of modified bitumen increases life of the wearing course in comparison to conventional bitumen and the time period of next renewal may be extended in case of surfacing laid with modified bitumen. As per the feedback received, the performance of wearing courses laid with modified bitumen is satisfactory to good, but sufficient data is not available to estimate increase in its life as compared to wearing courses laid with conventional bitumen.

No separate funds are allocated for construction of National Highways making use of modified bitumen in wearing courses. The cost of bitumen is included in the overall project cost. Also, the dose of rubber as modified in the conventional bitumen adds only marginally to the overall cost of road construction.

Trade with Pakistan

*290. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade with Pakistan including export of sugar to Pakistan during the last six months alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) whether trade with Pakistan has increased consequent upon opening up of Indo-Pak border;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to further increase exports to Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Provisional figures of bilateral trade are available up to August, 2005 during this year according to which during the period April-August 2005 the total export from India to Pakistan has been valued at US$ 240.55 million as compared to US$ 210.17 million during the corresponding period in 2004 registering an increase of 14.45%. The imports from Pakistan during April-August 2005 has been valued at US$58.05 million as compared to US$ 29.95 million during the corresponding period in 2004 registering an increase of 93.83%.

The ten top items exported from India to Pakistan during April-August 2005 are (1) Dyes/Intermediates and coal tar chemicals (2) Petroleum crude & products (3) Oil meals 4. Drugs, pharmaceuticals & fine chemicals (5) Pulses (6) Rubber manufactured products except footwear (7) Iron ore. (8) Plastic & linoleum products (9) cotton raw including waste and (10) Inorganic/organic/ agro-chemicals. There was no export of sugar.

The ten top items imported from Pakistan during the period are (1) Pulses, (2) Cotton yarn & fabrics, (3) Fruits & nuts excluding cashew nuts, (4) Organic chemicals (5) Manmade filaments/Spun yarn, (6) leather, (7) non-ferrous metals, (8) raw wool (9) Spices, and (10) Metalifers Ores and Metal Scrap.

The details of exports and imports till 2004-2005 are available in Department's Website "www.commerce.nic.in under the head Information Dissemination/Monitoring System—Export Import Data Bank.

(b) and (c) In may 2005, Pakistan announced its decision to import twelve items on duty-free basis from India including through Attari-Wagah land route. These items consist of live animals, halal meats and agricultural items namely, Potatoes, Tomotoes, Onions and Garlic.

In August 2005 Pakistan included Sugar in their Positive List of Importable items from India and allowed import of raw and refined sugars from India both by Public and Private Sectors including *via* land route, on duties and taxes as levied on its import from worldwide sources.

The trade (only export) with Pakistan through Land Customs Station (LCS). Attari Road has commenced from July 2005 and uptill now there has been no export of sugar. The details of items exported through this LCS since July 2005 are given below:

Sl.No.	Commodity	Quantity (Metric Tonnes)	FOB value (in lakhs of Rs.)
1.	Garlic	938.70	202.18
2.	Potato	526.500	39.75
3.	Livestock	489 Nos.	7.66
4.	Ginger	181.426	25.83
5.	Frozen Halal Meat	28.500	12.92
6.	Sugar	Nil	Nil
	Total Value		288.34 (US$ 0.63 million)

(d) India and Pakistan have set up a Joint Study Group (JSG) at the level of Commerce Secretaries to finalize the strategy for boosting trade between the two countries. The first meeting of the JSG was held in New Delhi on February 22-23, 2005 and it had detailed discussions on promotion of trade and economic cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries. The JSG constituted two working/Sub Groups, on Customs Cooperation and Trade Facilitation Measures and Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs). The Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Sub-Groups were mutually agreed upon.

South Asian Free Trade Area Agreement (SAFTA) which was signed by the SAARC Member-States (India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) during the Twelfth SAARC Summit held in Islamabad on 4-6 January 2004, is scheduled to come into force from 1st January 2006.

The process of talks under Joint Study Group and implementation of SAFTA are expected to boost bilateral trade in future significantly.

Financial Assistance under KVIC

*291. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the conditions stipulated to provide financial assistance by Khadi and village Industries Commission (KVIC) to eligible entrepreneurs are being strictly implemented;

(b) if not, the number of complaints received by the Government in this regard during the last three years for the violation of these conditions;

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) whether any mechanism is available with KVIC to enforce the conditions stipulated for the sanctioning of such financial assistance;

(e) if so, the reasons for the violation of stipulated conditions; and

(f) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to further strengthen the mechanism?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) is implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) with due regard to the conditions stipulated for providing financial assistance to eligible applicants.

(b) and (c) However, 241 cases of releasing margin money assistance to ineligible applicants under the REGP during the last three years (2002-03 to 2004-05) have been received. The KVIC has taken action to recover the margin money assistance released in these cases.

(d) to (f) In order to ensure that the assistance due under REGP is available to only eligible applicants, field offices of the KVIC or the State/UT Khadi and Village Industries Board concerned scrutinize the proposals of applicants before forwarding them to the banks for sanction of loan. In addition, the financial (margin money) assistance provided by the KVIC is kept in the relevant financing branch of the bank as a fixed deposit in the name of each beneficiary for a period of two years. This amount is credited to the loan account of the beneficiary only after verification of establishment of the unit.

Setting up of NIOS

*292. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) whether National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) has been able to achieve its envisaged objectives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NIOS recently organised a National Conference on the participation and assistance from State Education Boards and Open Schools;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the decision taken at the Conference;

(e) whether any decision with regard to creation of an awareness about open schooling among the school drop-out children in the country and setting up of more Centres/schools of NIOS in various parts of the country was taken at the Conference;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(g) the steps NIOS proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The main objective of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) is to promote school education through Open and distance learning mode for those who cannot attend regular schools. 13.27 lakh students are currently availing of education through NIOS.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The National Institute of Open Schooling organised a National Conference on Promotion of Open Schooling in collaboration with Council of Boards of Secondary Education on 20.10.2005. Important recommendations of the Conference were regarding promotion and strengthening of Open School system in States, sharing expertise and infrastructure facility in conduct of NIOS public examinations, paying special attention by State Boards to inclusive education, and launching of a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for promotion of Open Schooling in the States.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

Increase in SSI Export

*293. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU:
SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any scheme to promote the export of SSI products;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the target fixed for the export of SSI products during the next three years; and

(c) the steps taken/proposes to be taken for the promotion and upgradation of SSI in rural areas particularly in North Eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Government implements a number of schemes programmes to promote export of products of small scale industries (SSI). These include the scheme of reimbursement of the cost upto Rs. 75,000 of acquiring ISO 9000/14001 certification by SSI units, financial assistance to SSI for obtaining registration of bar coding of their products and assistance for market development of SSI. While the first two schemes assist in enhancing their competitiveness through improvement in the quality, etc., of the product of the SSI, the third scheme extends direct assistance to the SSI exporters by providing them free exhibition space in international trade fairs and free transport of their exhibits and publicity material to these fairs. The Central Government does not, however, fix any target for export of SSI products.

(c) The primary responsibility for promotion and development of small scale industries vests with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations, including those in the North East. However, the Central Government supplements these efforts by implementing a number of schemes/programmes throughout the country, including the North East. The Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) and Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY) are two major Central schemes under which small scale/village industries are promoted in the rural areas, including those in the North East. Under both REGP and PMRY, there is provision for higher margin money/subsidy to eligible entrepreneurs in the North Eastern Region. Besides, under the Integrated Infrastructural Development (IID) Scheme for small scale industries, higher Central grant of Rs. 4 crore is given per IID Centre in the North Eastern States, as against Rs. 2 crore for such Centres elsewhere in the country.

[English]

Export of Diamonds

*294. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA:
SHRI SITARAM SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of export of diamonds from India during the last three years;

(b) whether there is stiff competition from China in diamond cutting and polishing industry in the International Market; and

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to safeguard the interests of diamond cutting and polishing industry in India alongwith the steps taken to boost the export of diamonds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The details of export of diamonds from India during the last three years are as follows:

In US$ Million

2002-03	2003-2004	2004-2005
7407.75	8301.08	10361.82

Source: DGCI&S.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The Government and Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) have taken several steps to safeguard the interests of diamond cutting and polishing industry in India alongwith the steps taken to boost the export of diamonds. Some of these are given below:

The licencing regime for rough diamonds has been abolished and custom duty on import of rough diamond

is 0%. Exploring direct procurement of rough diamonds from diamond mining countries is an ongoing exercise. Funds have been provided to create training infrastructure in this sector. Under the provisions of Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09 (updated on 31st March 2005) following facilities have been extended to the diamond segment of Gem & Jewellery Sector:—

(i) Gem & Jewellery exporters with a track record for at least three years and having an annual turnover of Rs. 5 crores and above during the preceding three licencing years or the authorised offices/agencies in India of notified Institutes/ Laboratories are permitted to export cut & polished diamonds each weighing 0.25 of carat and above for certification/grading for re-import without any import duty at the time of re-import.

(ii) An exporter of cut and polished diamonds who is status holders is allowed duty free import of cut and polished diamonds upto 5% of export performance of preceding year of cut and polished diamonds.

(iii) Private/public bonded warehouses are allowed to be set up in special Economic Zone/Domestic Tariff Area for duty free import and re-export of cut and polished diamonds subject to achievement of minimum value addition of 5%.

For promotion of India's cut and polished diamonds abroad, publicity campaign, participation in international fairs, buyers and sellers meets are organised every year with assistance from Market Development Assistance (MDA) and Market Access Initiative (MAI) Schemes of the Department of Commerce.

[Translation]

Bangladesh Border

*295. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes electrification of fencing along the Bangladesh border and install flood lights as reported in *Navbharat Times* dated August 16, 2005;

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

(c) whether the Government also proposes to issue instructions to the security forces to take stringent action against those attempting to infiltrate these borders;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to electrify the fencing along Indo-Bangladesh border. The Government of India has sanctioned a pilot project of flood lighting on a stretch of 277 Kms. in West Bengal Sector. Out of this 117 Kms. flood lighting has been completed and work in remaining stretches is in progress.

(c) to (e) The Security forces deployed on the border would take stringent action as per law of the land against those attempting to infiltrate from across the border. The following steps have been taken by BSF to prevent infiltration from Bangladesh:

(i) Round the clock surveillance of the border by carrying out patrolling (on foot, by boats and vehicles), laying nakas (border ambushes) and by deploying observation posts all along the international border.

(ii) Upgradation of intelligence network of BSF and coordination with sister intelligence agencies.

(iii) Introduction of modern surveillance equipment including night vision devices.

(iv) Construction of fencing and roads along the international border.

Agro-based Industries

*296. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of multinational companies have entered in the business of agro-based industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the domestic agro-based industries have been adversely affected due to the entry of multinational companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith steps taken/ proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Under the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy of the Government, some multinational companies have set up agro-based industries. These include companies like Nestle, Pepsi, Heinz, Kellogs, etc.

(c) and (d) The entry of these companies has led to increase in competitiveness and investment and improvement in product quality. Government implements the following schemes for the promotion and modernisation of the food processing industries in the country;

(i) Financial assistance for establishment, expansion and modernisation of food processing units.

(ii) Grants for creation of infrastructure like water supply, power, effluent treatment plant, laboratory, etc.

(iii) Scheme for quality assurance in units.

(iv) Deduction of hundred per cent of profit for five years under the Income Tax Act for select new food processing industries.

(v) Waiver of central excise duty on processed fruits and vegetable products.

Similarly, for promotion and establishment of agro-based and other village industries, Government implements the following schemes:

(i) Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) for employment generation through the setting up of village industries.

(ii) Rural Industries Service Centre (RISC) Scheme for setting up of common facility centres (CFCs) to provide infrastructural support and services to such industries.

(iii) Product Development, Design Intervention and Packaging (PRODIP) Scheme for improved design and packaging of village industry products.

(iv) Financial assistance to village industry units for participation in national and international level exhibitions for market development.

[English]

Trade with Russia

*297. SHRI AJOY CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of trade between India and Russia, commodity-wise and, value-wise, during the last three years;

(b) whether the trade between Russia and India is showing a decline in the recent period;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the volume of trade with Russia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The value of Indo-Russian bilateral trade sorted on Indian Trade Classification (Harmonized System) [ITC (HS)] code during the last three years is as under:

(In rupees crores)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total
2002-2003	3407.03	2867.94	6274.97
2003-2004	3279.80	4409.64	7689.44
2004-2005 (Provisional)	2720.12	5755.24	8475.36

Source: DGCI&S

Further details of the trade between India and Russia, commodity-wise and value-wise sorted on ITC (HS) code are available on Department's website, www.commerce.nic.in under the head "Information Dissemination/Monitoring Systems" and Sub-head "Export-Import Data Bank".

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) To enhance India's trade to Russia, Government has taken a number of steps which include promotion of dialogue at the highest level through summit meetings, regular review through the Joint Commission/Working Group/Sub-Group mechanism, promoting direct business contacts through exchange of delegations, Joint Business Council, holding of exhibitions, participation in fairs, etc. In addition to this, w.e.f. April 2004, Russia has also been included as a Focus Country in the ongoing phase of the Focus CIS Programme aimed at developing and enhancing India's trade with countries of the CIS Region. Details of the programme are available on Department's website, www.commerce.nic.in under the head 'Trade Promotion Programmes'.

Border Area Development Programme

*298. SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the funds utilized by various States under Border Area Development Programme during each of the last three years;

(b) whether physical and financial monitoring has been conducted;

(c) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise and State-wise;

(d) whether there is any proposal to involve public representatives in the implementation of the Programme; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Funds allocated, released and utilized by the seventeen BADP States during the last three years given in the enclosed Statement.

(b) and (c) The schemes under BADP are regularly monitored and reviewed by the State Governments and Central Government. Quarterly Progress Reports are called for by the Central Government from the State Governments to assess the actual physical and financial achievement made by the States in respect of the workers done under various sectors such as strengthening of social and economic infrastructure, filling up of critical gaps in the road network, schemes for employment generation, education, health, agriculture and allied sector and schemes which provide for critical inputs in social sector.

(d) and (e) While the Government of India lays down the broad guidelines, the schemes/works under BADP are finalized and approved by the State Level Screening Committee (SLSC) in consultation with grassroots institutions such as PRIs/District Level Councils/Traditional Councils/Local people/democratic institutions/voluntary agencies and also executed by the agencies of the State Government.

Statement

Allocation, Releases and utilization of Funds during 2002-03 to 2004-05 under BADP

(position as on 31.10.2005)

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Allocation			Release			Amount Utilized & UCs received		
		2002-2003	2003-04	2004-05	2002-2003	2003-04	2004-05	2002-2003	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	1351.00	1351.00	1351.00	1351.00	900.00	1351.00	1351.00	900.00	—
2.	Assam	748.00	748.00	748.00	748.00	748.00	998.00	748.00	748.00	399.00
3.	Bihar	728.00	728.00	728.00	728.00	728.00	728.00	728.00	728.00	413.60
4.	Gujarat	1026.00	1026.00	1026.00	1026.00	684.00	1313.06	704.15	988.01	793.07

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
5.	Himachal Pradesh	416.00	416.00	416.00	1098.00	416.00	1148.96	1098.00	416.00	899.21
6.	Jammu and Kashmir	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	10000.00	8695.00	8500.00	9000.00	8596.00
7.	Manipur	416.00	416.00	416.00	416.00	277.00	555.00	416.00	277.00	406.53
8.	Meghalaya	470.00	470.00	470.00	800.00	705.00	900.00	800.00	705.00	900.00
9.	Mizoram	832.00	832.00	832.00	1632.00	1248.00	1556.00	1632.00	1218.00	805.96
10.	Nagaland	416.00	416.00	416.00	446.00	416.00	416.00	446.00	416.00	—
11.	Punjab	1008.00	1008.00	1008.00	3008.00	1008.00	992.51	3008.00	1008.00	—
12.	Rajasthan	3032.00	3032.00	3032.00	4032.00	3032.00	3695.29	4032.00	3032.00	1906.00
13.	Sikkim	572.00	572.00	572.00	572.00	572.00	1256.20	570.78	344.32	84.83
14.	Tripura	1296.00	1296.00	1296.00	1819.00	1296.00	2109.60	1819.00	1269.72	596.98
15.	Uttar Pradesh	832.00	832.00	832.00	832.00	1745.00	1654.70	797.04	1591.71	510.29
16.	Uttaranchal	416.00	416.00	416.00	523.00	416.00	1389.94	516.81	393.50	229.06
17.	West Bengal	3956.00	3956.00	3956.00	4556.00	2637.00	3739.95	4556.00	1845.00	903.00
	Total	27515.00	27515.00	27515.00	33587.00	26828.00	32499.21	31722.78	24880.26	17443.53

*Amount utilized in excess to the amount released under BADP & includes one time additional SCA of Rs. 931.00 lakh released during 2002-03 and revalidated during 2003-04.

[Translation]

Village Defence Committees

*299. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Village Defence Committees engaged in the anti-terrorist campaign in Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) whether members of these Committees have been equipped with sophisticated weapons;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) the number of members of the Village Defence Committees killed by the terrorists during each of the last three years, till date; and

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to strengthen these Village Defence Committees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) As per information made available by the State Government of Jammu and Kashmir, the number of Village Defence Committees (VDCs) functioning in the State is 3770. The Committee Members are equipped with arms/ammunitions like .303 rifles/Self Loading Rifles and Bolt action rifles.

(d) Fifty eight VDC members have been killed in militancy related violence during the last three years and till November 2005. The break up is : 20 in 2002, 16 in 2003 and 04 in 2004. The number killed till November 2005 is 18.

(e) The State Government has informed that whenever required these VDCs are being strengthened with weaponry and communication facilities. Wireless sets have been provided to VDC members in far-flung areas and on-the-spot training is also being given.

[English]

Rehabilitation of Negrito and Mongoloid Tribes

*300. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the programmes undertaken to rehabilitate the Negrito and Mongoloid tribes of Andaman and Nicobar Islands after the devastation caused by the Tsunami;

(b) the status of these programmes and the outcome so far; and

(c) the steps taken to ascertain the population status of these tribes?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) 1. There are four Negrito Tribes *viz.* Andamanese, Onges, Jarawas and Sentineles. There are two Mongoloid Tribes *viz.* Nicobarese and Shompens. There was no loss of life in respect of the Negrito Tribes of Andaman Islands. However, the houses of Andamaneses and Onges were affected due to the Tsunami, though not of the Jarawas and Sentinelese. The death toll due to Tsunami in respect of Nicobarese tribe is 2955 and in respect of Shompens is 4. The houses of some of the Nicobarese and Shompens were also destroyed due to Tsunami. To rehabilitate the affected tribals, A & N Administration has initiated the following measures:

(i) Payment of Ex-gratia to the affected and bereaved persons.

(ii) Providing the shelters/houses.

(iii) Providing livelihood measures.

(iv) Restoring the essential services.

2. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs has also released an amount of Rs. 2.00 crores to the Andaman and Nicobar Administration under the scheme of Development of Primitive Tribal Groups during the year 2004-05 for housing and other related infrastructural support required for re-setting the PTGs in Tsunami affected areas.

3. Intermediate shelters have been provided to the affected persons. Permanent shelters can be provided in consultation with the Tribals. First round of the consultation is over and the tribals have requested for some time to indicate their preference for type and design of houses/ permanent shelter.

4. The following livelihood activities have been undertaken for the benefit of the tribals:

(i) Site clearance for development of plantation and short term crops.

(ii) Providing poultry birds.

(iii) Clearance of debris from the affected area, engaging affected tribals on daily wages rate.

(iv) Under the centrally sponsored scheme such as SGRY (Sampoorn Gramin Rozgar Yojana) being implemented for the livelihood of the tribals, the wages are paid partly as food grains (5 kgs rice) at BPL (Below Poverty Line) rate and the remaining amount in cash as cash component.

5. The A&N Administration has decided to constitute a committee of experts to undertake a census of the Shompen Primitive Tribe of Great Nicobar Island. The population of the Nicobarese tribes as per Census 2001 was 28,653.

Setting up of Commissionerate for Road Safety

*301. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Commissionerate for road safety;

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

(c) the details of ambulances and patrol vehicles presently available with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to look after safety arrangements on the national highways;

(d) the percentage of the cess coming to NHAI used for study and research of road safety issues and developing state-of-art systems in the country; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to bring awareness about road safety among the people using these highways?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) A Committee has been set up to deliberate and recommend on creation of a dedicated body on Road Safety and Traffic Regulations under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy Research Institute. The Committee has been remitted to submit its recommendations by 31st January, 2006 to enable to take a final decision by the Committee on Infrastructure chaired by the Prime Minister.

(c) At present, 67 ambulances, 62 patrol vehicles and 5 ambulance-cum-patrol vehicles are available with National Highways Authority of India to look after safety aspects on the completed stretches of National Highways entrusted to National Highways Authority of India.

(d) There is no system of earmarking a fixed percentage of cess allocated to National Highways Authority of India for study and research of road safety issues and developing state-of-the-art system in the country. Such studies are undertaken in a need-based manner.

(e) The Government undertakes campaigns through audio, video and print media on various aspects of road safety. The advertisements on road safety are also given through cinema slides, hoardings, railings, etc. Publicity material like fun games, story books, riddles, drawing books, posters, pamphlets, calendars, etc. are also printed and distributed to the users of roads, students, children through State Governments, Non-Government Organisations and other Institutions. Grant-in-aid is also given to Non-Governmental Organisations to promote awareness about road safety among the people using highways and impart training to drivers of heavy vehicles in the unorganised sector.

[Translation]

Compensation for Land Acquisition

2888. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA:
SHRI RAGHUVEER SINGH KOSHAL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the compensation for land acquired for National Highway No. 76 on East-West corridor is in contravention with the present policy of Rajasthan and the land owners are facing losses;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the work has been assigned to a Non-Governmental Organisation from outside the State whose work is not satisfactory;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) the details of the evacuation/rehabilitation and payment made in this regard;

(f) whether the present roads Bhadviguda, Naya Guda, Iswal, Ghariyaar and Thur are included in the proposal for alignment of sections from 83 to 95 of the said highway, Palanpur-Udaipur section;

(g) if so, the likely places from where the people have to be displaced;

(h) whether there is an economical alternate route *via* Thur Dangio ki Hunder, Madar and Bhadviguda;

(i) if so, whether the Government proposes to implement the alternate proposal; and

(j) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Land is being acquired as per provisions of National Highways Act, 1956 and compensation is being decided by the Competent Authority for acquisition of land.

(c) and (d) In externally aided project, for rehabilitation and resettlement work, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are appointed through open competitive bidding. Work has been awarded to NGOs from outside State. However, no work has been awarded to NGOs having unsatisfactory work record.

(e) For rehabilitation and resettlement, compensation would be paid to the affected persons as determined by the NGOs. Till now, no payments have been made in this regard.

(f) Yes, Sir. Except Thur.

(g) The likely places are Naya Guda and Iswal.

(h) to (j) The alternative routes were considered during finalization of alignment. However, these routes are uneconomical and passing through dense forest area and therefore could not be considered due to its unviability.

[English]

Slum Clearance Schemes

2889. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Slum Clearance Schemes being implemented in Assam;

(b) whether any International Cooperation and Technical assistance in this field has been undertaken in Assam during the last three years;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the number of centres of National Cooperative Housing Federation operating in Assam;

(e) the details of projects undertaken by it in Assam during the last three years;

(f) the funds received by the Government of Assam under the Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Programme (ILCS) during the said period;

(g) the monitoring mechanism of the scheme in Assam;

(h) whether Non-Governmental Organisations are involved in the scheme; and

(i) if so, the details of such NGOs involved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The Government of Assam has informed that in the State following two schemes are being implemented:

(i) National Slum Development Programme under Additional Central Assistance;

(ii) Environmental Improvement of Urban Slums under 20-Point programme (Point No. 15) under State Sector.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no centre of National Cooperative Housing Federation in Assam.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) No funds have been released to the State during the last three years under Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS) scheme.

(g) The Scheme is being monitored in the State through Directorate of Municipal Administration.

(h) No, Sir.

(i) Does not arise.

Approval to Proposals by SCI's Board of Directors

2890. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Board of Directors of Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) has given approval to several proposals made by the management; and

(b) if so, the details of such approvals?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The SCI Board of Directors have approved the following vessel acquisition proposals:

(i) 2 nos. Capesize Bulk Carriers of 170,000 DWT each

(ii) 6 nos. LR-I Product Tankers of 65,000 DWT each

(iii) 6 nos. Handymax Bulk carriers of 53,000 DWT each

(iv) 2 nos. Container vessel of 4,300 TEU capacity each

(v) 4 nos. Panamax Bulk carriers of 75,000 DWT each

(vi) 4 nos. Aframax tankers of 110,000 DWT each

(vii) 2 nos. Container vessel of 5,000 TEU capacity each.

[Translation]

Investigation by CVC against MCD

2891. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Vigilance Commission is making any investigation into forged payment made in the name of security in slums and J.J. Wing of Municipal Corporation of Delhi;

(b) if so, the present status of investigation and the reasons for the delay; and

(c) the time by which the investigation is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) The Central Vigilance Commission had received a complaint regarding bogus payment to private security agencies by the officials of the Slum and Jhuggi Jhopri Department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi. The complaint was sent to the Chief Vigilance Officer of Municipal Corporation of Delhi for investigation and report. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has reported that the relevant record of the case has been seized from the Department and the case is at the stage of recording of statements of concerned officials. The investigation of the case is likely to be completed in two month's time.

[English]

Low Cost Sanitation Project

2892. SHRI CHANDRAKANT KHAIRE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the achievement in Low Cost Sanitation Project meant for liberation of scavengers;

(b) the number of scavengers liberated till now;

(c) whether the project is popular particularly in the urban slums; and

(d) the steps being taken to make this project more efficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Since inception of the Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme in 1980-81 till 31.10.2005, 20.78 lakh units have been constructed and 45447 manual scavengers were liberated.

(c) The scheme is not specifically meant for urban slums but for individual households having dry latrines or are without any toilet facility.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Package for Backward Areas

2893. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the amount earmarked for the development of industry in tribal dominated backward areas of States especially in Madhya Pradesh during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) the amount allocated/released to each State so far;

(c) whether the States have utilised the allocated amount;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the impact of the utilisation of financial assistance on the development of these backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) With a view to promote industrialization of backward areas in the country, the Government of India, in June, 1988, had announced the Growth Centre Scheme which became operational from 1991 under which 71 Growth Centres were proposed to be set up throughout the country with basic infrastructure facilities such as power, water, telecommunications and banking to enable them to attract industries. 4 Growth Centres have been sanctioned in the State of Madhya Pradesh i.e. Chainpura (District-Guna), Ghirongi (District-

Bhind), Kheda (District-Dhar) and Satlapur (District-Raisen). Under the Growth Centre Scheme total release of the central assistance to all the States in the initial three years of Tenth Five Year Plan including Madhya Pradesh is enclosed as Statement.

(e) Amongst the major reasons for the lower utilisation of the released funds are difficulties in acquiring land, the long period taken in creating the requisite industrial infrastructure, etc.

(f) As per the reports of the concerned State Governments, under the Growth Centre Scheme, 1074 industrial units generating employment for 36887 persons have been established.

Statement

Central Assistance released during three years of Tenth Five Year Plan to Growth Centres

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	Name of the Growth Centre (Statewise)	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	Total	Status of Utilisation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Andhra Pradesh	110	100	295	505	Utilized
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	320	200		520	Utilized
3.	Assam	900	566	200	1666	Utilization awaited for Rs. 200.00 lakhs
4.	Bihar	200			200	Utilization awaited for Rs. 200.00 lakhs
5.	Chhattisgarh	100	107		207	Utilized
6.	Goa		176		176	Utilization awaited for Rs. 176.00 lakhs
7.	Gujarat	300			300	Utilization awaited for Rs. 300.00 lakhs
8.	Haryana	450			450	Utilized
9.	Hiachal Pradesh	153	500		653	Utilized
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	275	1000		1275	Utilized
11.	Jharkhand		200		200	Utilization awaited for Rs. 200.00 lakhs
12.	Karnataka					
13.	Kerala					
14.	Madhya Pradesh	250	365	300	915	Utilization awaited for Rs. 125.00 lakhs
15.	Maharashtra		290		290	Utilized
16.	Manipur					
17.	Meghalaya		500		500	Utilization awaited for Rs. 500.00 lakhs
18.	Mizoram	180	400		580	Utilized
19.	Nagaland					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
20.	Orissa	240	228	150	618	Utilized
21.	Pondicherry	250			250	Utilized
22.	Punjab					
23.	Rajasthan	850		800	1650	Utilized
24.	Sikkim		500		500	Utilized
25.	Tamil Nadu					
26.	Tripura	500	430		930	Utilization awaited for Rs. 500.00 lakhs
27.	Uttaranchal		1000		1000	Utilization awaited for Rs. 500.00 lakhs
28.	Uttar Pradesh	250	150	650	1050	Utilization awaited for Rs. 200.00 lakhs
29.	West Bengal	300		400	700	Utilized
	Grand Total	5628	6712	2795	15135	

[English]

Export of Mangoes to America

2894. SHRI JUAL ORAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any problem in the export of mangoes to United States of America;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to solve the problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Import of Indian mangoes is not allowed into the United States of America on the stated ground, that there is an infestation of fruit flies and stone and pulp weevil in India. As part of the ongoing process, their concerns are being addressed and they are being provided with the data sought by them from time to time to facilitate a Pest Risk Analysis of India mango and conclusion of a sanitary and phyto-sanitary protocol for export of mango.

Review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2895. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has undertaken a review of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by the State governments particularly the Government of Karnataka;

(b) if so, whether the State Governments are implementing these schemes properly;

(c) if so, the details of benefits accruing to the people from the said schemes and the expenditure incurred during each of the last three years, State-wise and scheme-wise;

(d) if not, the main reasons given by the Government of Karnataka for not implementing the schemes properly; and

(e) the total number of persons, who are living below poverty line in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (d) Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is implementing various Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely, Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY), Valmiki Ambedkar Awas Yojana (VAMBAY), National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents (NSLRS), Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS) and Night

Shelter for Urban Shelter-less, on all India basis including in the State of Karnataka.

Statements showing the Physical and Financial Progress during the last three years, State-wise and Scheme-wise is enclosed at Statement-I, II, III and IV.

(e) As per the Planning Commission's estimates in 1999-2000, the number of persons living Below Poverty Line in Karnataka is 104.40 lakhs, (44.49 lakhs in Urban Areas and 59.91 lakhs in Rural Areas).

Statement I

Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rozgar Yojana (SJSRY)

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	Expenditure reported by States/UTs during last 3 years (Central + States) (Rs. in lakhs)			No. of Micro-enterprises set-up			No. of persons trained		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1137.27	4113.45	8.14	16996	33719	29413	8611	5635	4376
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	132.68	209.49	41.79	374	39	40	62	149	0
3.	Assam	253.94	669.94	415.94	84	3067	1150	633	548	4638
4.	Bihar	575.54	0.00	468.09	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	307.58	73.53	153.39	5515	36	3225	2634	0	4559
6.	Goa	0.00	0.00	0	35	0	189	0	0	345
7.	Gujarat	447.39	226.73	377.49	7584	2014	5952	6679	4547	7606
8.	Haryana	155.99	580.70	576.87	1780	2965	2379	1827	3231	4171
9.	Himachal Pradesh	34.84	80.22	51.47	221	175	382	168	625	1201
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	295.41	309.49	326.76	3150	681	1265	3936	838	1748
11.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12.	Karnataka	1017.10	1676.07	970.3	5798	8386	4685	2658	19200	2709
13.	Kerala	451.99	872.75	30.56	3784	2198	2978	1789	5112	4736
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1250.63	875.43	1455.18	17387	4799	6404	6249	8575	7524
15.	Maharashtra	2493.87	1843.71	2447.52	13908	13605	23314	31737	39357	40866
16.	Manipur	151.41	252.50	0	0	0	0	0	0	2506
17.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0	1297	0	0	406	939	0
18.	Mizoram	151.47	536.39	174.06	0	0	0	0	0	379
19.	Nagaland	54.00	264.27	146.92	1472	1132	0	510	100	0
20.	Orissa	398.67	382.65	180.6	2828	82225	1114	2602	3439	2911

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
21.	Punjab	81.60	280.58	121.13	970	724	726	1605	1302	2613
22.	Rajasthan	581.81	392.47	126.97	7579	4008	4083	1408	1696	1957
23.	Sikkim	64.77	73.59	134.81	109	47	90	210	0	273
24.	Tamil Nadu	1001.62	864.10	252.06	15628	3920	2356	1742	3033	5016
25.	Tripura	55.18	189.76	444.68	549	347	598	485	765	4783
26.	Uttaranchal	122.76	99.56	0.00	829	0	153	1202	0	763
27.	Uttar Pradesh	1648.18	2576.96	3437.18	11852	6868	8239	3993	14452	39538
28.	West Bengal	763.35	893.53	1114.17	7000	2760	4182	18606	5880	13649
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	77.76	31.97	98	2	1	3	0	0	0
30.	Chandigarh	20.75	73.90	49.84	53	45	68	205	242	1083
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	90.87	69.29	7.35	20	0	10	86	0	98
32.	Daman and Diu	5.34	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	55.08	26.50	69.82	324	72	267	325	155	200
34.	Pondicherry	113.64	197.89	183.45	652	1070	107	43	1774	0
	Total	13992.49	18737.42	13864.54	127880	100903	103372	99411	121594	160248

Statement II (A)

Details of state-wise allocations and releases for the year 2002-03 under VAMBAY

(Rupees in lakhs)
(As on 30.9.2005)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Tentative allocation for 2002-03	Funds released during 2002-03	No. of DUs covered	No. of TSs covered	Physical Progress as on 30.9.2005	
						DUs completed/ progress	TSs completed/ progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2499.55	5132.112	20901	392	20901	138
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	15.58					
3.	Assam	242.04					
4.	Bihar	1104.37					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5.	Chhattisgarh	313.58	529.410	2185	462	2185	462
6.	Goa	47.40					
7.	Gujarat	1428.62	3089.000	18776	1460	18758	1480
8.	Haryana	418.22					
9.	Himachal Pradesh	67.05					
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	323.34	38.320	170	0	163	0
11.	Jharkhand	368.12					
12.	Karnataka	737.87	1967.600	6979	2215	6979	2215
13.	Kerala	683.48	2389.650	11948	0	11747	0
14.	Madhya Pradesh	847.75	934.780	4054	170	1739	20
15.	Maharashtra	4460.47	845.600	328	3900	328	3890
16.	Manipur	47.03	7.875	35	0	35	0
17.	Meghalaya	48.23					
18.	Mizoram	48.03					
19.	Nagaland	25.30	9.000	40	0	40	0
20.	Orissa	465.59	61.200	306	0	306	0
21.	Punjab	786.68					
22.	Rajasthan	1356.46	760.000	3300	0	3300	0
23.	Sikkim	5.11					
24.	Tamil Nadu	1810.70	2846.500	27226	11880	27226	11880
25.	Tripura	37.10	144.978	644	0	644	0
26.	Uttaranchal	160.16	160.150	701	100	445	10
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3042.82	1104.060	5412	0	5412	0
28.	West Bengal	2732.77	754.050	2968	819	2400	819
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	21.27					
30.	Chandigarh	88.61					
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.62					
32.	Daman and Diu	5.77					

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
33.	Delhi	1352.93					
34.	Pondicherry	88.41					
35.	Lakshadweep	2.99					
	Total	25685.00	20774.285	105973	21398		
Demonstration project for Karnataka		75.00	125	0			
Grand Total		20849.285	106098	21398	102608	20894	

Statement II (B)

Details of state-wise allocations and releases for the year 2003-04 under VAMBAY (physical programmes as on 30.9.2005)

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Tentative allocation for 2003-04	Funds released during 2003-04	No. of DUs covered	No. of TSs covered	Physical Progress as on 30.9.2005	
						DUs completed	TSs completed
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2320.97	5973.893	27627	0	27627	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	14.47					
3.	Assam	224.74					
4.	Bihar	1025.47	10.00	50	0		
5.	Chhattisgarh	291.17	369.99	1850	0	1850	0
6.	Goa	44.02					
7.	Gujarat	1326.56					
8.	Haryana	388.35	652.60	3263	0		
9.	Himachal Pradesh	62.26					
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	300.24	99.45	442	0	149	0
11.	Jharkhand	341.82					
12.	Karnataka	685.15	3944.10	14978	3090	14977	2870
13.	Kerala	634.64	1385.20	6926	0	6166	0

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14.	Madhya Pradesh	787.18	255.22	1024	0	855	0
15.	Maharashtra	4141.82	5286.467	22700	0	19859	0
16.	Manipur	43.67	191.92	653	0	853	0
17.	Meghalaya	44.79					
18.	Mizoram	44.59					
19.	Nagaland	23.49	172.35	766	0	766	0
20.	Orissa	432.32	46.40	232	0	232	0
21.	Punjab	730.48					
22.	Rajasthan	1259.55	40.00	200	0	200	
23.	Sikkim	4.74					
24.	Tamil Nadu	1681.34	2073.00	14684	0	14684	0
25.	Tripura	34.45	219.60	976	0	976	0
26.	Uttaranchal	148.71	205.20	1098	0	380	
27.	Uttar Pradesh	2825.43	1898.00	8462	0	3565	0
28.	West Bengal	2537.54	139.41	697	0	582	0
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	19.75					
30.	Chandigarh	82.28					
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1.50					
32.	Daman and Diu	5.36					
33.	Delhi	1256.27					
34.	Pondicherry	82.09	77.20	408	80	408	
	Total	23850.00	23041.00	107236	3170		
Funds released under various subcomponents i.e. demonstration projects, NIS, dissemination of information, training of staff, etc.		793.60	1040	0			
Grand Total		23834.60	108276	3170	94129	2870	

Statement II (C)

Details of state-wise allocations and releases for the year 2004-05 under VAMBAY (physical progress on 30.9.2005)

(Rupees in lakhs)

Sl.No.	State/UT	Tentative allocation for 2004-05	Funds released during 2004-05 (as on 31.3.05)	No. of DUs covered	No. of TSs covered	Physical Progress as on 30.9.2005	
						DUs completed/ progress	TSs completed/ progress
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2731.00	3492.490	16148		4829	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	17.00	18.000	80			
3.	Assam	264.00					
4.	Bihar	1207.00					
5.	Chhattisgarh	343.00					
6.	Goa	52.00					
7.	Gujarat	1561.00	451.200	250	2006		
8.	Haryana	457.00					
9.	Himachal Pradesh	73.00					
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	353.00	64.250	210	85		
11.	Jharkhand	402.00	718.800	3504	90		
12.	Karnataka	806.00	406.000	0	2030		
13.	Kerala	747.00	200.000	1000			
14.	Madhya Pradesh	926.00	376.000	1500	80	94	
15.	Maharashtra	4873.00	13244.968	40915	21394	21220	8915
16.	Manipur	51.00					
17.	Meghalaya	53.00					
18.	Mizoram	52.00					
19.	Nagaland	28.00	6.200	0	31		31
20.	Orissa	509.00	16.400	82		4	
21.	Punjab	859.00					
22.	Rajasthan	1482.00	650.000	2700			

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
23.	Sikkim	6.00					
24.	Tamil Nadu	1978.00	4705.630	34519	9050	30314	8620
25.	Tripura	41.00					
26.	Uttaranchal	175.00					
27.	Uttar Pradesh	3324.00	1991.950	8835	155		
28.	West Bengal	2986.0	470.200	1782	165	456	
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23.00					
30.	Chandigarh	97.00					
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	2.00					
32.	Daman and Diu	6.000					
33.	Delhi	1478.00					
34.	Pondicherry	97.00	123.600	618		618	
	Total	28058.00	26935.688	112143	35086	57535	17566
Funds released under Dissemination of information component of VAMBAY for Misc. purposes.		0	5.473	0	0	0	0
Grand Total		28058.00	26941.161	112143	35086	57535	17566

Statement III (A)

State/UT-wise beneficiaries covered under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents (NSLRS)*

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2002-03		2003-04	
		Training	Rehab.	Training	Rehab.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	NA	NA	660	3243
2.	Assam	855	300	NA	NA
3.	Bihar	NA	NA	NA	NA
4.	Gujarat	Nil	1451	0	844
5.	Haryana	48	153	NA	NA

1	2	3	4	5	6
6.	Himachal Pradesh	807	377	591	518
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	NA	NA	NA	NA
8.	Karnataka	678	1809	355	5780
9.	Kerala	Nil	14	NA	NA
10.	Madhya Pradesh	1494	5118	1010	5149
11.	Maharashtra	1994	752	NA	NA
12.	Orissa	250	1049	NA	NA
13.	Punjab	NA	NA	NA	NA
14.	Rajasthan	NA	NA	0	624
15.	Tamil Nadu	661	NA	33	13
16.	Uttar Pradesh	Nil	834	NA	NA
17.	West Bengal	359	207	NA	NA
18.	Delhi	NA	NA	NA	NA
19.	Nagaland	NA	NA	NA	NA
20.	Meghalaya	NA	NA	NA	NA
21.	Pondicherry	NA	NA	NA	NA
22.	Chhattisgarh	Nil	256	NA	NA
23.	Uttaranchal	NA	NA	NA	NA
24.	Jharkhand	NA	NA	NA	NA
	Total	7146	12320	2649	16171

*As reported by the State Governments.
Note: The information for the year 2004-05 is yet to be received from the States/UTs.

Statement III (B)

Statement Showing State/UT-wise Central Assistance Released under the National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents (NSLRS)

(Rupees in crores)

Sl.No.	Name of the State/UT	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	29.67	0.00	0.00
2.	Assam	0.00	1.63	0.00
3.	Bihar	0.00	0.00	0.00
4.	Gujarat	0.00	3.74	0.00

1	2	3	4	5
5.	Haryana	0.00	0.00	0.00
6.	Himachal Pradesh	2.40	3.09	0.00
7.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00	0.00	0.00
8.	Karnataka	8.88	0.00	12.19
9.	Kerala	0.00	0.00	0.00
10.	Madhya Pradesh	0.00	1.25	1.37
11.	Maharashtra	0.00	2.86	0.00
12.	Orissa	0.00	2.85	0.00
13.	Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00
14.	Rajasthan	0.00	0.00	0.00
15.	Tamil Nadu	0.00	0.00	0.00
16.	Uttar Pradesh	0.00	5.37	0.00
17.	West Bengal	0.00	1.60	0.00
18.	Delhi	0.00	0.00	0.00
19.	Pondicherry	0.00	0.00	0.00
20.	Nagaland	0.00	0.00	0.00
21.	Meghalaya	0.00	0.00	0.00
22.	Chhattisgarh	0.00	1.89	0.00
23.	Jharkhand	0.00	0.00	0.00
24.	Uttaranchal	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Total	40.95	24.27	13.56

Statement IV-A

Status of Sanctions of Shelter & Sanitation Facilities for Footpath Dwellers in Urban Areas

For the Year 2002-2003

(Rs in Lakh)
As on 31.3.2003

State	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount	Subsidy Sanction	Units Sanctioned				Loan Release	Subsidy Release
					Beds	WC	Bath	Urinals		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andaman and Nicobar	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Assam	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Bihar	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	190.66	230.02
Delhi	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Goa, Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	8.75
Kerala	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	37.31
Manipur	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	1	29.40	0.00	11.76	0	45	21	18	0.00	52.64
Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	1	6.92	0.00	4.20	0	30	12	18	0.00	2.10
	2	36.32	0.00	15.96	0	75	33	36	190.66	345.80

Statement IV-B

Status of Sanctions of Shelter & Sanitation Facilities for Footpath Dwellers in Urban Areas

For the Year 2003-2004 (Rs in Lakh)
As on 31.3.2004

State	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount	Subsidy Sanction	Units Sanctioned				Loan Release	Subsidy Release
					Beds	WC	Bath	Urinals		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Assam	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	41.55	1.70
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Goa, Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	8.75
Kerala	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	110.92
Manipur	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	64.36	35.54
Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Orissa	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	27.87
Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	105.91	184.78

Statement IV-C

Status of Sanctions of Shelter & Sanitation Facilities for Footpath Dwellers in Urban Areas

For the Year 2004-2005

(Rs in Lakh)
As on 26.7.2005

State	No. of Schemes	Project Cost	Loan Amount	Subsidy Sanction	Units Sanctioned				Loan Release	Subsidy Release
					Beds	WC	Bath	Urinals		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Andhra Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Arunachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Assam	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Bihar	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Chandigarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Chhattisgarh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	181.33	180.51
Delhi	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Gujarat	1	9.95	0.00	4.97	50	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Goa, Daman and Diu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Himachal Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Haryana	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jharkhand	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Jammu and Kashmir	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Karnataka	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Kerala	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Lakshadweep	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Meghalaya	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Maharashtra	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	157.46
Manipur	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Madhya Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Mizoram	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Nagaland	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Orissa	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Punjab	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Sikkim	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tamil Nadu	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Tripura	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
Uttar Pradesh	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
West Bengal	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0.00
	1	9.95	0.00	4.97	50	0	0	0	181.33	358.55

Foreign Investment in Special Economic Zones

2896. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has held any discussion with foreign companies for investment in India's Special Economic Zones (SEZs);

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

(c) the details of investment made by the foreign investors during the current financial year, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Promotion of investment from domestic and foreign sources is one of the objectives of the Special Economic Zone Scheme. The salient features of the scheme are therefore projected at various fora/ investors as a possible area for investment.

(c) The foreign direct investment in the establishment of units in the Special Economic Zones during 2005-06 (April to September, 2005) was of the order of about Rs. 95 crores. The major sources of foreign investment include UK, Germany, Netherlands, UAE, and USA.

[Translation]

Model Act for Universities

2897. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposed to enact a model Act to gear up administration and management of Universities in the country so that they can face the challenges of 21st Century;

(b) whether the proposal has been put up for consideration before the educationists;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government are contemplating to bring an alternative Act?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No Sir, the Central Government does not intend imposing any 'model Act' on the autonomy of the university system.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[English]

Revival Package for SSI

2898. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Scale Industries sector has requested the Government to reduce the rate of interest and chalk out a revival package for the sector; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed to be extended to this sector to redress their grievances, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The banks have been advised by the Indian Banks' Association to lend to the small scale industries (SSI) sector at interest rates within a band of 2 per cent above and below their respective Prime Lending Rates (PLRs). Further, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has operationalised Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) Fund under which loans are provided to the SSI at a rate of interest 2 per cent below the SIDBI's prevailing PLR. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) also issued detailed guidelines to banks in January 2002 on detection of sickness at an early stage and taking remedial measures, and for rehabilitation of sick SSI units identified as potentially viable. These guidelines include, *inter alia*, change in the definition of sick SSI units, norms for deciding their viability, concessional finance, etc., with a view to helping the banks in detecting sickness at an early stage and taking corrective action for revival of the potentially viable sick SSI units. Further, in line with the 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' announced by the Central Government on 10th August 2005, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines on 8th September 2005 relating to debt restructuring mechanism to facilitate restructuring of debt of all eligible SMEs (including SSIs).

While the development of SSI is primarily the responsibility of the State/UT Governments, the Central Government supports and supplements the efforts of the State/UT Governments through implementation of various schemes/programmes/uniformly throughout the country for which allocation of funds is made scheme/programme-wise and not State-wise. The major schemes implemented by the Government relate to improving the flow of credit, infrastructure development, technology upgradation, marketing and entrepreneurial development.

Investment in NER

2899. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has framed any strategy for fresh investment in the North East for harnessing the human and natural resources of the region, under the 10th Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the extent of foreign direct investment secured in the region during the 10th plan so far, and the targets fixed for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Government has adopted a multi-pronged strategy which includes, *inter-alia*, among others earmarking of 10% Gross Budgetary Support (GBS) of all Central Ministries/ Departments (except those specifically exempted) for the North Eastern region, creation of a Non-Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR), formation of a separate Ministry for the North Eastern Region, revitalization of the North Eastern Council (NEC), preparation of Vision Document 2020 by NEC, formulation and review of the North East Industrial Policy-1997, implementation of projects in the North Eastern Region by the Central Ministries/Departments, and encouraging Externally Aided Projects in the North Eastern Region through International Agencies for mobilizing additional resources for the region.

(c) As stated by Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, based on the data maintained by the Guwahati Regional Office of the Reserve Bank of India, the North Eastern Region received Rs.417.43 million by way of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) during the 10th Plan period upto August, 2005. No targets are fixed for this purpose.

[Translation]

Zones

2900. SHRI TUKARAM GANPATRAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the name of States where the Export Processing Zones; Special Economic Zone; Foreign Trade zone and Agriculture Export Zone have been set up, State-wise and location-wise;

(b) the activities undertaken by these zones during the past three years;

(c) whether these zones are not functioning as per the target set for them;

(d) whether any survey has been done by the Government in this regard; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) an (b) All the Export Processing Zones have been converted into Special Economic Zones and there are no Export Processing Zones at present.

15 Special Economic Zones (SEZs) are in operation at present. These are at Kandla and Surat (Gujarat), Mumbai (Maharashtra) Cochin (Kerala), Noida (U.P.), 3 SEZs at Chennai and nearby (Tamil Nadu), Visakhpatnam (Andhra Pradesh), Indore (Madhya Pradesh), Jaipur and Jodhpur (Rajasthan), Fah, Manikanchan and Salt Lake Electronic City (West Bengal).

There are no Foreign Trade Zones.

State-wise and location-wise details of Agri Export Zones (AEZs) given in the enclosed statement.

The units in SEZs are engaged in exports and the export performance of Zones during the last three years is indicated below:

Year	Export (Rs. crores)
2002-2003	10,057
2003-2004	13,854
2004-2005	18,309

The AEZs were conceived to strengthen the supply chain for export of agri-products from farm to port. This is achieved through activities focusing of production of agri products so as to increase yield, productivity and improve quality, upgrade infrastructure in the supply chain and promote value addition through processing and packaging.

(c) to (e) Exports from SEZs during 2004-05 were Rs. 18,309 crores against the target of Rs. 17,326 crores. A peer evaluation of AEZs with a view to assess their performance is underway.

Statement

State	Area
1	2
West Bengal	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajipur, Cooch Behar, Howrah, Murshidabad, Malda, 24-Pargana (N) and 24 Pargana (S), Hooghly, Burdhwan, Midnapore (W), Uday Narayanpur, Nadia

1	2
Karnataka	Tumkur, Bangalore Urban, Bangalore Rural, Hassan, Kolar, Chitradurga, Dharwad and Bagalkot, Kodagu and Belgaum, Dakshin Kannada, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Shimoga, Chickamagalur
Uttaranchal	Udham Singh Nagar, Dehradun, Nainital, Pantnagar, Uttarkashi, Haridwar, Chamoli, Pithoragarh,
Punjab	Fatehgarh Sahib, Patiala, Sangrur, Ludhiana, Ropar, Singhpura, Zirakpur, Patiala, satellite centres at Rampura Phul, Muktsar, Jullundur, Ludhiana and Gurdaspur, Amritsar, Kapurthala, Hoshiarpur & Nawanshahar
Uttar Pradesh	Agra, Hathras, Farrukhabad, Kannoj, Meerut, Baghpat, Aligarh, Janpad Badayun, Rampur, Firozabad, Lucknow, Unnao, Hardoi, Sitapur, Barabanki, Saharanpur, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnaur, Meerut, Bulandshahar, Jyotifulenagar, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Pilibhit, Rampur, Badaun, Bijnor, Moradabad, JB Phulenagar, Ghaziabad
Maharashtra	Nasik, Sangli, Sholapur, Satara, Ahmednagar, Rantagiri, Sindhudurg, Raigarh, Thane, Aurangabad, Beed, Jalna, Ahmednagar, Latur, Pune, kolhapur, Jalgaon, Osamanabad, Dhule, Nandurbar, Buldhana, Parbhani, Hindoli, Nanded, Wardha, Nagpur, Amravati
Andhra Pradesh	Chittor, Rangareddy, Medak, Mehboobnagar, Krishna, Karimnagar, Warangal, Ananthapur, Nalgonda, Guntur
Jammu and Kashmir	Srinagar, Baramula, Anantnag, Kupwara, Kathua, Pulwama Budgam, Doda, Poonch, Udhampur, Rajouri
Tripura	Kumarghat, Manu, Melaghar, Matabari and Kakraban Bocks
Madhya Pradesh	Malwa, Ujjain, Indore, Dewas, Dhar, Shajapur, Ratlam, Neemuch, Mandsaur, Khandwa, Guna, Rajgarh, Sehore, Vidisha, Raisen, Hoshangabad, Harda, Narsinghpur, Bhopal, Shivpuri, Chhindwara, Jpsjamgabad, Betul
Tamil Nadu	Dharmapuri, Madurai, Nilgiri, Theni, Dindigual, Virudhunagar, Tirunelveli, Cuddalore, Thanjavur, Pudukottai and Sivaganga
Bihar	Muzaffarpur, Samastipur, Hajipur, Vaishali, East and West Champaran, Bhagalpur, Begu Sarai, Khagaria, Sitamarhi, Saran and Gopalganj
Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Khaida, Anand, Vadodara, Surat, Navsari, Valsad, Bharuch, Narmada Bhavnagar, Surendranagar, Rajkot, Junagadh, Jamnagar, Amreli
Sikkim	North, East, South & West Sikkim
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla, Sirmaur, Kullu, Mandi, Chamba and Kinnaur
Orissa	Kandhamal
Jharkhand	Ranchi, Hazaribagh and Lohardaga
Kerala	Thrissur, Ernakulam, Kottayam, Alapuzha, Pathanamthitta, Kollam, Thiruvananthapuram, Idukki and Pallakad, Wayanad, Mallapuram
Assam	Kamrup, Nalbari, Barpeta, Darrang, Nagaon, Morigaon, Karbi Anglong, North Cachar
Rajasthan	Kota, Bundi, Baran, Jhalawar, Chittor, Nagaur, Barmer, Jalore, Pali, Jodhpur

Construction of Over-Bridge on Badarpur Border

2901. SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the time taken/likely to be consumed in proposed over-bridge on Badarpur Border as the approval had been given in April, 2005 for its construction;

(b) whether the Government has made any financial agreement with any private company;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of the cost for its construction;

(e) whether this cost will be recovered by taking Toll Tax from the vehicles passing through this bridge and the details about its time-limit;

(f) whether the tender will be of global level;

(g) if so, whether any International Company is likely to participate in it; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The construction of over-bridge on Badarpur Border on National Highway No. 2 is likely to take 3 years and six months from the date of award on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis;

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The estimated cost of construction of this over-bridge is Rs. 270.00 crores.

(e) Yes, Sir. The concessionaire would recover the cost by levying user fee. The proposed concession period would be 20 years including the period of construction.

(f) to (h) Tenders will be invited on international competitive bidding process.

[English]

Introduction of Passenger Ferry Service from Chennai

2902. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal to introduce passenger ferry service from Chennai to other important ports in Tamil Nadu and other Southern States is under consideration of the Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

N.M.C.M.E.

2903. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Monitoring Committee for Minority Education has recommended that districts with 10% or above educationally backward minorities may be identified all over the country for establishing schools in order to provide uniformity of standardization and equality;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the committee has suggested for appointment of Urdu teachers in KVS, NVS and other schools in the areas inhabited by 8-9% Urdu speaking people;

(d) if so, whether the Government propose to open regional centers of the council for promotion of Urdu in Mumbai, Lucknow, Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the steps taken or being taken by the Government on the recommendations of the NMCME?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Standing Committee of

the National Monitoring Committee has recommended that districts with 10% or above educationally backward minorities may be identified all over the country for establishing Madrasa schools on the lines of Central Schools.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) There is a regional centre of the National Council for the Promotion of Urdu Language at Hyderabad. No proposal for establishment of new centres is under consideration at present.

(f) Before implementation the recommendations require detailed examination in consultation with all concerned.

Decrease in Budget Estimate

2904. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the decrease in Budget Estimate 2005-06 of the Ministry as compared to Budget Estimate 2004-05;

(b) whether the large scale unutilised amount and the subsequent surrender of amount are due/to the unrealistic assessment of the various ongoing projects/ schemes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government proposes to spend Rs. 1989.62 crores provided for Urban Renewal Sub-Mission for slum development during the year 2005-06 itself when the scheme has not been approved/or likely approved by the Cabinet and its guidelines are still under finalisation; and

(e) if so, the strategies evolved for optimum utilisation of resources and getting more resources to finance schemes for employment and poverty alleviation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) The decrease in Budget Estimates 2005-06 of the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation was primarily due to the following reasons:

(i) During the year 2004-05 an amount of Rs. 225 crore was allocated as equity contribution to Housing Urban Development Corporation. As Housing Urban Development Corporation was conferred 'Mini-Ratna' status in August 2004, no budgetary support for equity contribution to Housing Urban Development Corporation was provided in the budget of 2005-06.

(ii) During 2004-05, a sum of Rs. 75 crore was earmarked for slum improvement in Dharavi. On rationalization/review of plan schemes, this scheme was discontinued and no provision for this scheme was made for the year 2005-06.

(iii) The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers having a provision of Rs. 20.00 crore in 2004-05 but no provision was made for this scheme in the budget estimates for 2005-06.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, in view of (a) above.

(d) and (e) The Jawahar Lal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) has been launched recently on 3rd December 2005 and the guidelines for the Sub-Mission on Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) under the Mission have also been finalized and approved by the Government.

Strategies that have been evolved for optimum utilisation of available resources, including leverage to more resources, *inter alia* include Intergrated development of slums through projects on shelter and basic services to the urban poor; financing land component for requisition of private land for projects in the North-Eastern Region (NER) and hilly States; National Steering Group at Minister level to steer the Mission; Dedicated directorate in the Ministry for implementation in Mission mode; State Level Steering Committee under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister/State Minister for UD/Housing and concerned Secretary (UD)/LSG/MA as Member-Secretary to decide and prioritise the projects for inclusion in the Mission; and Technical Advisory Group at Ministry level as an interface between Central and State level Committees; preparation of City Development Plans (CDP) and Detailed Project Reports (DPR) as pre-requisites for funding of projects under the Mission, etc.

Installation of Speed Camera in Traffic Police

2905. SHRI NAVEEN JINDAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether staff crunch is a big problem with traffic police in Delhi;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether there is any need to invest in modern technologies like speed cameras interceptors, etc.;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the amount to be spent on such modern gadgets during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (e) Strengthening and modernisation of the Traffic Unit of Delhi Police is a continuing process. The steps taken by the Government to strengthen the Traffic Unit and modernise traffic system in Delhi include creation of additional 1255 posts of various ranks in 1999 for fixed point duty at 478 traffic intersections which were hitherto unmanned and 62 newly created Traffic Zones for better regulation and monitoring of traffic movement on open stretches of roads. Several modern equipments have been installed such as Area Traffic Control System at important traffic points to reduce journey time and number of accidents; introduction of Digital Reverse Count-down meters on signals; solarization of traffic signals; conversion of traffic signals into light-emitting diode (LED) reflective signals for improving the visibility of signal reflector from a distance; procurement of red-light and speed cameras; synchronization of traffic signals; development of Traffic Web-Site; introduction of SMS Traffic Information Dissemination System; procurement of Alcometers for checking drunken driving; and installation Cheque Depository Machine.

During 2005-2006, an outlay of Rs. 5.50 crore is earmarked for procurement of red light and speed violation check camera systems, speed radar guns with vehicle picture display facility, mobile traffic law enforcement/ education unit (interceptors), installation of high resolution traffic monitoring cameras, and area traffic control system.

Edusat

2906. SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of engineering colleges are going to be networked soon with Anna University through Edusat;

(b) if so, the details of the benefits likely to be achieved through networking;

(c) whether Anna University has also proposed to open employment placement centres in Mumbai and other parts of the country for the benefit of the students; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the placement centres are likely to be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the National Core Group on Edusat, a Hub is likely to be provided in Anna University, which is a State University of Tamil Nadu, with the studio of the University as the teaching-end for the state network. The network is for different educational purpose including technical education. One important input would be in the form of making available lectures by well-recognized experts for students and teachers of different educational institutions in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(c) and (b) According to the information furnished by the Anna University, Chennai, the University may set up liaison centres in Mumbai to coordinate with core manufacturing Industries in the northern and western regions of the country to explore the possibilities for the employment opportunities to Engineering Graduates and to identify the projects for students of UG/PG Level.

[Translation]

Grants to Centrally Sponsored Schemes

2907. SHRI SURESH CHANDEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the amount provided to State Governments particularly Himachal Pradesh under various schemes of the Human Resource Development during each of the last five years, State-wise, year-wise and scheme-wise;

(b) whether the amount was utilized by the State Governments for the purpose for which it was provided;

(c) if so, the extent thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Grants to Self-Financing Colleges

2908. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission proposes to give grant to self-financing colleges also; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the norms/ criteria fixed for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

AICTE and NCTE

2909. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has revised norms for seeking affiliation to AICTE and NCTE by educational institute;

(b) if so, the details and status thereof; and

(c) the extent to which the standard of technical and higher education will improve thereby in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The AICTE has revised its norms for granting approval for establishment of new technical institutes from 2006-07. The norms have been made more realistic in order to achieve further improvement in technical education. Some of the changes introduced are reduction in land requirements for certain categories of institutions/cities, increase in the requirement of built up area, relaxation in faculty cadre ratio, 'No Objection' from State Government not required etc. The details of the revised norms are available on AICTE website www.acite.emet.in

The norms and standards of the NCTE for grant of recognition to institutions for starting/conducting various teachers education courses have not yet been revised.

Contracts Awarded under Golden Quadrilateral Project

2910. MAJ. GEN. B.C. KHANDURI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state the number of contracts awarded between May, 2004 and 30th November, 2005 giving length, cost of each contract (civil works) and completion date, contract-wise and month-wise under the Golden Quadrilateral Highway Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): The following contracts pertaining to Golden Quadrilateral project have been awarded during the period between May, 2004 and 30th November, 2005.

Contract Package	NH No.	Length (in km)	Estimated Cost (Rs. Crore)	Month of Award of Work	target month of Completion
Allahabad bypass Contract II Uttar Pradesh	2	38.987	446.99	June, 2004	June, 2007
Allahabad bypass Contract III Uttar Pradesh	2	44.708	505.27	November, 2004	May, 2007

Construction of National Highways

2911. SHRI P. RAJENDRAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the four laning and six laning roads constructed in various States during the last three years and the current year indicating the length of roads, year-wise and State-wise; and

(b) the amount spent in this regard, during the said period project-wise, year-wise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways. The four/six lane National Highway sections constructed in various states during the last three years and the current year indicating their length, year-wise and state-wise is enclosed as Statement-I.

(b) The details of State-wise and Year-wise expenditure in this regard on National Highways Development Project (NHDP) are as per the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

State-wise length 4/6 lane completed in the last 3 years

(All length in km)

State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-2006 (upto Nov., 05)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	113.66	305.41	495.74	38.79
Assam	—	8.00	10.50	—
Bihar	0.00	12.00	92.00	72.34
Goa	—	—	13.00	—
Gujarat	116.20	168.10	105.79	29.21
Haryana	2.70	0.00	2.00	0.00
Jharkhand	—	—	66.30	42.87
Karnataka	5.80	96.92	227.52	86.03
Kerala	—	—	16.60	—
Madhya Pradesh	9.00	—	16.80	17.00
Maharashtra	27.00	157.20	137.53	51.45
Orissa	27.80	92.16	87.09	27.85
Punjab	—	—	36.00	—
Rajasthan	6.00	318.10	245.46	—

1	2	3	4	5
Tamil Nadu	45.20	120.40	288.26	15.31
Uttar Pradesh	64.50	15.35	291.00	94.76
West Bengal	—	58.00	254.71	39.95
Total	417.86	1351.64	2386.30	515.56

Statement II

Construction of National Highways

(Rupees in crores)

Sl.No.	State	Status of actual expenditure on NHDP			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-2006 (upto Nov., 05)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1437.41	1347.25	790.16	160.30
2.	Assam	41.97	35.45	15.82	9.11
3.	Bihar	174.25	196.35	351.90	294.43
4.	Goa	6.00	17.98	0	25.52
5.	Gujarat	466.41	555.26	305.76	366.48
6.	Haryana	78.68	44.95	112.39	53.03
7.	Jharkhand	107.19	124.32	169.66	138.57
8.	Karnataka	598.70	959.12	586.17	278.53
9.	Kerala	30.27	18.91	31.45	7.94
10.	Madhya Pradesh	61.97	34.42	7.58	32.61
11.	Maharashtra	412.48	546.04	356.34	97.11
12.	Orissa	359.05	319.31	296.82	221.62
13.	Punjab	37.72	21.82	12.54	4.23
14.	Rajasthan	502.38	1089.57	522.27	115.82
15.	Tamil Nadu	396.52	535.01	745.64	289.73
16.	Uttar Pradesh	664.62	810.38	890.81	663.23
17.	West Bengal	613.06	757.11	990.77	404.24
	Total	5988.66	7413.25	6186.08	3162.50

Testing Facilities

2912. SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of testing facilities available for testing raw materials, semi-finished products and finished products with Regional Testing Centre (RTC) Chennai; and

(b) the performance of this RTC during the last three years and Central assistance given to this testing centre during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Regional Testing Centre (RTC), Chennai has facilities for:

(i) testing of ferrous and non-ferrous materials (like iron, steel, copper, brass, aluminium, etc.,), construction materials (like cement, lime, paints, etc.), chemicals and chemical products, domestic electrical appliances and accessories;

(ii) non-destructive testing of welded joints, forgings, castings and machined components; and

(iii) calibration of mechanical, electrical, volumetric, thermal and weight measuring instruments.

(b) The performance of this RTC during the last three years is given in the following table:

Years	Revenue earned (Rs. in lakh)	Job tested (Nos.)	Tests performed (Nos.)	Central assistance for modernisation (Rs. in lakh)
2005-06 (upto Nov., 05)	29.17	2415	10151	13.21
2004-05	35.60	2535	10880	7.16
2003-04	39.16	3235	12494	13.21
2002-03	29.00	3031	12688	47.09

Representation for a Separate State

2913. SHRI HITEN BARMAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a delegation of Greater Cooch Behar Peoples' Organisation had met officials of Home Ministry and handed over a representation for a separate State;

(b) if so, the details of the representation alongwith their demands;

(c) the stand of the Union Government on that representation;

(d) whether the Union Government has any plan to send Central Team there; and

(e) if so, the reasons for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) A two-member delegation of Greater Cooch Behar People's Association had met officials of Home Ministry on 5.10.2005 and handed over a representation demanding for an inquiry by the CBI or by a Commission headed by a retired Judge of the Supreme Court into the law and order incidents that occurred on 20.9.2005 in Cooch Behar.

(c) As 'Police' and 'Public Order' are State Subjects, the representation was sent to the Government of West Bengal for appropriate action.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise in view of reply to (d) above.

[Translation]

Funds for Security Arrangement in Jails

2914. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) total amount provided by Twelfth Finance Commission to various States including Madhya Pradesh for buffing up security arrangement in State jails, State-wise;

(b) whether some State Governments particularly Madhya Pradesh has sent any proposal for reimbursement of the amount of jail-security to the Union Government;

(c) if so, the amount sanctioned for the aforesaid purpose alongwith the total amount released so far, State-wise; and

(d) the amount yet to be released and the time by with the amount is likely to be sanctioned and released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) the Twelfth Finance Commission had not recommended grants to any State for security arrangements in the jails of any State.

(b) There is no scheme of Government of India for reimbursing to State Governments expenditure related to jails security. No proposal has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh or any other State for reimbursement of the expenditure on jails security.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Completion of 9th Plan Project in NEC

2915. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the final locational survey including sub soil investigation in respect of bridges over Lohit and Khabolu river on the NLKB inter-State connecting road in Assam as sanctioned by NEC during 9th plan is completed;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the projects strengthening of the connecting NLKB road approaching Lohit and Khabolu river as well as strengthening of the Lakhimpur College of Veterinary Science is under consideration of NEC along with construction of bridges over Lohit and Khabolu river;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the time by which such plans are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The locational survey including sub soil investigation in respect of Bridges over Lohit and Khabolu river on the NLKB inter-State road in Assam have been completed. Construction of the bridge was found feasible and the cost of the bridge was estimated at Rs. 216.72 crores.

(c) to (e) As NEC has not completed examination of these proposals, no time frame can be indicated at this stage.

[Translation]

Foxwagon Car Company

2916. SHRI J.M. AARON RASHID:
SHRI RASHEED MASOOD:
DR. RAJESH MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Foxwagon has changed its plan to set up plant in India as reported in the 'Navbharat Times' dated July 18, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts and matters reported therein;

(c) whether this company was allowed to set up plant in India without verifying the authenticity of this company; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the officers responsible for according permission for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) M/s Volkswagen AG, Germany had been interacting with the Government of Andhra Pradesh on their plan to set up a manufacturing facility in India. In January 2005, the company conveyed to the State Government their decision to set up the project at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. On 25th July 2005, Chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen

AG addressed a letter to the State Government expressing the company's strong interest in entering the Indian market. Recently, in November 2005, a delegation from the company visited Andhra Pradesh to study alternate locations.

New Delhi Municipal Corporation

2917. SHRI GIRIDHARI YADAV:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chairman and Secretary of New Delhi Municipal Corporation have neither replied the letters nor sent any acknowledgement of the letters received from the Members of Parliament and honorable Ministers;

(b) if so, the number of letters received by NDMC during the last three years;

(c) the reasons for not acknowledging the letters; and

(d) the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) New Delhi Municipal Council has informed that all letters received from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament and Hon'ble Ministers are acknowledged and necessary action is taken on the matters referred therein and suitable replies are given.

(b) New Delhi Municipal Council received around 1376 letters during the last three years from the Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Hon'ble Ministers and their offices.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[English]

Migrant Population

2918. SHRIMATI MANORAMA MADHAVARAJ:
SHRI NIKHIL KUMAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that out of the total population in the country 30 percent population is migrant as reported in 'The Hindu' dated November 11, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any effective steps to check and stop the flow of migrant population; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Of the total of 307.1 million migrants by place of birth, 181.7 are intra-district migrants, 76.8 million inter-district and 42.3 million inter-state migrants. 6.1 million migrants are from abroad.

Both the intra-state and inter-state migrations are mainly on account of reasons of marriage and work/ employment. As every citizen has a fundamental right under Article 19 of the Constitution to move freely and reside and settle in any part of the country, no steps have been taken to check inter-state migration and restrict this right.

Promotion of Professional Policy Partnership

2919. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to promote a professional policing partnership between the U.K. Police and the Indian Police Service; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) Talks have been held with UK for exchanging information and also for training of Indian Police personnel. The Government is availing of training courses for Indian police personnel offered by UK Government from time to time organized in India and U.K. so as to enhance the skill of Police personnel.

Gross Domestic Product

2920. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether West Bengal has emerged as a fast developing State as reported in 'Navbharat Times' dated 12th October, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the service industry in that State has recorded 25% increase as per the survey conducted by ASSOCHAM; and

(d) if so, the details of other factors that would contribute to coverage State emerge as a fast developing State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The "Nav Bharat Times" of 12th October, 2005, a Hindi Daily published a news item (in Hindi) titled "Pashchim Bengal Sabse tej Vikas Karne wale Rajyon mein" "(*i.e.* West Bengal among the best performing States), quoting a survey conducted by ASSOCHAM ECO PULSE. The gist of the news-item is as follows:

> "Whether you call it the influence of foreign investment or the miracle of liberal ideology of Shri Budhadev Bhattacharya, West Bengal during the last three years has entered the category of the fast developing States. During 2001-02 to 2003-04, by registering 15% growth in GSDP, it has become the third most developing State. Service sector of West Bengal showed a spectacular growth of 25%, as a result of which its GDP made a record. After 2001-02, it became the third most developing State preceded by Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. Within services sector, Insurance & Banking registered the maximum growth (56%), followed by real estates and financial services. World class companies like Infosys is now eager to set up software business in West Bengal. The service sector of West Bengal is beating the growth rate of Gujarat and Maharashtra. During 1991 to 2002, FDI approval for West Bengal stood at Rs. 8802 crore."

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Service sector industry of West Bengal grew by 25.9 percent as per the ASSOCHAM Survey. The factors contributing to the emergence of West Bengal as a fast developing State, *inter alia*, are the growth of its banking & insurance services by 56 percent; finance, real estate and other business services by 43 percent; industry-friendly business environment and improved image and initiative taken to attract investment including FDI.

Agreement between India and U.K. in Education Sector

2921. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UK Prime Minister during his recent visit to New Delhi announced an education initiative for which the UK Government had committed 10 million and added that he expected further involvement of private sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of Government and private sector involvement expected therein; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The UK Prime Minister has announced a £ 10 million fund over the next 5 years with an expectation of support from the Business Community. The scheme, known as the UK/India Education Initiative, will support scholarships, provide awards for docatoral research, and encourage collaboration between centers of excellence in science and technology. The Initiative is in formulation state.

(c) The UK Government has earmarked a £ 10 million package in this regard. It is expected that there will be additional contributions from the business community.

(d) The Government expects to work closely with the UK/India Education Initiative.

Grants and Performance of Universities

2922. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission (UGC) has sought feedback from VCs of all Universities in the country on several key financial trends;

(b) if so, whether the Government has urged all the VCs to evaluate the financial position of their respective Universities upto 2010;

(c) if so, whether the UGC has decided to link a part of grants with the performance of Universities;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the content of the letter sent to all VCs;

(e) whether any timeframe has been fixed for the feedback from all Universities in the country; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC in the beginning of every plan period seeks information from the Universities for their financial requirement for the ensuring plan. No such information has been sought for the 11th Five Year Plan period.

(c) to (f) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC in the beginning of 10th plan has informed the Universities that a part of the plan grant will be linked with the performance of the universities.

Director-General of Services and Development

2923. SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Director General of Services an Development is undertaking registration of suppliers to procure goods required for Government use as per the new General Financial Rules, 2005;

(b) if so, whether DGS&D does not have any supplier of branded computer stationery, photocopier paper, duplicating, typing paper and note-sheet pad; and

(c) if so, the manner by which the DGS&D ensure the credentials, manufacturing capability, quality control systems and financial background of the suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Directorate General of Supplies and Disposals (DGS&D) undertakes registration of suppliers for procurement of goods commonly required for Government use as per the provisions of the General Financial Rules (GFRs).

(b) Computer stationery, Photocopier paper, duplicating and typing paper are reserved for procurement exclusively from SSI Sector. DGS&D does not have rate contract for note sheet pads. Further, under the single point registration scheme, NSIC also registers suppliers who are given parity with DGS&D registered suppliers. The suppliers may have their own brands.

(c) The credentials, manufacturing capability, quality control systems and financial background of the suppliers are verified by the DGS&D through visits of officers to the supplier's works and on the basis of scrutiny of documents in accordance with the norms and the drills prescribed in DGS&D Manual, at the time of registration of suppliers.

National Housing Policy

2924. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the revamped version of the National Housing Policy will be presented in Chief Ministers Conference;

(b) if so, whether this policy is likely to be implemented alongwith national roll-out of National Urban Renewal Mission that is focused on an orderly development of towns and cities in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether National Urban Renewal Mission would provide over Rs. 5500 crores in the first year itself to meet gaps in housing and urban infrastructure which will be further stepped up to Rs. 10000 crore a year;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether new policy is likely to recommend various and building related reforms such as amendments to the Rent Control Act; and

(g) if so, the time by which it is likely to be finally approved and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) A new National Housing and Habitat policy is not yet finalized.

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

[Translation]

Pending Proposals of Maharashtra with HUDCO

2925. SHRI DEVIDAS PINGLE: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the projects of Maharashtra Government lying pending with Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited for loan/financial assistance;

(b) the estimated cost of these projects;

(c) the details of the cities/towns to be developed through these projects; and

(d) the time by which the pending projects are likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) HUDCO has received 11 proposals for water supply schemes and 1 proposal under Integrated Low Cost Sanitation Scheme (ILCS) from various Municipal Councils of Maharashtra for loan assistance. Details of the proposals are at Annexure-A.

(b) The estimated cost of these projects is Rs. 32365.99 lacs.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(d) The projects will be sanctioned as per HUDCO guidelines and on submission of pending utilization certificates by Concerned State Government/local agency.

Statement

Urban Infrastructure Scheme in Pipelines at HUDCO (Regional Office and Head Office)

State: Maharashtra

(Amount: Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	Scheme name and agency	Project cost	Loan amount
1	2	3	4
1.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Dharangaon M.C.	1406.00	180.00
2.	Improvement of Water Supply at Katol M.C.	464.00	185.00
3.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Deolali M.C.	1760.00	436.00
4.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Ambejogain M.C.	5962.00	967.00
5.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Chiplun M.C.	832.00	354.00
6.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Ausa M.C.	437.00	180.00
7.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Parli M.C.	2697.00	1310.00
8.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Ashta M.C.	581.00	192.00
9.	Improvement of Water Supply at Chandrapur M.C.	1500.00	1453.00
10.	Water Supply Scheme by Lature M.C.	12946.00	1777.00

1	2	3	4
11.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Sangmner M.C.	3226.00	499.00
12.	Proposal Under ILCS for Construction of 10385 EWS/LIG/MIG Latrines for the Towns Mahabeleshwar, Gangapur, Shendurjana, Satana, Kuttabad, Amravati, Indapur, Dhanu and Wai.	554.99	194.38
	Total	32365.99	7727.38

[English]

Implementation of ICDS

2926. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of targets fixed and achievements made under the Integrated Child Development Schemes in the country particularly in Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(b) whether the targets fixed have been achieved;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken/to be taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) State-wise number of ICDS projects sanctioned, targeted for operationalisation and made operational during the last three years is given in the statement enclosed.

(c) ICDS is a Centrally sponsored Scheme implemented through State Governments. Main reasons for shortfall in operationalisation of sanctioned Projects, as informed by the State Governments, relate to personnel management, inadequate infrastructure for training of functionaries and other administrative issue involved in the matter.

(d) The concerned State Governments have been requested, from time to time, to resolve these issues and operationalise all the sanctioned Projects and Anganwadi Centres at the earliest. As a result, there has been considerable progress in the last one year or so as is evident from the details given in the Statement referred to above.

Statement

Implementation of ICDS by Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat

Sl.No.	State/UT	2003-04 No. of ICDS Projects			2004-05 No. of ICDS Projects			2005-06 No. of ICDS Projects		
		Sanctioned	Targetted for operationalisation	Operational	Sanctioned	Targetted for operationalisation	Operational	Sanctioned (as on 31.7.2005)	Targetted for operationa-lisation	Operational (as on 31.7.2005)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	Andhra Pradesh	363	354	351	363	363	351	363	363	360
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	58	56	57	58	58	58	58	58	58
3.	Assam	196	165	195	196	196	195	196	196	195

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
4.	Bihar	394	239	183	394	394	249	394	394	390
5.	Chhattisgarh	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152	152
6.	Goa	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
7.	Gujarat	227	227	227	227	227	227	227	227	227
8.	Haryana	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	116	116
9.	Himachal Pradesh	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	121	120	120	140	121	121	140	121	121
11.	Jharkhand	204	168	152	204	204	152	204	204	204
12.	Karnataka	185	185	185	185	185	185	185	185	185
13.	Kerala	163	163	163	163	163	163	163	163	163
14.	Madhya Pradesh	336	336	336	336	336	336	336	336	336
15.	Maharashtra	370	365	368	372	372	372	372	372	372
16.	Manipur	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
17.	Meghalaya	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
18.	Mizoram	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
19.	Nagaland	54	53	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
20.	Orissa	326	314	326	326	326	326	326	326	326
21.	Punjab	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	142	142
22.	Rajasthan	257	257	257	257	257	257	257	257	257
23.	Sikkim	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
24.	Tamil Nadu	434	432	434	434	434	434	434	434	434
25.	Tripura	40	40	39	40	40	39	40	40	39
26.	Uttar Pradesh	836	614	742	834	834	819	834	834	827
27.	Uttaranchal	99	68	96	99	99	99	99	99	99
28.	West Bengal	358	346	352	358	358	355	358	358	355
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
30.	Chandigarh	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
31.	Delhi	29	28	28	29	29	28	29	29	28
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
33.	Daman and Diu	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
34.	Lakshadweep	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
35.	Pondicherry	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
	All India	5652	5132	5267	5671	5652	5422	5671	5652	5632

Earthquake Victims in J&K

2927. SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of sources, including foreign countries, from which the Government has received grants/assistance to provide relief to the earthquake victims in J&K;

(b) the nature of grant/assistance received so far;

(c) whether the assistance/grant have fully been utilized; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The Information is being collected from the Government of Jammu & Kashmir and Ministry of Finance and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Project of National Waterways Development Council

2928. SHRI SUKDEO PASWAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to look into the project of "National Waterways Development Council" in view of the present situation of the natural calamity like flood, drought in various States of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government also proposes to implement the "National Waterways Project";

(d) if so, whether the Government proposes to implement the "National Waterways Project" to make transporting system cheap and economical; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) There is no such project under consideration of the Government.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e) There are already three national waterways in the country namely (i) the Ganga-Bhagirathi-Hooghly river system between Haldia and Allahabad, (ii) Sadiya-Dhubri stretch of Brahmaputra, and (iii) Kollam-Kottapuram stretch of West Coast Canal along with Champakara and Udyogmandal Canals. These national waterways are being developed in a phased manner for cost effective transportation. Further action has already been initiated for declaration of three new waterways namely Kakinada-Pondicherry Canals along with Rivers Godavari and Krishna; East Coast Canal along with Brahmani and Mahanadi Delta, and River Barak as National Waterways.

[Translation]

Promotion of Hindi Language

2929. SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI RAKESH SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to promote the use of Hindi Language in the official work;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Department of Official Language is developing a software on Devnagri Script for computers;

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to popular this software?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Information in this regard is given in enclosed Statement.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

(e) Question does not arise.

Statement

Programme to promote the use of Hindi Language in the official work

(1) Department of Official Language arranges training for Central Government Employees in Hindi language, Hindi Stenography, Hindi typing and translation from English to Hindi.

(2) To organize meetings of various committees and workshops, symposium in connection with official language.

(3) Publication and distribution of different types of publications and publicity material relating to official language.

(4) Ensure implementation of Annual Programme.

(5) Monitoring the use of Hindi in Central Government offices through quarterly reports.

(6) Implementation of various incentive/award schemes.

Extradition of Fugitive

2930. SHRI MOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered under TADA against Shri Abu Salem; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to expedite the disposal of cases pending against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) As per available information, there are three cases registered against Abu Salem under TADA.

(b) Abu Salem, who had been absconding since 1993, was arrested in Lisbon, Portugal on 18.9.2002.The Government has been able to get him recently extradited to India.

[English]

Beef Industry

2931. DR. M. JAGANNATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has recently allowed multinationals to set up beef industry in the country;

(b) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard;

(c) if so, the response of the State Governments thereto; and

(d) the details of the average annual income that is likely to be derived from these industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No financial collaboration has been approved for the beef industry by the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion. Only one technical collaboration case has been registered.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Atrocities against Women

2932. SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:

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

(a) whether the Government has any system to investigate the excesses being committed against women in every walk of life;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government proposes to organize a conference of the concerned Ministries in the States;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the conference is likely to be organised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has enacted a number of special legislations, besides the provisions in the Indian Penal Code, to protect women from exploitation and atrocities. These include: Dowry Prohibition Act, Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, and Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act.

The Government has also constituted an apex level statutory body called the 'National Commission for Women (NCW' with a mandate, *inter-alia*, to investigate and examine the legal safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws and to recommend to Government measures for their effective implementation. In terms of its mandate, the NCW undertakes investigation into cases of atrocities on women and takes up the matter with the appropriate authorities. Most of the State Governments have also constituted state level women commissions with similar functions and mandate.

(c) No proposal to hold such a conference is under the consideration of the Government.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

[English]

Children with Special Needs under S.S.A.

2933. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH "LALAN":
DR. CHINTA MOHAN:
SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH:
SHRIMATI NIVEDITA MANE:
SHRI EKNATH MAHADEO GAIKWAD:

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

(a) whether any criteria has been fixed for selecting children with special needs (CWSN) under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan as reported in 'The Times of India' dated November 18, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the fund allocated for the programme as on date, State-wise;

(d) the States where this programme has not been attracting adequate response; and

(e) the measures proposed to be taken in such States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The SSA guidelines specify that every child with special needs in the 6-14 age group, irrespective of the degree, kind of category of disability, is provided education in an appropriate environment.

(c) The Budget for Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in 2005-06 is Rs. 7156.00 crores.

(d) All States and Union Territories are participating in the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme.

(e) Question does not arise.

National Education and Assessment Council

2934. SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the aims and objectives of the National Education and Assessment Council;

(b) the names of its existing members; and

(c) the manner of funding thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) There is no Council by the name of National Education and Assessment Council.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Rehabilitation of Retired PMF Personnel

2935. SHRI RAGHURAJ SINGH SHAKYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the Government policy regarding rehabilitation of retired personnel of para-military forces;

(b) the number of para-military forces personnel eligible for rehabilitation under this policy as on date, force-wise; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Government for rehabilitation of PMF personnel during each of the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Rehabilitation is required for those personnel who retired at an early age. Normally the Central Police Force personnel retire on attaining the age of 57 to 60 years and they are entitled for pension and other retirement benefits as per CCS (Pension) Rules 1972. Hence, there is no rehabilitation requirement.

Irregularities in Private Schools

2936. SHRI SITA RAM YADAV:
SHRI BHUVANESHWAR PRASAD MEHTA:
SHRI Y.G. MAHAJAN:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether the Government has decided to constitute an Education Authority to check irregularities in the private schools;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by which the said authority is likely to start functioning alongwith its powers and jurisdiction; and

(d) whether the Government has formulated any policy for implementing uniform curriculum in private and Government educational institutions and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) There is no such proposal with the Ministry.

(d) Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) is already implementing uniform curriculum in all its affiliated schools, based on the National Curricular Framework (NCF). The NCERT has recently prepared the NCF-2005, which will form the basis for new syllabi for school education. States are expected to frame their curricula and syllabi keeping in view NCF-2005.

[English]

Infrastructural Facilities for Development of Waterways

2937. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government provides assistance to States to create infrastructural facilities for development of waterways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the routes in which operation has been started and the details of the routes likely to be completed in the current financial year; and

(d) the funds provided and utilized by various States for developing the waterways during each of the last three years, till date?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS), 100% grant to north-eastern states including Sikkim and 90% grant to the other states, is provided for survey/studies, waterway development, navigational aids, terminal facilities, supervision and consultancy for taking up and monitoring of these activities. The projects are to be implemented by the respective State Governments.

(c) and (d) Altogether 24 projects have been sanctioned under CSS. Details of these projects along with routes covered are given in the enclosed Statement-I. The details of funds released and utilized by various states during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement-II. No project has been completed so far by any state. As per the phasing of expenditure and time frame thereof indicated while sanctioning the projects, 18 projects are slated for completion by the end of the current financial year.

Statement I

Details of projects sanctioned under Centrally Sponsored Scheme and routes thereof

Sl.No.	State	Name of Project	Sanctioned Cost Rs. in lakhs	Year of Sanction	Route Covered	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1.	Assam	1. Terminal facilities at South bank of river Brahmaputra	351.68	2003-04	River B'putra around Guwahati	As per report on Nov.'05 received from state Govt.
		2. Terminal facilities at North bank or river Brahmaputra.	260.40	2003-04	River B'putra around Guwahati.	As per report of Nov.'05 received from state Govt.
		3. Development of 11 floating Jetties at major ghat on banks of river Brahmaputra.			Cross ferry routes across Brahmaputra	As per report of Nov.' 05 received from state Govt.
		Sub-Total	1032.48			—
2.	Bihar	1. DPR for river front development at Patna aimed at IWT base tourism.	25.00	2003-04	—	Project only DPR.
		2/ Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DPR for development of IWT facilities in river Gandak.	30.00	2003-04	—	Project only DPR.
		3. Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DPR for development of IWT facilities in river Kosi.	30.00	2003-04	—	Project only DPR.
		4. Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DPR for development of IWT facilities in river Sone.	30.00	2003-04	—	Project only DPR.
		Sub-Total	115.00			—
3.	Goa	1. Conducting fresh Hydrographic Survey in the Inland Waterways of Goa at Mapusa, Chapora and Sal rivers.	109.00	2005-06	—	Project is for survey work.
		Sub-Total	109.00			—
4.	Himachal Pradesh	1. Development of Inland water transport for transit facilities at Govind Sagar lake.	117.40	2004-05	Across Gobind Sagar lake.	—
		Sub-Total	117.40			—
5.	Karnataka	1. Techno-economic feasibility Study/Survey for development of IWT in Karnataka.	56.70	2003-04	— study.	As per report of Nov.'05 received from state Govt. Project is only for feasibility
		Sub-Total	56.70			—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6.	Kerala	1. Revival of Veli-Kovlam stretch of TS canal.	362.22	2004-05	Veli-Kovalam strech of TS canal.	—
		Sub-Total	362.22			
7.	Maharashtra	1. Project Proposal for development of IWT in Godawri river near Vishnupuri.	272.21	2003-04	Godavari river near Vishnupuri.	As per report of June.'05 received from state Govt.
		2. Project proposal on development of IWT from South Mumbai to Amba river/Dharmatar Creek & vice versa at Karanja.	481.54	2003-04	Amba river/ Dhramtar creek.	As per report of June.'05 received from state Govt.
		3. Project proposal on development of IWT from South Mumbai to Mandwa (Amba river Dharmatar Creek & vice versa at Mandwa.	410.95	2003-04	Amba river/ Dhramtar creek.	As per report of June'05 received from state Govt.
	Maharashtra	4. Project proposal on development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/ Mandad River (Rajpuri Creek) at Rajpuri.	469.45	2003-04	Mahalsa/Mandad river.	As per report of June.'05 received from state Govt.
		5. Project proposal for development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad river (Rajpuri Creek) near Janjira Fort in Maharashtra.	124.60	2003-04	Mhalsa/Mandad river.	As per report of June'05 received from state Govt.
		6. Development of Inland Waterways in Mhasla/Mandad River (Rajpuri Creek) at Dighi.	499.39	2004-05	Mhalsa/Mandad river.	As per report of June.'05 received from state Govt.
		Sub-Total	2258.14			
8.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Development of Intra reservoir transport in Indira sagar and Rani Awantibai sagar reservoirs in Madhya Pradesh	59.74	2004-05	Across Indira sagar and Rani Awantibai sagar reservoirs in MP.	—
		Sub-Total	59.74			—
9.	Orissa	1. Development of IWT sector in the state of Orissa for upgradation of existing facilities.	204.00	2003-04	Various routes around Chandbali and around Chilka.	As per report of Nov.'05 received from state Govt.
		2. Preparation of DPR on waterways development and future development of IWT sector in the state of Orissa.	10.30	2003-04	—	As per report of Nov.'05 received from state Govt. Project is for DPR.
		Sub-Total	214.70			—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Preparation of Detailed Project Report for introduction of IWT on river Gomti in Lucknow city from Gaughat Pumping station to Gomati Nagar Barrage	10.00	2005-06	—	Project is for feasibility study
		Sub-Total	10.00			—
11.	West Bengal	1. Construction of Gangway Pontoon type floating jeeties 53 nos. and R.C.C. Slipway jetty-4 nos on NW-1 between Tribeni and Farakka.	2261.50	2003-04	Across Bhagirathi Hooghly river between Tribani & Farrakka in W.B.	As per report of Oct.'06 received from state Govt.
		2. Construction of 4 Gangway Pontoon type jetties and 1 RCC jetty at Dakshineshwar, Sheoraluli, Manirampur, Santoshpur (AKRA) and Nandigram between Haldia and Triveni.	372.82	2004-05	Across Hooghly river between Haldia & Tribani in W.B.	As per report of Nov.'05 received from state Govt.
		3. Construction of 2 Gangway Cum Pontoon Jetties at Nebukhali and Dulduli on river Sahibkhali in Sundarban.	460.00	2004-05	Nebukhali to Dulduli on river Sahibkhali in Sundarban	As per report of Oct.'05 received from state Govt.
		Sub-Total	3094.32			
		Grand Total	7429.70			

Statement II

Details of funds released and utilized by various states under Centrally Sponsored Scheme

Figures in Rs. lakhs

Sl.No.	States	Funds released				Funds utilised			
		2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
1.	Assam	122.00	345	—	467.00	122.00	175.00	—	297.00
2.	Bihar	21.00	—	—	21.00	—	—	—	0.00
3.	Goa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	—	20.00	—	20.00	—	20.00	10.00	30.00
5.	Karnataka	11.34	39.69	—	51.03	—	42.84	-	42.84
6.	Kerala	—	65.3	—	65.30	—	—	—	0.00
7.	Maharashtra	336.19	472.72	—	808.91	—	118.07	39.12	157.19
8.	Madhya Pradesh	—	10.8	—	10.80	—	—	—	0.00
9.	Orissa	42.86	—	—	42.86	—	16.97	—	16.97
10.	Uttar Pradesh	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.00
11.	West Bengal	452	460.00	—	1012.00	—	224.25	253.82	478.07
	Grand Total	985.39	1598.24		2498.90	122.00	597.13	302.94	1022.07

[Translation]

Construction of Roads under NHDP

2938. SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the length of roads in Kms targeted for construction, widening of highways and converting them into four-lane during the first two phases of National Highways Development Project;

(b) whether the Asian Development Bank has held the wrong selection procedure of contractors responsible for delay in construction work under National Highway Development Project; and

(c) if so, the details of steps taken to remove the said shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) 13146 km of National Highways are targeted to be four-laned under the first two phases of National Highways Development Project.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Inferior Quality of Repairing on NH-29

2939. YOGI ADITYA NATH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the inferior quality of repair works carried out recently in Gorakhpur-Badhalganj on the Gorakhpur-Varanasi National Highway-29 in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the funds allocated by the Government to carry out repair works on the above National Highway; and

(c) the person or authority responsible for not carrying out the above works as per the norms and the time by which these works are likely to be carried out as per the norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) As per information received from Government of Uttar Pradesh repair works on National Highways including National Highway 29 are done as per Ministry's specification and norms.

(b) Allocation of fund for maintenance and repair are made state-wise and not National Highway-wise.

(c) Does not arise.

Export Data

2940. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exporters are furnishing wrong export data under foreign trade statistics to the Government;

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

(c) whether the Directorate-General or Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS) has made any list of such exporting companies;

(d) if so, the details thereof and outcome thereof; and

(e) the action taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Exporters do not always furnish correct codes in the Customs documents (Shipping bill) due to lack of awareness about ITC Harmonished System of Classification of Export and Import Items.

(c) and (d) Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics (DGCI&S) through its validation programme generates list of such errors and rectifies them before releasing trade statistics.

(e) All Export Promotion Councils/Commodity Boards in association with Directorate General of Foreign Trade and DGCI&S are organizing workshops on the subject of quality trade data and the exporters/importers are being sensitised through an outreach programme.

[English]

Extension to Mukherjee Commission

2941. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:
MS. INGRID MCLEOD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the date on which the Mukherjee Commission to inquire into the death of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose was set up;

(b) the total number of extensions given to the Commission and reasons for extensions in each case;

(c) whether the Commission visited any foreign country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and expenditure incurred on each visit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Mukherjee Commission was set up on 14th May, 1999.

(b) Nine extensions were given to enable the Commission to complete its inquiry and submit its report.

(c) and (d) The Commission visited U.K., Japan, Taiwan and Russian Federation and the expenditure incurred on each visit is as follows—

Country visited	Expenditure incurred
U.K.	Rs. 3,13,760
Japan	Rs. 4,39,635
Taiwan	Rs. 1,47,288
Russian Federation	Rs. 2,01,761

Tribal People in Andhra Pradesh

2942. DR. BABU RAO MEDIYAM: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that tribal people of 753 villages were kept outside the Fifth Schedule Area in nine districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has admitted a proposal to include 805 villages in the Scheduled Area in nine districts of Andhra Pradesh to make the tribal sub plan and Scheduled Area co-terminus. A statement showing number of villages proposed for inclusion in Scheduled Area of Andhra Pradesh is enclosed.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the District	No. of existing Scheduled Villages	No. of proposed Non-Scheduled Sub-Plan villages for inclusion in Fifth Schedule in Andhra Pradesh.
1.	Srikakulam	108	240
2.	Vizianagaram	298	183
3.	Visakhapatnam	3373	91
4.	East Godavari	559	40
5.	West Godavari	102	1
6.	Khammam	889	5
7.	Warangal	177	77
8.	Adilabad	412	164
9.	Mahboobnagar	23	4
	Total	5941	805

Interview of Children and Parents

2943. SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private schools conduct interview of children and their parents;

(b) if so, whether the same is permissible as per the Delhi Education Act and Rules;

(c) if not, the reasons for conducting such interviews;

(d) whether these schools demand donations for admissions; and

(e) if so, the measures taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that children get admission in schools of their choice without donations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the Government of the NCT of Delhi, under the provisions of rule 145(1) of Delhi School Education Rules (DSER), 1973, the power of granting admission to the children lies with the Head of School. The said rules provides that: "the head of every recognized unaided school shall regulate admissions to a recognized unaided school or to any class thereof either on the basis of admission test or on the basis of result in a particular class or school."

(d) and (e) Government of the NCT of Delhi has informed that as and when any complaint is received, the complaint is enquired and action is taken under the provisions of DSER, 1973 by it.

FDI In Tobacco Industry

2944. SHRI SUBODH MOHITE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow FDI in cigarette and Tobacco industry in the country;

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

(c) whether Multi National cigarette companies will not adversely affect the public health in the country; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) Manufacture of cigarettes requires an Industrial License under Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951. Under the extant policy, FDI in the manufacture of cigarettes and cigars requires prior Government approval.

Restructuring Package by NHAI

2945. SHRI MADHU GOUD YASKHI:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL:
SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN:
SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL:
SHRI K.C. PALANISAMY:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to restructure the National Highway Authority of India for better financial management and to empower it to take independent decisions in view of the long delay in clearing the projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government had set up any Committee/Board in this regard;

(d) if so, whether the said Board/Committee has submitted its reports to the Government;

(e) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(f) whether there is any proposal to provide online information regarding engineering-procurement-construction;

(g) if so, the details thereof;

(h) the projects undertaken by the NHAI in various parts of the country particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and current-year, State-wise; and

(i) the progress made by NHAI to inter-connect its offices with there contractors and toll booths across the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) An Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) has been constituted as per one of the decisions taken by Committee on Infrastructure headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister for restructuring of National Highways Authority of India so as to make it a multidisciplinary professional body. This IMC is considering various formats for restructuring NHAI and the report is yet to be finalised.

(f) and (g) All procurement processes are posted on NHAI's website.

(h) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

(i) NHAI offices are already connected by fax, phone and e-mail. It is proposed to further improve the connectivity by establishing a computer Wide Area Network (WAN) to inter connect all its field offices and toll plazas with the Head Quarters. The tenders have already been invited for the procurement of the whole system.

Statement

Details of Contracts Awarded under NHDP by NHAI

Month	2002 Length Awarded (km)	2003 Length Awarded (km)	2004 Length Awarded (km)	2005 Length Awarded (km) upto 30.11.2005
1	2	3	4	5
Assam			34	485.8
Andhra Pradesh	188.11			162.16
Bihar	30			433.09
Chhattisgarh				45
Gujarat		52		504.3
Haryana				10
Jammu and Kashmir	17.2	17.8		98.3
Karnataka	430.6			37
Maharashtra	172		14.35	448.2
Madhya Pradesh				182
Punjab				93
Rajasthan		90.38		649
Tamil Nadu	93		77.8	744.23
Uttar Pradesh	234.18	17.02	84.1	749.59
West Bengal	188.46			83
Kerala			10	40
Orissa			77	
Bihar/Jharkhand	80			
Delhi/Haryana	27.7			

1	2	3	4	5
Uttar Pradesh/MP				41
Uttar Pradesh/Bihar	76			
Punjab/Haryana				36
Punjab/Himachal				40
Total	1537.25	177.2	297.25	4881.67

[Translation]

Tribal Allowance in Naxal Affected Area

2946. SHRI D.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether tribal allowance is given by the Government in Naxal affected area of Nanded, Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Maharashtra Government give tribal allowance to all its State Government employees in naxal affected tribal areas of Nanded, Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of the proposal to give the allowance to Central Government Employees posted in these areas?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (c) In so far as the State Government of Maharashtra is concerned, they have formulated a scheme under which, their employees working in the Naxal affected and sensitive areas (as identified by the State Government) are given incentive Allowance at the rate of 15% of their basic pay with minimum and maximum limits of Rs. 200 and Rs. 1500 per month respectively. Accordingly all the State Government employees working in Kinwat Taluka a Naxal affected area of Nanded District are given Incentive Allowance.

(d) In so far as the Central Government employees are concerned, the Scheduled/Tribal Area Allowance is admissible at the prescribed rates subject to the condition that:

"This allowance shall cense to be admissible in those States where it has been discontinued for the State Government employees w.e.f. the date(s) of such discontinuance and shall be admissible at the revised rates only in those States where such allowance continues to be extended for the State Government employees".

[English]

Plantation Workers

2947. SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Plantation workers are facing crisis in the country;

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

(c) whether poverty, diseases, including epidemics, are thriving in many of the plantations in the country especially in the State of Kerala;

(d) whether AIDS have been detected in such areas; and

(e) it so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) It would not be correct to state that the plantation workers are facing crisis in the country. The conditions in some of the plantations like rubber and coffee have shown improvement in the recent months. In the case of tea also, there has been some improvement in the average auction prices recently. The prices of pepper have also shown some improvement after the announcement of the export subsidy scheme on

export of pepper. The vanilla prices have normalized to levels prevailing in 2001. The service conditions of the workers of the plantation industry are governed by the Plantations Labour Act and the workers are getting either negotiated wages or the minimum wages.

(c) to (e) Generally Plantation workers are getting certain minimum wages. Diseases, including epidemics and AIDS, may occur in the plantation areas as in any other part of the country. Under the Plantations Labour Act, certain medical facilities are extended by the management to the workers.

Scholarship to Students

2948. SHRI P. MOHAN:
SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI:

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

(a) whether the scheme of Scholarships announced by the Union Government or UGC meritorious student has not attracted much students;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether UGC propose to review the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there has been good response from the students for the two schemes, namely the Indira Gandhi Post Graduate Scholarship for single Girl Child and the Post Graduate Merit Scholarship for University Rank Holders.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Representation/Suggestion from National Commission for Women

2949. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of representation/suggestion received by the Government from National Commission for Women during each of the last three years; and

(b) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) The action taken report on the recommendations contained in the Annual Report 2002-03 of the Commission is being compiled from the information received/called for from the concerned Ministries/Departments for the purpose of laying the report before the Parliament. The recommendations pertain to the following areas:—

(i) Capacity building and welfare of soldiers' wives and war widows.

(ii) Technical empowerment of women in agriculture.

(iii) Education and literacy among girls living in slums.

(iv) Eradication of child marriage.

(v) Economic empowerment of women.

(vi) Participation of women in governance and decision-making.

(vii) Socio-economic and political empowerment of tribal women.

The commission has been requested to bring out the recommendations made separately in its Annual Report 2003-04 in order to facilitate their reference to the concerned Ministries/Departments for the compilation of the action taken report.

The Annual Report of the Commission for the year 2004-05 has yet to be received by the Government.

[English]

Traditional Industries

2950. SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI:
SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the scheme submitted by the Government of Kerala for revival of the traditional industries of the State; and

(b) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala has submitted a proposal seeking financial assistance for development of traditional industries of Kerala. This proposal seeks Central assistance of Rs. 17.64 crore for development of the coir industry in Kerala during 2004-2005. The item-wise details of this proposal are given below:

Sl.No.	Item	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1	Market Development Assistance for 2004-05.	400
2.	Modernisation and Technical Upgradation of Coir Societies.	644
3.	Revival of Spinning Coir Co-operative Societies.	135
4.	Pith Processing.	210
5.	One-time Assistance for De-fibering Units.	75
6.	Mahila Coir Yojana.	300
	Total	1764

In his Budget Speech 2004-05, the Finance Minister has announced the establishment of a Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries. The Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries of the Central Government has been assigned the nodal role in firming up the modalities of operationalising this Fund. The Central Government has approved a scheme titled the "Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries" (SFURTI) at a total cost of Rs. 97.25 crore. This Scheme is for development of a total of 100 clusters in the khadi, coir and village industries (including pottery) over five years beginning 2005-06. The Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries (ARI) its organizations/institutions, State Governments, their organizations concerned, non-Governmental organizations, etc., constitute implementating/monitoring agencies for the Scheme. Further under the Industrial Infrastructure Up-gradation Scheme Coir Cluster-Alappuzha has been approved and Rs. 14.20 crore released. Ayurvedic Cluster Thrissur, Kerala has also been approved and funds will be released after the concurrence of enhancement of funds for IIUS by the Planning Commission. The guidelines of the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries (SFURTI) are available on the website of the Ministry of Agro and Rural Industries at http://ari.nic.in.

Coastal Security

2951. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Group of Ministers (GoM) to reform the National Security System recommended formation of a force for the security of the countries Coastal line;

(b) the States in which the Coastal Security Forces are presently functioning;

(c) whether the Union Government has provided any assistance to the State Governments for setting up and for the augmentation of the Coastal Security Forces during the current financial year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The Group of Ministers, in its Report on Reforming the National Security System, recommended setting up of a specialized Marine Police in all the coastal States and island territories.

(b) to (d) After examining the proposals received from the coastal States and Union Territories, following central assistance has been approved under the Scheme for five years from the current financial year:—

Gujarat—Rs. 5842.60 lakh,

Maharashtra—Rs. 4092.60 lakh,

Goa—Rs. 1653.50 lakh,

Karnataka—Rs. 2711.90 lakh,

Kerala—Rs. 4356 lakh,

Tamilnadu—Rs. 4408 lakh,

Andhra Pradesh—Rs. 3267 lakh,

Orissa—Rs. 2722.50 lakh,

West Bengal—Rs. 3353.40 lakh, and

Pondicherry—Rs. 544.50 lakh.

[Translation]

Black Listed NGO

2952. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the name and total number of Non-Governmental Organisation black listed in the country during the last three years, State-wise, particularly in Karnataka;

(b) the action taken by the Government against such organisation;

(c) whether the Government has conducted any inquiry regarding actual implementation of the projects;

(d) if so, the findings thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) Ministry of Home Affairs administers, *inter-alia*, the Foreign Contribution (Regulation), Act, 1976 which regulates the receipt and utilization of foreign contribution received by associations having definite cultural, economic, educational, religious or social programmes. Associations found violating the provisions of the Act are inspected and after conducting detailed inquiry are placed either in prohibited or prior permission category for accepting foreign contribution. There is no concept of blacklisting an NGO under this law.

The list of associations placed under prohibited/prior permission category is available on the Ministry of Home Affairs' website http://www.mha.nic.in/fore.htm.

[English]

Registration of Cases by NHRC against Armed Forces/PMF

2953. SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:
SHRI RANEN BARMAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases registered with National Human Rights Commission against armed forces/PMF during each of the last three years, force-wise;

(b) whether NHRC has completed proceedings in all those cases;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the time by which the proceedings of such cases are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) The total number of cases registered with the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) against Armed Forces/ Para Military Forces during the last three years are as below:—

Year	Armed Forces	PMF
2002-03	224	138
2003-04	149	95
2004-05	123	61

(b) to (e) In respect of Armed Forces, as against 224 cases registered during 2002-03, 140 cases were disposed of during the year including backlog of cases of previous years. Against 149 cases registered during 2003-2004, 97 cases were disposed of during the year. Against 123 cases registered during the year 2004-2005, 98 cases were disposed of during the year. In respect of Para Military forces, against 138 cases registered during 2002-02003, 154 cases were disposed of during the year including backlog of previous years. Against 95 cases registered during the year 2003-2004, 61 cases were disposed of during the year. Against 61 cases registered during the year 2004-2005, 59 cases were disposed of during the year.

Investigation into cases of violation by the Armed Forces and Para Military Forces have to be done as per procedure laid down in the various Acts applicable to them. It is not possible to indicate any time frame by which the investigation can be completed so that the NHRC can complete its proceedings. However, efforts are being made to dispose of the complaints as expeditiously as possible.

Citizenship to Afghani Citizens

2954. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH DHINDSA:
DR. RATTAN SINGH AJNALA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an exodus of Afghanistani Citizens of Indian origin to India during and after turmoil in Afghanistan;

(b) if so, the number of such persons living temporarily in various parts of the country alongwith their visa period;

(c) whether the Government proposes to grant them Indian Citizenship in near future;

(d) if so, the details in this regard; and

(e) the manner in which the Government proposes to deal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per available information, the number of Indian origin Afghan nationals staying in Delhi, Chennai and Faridabad (Haryana) is 18,433; 04 and 853 respectively. Data about other States/UTs is not available. They have been allowed to stay in India upto 30.06.2006.

(c) to (e) Indian Citizenship is granted to foreigners including Afghan nationals as per the provisions of the Citizenship Act, 1955 and Citizenship Rules, 1956. Eligible Afghan nationals can apply for the same to the District Collector of the place of their residence.

Construction of Bridge Across River Godavari in Andhra Pradesh

2955. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any request has been received from the road Safety Forum for a bridge across river Godavari in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the NHAI proposes to take up the matter with the Government of Andhra Pradesh for developing the road; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Request has been received from Road Safety Forum for carrying out technical survey for bridge across river Godavari between Kumaradevam (West Godavari District) and Thatileru (East Godavari District).

(c) and (d) No, Sir. This proposal is not under the jurisdiction of National Highway Authority of India as the proposed bridge does not fall on NH-5. Since the proposal is not on National Highway, it is for the State Government to take appropriate action.

[Translation]

Import of Gold

2956. SHRI MITRASEN YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether an increase in the import of Gold has been registered during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether consumption of Gold in the country is rising continuously;

(d) if so, the details of the consumption of Gold in the country in the first half of the current financial year; and

(e) the extent of increase as against the corresponding period of the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The value of import of Gold during April 2005-September 2005 is Rs. 26905.20 Crores (Provisional) as compared to Rs. 19024.77 Crores during the corresponding period of the last year.

(c) to (e) Gold in the country is mainly consumed in unorganized sector. Therefore, there are no firm estimates of consumption of gold in the country.

CBI Enquiry against IPS Officers

2957. SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Police Service officers against whom the State Governments have requested to conduct CBI inquiry particularly Government of Uttaranchal;

(b) the details of the officers against whom inquiry has been requested;

(c) the case-wise details of the officers against whom order of inquiry has been given; and

(d) the number of officers against whom inquiry has been completed and the number of those against whom inquiry is going on alongwith the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) There is only one such case registered by CBI at the request of Uttaranchal Government during the last three years involving two IPS officers, Shri P.D. Raturi, IPS (UC: 68) and Shri Rakesh Mittal, IPS (UC:73). CBI has completed the enquiry.

[English]

Damage by Tsunami in SSI

2958. SHRI SUBRATA BOSE: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of small scale industries and cottage industries are closed down in the Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar after Tsunami devastation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) The number of small scale industries and cottage industries reported to have been affected by the Tsunami in the States of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Union Territory (UT) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands is given in the table below:

Name of State/UT	Number of small scale industries and cottage industries affected by the Tsunami
Tamil Nadu	168
Andhra Pradesh	Nil
Kerala	85
Andaman & Nicobar	176

(c) Steps have been taken by the State Governments and UT Administrations concerned to seek Central assistance for special package of relief to the affected persons, including the affected industries, and provide the necessary relief to them. The Government has approved a package of Central assistance of Rs. 2347.19 crore, Rs. 249.36 crore, Rs. 70.00 crore and Rs. 821.88 crore for various types of relief in the Tsunami affected areas of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Andaman & Nicobar Islands respectively.

Excesses Committed by STF

2959. DR. R. SENTHIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sadhsivam panel set up to inquire the excesses committed by the Special Task Force to nab the Veerappan has submitted its recommendations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government on the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Sadashiva Panel had in their main observations and recommendations, *inter-alia*, stated that the Special Task Force should have been formally notified their jurisdiction for exercise of police powers, by the State Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, persons arrested under TADA and kept in prison for a long period of time should have had their cases reviewed by the State Screening Committee in time, confessions under Section 32 of the Prevention of Terrorism Act (POTA) should be recorded only by a police officer of a competent rank who is not directly connected with the investigation or its supervision, excesses committed by the Special Task Force had violated human rights which cannot be justified and there should be an inbuilt mechanism to guard against such excesses which had been committed by the Special Task Force, mandatory judicial enquiry should be held in all cases of encounters, proper communication equipment should be provided to the Special Task Force, police recruitment should also be done from tribal areas in order to secure the goodwill of the villagers and their involvement in law enforcement, payment of compensation to victims of allegations of excesses, to TADA detenues who remained in jail for long time without their cases have been properly reviewed by the State Review Committee and to families of persons shown as killed in suspicious circumstances. The NHRC has forwarded the Sadashiva Panel Report to the Governments of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu to indicate the action they proposed to take on various recommendations made by Justice A.J. Sadashiva Panel. The comments of the Governments of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka have been received by the Commission which has directed that these may be transmitted to the complainants along with a copy of the recommendations of the Sadashiva Panel.

Four-Laning along NH-17

2960. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal of four laning works along the NH-17 in Dakshiana Kannada linking Surathkal with Kundapura;

(b) if so, whether the work has already been started in this area;

(c) if so, the time by which the said project is likely to be completed; and

(d) the total amount allocated for the implementation of this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Kundapur to Surathkal Section of NH-17 has been included for 4-laning under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase-IIIA, on Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis. Bids for the Preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) for this stretch are under evaluation.

(c) and (d) It is targeted for completion by December, 2009. However, as DPR has yet to be prepared, it is premature to indicate the cost of the project.

Ayurvedic Products

2961. SHRI UDAY SINGH:
SHRI RAJNARAYAN BUDHOLIA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the export of Ayurvedic Products during each of the last three years and thereafter, alongwith foreign exchange earned therefrom;

(b) whether exporters of these products have requested the Government to resolve their various problems;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government thereto;

(d) whether few countries have banned import of Ayurvedic products;

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

(f) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The year-wise detail of exports of Ayurvedic Products are as under:

Year	US$ Million
2003-2004	21.83*
2004-2005	61.62*

*Source: DGCI&S

(Before the year 2003-04, no separate accounts were maintained by DGCI&S for Ayurvedic Medicines)

(b) and (c) No such request has been received recently from the exporters of Ayurvedic products.

(d) and (e) Health Canada, the Canadian Ministry of Health, has banned some specific Indian Ayurvedic medicines manufactured by certain companies on the ground that they allegedly contained heavy metals such as lead, mercury and/or arsenic above the permissible limits.

(f) The matter was taken up in the last meeting of the India-Canada Joint Commission held in September, 2005. Government has also advised Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha medicine manufacturers to give a self-certification regarding the presence of heavy metals, within the permissible limits, in their export products.

Import of Spurious Products

2962. SHRI LALIT MOHAN SUKLABAIDYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of products especially branded fruit drinks of Bangladesh did not have any fruit content other than synthetic mixture of toxic items, are being imported in India and being sold in Assam and Tripura region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has conducted an inquiry against the importing agency;

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(e) the steps taken to control such imports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scholarship by UGC

2963. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UGC has decided to give more funds, more scholarships and teachers for science subjects;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount proposed to be provided for the purpose alongwith the targets being fixed in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) A Task Force was set up by the Government, for strengthening basic science education and research within the existing university system. The recommendations *inter-alia* include to create 1000 positions of research scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph.Ds from Indian universities and provisions of fellowships in basic sciences for pursuing Doctoral research, etc. The report has been given to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for further action.

Loss to International Trade Promotion Organisation

2964. DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2391 dated 9th August, 2005 regarding loss to ITPO:

(a) the total amount of loss recovered by International Trade Promotion Organisation so far;

(b) the outcome of the vigilance inquiry with respect to various irregularities pertaining to the India Trade Exhibition, held in Moscow in February 2003; and

(c) the action taken against the officials found responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) As on 05.12.2005, Rs. 93.15 lakh out of Rs. 233.91 lakh has been recovered.

(b) and (c) Major penalty proceedings against seven officials have been initiated.

[Translation]

Six Laning of NH Nos. 24 and 58

2965. SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is contemplating to convert National Highway Nos. 24 and 58 into six lanes to decongest these highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has reviewed the condition of the above highways;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the repair work of these highways has been carried out during the last three years and current year; and

(f) if so, the year-wise total amount spent on their repair work so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Only the stretch from Delhi to Meerut of NH-58 is proposed for six laning.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The condition of the above Highways is monitored and reviewed periodically and the National Highways are kept in traffic worthy condition within the available resources.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) The year-wise amount spent on repair work of NH-24 and NH-58 is given below:

NH No.	Expenditure on repair work carried out during last three years (Rs. in lakhs)			Expenditure on repair work carried out during current year so far (Rs. in lakh)	Total (Rs. lakhs)
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	
24	435.36	1129.48	1916.59	225.11	3736.54
58	608.47	592.63	898.07	584.92	2684.09

Six-Laning of Ahmedabad-Mumbai National Highway

2966. SHRI KASHIRAM RANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the approval was granted for conversion of the Ahmedabad-Mumbai National Highway from 4 lanes to 6 lanes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the sections not converted from 4 lanes to 6 lanes so far along with the reasons therefor;

(d) the time by which Surat to Barodara route is likely to be converted from 4 lanes to 6 lanes along with the amount allocated for this work during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) The Committee on Infrastructure headed by Prime Minister has approved 6-laning of 6,500 km of existing 4-lane National Highways. This would include the entire length of 5846 km of Golden Quadrilateral having Ahmedabad-Mumbai and Surat to Vadodara stretches also. The details are under discussion with the Planning Commission.

[English]

Price of Spices

2967. SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that there have been a fall in the price of various spices including cardamom and Vanilla during the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for the continuous fall in the prices of spices; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Some of the spices, including cardamom and vanilla, have registered a decline in prices.

(b) The details of the average domestic prices of spices at major market centres in India, during last three years, are given below:

Prices: Rs. per kg

Spices	Market	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
1	2	3	4	5
Pepper	Cochin	88.32	74.11	69.08
Cardamom (Small)	Auction price*	561.26	361.03	295.23
Cardamom (Large)	Gangtok	141.36	114.96	91.88
Chilli	Guntur	31.98	39.14	28.71
Ginger	Cochin	40.90	68.56	130.36
Turmeric	Cochin	41.91	48.22	52.78
Coriander	Mumbai	25.94	27.88	19.04
Cumin	Mumbai	81.44	66.30	68.31
Celery	Mumbai	26.53	26.69	28.12
Fennel	Mumbai	51.24	50.02	45.76
Fenugreek	Mumbai	16.89	17.19	15.67
Garilic	Mumbai	35.12	16.83	19.80
Poppy seed	Mumbai	145.09	159.35	151.85
Ajwain seed	Mumbai	43.89	49.53	51.73
Dill Seed	Mumbai	27.32	27.80	25.45
Mustard	Delhi	15.95	20.43	18.13
Tamarind	Mumbai	17.12	17.34	32.81
Clove	Cochin	414.30	211.84	249.03

1	2	3	4	5
Nutmeg with shell	Cochin	109.55	100.95	106.62
Nutmeg without shell	Cochin	192.94	171.84	187.79
Mace	Cochin	380.54	322.40	373.35
Cinnamon	Delhi	61.24	54.99	50.48
Cassia	Chennai	61.19	55.58	52.21
Saffron	Delhi	47237.50	41511.00	31855.00
Vanilla	FOB export price	8842.74	13702.98	6691.78

Source: Spices Board

*Refers to the season August to July

Major reasons for the decline in prices of spices, including cardamom and vanilla are as follows:

•Production/supplies overtaking the demand of the produce.

•Resumption of normal supplies of the produce by major producing countries.

•Shifting of consumer preferences resulting in lack of demand of the produce.

(c) In order to arrest the decline in prices of spices, the Government of India is making vigorous efforts to increase the demand of various spices, both in domestic and international market. Steps have also been undertaken for improving productivity; for developing value added products; quality up-gradation; organic cultivation of spices, etc.

In addition, the Government of India has recently announced a scheme for grant of a WTO-compatible subsidy on export of pepper from India, subject to certain conditions. Further, issue of advance licenses for import of duty free pepper (except light pepper) has been suspended and sale processed pepper products in the Domestic Tariff Area (DTA) by 100%. Export Oriented Units (EOUs) has been banned.

National Policy on Women Welfare Programme

2968. SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR:
SHRI DALPAT SINGH PARSTE:

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

(a) whether the Government intend to formulate any national policy aimed at Women's Welfare Programmes in the country especially in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Central assistance is provided to social organisations and institutions which are engaged in Welfare of Women's workers in the country, State-wise particularly in Gujarat;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the amount of assistance provided to each of them so far during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(f) whether the Government has evaluated the work done by the social organisations/institutions and the way of the assistance utilised by them; and

(g) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure that the funds are properly utilized by the social organisations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) The Government adopted the National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001 during March, 2001. The main objective of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women and to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to ensure their active participation in all spheres of public life and activities. No Policy has been adopted specifically or especially for the State of Kerala.

(c) to (e) The details of the NGOs to whom funds were released under the scheme of Working Women Hostel and other women welfare schemes State-wise and Scheme-wise for the last three years are available in the respective Annual Report of the Department and Department's website http://www.wcd.nic.in.

(f) Yes, Sir. Several evaluation studies have been commissioned on the functioning of the working women's hostels sanctioned to social organizations/institutions.

(g) Proposal for working women's hostels are sanctioned and subsequent installments released only on receipt of the inspection reports and recommendations of the State Government.

[Translation]

Tea Industry

2969. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
MOHD. SHAHID:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tea industry is ailing and need support for revival;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to revive and support the industry;

(c) whether the tea industry is facing financial crisis due to decrease in export of tea during the first six months of the current year;

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

(e) the percentage decline in export of tea during the current year in comparison to the last year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Indian tea industry has been affected due to the fall in prices in recent years. The industry is also beset with long-term problems like old age of the plantations.

(b) Government has taken various steps to help the tea industry. These include withdrawal of the additional duty of excise of Re. 1 per kg on tea in the Union Budget for 2005-06, sanctioning of two schemes *viz.* incentives for production of orthodox teas and assistance to the two tea Research & Development Institutions for financing from the special fund created with collections of additional duty of excise on tea, issue of a new Tea (Distribution and Export) Control Order, 2005 in order to maintain quality and retain the brand equity of Indian teas, implementation of a price sharing formula between the small tea growers and manufacturers of tea with effect from 1st April 2004 in order to ensure that the small tea growers get a reasonable share of the price obtained by the manufacturers for made tea, reducing import duty on items of machinery used to improve productivity and quality of tea, including value addition, to an all inclusive rate of 5% etc. A Special Tea Term Loan (STTL) to restructure certain outstanding loans was also announced in 2004. A major programme for replantation and rejuvenation of the old tea bushes in the country is under consideration.

(c) to (e) The main reasons for the problems being faced by the Indian tea industry is the fall in prices. Tea exports during the first six months of the current financial year have shown a decline as compared to the corresponding period of last financial year. However, per unit realization of the exported tea has been slightly higher this year. Details are as follows:—

Period	Quantity (in million kgs)	Value (Rs. in crores)
April to September 2005 (Provisional)	82.24	794.20
April to September 2004	105.90	989.02
Percentage decline	22.34	19.70

[English]

Deterioration in Research in Universities

2970. SHRI M. SREENIVASULU REDDY:
SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY:

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

(a) the measures being taken by the Government to stem the rapid deterioration of research in Indian Universities;

(b) whether the Government has accepted to allocate Rs. 400 crore a year till 2007 exclusively for infrastructure development;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government is aware that in all the Universities and IITs in India teachers stay beyond working hours in the campus engaging themselves in research activities; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) A Task Force was set up by the Government, for strengthening basic science education and research within the existing university system. The report has been given to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for further action. The recommendations of the Task Force *inter-alia* include earmarked allocation for improving scientific research in universities.

(d) and (e) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), teachers in universities spend time on research, based on their commitment and requirement.

Detention under TADA/POTA

2971. SHRI L. GANESAN:
SHRI MOHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in detention under TADA and POTA in the country even after repeal of these Acts, State-wise;

(b) whether the Government proposes to review the cases against all the said persons;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the total number of persons convicted under TADA/POTA so far in the country;

(e) whether the Government propose to review the punishments awarded to them;

(f) the number and names of exclusive POTA/TADA Courts in the country; and

(g) the name of States which have not enforced POTA?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) A Statement as per available information is enclosed.

(b) and (c) Pursuant to directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgment dated 11.3.1994 in the case of Kartar Singh, a Central Review Committee by the Central Government and State Review Committees by the respective State Governments have been constituted to review the cases under TADA.

Review Committees in respect of POTA cases have completed the review of all POTA cases.

(d) Information regarding the number of persons convicted under TADA/POTA, is not maintained by the Ministry of Home Affairs. However, as per the available information as on 21.9.2004, the date on which POTA was repealed, 13 persons had been convicted under POTA. CBI has also informed that till date 52 persons have been convicted under TADA and 2 persons under POTA in cases handled by CBI.

(e) There is no proposal to review the punishments awarded under POTA/TADA.

(f) and (g) As per the information available only 10 State Governments namely Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and NCT of Delhi had registered cases under POTA and constituted Special POTA Courts to try those cases. Five Special Courts to try TADA cases registered by CBI have also been constituted.

Statement

Detention under TADA/POTA

No. of persons under detention for offences under TADA—State-wise as on 1.4.2005 and in cases registered by CBI		No. of persons under detention for offences under TADA—State-wise	
Assam	20	Andhra Pradesh	3
Gujarat	14	NCT of Delhi	1
Haryana	1	Himachal Pradesh	2
Jammu and Kashmir	12	Maharashtra	4
Maharashtra	14	Uttar Pradesh	3
Punjab	15	Gujarat	87
Rajasthan	5	Jharkhand	18
NCT of Delhi	2	CBI	17
CBI	59		
Total	147	Total	135

Backlog of Reserved Vacancies

2972. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a long backlog of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Shipping Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action being taken in this regard; and

(c) the details of the foreign postings of the employees of Shipping Corporation of India during the last three years alongwith the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees provided with such opportunities for foreign positing?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The backlog in respect of shore personnel is 66 and in respect of fleet personnel is 309. Special recruitment drive for SCs/STs will be made for clearing the backlog both in Shore as well as in Fleet Personnel as and when the vacancies arise. Since the backlog is high it will take few years to reduce the same as the number of vacancies that can be filled up every year through Special Recruitment Drive are likely to be much less than the total backlog.

(c) The details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Part(c)—Detail of Foreign Postings of the employees of Shipping Corporation of India

	Name	Designation	From	To	Category
	1	2	3	4	5
(A) London Office					
1.	Capt. A. Chopra	DGM	25.07.03	25.07.06	General
2.	Mr. S.K. Maji	AGM	21.07.03	21.07.06	SC

1	2	3	4	5
(B) Shanghai Office				
1. Capt. K.S. Nair	DGM	15.10.02	19.04.05	General
2. Capt. Sunil Thapar	DGM	28.04.05	28.04.08	General
(C) Irano-Hind Shipping Corporation, Tehran Office				
1. Mr. A.K. Gupta	MGR	24.05.02	24.11.05	General
2. Mr. Sandeep Mishra	MGR	06.08.04	06.08.07	General
3. Mr. Lawrence Serrao	MGR	06.08.04	06.08.07	General
4. Mr. S. Mukhopadhyay	MGR	06.08.04	06.08.07	General
5. Mr. G.B. Chaturvedi	DGM	09.09.05	09.09.08	General
(D) Supervision of Ship Construction at South Korean Shipyards				
1. Mr. P.V. Sandeep	DM	05.07.02	29.05.03	General
2. Mr. E.C. Rao	DGM	27.09.02	21.02.04	SC
3. Mr. Naveen Kumar	DM	27.09.02	21.02.04	General
4. Mr. Rajesh Sood	MGR	01.07.03	07.02.05	General
5. Mr. Nikhil Raj	DM	01.07.03	07.02.05	General
6. Mr. K. Sridhar	AM	06.07.03	10.01.04	General
7. Mr. J.V.S. Rao	DGM	30.01.05	24.08.05	General
8. Mr. T.K. Roy	AGM	30.01.05	24.08.05	General
9. Mr.P.V. Sandeep	DM	30.01.05	24.08.05	General

Smuggling of Drugs

2973. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:
SHRI HITEN BARMAN:
SHRI SUBRATA BOSE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Drug Paddlers especially foreign nationals are indulging in smuggling of various kinds of narcotics drugs in the country;

(b) if so, whether such foreigners have established their base in the capital and other big cities;

(c) if so, the number of foreign nationals arrested quantity of various drugs seized alongwith the punishment awarded to them during each of the last three years, country-wise;

(d) the number of Indian nationals having links in this nefarious business;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether smuggling of psychotropic drugs and the generation of illicit money has been found to be the prime motive of all militant and secessionist activities in the North East, Jammu and Kashmir and other parts of the country; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check such activities in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Seizures of various drugs made by the Central and State enforcement agencies and the intelligence inputs received by the Government indicate the involvement of foreign nationals in drugs trafficking/peddling activities through various exit and entry points in the country.

(b) No such report has been received by the Government.

(c) to (e) During 2003, 2004 and 2005 (upto October) 152, 179 and 130 foreign nationals and 19127, 11927 and 7668 Indian nationals respectively were arrested. The available details of drugs seized by all the State and Central enforcement agencies in connection with drug trafficking/peddling activities during the years 2003, 2004 and 2005 (up to October), are as under:

(Qty. in Kgs.)

Drugs	2003	2004	2005 (upto October)
Opium	1720	2237	778
Morphine	109	97	33
Heroin	991	1162	620
Ganja	79653	144055	79258
Hashish	3013	4599	2863
Cocaine	3	6	2
Methaqualone	345	1614	468

Information pertaining to the punishment awarded to the foreign nationals in the cases booked by the Central and State enforcement agencies is not centrally maintained.

(f)) No definite input is available in this regard.

(g) The Government has taken a number of steps to check such activities. These includes:—

1. Strict surveillance and enforcement at import and export points, land borders, airports, foreign post offices, etc;
2. Intensive preventive and interdiction efforts along known drug routes.
3. Improved co-ordination between various drug law enforcement agencies in order to impart greater cohesion to interdiction.
4. Strengthening of international liaison to improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of operational intelligence.
5. Increased international co-operation for exchange of information and investigative assistance in administering control over the movement of precursor chemicals.
6. Building of an electronic data base of offenders.
7. Passenger profiling for identification of members of trafficking/peddling groups.
8. Conducting training programmes for law enforcement officials for upgrading their skills to combat drug trafficking.
9. Implementing a scheme of monetary rewards for information leading to seizures of narcotic drugs to informants and officers.

Natural Calamities

2974. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to review the existing guidelines for extending the relief under Calamity Relief Fund for Natural Calamity Relief work;

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

(c) the action proposed for the review of existing guidelines; and

(d) the time by which the review is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (d) The Government has constituted an Expert Group to review the existing items and norms of assistance for Calamity Relief Fund (CRF)/National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). The Group comprises of representatives from the Central Ministries/Departments of Finance, Home Affairs, Agriculture, Rural Development, Planning Commission, Directorate General of Civil Defence and the Relief Commissioners of some of the States.

To facilitate a comprehensive review of the existing items and norms of assistance, all the State Governments and concerned Central Ministries have been requested to send their views/suggestions for consideration of the Expert Group.

The Expert Group is likely to meet shortly. The Group after detailed deliberations based on the views/suggestions received from various States and Central Ministries/ Departments will prepare its report. The Report of the Group will be placed before the High Level Committee for approval before the revised list of items and norms of assistance from CRF/NCCF are notified. This task is proposed to be completed with due expedition.

Vacant Post in Lakshadweep

2975. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Group A and Group B posts lying vacant in the U.T. of Lakshadweep Administration as on date and period of vacancy;

(b) whether the Administrator of Lakshadweep is empowered to make appointment to Group A and Group B posts;

(c) if so, the action taken to fill up these vacancies;

(d) the number of the Group A and Group B officers of Lakshadweep Administration are island natives and total number of officers from out side the territory;

(e) whether the Government has considered special recruitment drive to fill up these vacancies; and

(f) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) The total number of Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts lying vacant are 37 and 28 respectively. 6 vacancies pertain to the period 1989 to 1994 and the remaining posts are vacant from different dates between 1996 and 2005.

(b) The Administrator of Lakshadweep is empowered to make appointment to Group-A and Group-B posts, except such Group-A posts as are borne on common organized cadre and in respect of which the Central Government is the appointing authority.

(c) Process of filling up of vacancies is at various stages.

(d) The details of total number of natives of Lakshadweep and outsiders working in group 'A' and Group 'B' are as under:

	Group 'A'	Group 'B'
Natives	62	79
Outsiders	27	29

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise in view of (e) above.

Technical Education

2976. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether there is an urgent need to strengthen technical education in India to prevent young students from being lured by urecognized foreign universities in their own countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Union Government to make technical education more relevant and effective for achieving the national goals;

(d) whether many new institutions set up under the self financing mode have not created adequate infrastructure and unable to provide even the minimum basic teaching and learning facilities to the students; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) With a view to strengthening technical education in the country, the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) develops model curricula for various programmes and implements several institutional development schemes. The AICTE has also notified regulations for regulating entry and operation of foreign universities institutions imparting technical education in India on May 27, 2005.

(c) The emphasis of model curricula developed by the AICTE is on relevance to the industry and other needs, and integration of R&D components.

(d) and (e) The AICTE grants approval for the establishment of new technical institutes on fulfilment of the prescribed norms and standards including adequate infrastructure and other facilities.

[Translation]

Academic Staff Colleges in Chhattisgarh

2977. SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Universities of Chhattisgarh that run the Academic Staff Colleges;

(b) whether other Universities also propose to run the Academic Staff Colleges; and

(c) if so, the time by when these are likely to be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), there is no University in Chhattisgarh that run the Academic Staff Colleges.

(b) and (c) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), the UGC has already established 51 Academic Staff Colleges and these are hosted in Universities.

[English]

Tele Education

2978. SHRI PARASURAM MAJHI:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:
SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:

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

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up an Independent Authority to control and monitor all forms of open education to improve quality of school education as reported in 'The Hindu' dated 20th November, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(d) the time by which the independent authority is likely to be set up;

(e) whether Government has a proposal to promote tele education in the country;

(f) if so, the details thereof;

(g) whether the Distance Education Council is also proposed to be given autonomy; and

(h) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) No Sir. There is no formal proposal to set up an Independent Authority to control and monitor all forms of open education to improve quality of school education.

(e) and (f) According to the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), Educational Satellite launched in collaboration with ISRO on 21.9.2004 will be utilized for proving primary, secondary, tertiary, teacher and technical education. IGNOU is already using satellite supported video interactive system, FM Radio, extended C-band facilities to promote tele-education under Gyan Vani and Gyan Darshan. Online education is also being provided and 131 interactive satellite terminals are in place through which two-way communication between the teacher and the taught takes place.

(g) and (h) The Government has not yet taken a decision in this regard.

Violations of Export Rules

2979. SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether penalty of Rs. 577.22 crore imposed upto March 2004 in 983 cases for non-fulfilment of export obligations under advance licenses issued between April 1973 to January 2002 but only Rs. 1.44 crore were realised in 60 cases;

(b) if so, the reasons for not recovering the entire amount; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The penalty amount shown in these cases have been determined at adjudication stage, which is substantially reduced in many cases and in some cases completely waived subsequently at the level of appellate decisions. Hence, the penalty fixed at the adjudication stage is not final. Many firms approach Judicial Forum, in which no time limit can be fixed for finalisation of the cases. Finally the recovery is entrusted to district authorities for initiating proceedings as arrears of land revenue. However, through monitoring and follow-up procedure being adhered to by DGFT, efforts are being made to expedite the completion of pending penalty recoveries.

(d) Does not arise, since no officials have been found responsible for delay in recovery proceedings.

Industrial Development in Tribal Areas

2980. SHRI VIKRAMBHAI ARJANBHAI MADAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has received any proposal from Government of Gujarat to set up industries in tribal areas of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Under the liberalized Industrial Policy, decision to set up industry, including the choice of location, is taken by the entrepreneur based on his techno-economic considerations, which, in turn, also takes into consideration the initiatives taken by the State Government by way of providing basic infrastructural facilities and other incentives. As such the question of State Government making specific proposal to the Union Government for setting up industry in tribal areas does not arise.

Small Road Projects to Private Companies

2981. SHRI GANESH SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of small road projects like bye-pass and road over-bridges given to private companies during the last three years and current year till date in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the total amount involved in these projects and the number of projects pending at present; and

(c) the criteria adopted for awarding these projects to private companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Three number of small road projects, namely, Katni bypass and Rewa bypass on NH-7 and Guna bypass on NH-3 have been

sanctioned on Built Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis (entrusted to private companies) during the last three years and current year till date in Madhya Pradesh. The total amount involved in these projects is Rs. 142 crore. No project is pending at present in this Ministry.

(c) Procedure/criteria adopted for awarding these projects are:

i. Prospective contractors are first prequalified based on:—

(a) Experience of enterprise.

(b) Experience of the contractors/consultants.

(c) Capacity of the enterprise to raise funds from the market.

(d) Financial strength of the enterprise.

(e) Quality and adequacy of the organizational and institutional arrangements proposed for implementation.

ii. Bids are then invited from the prequalified contractors.

iii. The bids received are evaluated technically and financially and the work is awarded on the principle of least cost to the users.

Quality Education in Technical Institutions

2982. SHRI RAHUL GANDHI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an institute on the lines of ISO certification to benchmark public and private technical education institutions in order to provide a clear understanding of the quality of the institutions for the benefit of prospective students; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The National Board of Accreditation (NBA) under the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) already exists for benchmarking of technical institutes through an accreditation system. The NBA evaluates the technical courses offered by an institute and accredits them for a period of three of five years. The list of accredited institutes is available on the AICTE's website www.aicte.ernet.in for the benefit of students and other stakeholders. The AICTE has also introduced a system of mandatory disclosure wherein technical institutes have to provide information regarding faculty, infrastructure, fees, admission process, etc. on its website so that students can make informed decision.

Import of Mobile Set

2983. SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mobile telephone sets imported by the Government during the last year, country-wise; and

(b) the target fixed for the current year for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Data on mobile telephone sets imported by the Government sector is not maintained separately. However, the number of cellular telephone imported into the country during 2004-05 is 187.31 Lakhs.

(b) The Government has not fixed any target for import of mobile telephone sets.

Improvement of Roads under CRF

2984. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria under which the State Highways are undertaken for improvement under the Central Road Fund Scheme;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra has recommended SH-129 connecting Nidhori-Gorambekagal under this scheme;

(c) if so, the reasons for delay; and

(d) the time by which this work is likely to be sanctioned and implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Improvement of State Highways,

Maor District Roads and other roads of importance can be taken up under the Central Road Fund (CRF) Scheme. The work to be undertaken under CRF are identified by the State Government and submitted, alongwith the priority of the identified works, to the Central Government for administrative approval. Following criteria is adopted for sanction of works under CRF:

- Type of works to be considered under this scheme have been specified.
- Each work should cover sufficient length of road i.e. at least 10 km length unless the requirement of connecting two place is less than 10 km.
- Land should be free from all encumbrances and land is to be provided by the State Government at their cost.
- Work should be identified by the State Government with a view to having balanced development of road network in the entire State.

(b) and (c) The Government of Maharashtra has recommended for approval under CRF the improvement of the section Nidhori to Kagal km 2/500 to 28/500 of Nidhori-Gorambe-Kagal road joining NH-4 and State Highway-129 and administrative approval for this work has been accorded on 8th December, 2005.

(d) As per guidelines of the Ministry, the Maharashtra Government has to ensure that project is technically approved and financially sanctioned and awarded within a period of four months from the date of administrative approval of work by the Central Government.

Posting of Data on Website

2985. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

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

(a) whether the Government has begun posting details of every school on the web as reported in the *'Times of India'* dated 28.11.05;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of the guidelines issued in this regard; and

(d) the time by which it will be implemented in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), New Delhi, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Secondary & Higher Education, with the support of United Nations International Children's Emergency fund (UNICEF) and under the guidance of Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development is implementing the project on District Information System for Education (DISE). Under this project, school specific data are generated for every elementary school in the country. The data base covers all recognized schools-both government and private, using information collected through specially designed formats. Data thus collected have been consolidated to generate District Report Cards. Currently, 581 districts have been covered under the project. All the District Report Cards have been posted on the project website/www.dpepmis.org. This is an open access site that any member of the public could access.

As concrete information/indicators are available in electronic form for each school covered under the Project, it is envisaged to place on-line a profile of each school for public access. At present, such school specific information is not available on the NIEPA website. The website in question is still being developed and it has the potential to evolve into a virtual site for information on every school and a discussion forum for all concerned. It will take sometime and effort before such data on every school is made available on the website.

Tribal Language Training Programme

2986. SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tribal language training programmes have been organised by the Government in various States;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such programme was organized in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore a subordinate office under the Ministry of Human Resources Development is engaged in promotion and development of Indian languages including Tribal languages.

A Workshop on Multilingual Education for Tribal Children was also held in the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, New Delhi dated 16th September, 2004. The various training programmes, workshops, seminars, etc. on Tribal Languages organized by the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore in different States given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The linguistic collection for Abuj Maria Grammar, Dorli and Bison Horn Media languages were done and Abuj Maria Grammar has been published.

Statement

The various training programmes, workshops, seminars, etc. on Tribal Languages organized by the Central Institute of Indian Languages, Mysore in different States are as under:—

1. Workshop on Training the Tribal Language Officers of the Tribal Research Department in Eastern States at Bhubaneshwar from 23rd to 27th February 2004.

2. Orientation Programme for the Language Officers of Sikkim, Gangtok at Sikkim from 20th July to 3rd August 2004.

3. Workshop on Status of Mother tongue Education in the context of Tribal Multilingualism in Jharkhand held at Mysore from 24th to 26th October 2005.

4. Workshop for the Preparation of Mao Pedagogical School Grammar at Imphal from 29th March to 9th April 2004.

5. Linguistic Landscaping Workshop on Manipur held at Canchipur, Imphal from April 2004 to January 2005.

6. Documentation of Language Policy Events in the North East at Imphal from 4th to 6th June 2004.

7. Language Policy for Tribal Minorities of Manipur towards a New social Order held at Imphal from 4th to 6th June 2004.

8. workshop on Preparation of Mother Tongue Syllabus for Tripura at Agarthala from 13th June to 15th July 2004.

9. Documentation of Languages of North East India held at Mysore from 23rd July to 9th August 2004.

10. Bodo National Consultation Meeting at Kokrajhar, Assam from 25th to 26th September 2004.

11. A Dialect Survey of Khasi Language in Meghalaya held at Meghalaya from 2nd to 10th November 2004.

12. Review of Primers for Dimaasa held at Guwahati from 3rd to 8th November 2004.

13. National Seminar-cum-Workshop on Language Policy in Education for Tribal Minorities of Assam held at Guwahati from 9th to 10th November 2004.

14. Data collection field trip for the Preparation of Grammar in Tagin Language of Arunachal Pradesh from 15th November 2004 to 16th March 2005.

15. Workshop for the Preparation of Pictorial Glossary of Bhili languages held at Baroda from 4th to 15th January 2005.

16. Workshop for the Preparation of Galo Primers Phase-II, Naharlagaon at Arunachal Pradesh from 10th to 17th February 2005.

17. Workshop on Writing Systems in Tribal Languages held at Shillong/Guwahati from 30th April to 25th May 2005.

18. Workshop on Designing of Mother Tongue Syllabus for Arunachal Pradesh held at Itanagar from 2nd to 11th June 2005.

19. Workshop on Documentation of North East Languages held at Mysore from 26th July to 7th September 2005.

20. Workshop on Strategies for the Development of Tribal Mother tongues in Multilingual Education held at Mysore from 27th to 29th October 2005.

21. Field work for collecting Linguistic data on Car Nicobar at Car Nicobar from 19th March to 4th August 2004.

Reform in Examination System

2987. SHRI DUSHYANT SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has a proposal to bring about reform in the examination system at the university level;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any university has initiated any action in the matter; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) Universities have academic autonomy in respect of examinations conducted by them and are responsible for maintaining reliability, validity and objectivity as also a closer integration of teaching, learning and evaluation.

The University Grants Commission supports these measures, both financially and academically.

[Translation]

Cancellation of Contracts

2988. SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contracts awarded for the construction of the National Highways have been cancelled during the current year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the States which were proposed to be linked with the National Highways through these cancelled contracts;

(d) the companies which have been awarded contracts for the construction of the National Highways during the current year and the States to which these companies belong, State-wise details;

(e) whether escalation in cost has been assessed as a result of the cancellation of the above contracts; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes Sir, some contracts, on National Highways Development Project (NHDP) have been cancelled. Details are given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(d) Details of the companies which have been awarded contracts during current year on NHDP and the areas to which they belong, are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

(e) and (f) Balance of contracts are awarded/to be awarded on basis of competitive biding, so there may not be any substantial cost difference.

Statement-I

Details of Contracts cancelled during the current year 2005-06

Sl.No.	Details of Cancelled Contract	Reasons for Cancellation	State proposed to be linked
1	2	3	4
1.	4-laning of Etawah Bypass on NH-2	Non performance of contractor (Ms BEL-ACC)	Uttar Pradesh
2.	4-laning of 25 km of NH-31 from Siliguri to Islampur (km 551 to km 526)	Furnishing of false certificate by contractor (Ms Kamala Constructions) regarding qualifying work experience.	West Bengal

1	2	3	4
3.	4-laning of 27 km NH-31C from Assam Border to Gairkatta (km 255 to km 223)	Contract terminated by mutual agreement between NHAI and contractor (Ms Gammon India Ltd.) due to difference of opinion regarding rates of some items.	Assam and West Bengal

Statement II

State-wise Award of Contracts for Financial Year 2005-06 (From April, 2005 onwards)

All Lengths in Km.
(Status as on Nov. 30, 2005)

	Stretch	NH No.	Length	Contractor Name Nationality	Contractor State
	1	2	3	4	5
	Andhra Pradesh				
	NS				
1.	Farukhanagar to Kotakatta (AP-4) Km 80.050 to km 135.469	7	55.74	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Indian	Tamil Nadu
2.	Armur to Atllor Yellareddy Km 309 to Km 447	7	69.26	MVR-MRK-JTEC consortium Indian-Chinese	Goa
3.	Farukhanagar to Kottakata (AP-3) Km. 34.140 to km 80.050	7	46.16	GMR Energy Ltd. & GMR Infrastructure Ltd. Consortium Indian	Karnataka
	State Total Andhra Pradesh		182.16 Km		
	Assam				
	EW				
1.	Lanka to Daboka (AS-16) Km. 22.00 to Km. 2.4	54	22.50	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
2.	Naalbari to Bijni (AS-7) Km. 1049.3 to Km. 1013.00	31	27.30	KMC Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-8) Km. 1013.00 to Km. 983.00	31	30.00	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
4.	Nalbari to Bijni (AS-9) Km. 983.00 to Km. 961.5	31	21.50	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi

	1	2	3	4	5
5.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-10) Km. 93.00 to Km. 30.00	31C	33.00	GPL-ECI (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-11) Km. 60.00 to Km. 30.00	31C	30.00	GPL-ECI (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Bijni to Assam/WB Border (AS-12) Km. 30.00 to Km. 0.00	31C	30.00	Progressive Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
8.	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-4) Km. 1121.00 to Km. 1093.00	31	28.00	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
9.	Guwahati to Nalbari (AS-5) Km.1093.00 to Km. 1065.00	31.	28.00	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
10.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-26) Km. 115.00 to Km 90.00	54	23.00	Gammon India Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
11.	Maibang to Lumding (AS-24) Km 65.00 to Km. 40.00	54	16.00	Gammon India Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
12.	Lumding to Daboka (AS-15) Km. 40.00 to Km. 22.00	54	18.00	Patel-KNR (JV) Indian	Maharashtra- Andhra Pradesh
13.	Daboka to Nagaon (AS-17) Km. 36. to Km. 5.5	36	30.50	Maytas Infrastructure Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
14.	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-19) Km. 230.5 to Km. 205	37	24.00	Maytas Infrastructure Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
15.	Dharamtul to Sonapur (AS-20) Km. 205.00 to Km. 183	37	22.00	KMC Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
16.	Nagaon bypass (AS-18) Km. 5.5 (NH-36) to Km. 262.7 (NH-37) and	37	23.00	Patel-KNR (JV) Indian	Maharashtra- Andhra Pradesh
17.	Nagaon to Dharmatul (AS-2) Km 255 to km 230	37	25.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
	Others				
1.	Construction of 10 km service road and one 2 lane Flyover on Guwhati Bypass Km. 146 to Km 156	37	10.00	Mahesheari Brothers Ltd. Indian	
	State Total Assam		441.80 Km		
	Bihar				
	EW				
1.	Mehsi to Kotwa (LMNHP-11) Km. 480 to Km. 440	28	40.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh

	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Purnea-Forbesganj (BR-1) Km. 268.0 to Km. 230	57	38.00	Progressive Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Purnea-Forbesganj (BR-2) Km. 309.0 to km. 268	57	41.00	Progressive Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Darbanga to Muzzaffarpur (BR-8) Km. 30 to Km. 0	57	30.00	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd.-C&C Indian	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Ring bunds to Jhanjharpur (BR-6) Km. 155 to Km. 110	57	45.00	BSCPL-C&C (JV) Indian	
6.	Deewapur to UP/Bihar Border (LMNHP-9) Km. 402 to Km. 360.915	28	41.09	Progressive Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Jhanjhapur to Darbanga (BR-7) Km. 110 to Km. 70	57	40.00	Madhucon Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
8.	Darbanga to Muzzaffarpur (BR-9) Km. 70 to Km. 30	57	40.00	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd.-C&C Indian	Andhra Pradesh
9.	Muzzaffarpur to Mehsi (LMNHP-12) Km. 520 to Km. 480	28	40.00	Progressive Construction Ltd.-MVR (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
10.	Forbesganj-Simrahi (BR-3) Km. 230 to Km 190	57	40.00	Gammon India Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
11.	Kotwa to dewapur (LMNHP-10) km 440 to km 402	28	38.00	Progressive Construction Ltd.-MVR (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
	State Total Bihar		433.09 Km		
	Haryana				
	NS				
1.	Panipat Elevated Highway Km. 96.00 to 86.00	1	10.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Indian	Tamil Nadu
	State Total Haryana		10.00 Km		
	Haryana [5]/Punjab [31]				
	NHDP Phase IIIA				
1.	Ambala-Chandigarh Km. 5/735 to Km. 39/961 of NH-22 and	21 & 22	36.00	GMR Energy Ltd. & GMR Infrastructure Ltd. Consortium Indian	Karnataka
	State Total Haryana [5]/Punjab [31]		36.00 Km		
	Jammu & Kashmir				
	NS				
1.	Jammu to Kunjwani (Jammu Bypass) NS-33/J&K Km. 0.00 to Km. 15	1A	15.00	M. Venkata Rao Engineering Indian	Andhra Pradesh

	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Pathankot to Jammu & Kashmir Border (NS-36/J&K) Km. 110.45 to Km. 117.6 & Km. 4.0 to	1A	19.65	M. Venkata Rao Engineering Indian	Andhra Pradesh
3.	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-35/J&K) Km. 50 to Km. 80	1A	30.00	ITD Cementation (I) Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
4.	Vijaypur to Pathankot (NS-34/J&K) Km 16.35 to Km. 50.00	1A	33.65	ITD Cementation (I) Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
	State Total Jammu & Kashmir		98.30 Km		
	Kerala				
	NS				
1.	Trishur to Angamali (KL-1) Km. 270.000 to Km. 316.70	47	40.00	KMC-SREI (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
	State Total Kerala		40.00 Km		
	Madhya Pradesh				
	EW				
1.	Jhansi-Shivpur (EW-II-MP-2) Km. 50 to Km. 15	25	35.00	ITD-CemIndia (JV) Thiland-Indian	Thailand-Maharashtra
2.	Shivpuri Bypass & upto MP/RJ Border (EW-II-MP-I) Km. 15 to Km. 0 of NH 25 & Km. 610 to Km.	25 & 76	53.00	CSCHK-Soma (JV) Chinese-Indian	China-Andhra Pradesh
	NHDP Phase IIIA				
	1. Indore-Khalghat	3	60.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd. Delhi Brass Consortium Indian	New Delhi
	State Total Madhya Pradesh		168.00 Km		
	Madhya Pradesh[30]/Uttar Pradesh [11]				
	EW				
1.	Jhansi-Shivpuri (UP-MP-1) (UP-11 Km. & MP-30 Km.) Km. 91 to Km. 50 (UP-11 Km. & MP-30 Km.)	25	41.00 41.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd.	New Delhi Indian
	State Total		41.00 Km		
	Madhya Pradesh [30] Uttar Pradesh [11]				
	Maharashtra				
	NHDP Phase IIIA				
1.	Gonde-Vadape (Thane) Km. 440/000 to Km. 539/500	3	100.00	Gammon India Ltd.-Sadbhav-Bilimoria Consortium Indian	Maharashtra-Gujarat-Maharashtra

	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Nagpur-Kondhali Km. 9.2 to Km. 50	6	40.00	Atlanta-SREI Consortium (JV) Indian	Maharashtra- West Bengal
3.	Kondhali-Telegaon Km. 50 to Km. 100	6	50.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd.- Delhi Brass Consortium Indian	New Delhi
	NS				
1.	Nagpur to Hyderabad Section/MH/AP border (NS-62) Km. 153 to Km. 175	7	22.00	Devi Enterprises Indian	Uttar Pradesh
2.	Nagpur to Hyderabad Section (NS-60/MH) Km. 94 to Km. 123	7	29.00	HSCL-SIPL (JV) Indian	Delhi & Maharashtra
3.	Nagpur to Hyderabad Section (NS-59/MH) Km. 64 to Km. 94	7	30.00	Ideal Road Builders Pvt. Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
4.	Nagpur to Hyderabad Section (NS-61/MH) Km. 13 to Km. 153	7	30.00	Ideal Road Builders Pvt.ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
	State Total Maharashtra		301.00 Km		
	Punjab				
	NHDP Phase IIIA				
1.	Jalandhar-Amritsar Km. 407/100 to Km. 456/100	1	49.00	IVRCL Infrastructure Project Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
	NS				
1.	Pathankot to Bhogpur (NS-37/PB) Km. 26 to Km. 70	1A	44.00	ITD Cementation (I) Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
	State Total Punjab		93.00 Km		
	Punjab [29]/Himachal Pradesh [11]				
	NS				
	1. Pathankot to Bhogpur (NS-38/PB) Km 70 to Km 110	1A	40.00	Bridge & Roof Indian	New Delhi
	State Total Punjab [29]/Himachal Pradesh		40.00 Km		
	Rajasthan				
	EW				
1.	Kota Bypass (RJ-4) Km. 406 to Km. 381	76	25.00	ITD-Cementia (JV) Thailand-Indian	Thailand- Maharashtra

	1	2	3	4	5
2.	Bakaria to Gogunda (RJ-2) Km. 74 Km. 30	76	44.00	SOMA-BSCPL (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
3.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-10) Km. 509 to Km. 449.15	76	59.85	KMC Construction Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Pindwara to Bakaria (RJ-1) Km. 29 Km. 0 (NH 76) & Km 264 to Km	76 & 14	43.00	Agrawal JV Indian	
5.	Chhittorgarh Bypass (RJ-6) Km. 253 to Km. 213	76	40.00	China Gezhouba Water & Power (Group) Co. Ltd. China	China
6.	Kota to Chhittorgarh (RJ-7) Km. 316 to Km. 253	76	63.00	CEC-Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. (JV) Chinese-Indian	China-Maharashtra
7.	Kota to Chhittorgarh (RJ-8) Km. 381 to Km. 316	76	65.00	Punj Lloyd Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
8.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-11) Km. 579 to Km. 509	76	70.00	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. ECC Division Indian	Tamil Nadu
9.	RJ/MP Border to Kota (RJ-9) Km. 449.15 to Km. 406	76	43.15	Sunway Construction Ltd. Malaysian	Malaysia
10.	Gogunda to Udaipur (RJ-3) Km. 104 Km. to Km. 73	76	31.00	Ranjit-Tarmat (JV) Indian	Gujarat
	State Total Rajasthan		484.00 Km		
	Tamil Nadu				
	NS				
1.	Salem to Kerala Border Section (TN-6) Km. 203.96 on NH-7 to Km. 53.00 on NH-	7&47	53.53	IVRCL Infrastructure Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
2.	Salem to Karur (NS-2/TN-2) Km. 207.050 to Km 248.625	7	41.55	Mal/MVR-MRK-JTEC (JV) Indian-China	Goa
3.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-42/TN) Km. 120 to Km. 160	7	42.70	Shakti Kumar M. Sancheti Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
4.	Km. 120 of Madurai-Tirunveli Section to Panagudi (Km. 203) (NS-43) Km. 160 to Km. 203	7	43.00	Patel-KNR (JV) Indian	Maharashtra-Andhra Pradesh
5.	Krishnagiri to Thopurghat (NS/2-TN 1) Km. 94.000 to 156	7	62.50	Larsen & Toubro Ltd. Indian	Tamil Nadu

	1	2	3	4	5
6.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-41/TN) Km. 80.00 to Km. 120.00	7	39.51	IVRCL Infrastructure Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Karur to Madurai (TN-4) Km. 305.6 to Km. 373.275	7	68.13	Madhucon Projects Ltd.-SREI Indian	Andhra Pradesh West Bengal
8.	Madurai-Kanniakumari Section (NS-40/TN) Km. 42.000 to Km. 80.000	7	38.86	IVRCL Infrastructure Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
9.	Salem to Kerala Border Section (TN-7) Km. 53.000 to Km. 100	47	48.51	IVRCL Infrastructure Projects Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
10.	Salem to Karur (NS-2/TN-3) Km. 258.645 to Km. 292.6	7	33.48	Reliance Energy Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
11.	Madurai to Km. 120 of Madurai-Tirunveli Section Including Madurai Bypass (NS-39) Km. 0.000 to Km. 42.000	7	42.00	Patel-KNR (JV) Indian	Maharashtra-Andhra Pradesh
12.	Karur to Madurai (TN-5) Km. 373.275 to Km. 426.6	7	53.03	M/s Reliance Energy Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
	Others				
1.	Tovaramkurchi to Madurai Km. 60.95 to Km. 124.84	45B	63.89	Aggarwal-JMC (JV) Indian	
2.	Improvement of Access of GQ within Chennai City Including Construction of 4 grade Seperators	205, 4 & 45	4.00	Somdutt Builders-Simplex (JV) Indian	New Delhi
3.	Trichy Bypass end to Tovaramkurchi Km. 0 to Km. 6095	45B	60.95	Aggarwal-JC (JV) Indian	—
	State Total Tamil Nadu		695.63 Km		
	Uttar Pradesh				
	EW				
1.	Orai to Jhansi (UP-4) Km. 170.0-Km. 104.0	25	66.00	Sunway Construction Ltd. Malaysian	Malaysia
2.	Orai to Jhansi (UP-5) Km. 220.0-Km. 170.0	25	50.00	IRCON International Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
3.	UP/Bihar Border to Kasia (LMNHP-8) Km. 360.915 to Km. 319.8	28	41.12	Simplex Indian	

	1	2	3	4	5
4.	Kasia to Gorakhpur (LMNHP-7) Km. 319.8 to Km. 279. 8	28	40.00	NCC-VEE (JV) Indian	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Ganga Bridge to Rama Devi Crossing (UP-6) Km. 75.0-Km 80.06	25	5.60	Gammon India Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
6.	Jhansi Bypass (UP-3) Km. 104.0-Km. 91.0	25	15.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
7.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-6) Km. 251.70 to Km. 208.00	28	43.70	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
8.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-5) Km. 208.00 to Km. 164.00	28	44.00	Nagarjuna Construction Co. Ltd. Indian	Karnataka
9.	Gorakhpur-Ayodhya (LMNHP-4) Km. 164.00 to Km. 135.00	28	29.00	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
10.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-3) Km. 135.00 to Km. 93.075	28	41.93	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
11.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-2) Km. 93.075 to Km. 45	28	47.00	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
12.	Ayodhya-Lucknow (LMNHP-1) Km. 45.00 to Km. 8.250	28	36.00	Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
	NHDP Phase IIIA				
1.	Agra-UP/Rajasthan Border	11	45.00	Oriental Structural Engineers Pvt. Ltd. Delhi Brass Consortium Indian	New Delhi
2.	Sitapur-Lucknow Km. 488.277 to Km. 413.20	24	75.00	Apollo (UK)-JLI (UK)-DSC (Indian)-LOR (UK) Consortium UK-Indian (JV)	UK-UK-Delhi-UK
	State Total Uttar Pradesh		579.34 Km		
	West Bengal				
	EW				
1.	Siliguri to Islampur (WB-7) Km. 526.00 to Km. 500	31	26.00	IRCON International Ltd. Indian	New Delhi
2.	Assam/WB Border to Gairkatta (WB-1) Km. 255.00 to Km. 223.00	31C	32.00	Gammon India Ltd. Indian	Maharashtra
3.	Siliguri to Islampur (WB-6) Km. 551.00 to Km. 526.00	31	25.00	B. Seenaiah & Co. (Projects) Ltd. Indian	Andhra Pradesh
	State Total West Bengal		83.00 Km		
	Grand Total		3706.31 Km		

[English]

Construction/Development of Pavement on NH-31

2989. SHRI A.F.G. OSMANI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target date fixed for carrying out construction/development of 8.60 km. pavement of NH-31 in Abhyapuri Division, Barpeta, Assam expired on 30.09.2005 due to non-completion of requisite formalities by the concerned Department;

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

(c) the steps taken by the Government to fix the responsibility and take appropriate action against the erring officials;

(d) whether the Government proposes to revalidate the sanction so that the construction work can be done now after proper selection of bidders; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) The work for raising and strengthening for 8.60 km. length between km 829.000 to 859.300 in stretches on NH-31 was sanctioned for Rs. 11.69 crore on 31.3.2005. The work was awarded on 26.9.2005 within the stipulated period of 6 months and is in progress. The work is targeted for completion by 31st March 2008.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Financial Assistance to NGOs by NDMC

2990. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
DR. DHIRENDRA AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether N.D.M.C. is providing financial assistance to several N.G.Os and salaries to their employees is also made by the NDMC;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the financial assistance given to N.G.Os during each of the last three years, NGO-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government for illegal collusion between the N.G.Os and N.D.M.C's officers so far; and

(d) the total number of officers who have been terminated of their services on corruption charges so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) Details of the Non Governmental Organisations and the grants-in-aid given to them by the New Delhi Municipal Council during the years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 (till date) are given in the enclosed statement. The New Delhi Municipal Council has not paid any salaries to the staff working in these Non Governmental Organisations.

(c) No instance of collusion between the officials of, New Delhi Municipal Council and these Non Governmental Organisations has come to notice.

(d) Does not arise.

Statement

Sl.No.	Name of the Institution/ Non-Governmental Organisation	Amount of grants-in-aid (year-wise) (in rupees)			
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	M/s Jawahar Lal Nehru Hockey Tournament, 31/30 East Patel Nagar, New Delhi.	5,00,000	2,50,000	2,50,000	Nil

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	M/s. All India Sports Council of Deaf, Northern Complex, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi	20,000	20,000	20,000	Nil
3.	M/s. Akhil Bhartiya Mahila Sansthan, K-54, Chandhary Building, Connaught Place, New Delhi	Nil	Nil	25,000	Nil
4.	M/s Chitra Kala Sangam, N-77, Con. Circus, New Delhi.	25,000	1,00,000	25,000	Nil
5.	M/s. Delhi Hindi Sahitya Samelan, Northern Complex, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi.	50,000	40,000	40,000	Nil
6.	M/s. R.K. Mission Free Library and Reading Room, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi.	Nil	Nil	20,000	Nil
7.	M/s All India Federation of Deaf, Northern Complex, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi.	15,000	15,000	15,000	Nil
8.	M/s Blind Relief Association, Lal Bahadur Shashtri Marg, New Delhi.	25,000	40,000	50,000	Nil
9.	M/s Bharat Sewak Samaj Delhi Pradesh, 19 & 20, Northern Complex, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi.	20,000	40,000	Nil	Nil
10.	M/s. Hindi Kust Nivaran Sangh, R.K. Ashram Marg, New Delhi.	1,00,000	Nil	Nil	Nil
11.	M/s. Institute for Blind Andh Maha Vidyalaya, P.R. Road, New Delhi.	50,000	Nil	Nil	Nil
12.	M/s. R.K. Mission TB Clinic, Arya Samaj Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi	50,000	25,000	Nil	Nil
13.	Chattarpati Shivaji All India Hockey Tournament Polio Unmoolen Sports Society, 205, Samachar Apartment, Mayur Vihar, Delhi.	5,00,000	2,50,000	Nil	Nil

[English]

Awarding of Contracts for Construction of National Highways

2991. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has advised the Union Government to bring about changes in the manner in which contracts for the construction of National Highways are awarded;

(b) if so, the factors responsible for such situation; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Grant for Modernization of Engineering Colleges

2992. SHRI G. KARUNAKARA REDDY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government has taken a decision to provide financial assistance to some States, including Karnataka, for the modernisation of their Engineering Colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise and college-wise, particularly in Karnataka State;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend any financial assistance to some other States for the above purpose; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The Government of India is implementing the World Bank assisted Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) in the country which aims at upscaling and supporting ongoing efforts of Government of India in improving quality of Technical Education. 13 States including Karnataka have been covered under the First and Second cycle of the programme. The other States can be included only if the first phase States are successful in implementing the current programme. The details of the States along with the Institutions is given in the enclosed Statement.

In addition a scheme of Modernisation and Removal of Obsolescence (MODROBS) aimed at modernizing and removal of obsolescence in the Laboratories/Workshops/ Computing facilities, to keep the facilities updated in technical institutions for effective Teaching, Training and Research is also being implemented. The equipment financed under the scheme is up to a limit of Rs. 15 lakhs which could be ideally used for upgradation of equipment in existing laboratories, enhancement of performance parameter specification of existing equipment, incorporation of latest development in the field and replacement of old depreciated equipment by modern equipment.

The total budgetary provision for financial grant under the scheme for the year 2005-06 is Rs. 23.75 Crores.

The state-wise number of proposals received till date including that of Karnataka for financial assistance under MODROBS for 2005-06 is available at website www.aicte.ernet.in. The scheme of Modernisation and Removal of Obsolescence (MODROBS) is open for All India Council for Technical Education approved Technical Institutions in the country.

Statement

Institution-wise details of Programme Life Allocations

(Rs. in crore)

States			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1. University College of Engineering, Osmania University, Hyderabad	15.892

	2.	AU Colelge of Engineering, Vishakhapatnam	15.336
	3.	JNTU College of Engineering, Kukatpally, Hyderabad	14.313
	4.	JNTU Institute of Science & Technology, Kukatpally	12.805
	5.	JNTU College of Engineering, Anantpur	12.029
	6.	University College of Technology, Osmania University, Hyderabad	11.870
	7.	Rajeev Gandhi Memorial College of Engineering & Technology, Nandyal, Kurnool District	11.936
	8.	Bapatla Engineering College, Bapatla	11.815
	9.	Govt. Institute of Electronics, Secunderabad	7.500
	10.	SVU College of Engineering, Tirupati	14.190
	11.	JNTU College of Engineering, Kakinada	11.947
	12.	Sreenidhi Institute of Science & Technology, Hyderabad	11.720
		Total	151.353
2. Gujarat	1.	LD College of Engineering, Ahmedabad	30.000
	2.	DD Institute of Technology, Nadiad	18.562
	3.	Government Engineering College, Gandhi Nagar	20.022
	4.	Government Engineering College, Modasa	15.036
	5.	Govt. Polytechnic, Ahmedabad	1.000
	6.	Dr. S&SS Ghandhy College of Engineering & Technology, Surat	1.079
		Total	85.699
3. Haryana	1.	CR State College of Engineering, Murthal	7.277
	2.	Guru Jambheshwar University, Hissar	8.364
	3.	Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra	7.648
	4.	YMCA Institute of Engineering, Faridabad	7.647
	5.	Govt. Polytechnic, Nilokheri	2.000
		Total	32.936
4. Himachal Pradesh	1.	Govt. Polytechnic, Sundernagar	2.500
	2.	Govt. Polytechnic for Women Kandaghat	2.500
	3.	Govt. Polytechnic, Hamirpur	2.492
		Total	7.492

5.	Jharkhand	1. Birla Institute of Technology, Mesra	20.000
		2. BIT, Sindri	12.370
		3. Government Polytechnic, Ranchi	1.000
		4. Government Polytechnic, Dumka	1.000
		Total	34.370
6.	Karnataka	1. Shri Jayachamarajendra College of Engineering, Mysore	20.000
		2. Shri BVV Sangha's Basaveshwar Engineering College, Vidyanagar	15.163
		3. University of Vishweshwaraiah College of Engineering, Bangalore	15.060
		4. NMAM Institute of Technology, Nitte	16.100
		5. National Institute of Engineering, Mysore	7.547
		6. Shri Dharmasthala Manjmatheshwara College of Engineering & Technology, Dharwad	10.000
		7. PDA College of Engineering, Gulbarga, Karnataka	10.434
		8. MS Ramaiah Institute of Technology, Bangalore	12.977
		9. Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Bangalore	17.350
		10. University BDT College of Engineering, Davangere	11.885
		11. Malnad College of Engineering, Hassan	6.818
		12. Siddaganaga Institute of Technology, Tumkur	10.000
		13. Sri Siddhartha Institute of Technology, Tumkur	10.000
		14. BMS College of Engineering, Bangalore	10.000
		Total	173.334
7.	Kerala	1. College of Engineering, Trivandrum	31.999
		2. College of Engineering, Chengannur	5.989
		3. Model Engineering College, Kochi	5.894
		4. Sree Chitra Thirunal College of Engineering, Trivandrum	6.000
		5. MES College of Engineering, Kuttipuram	5.620
		6. LBS College of Engineering, Kasargod	6.000
		Total	61.509

8.	Madhya Pradesh	1. Jabalpur Engineering College, Jabalpur	13.033
		2. Shri Govindram Sakseria Institute of Technology, Indore	11.483
		3. Rewa Engineering College, Rewa	6.290
		4. University Institute of Technology-RGPV, Bhopal	6.013
		5. Ujjain Engineering College, Ujjain	6.167
		6. Sardar Vallabh Bhai Polytechnic College, Bhopal	2.500
		7. Kalaniketan Polytechnic College, Jabalpur	1.960
		Total	50.446
9.	Maharashtra	1. Pune Institute of Engineering Technology, Pune	25.545
		2. Mumbai University Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai	23.330
		3. Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute, Mumbai	22.167
		4. Government College of Engineering, Aurangabad	8.370
		5. Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar Technological University, Vidyavihar	7.496
		6. Walchand College of Engineering, Sangli	8.540
		7. Shri Guru Gobind Singhji College of Engineering and Technology, Nanded	9.983
		8. Government College of Engineering, Amravati	8.843
		9. Vishwakaram Institute of Technology, Pune	6.520
		10. GH Raisoni College of Engineering, Nagpur	10.000
		11. DKTE Society's Textile & Engg. Institute, Rajwada	6.972
		12. Government Polytechnic, Mumbai	2.103
		13. Government Polytechnic, Pune	2.085
		14. Government Polytechnic, Nagpur	2.000
		15. KES Rajarambapu Institute of Technology, Sangli	9.299
		16. Yashwantrao Chavan College of Engineering, Nagpur	8.411
		17. Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engineering, Shegaon	7.000
		Total	168.664

10. Tamil Nadu	1.	Govt. College of Technology, Coimbatore	14.600
	2.	AC College of Engg, Technology, Karaikudi	15.667
	3.	Govt. College of Engg, Tirunelveli	10.110
	4	Thantai Periyar Govt. Instt. of Tech., Vellore	10.267
	5.	Govt. Colelge of Engg, Salem	10.967
	6.	Central Polytechnic College, Tharamani	1.560
	7.	Dr. Dharmabai Govt. Polytechnic College for Women, Tharamani	2.00
	8.	Tamil Nadu Polytechnic College, Madurai	1.153
	9.	College of Engg, Anna University, Chennai	13.040
	10.	Madras Institute of Technology, Chennai	10.00
	11.	AC College of Tech., Anna University, Chennai	5.299
		Total	94.663
11. Uttaranchal	1.	Gobind Ballabh Pant Univ. of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar	20.000
	2.	Dehradun Institute of Technology, Dehradun	5.984
	3.	Kamaon Engg. College, Dwarahat	6.750
	4.	GBP Engg. College, Pauri, Garhwal	6.750
	5.	Govt. Polytechnic, Dehradun	2.000
		Total	41.484
12. Uttar Pradesh	1.	Harcourt Butler Technological Institutes, Kanpur	24.777
	2.	Baba Banarasi Das National Institute of Technology & Management, Lucknow	8.435
	3.	Kamla Nehru Institute of Technology, Sultanpur	10.163
	4.	Institute of Engineering & Technology, Lucknow	12.333
	5.	Madan Mohan Malviya Engineering College, Gorakhpur	10.541
	6.	Bundelkhand Institute of Engineering & Technology, Jhansi	8.150
	7.	Government Central Textile Institute, Kanpur	8.119
	8.	Shri Ram Murthi Samarak College of Engineering & Technology, Bareilly	6.905
	9.	United College of Engineering & Research, Allahabad	4.290

	10.	Integral University, Lucknow	9.627
	11.	JSS Academy of Technical Education, Noida	6.130
	12.	Feroze Gandhi Polytechnic, Raebareli	1.069
	13.	Dr. Ambedkar Institute of Technology of Handicapped, Kanpur	1.940
		Total	112.479
13. West Bengal	1.	Bengal Engineering and Science University, Howrah	24.223
	2.	Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Jadavpur University, Jadavpur	23.570
	3.	University College of Technology, Calcutta University, Kolkata	30.176
	4.	Netaji Subhash Engineering College, South 24 Parganas	7.478
	5.	Asansol Engineering College, Asansol	10.062
	6.	Govt. College of Engineering & Textile Technology, Serampur, Hooghly	8.250
	7.	Kalyani Government Engineering College, Kalyani	12.080
	8.	Haldia Institute of Technology, Haldia	10.000
	9.	Jalpaiguri Government Engineering College, Jalpaiguri	11.090
	10.	Govt. College of Engineering & Ceramic Technology, Kolkata	8.366
	11.	Institute of Engineering & Management, Kolkata	8.000
		Total	153.297

Centrally Funded Institutions

Sl.No.		Name of the Institution	Project Life Allocation (Rs. in Crores)
1		2	3
1.	1.	Motilal Nehru National Institute of Technology, Allahabad	21.000
	2.	Visvesvaraya National Institute of Technology, Nagpur	20.648
	3.	National Institute of Technology, Calicut	20.940

1	2	3
4.	Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal	20.892
5.	National Institute of Technology, Kurukshetra	20.930
6.	Dr. Br. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar	20.903
7.	National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur	20.290
8.	National Institute of Technology, Surat	20.939
9.	National Institute of Technology, Srinagar	20.940
10.	Malviya National Institute of Technology, Jaipur	20.000
11.	National Institute of Technology, Surathkal	20.940
12.	National Institute of Technology, Hamirpur	19.550
13.	National Institute of Technology, Warangal	21.000
14.	National Institute of Technology, Durgapur	21.369
15.	National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirapalli	20.900
16.	National Institute of Technology of Foundry & Forge Technology, Ranchi	14.560
17.	National Institute of Technology, Silchar	10.252
18.	National Institute of Technology, Rourkela	10.000
	Total	346.053

Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme

2993. SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the proposals submitted by various State Governments under Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme, location-wise and State-wise;

(b) the number of proposals cleared so far, State-wise, location-wise;

(c) the reasons for the delay in clearing the remaining proposals; and

(d) the time by which these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Industrial Infrastructure Up-gradation Scheme, IIUS was launched during December, 2003. Since then 110 proposals for different clusters have been received. 28 proposals for different clusters have given in the statement enclosed.

(c) The matter has been referred to Planning Commission for allocation of a higher outlay for the Industrial Infrastructure Up-gradation Scheme.

(d) It is not possible to indicate any time limit at this stage.

Statement

List of Cluster Proposals received and their Status

	Sl.No.	Cluster Identified	Location	Project cost	Status
	1	2	3	4	5
	I.	**Andhra Pradesh**			
1.	1.	Auto Component Industry	Vijayawada, Distt. Krishna	31.08	Approved
2.	2.	Bulk Drugs & Pharma Cluster	Hyderabad	79.00	Approved
3.	3.	Precision Engg. Tools & components	Balanagar, Hyderabad	72.22	No yet "approved or rejected"
4.	4.	Readymade Garments Cluster	Rayadurg, Distt. Anantapur	7.05	Not yet "approved or rejected"
5.	5.	Leather Tanning Industry	Warangal & Neighbouring Disttricts	21.42	Rejected
6.	6.	Leather Tanning Industry	Distt. Vijayanagaram and Neighbouring areas	15.00	Rejected
7.	7.	Artificial Jewellery Cluster	Machilipatnam, Distt. Krishna	9.70	Rejected
8.	8.	Auqa-culture Cluster	Bhimavaram-Vishakhpatnam Zone	40.00	Rejected
9.	9.	Coir Cluster	West & East Godavari, Hyderabad	67.42	Not yet "approved or rejected"
10.	10.	Sircilla Powerlooms	Distt. Karimnagar	32.62	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	II.	**Arunachal Pradesh**			
11.	1.	Bamboo Mat Cluster	Along, West Siang Distt.	70.00	Rejected
	III.	**Assam**			
12.	1.	Bamboo based Cluster	Guwahati	41.78	Rejected

	1	2	3	4	5
	IV.	**Chhattisgarh**			
13.	1.	Ispat Bhoomi Cluster	Raipur		Approved
14.	2.	Heavy Steel Industrial Cluster	Bhillai	1.23	Rejected
15.	3.	Light Steel Cluster	Bhillai	14.85	Rejected
16.	4.	Kosa Industries	Janjgir-Champa	7.0	Rejected
17.	5.	Rice Industry Cluster	Dhamtari	5.7	Rejected
18.	6.	Blackstone Cutting & Polishing	Basin (Rajim) Raipur	3.42	Rejected
19.	7.	Rice Industry Cluster	Tilda-Neora	4.85	Rejected
20.	8.	Metal Craft Industry	Nagarnar, Bastar	4.1	Rejected
21.	9.	Wood Craft Industry	Jagdalpur, Bastar	3.46	Rejected
22.	10.	Chemical Cluster	Bhillai	10.71	Rejected
23.	11.	Electrical Cluster	Bhillai	2.9	Rejected
24.	12.	Automobile Cluster	Bhillai	4.33	Rejected
25.	13.	Carpet Industry	Mainpat, Ambikapu	4.0	Rejected
26.	14.	Rice Mills Industry	Navapara-Rajim	5.35	Rejected
27.	15	Rice Mills Industry	Raigad-Kharsia	5.36	Rejected
28.	16.	Rice Mills Industry	Rajnand Gaon	5.33	Rejected
29.	17.	Rice Mills Industry	Durg	5.33	Rejected
30.	18.	Rice Mills Industry	Mahasamund-Arang	5.32	Rejected
31.	19.	Rice Mills Industry	Bhatapara-Balodabazz	5.36	Rejected
	V.	**Delhi**			
32.	1.	Okhla Ind. Area	Okhla, New Delhi	49.67	Not yet "approved or rejected"
33.	2.	Wazirpur Indl. Area	Wazirpur, Delhi	60.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	VI.	**Gujarat**			
34.	1.	Forging, Packaging, Plastics, Glass, etc.	Lodhika GIDC Industrial Park, Rajkot	65.20	Not yet "approved or rejected"

	1	2	3	4	5
35.	2.	Chemical Cluster	Ankleshwar, Panoli and Jhagdia	152.00	Approved
36.	3.	Chemical Cluster	Vapi	54.31	Approved
37.	4.	Chemical Cluster	Ahmedabad	72.17	Approved
38.	5.	Gem & Jewellery	Surat	37.00	Approved.
39.	6.	Pharma, Textile, Engg., Chem., etc.	Sachin	47.50	Not yet "approved or rejected"
40.	7.	Chemical cluster	Nandesari	18.58	Not yet "approved or rejected"
41.	8.	Machine Tools & foundry Industries	Rajkot	36.00	Rejected
42.	9.	Jewellary cluster	Rajkot	17.23	Rejected
43.	10.	Engg. Cluster	Chitra, Bhavnagar	64.75	Rejected
44.	11.	Engg. Cluster	Makarpura Vadodara	36.04	Not yet "approved or rejected"
45.	12.	Sea food processing	Veraval, Junagarh	20.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
46.	13.	Leather cluster	Gujarat	16.21	Rejected
	VII.	**Haryana**			
47.	1.	Light Engineering Industrial Cluster	Faridabad	60.44	Approved
48.	2.	Textiles Cluster	Panipat	28.98	Approved
49.	3.	Automotive Components	Gurgaon	66.67	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	VIII.	**Himachal Pradesh**			
50.	1.	Textile Cluster	Nalagarh, Baddi, Barotiwala	48.72	Rejected
	IX.	**Jammu and Kashmir**			
51.	1.	Electronic Complex	Rangreth	10.02	Rejected
52.	2.	Industrial Complex	Khunmoh	8.62	Rejected
53.	3.	Industrial Complex	Shalteng	1.52	Rejected
	X.	**Jharkhand**			
54.	1.	Auto Cluster	Adityapur Jamshedpur	64.99	Not yet "approved or rejected"

1	2	3	4	5
	XI. Karnataka			
55.	1. Foundry Industrial Cluster	Belguaum	16.22	Approved
56.	2. Machine Tools	Bangalore	115.0	Approved
57.	3. Garment Cluster	Bellary	23.75	Rejected
58.	4. Cashew Cluster	Mangalore	24.17	Rejected
59.	5. Coir Cluster	Hassan	49.65	Rejected
60.	6. Coir Cluster	Chennapatna	23.27	Rejected
61.	7. Dal Industries Cluster	Gulbarga	43.56	Rejected
62.	8. Valves Cluster	Hubli	70.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
63.	9. Auto & Allied Industries Cluster	Shimoga	58.36	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XII. Kerala			
64.	1. Kinfra Herbal Drugs Cluster	Thrissur	10.19	Approved
65.	2. Coir Cluster	Alappuzha	16.5	Approved
66.	3. Chemical Cluster	Kochi	60.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XIII. Madhya Pradesh			
67.	1. Auto cluster	Pitampur	72.39	Approved
68.	2. Engg. & Allied Cluster	Bhopal	68.77	Not yet "approved or rejected"
69.	3. Readymade garments	Jabalpur	41.71	Not yet "approved or rejected"
70.	4. Food Processing & Packing Industries	Chhindwara	32.31	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XIV. Maharashtra			
71.	1. Textiles Cluster	Ichalkaranji, Kolhapur	59.87	Approved
72.	2. Auto components cluster	Pune	118.14	Approved
73.	3. Pomegranate Cluster	Solapur, Sangli, Pune	21.43	Not yet "approved or rejected"
74.	4. Dal Milling	Kapsi, Tal. Kamptee, Distt. Nagpur	35.42	Not yet "approved or rejected"
75.	5. Chemical Cluster	Mahad, Distt. Raigad	15.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
76.	6. Chemical Cluster	Thane—Belapur Indl. Area, Navi Mumbai	65.32	Rejected

	1	2	3	4	5
76.	7.	Chemical & Engg. Items	Roha, Distt. Raigad	22.85	Rejected
78.	8.	Chemical Cluster	Lote Parshuram Industrial Estate	25.52	Rejected
79.	9.	Automobile Cluster	Aurangabad	61.20	Rejected
80.	10.	Foundry & Eng. Cluster	Kolhapur, Maharashtra	42.44	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XV.	**Orissa**			
81.	1.	Steel and Metallurgical	Jajpur	62.50	Approved
	XVI.	**Punjab**			
82.	1.	Textiles Cluster	Ludhiana	67.00	Approved
83.	2.	Rerolling Steel Mills	Mandi Gobindgarh	59.26	Not yet "approved or rejected"
84.	3.	Bicycle & Parts	Ludhiana	50.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
85.	4.	Machine Tools	Batala	50.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
86.	5.	Steel Forging Cluster	Ludhiana	12.12	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XVII.	**Rajasthan**			
87.	1.	Marble Cluster	Kishangarh	58.77	Approved
88.	2.	Common waste treatmentil facility	Mavli, Udaypur	105.00	Rejected
	XVIII.	**Tamil Nadu**			
89.	1.	Ambur Leather Cluster	Ambur	33.77	Approved
90.	2.	Pumps/Motors/Foundary	Coimbatore	66.00	Approved
91.	3.	Auto Ancillary Ind.	Chennai	51.50	Approved
92.	4.	Cereals Pulses and Staples Milling Cluster	Madurai	67.18	Approved
93.	5.	Textile Cluster	Tirupur	143.00	Approved
94.	6.	Printing & Publishing Cluster	Sivakasi (TN)	60.00	Not yet "approved or rejected"
95.	7.	Coir Cluster	Salem, Namakkal, Dharmapuri and Vellor	49.70	Not yet "approved or rejected"
96.	8.	Mango Pulp Project	Krishanagiri (Dharmapuri District)	42.91	Rejected

	1	2	3	4	5
97.	9.	Pharmaceutical	Chennai	15.00	Rejected
98.	10.	Matches & Fireworks Products	Shivakasi (TN)	5.42	Rejected
99.	11.	Tea Cluster	Nilgiris (TN)	66.77	Rejected
100.	12.	Leather Cluster	Ranipet, Vishram & Pernambut	54.55	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	IXX.	**Tripura**			
101.	1.	Bamboo Handicraft	Tripura	29.30	Not yet "approved or rejected"
	XX.	**Uttar Pradesh**			
102.	1.	Leather Sector	Kanpur-Unnao	52.35	Approved
103.	2.	Woodware Industries Cluster	Saharanpur	44.97	Not yet "approved or rejected"
104.	3.	Silk & Carpet Cluster	Varanasi	48.13	Not yet "approved or rejected"
105.	4.	Jagdishpur Industrial Cluster	Amethi	77.47	Not yet "approved or rejected"
106.	5.	Glass Industry	Ferozabad	58.06	Rejected
	XXI.	**West Bengal**			
107.	1.	Foundry Park	Howrah	130.00	Approved
108.	2.	Multi Industry Cluster	Haldia	73.69	Approved
109.	3.	Rubber Cluster	Howrah	33.00	Approved
110.	4.	Iron & Steel Industry Cluster	Durgapur	73.05	Not yet "approved or rejected"

[Translation]

Assistance for Development of Inland Water Transport Facilities

2994. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar have sought assistance to develop inland water transport facilities in four major rivers—Ganga, Kosi, Gandak and Sone in the State of Bihar;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said proposal has been approved; and

(d) if so, the funds allocated therefor and the works being undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Four proposals have been approved by the Government in 2003-04. Details of these proposals including sanctioned cost, and funds released to the State

Government are given in the enclosed Statement-I. These projects are to be implemented by the State Government. As per progress reports received from State Government, works are yet to commence on any of these projects.

In addition, four more proposals (One each for Ganga, Kosi, Gandak and Sone rivers) were received from Government of Bihar on which clarifications had been sought from the State Government. The same are awaited. Details of these proposals are given in the enclosed Statement-II.

Statement I

Details of approved proposals of Govt. of Bihar under centrally sponsored schemes in 2003-2004

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	River	Works likely to be undertaken	Sanctioned cost	Fund released to the State
1.	Ganga	Preparation of DPR for river front development at Patna aimed at IWT based tourism	25.00	5.00
2.	Kosi	Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DRP for development of river Kosi	30.00	6.00
3.	Gandak	Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DPR for development of river Gandak	30.00	5.00
4.	Sone	Collection of hydromorphological data and preparation of DPR for development of river Sone	30.00	5.00

Statement II

Details of proposals on which clarification have been sought from Government of Bihar under centrally sponsored scheme

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No.	River	Scope of Works	Estimated Cost
1	2	3	4
1.	Ganga	Development of navigational channel in Patna area for ferry service for cargo/ passenger	2871.00
2.	Kosi	Procurement of one survey and dredging unit for immediate dredging and maintenance of navigable channel in river Kosi with a view to commence IWT operation immediately	700.00

1	2	3	4
3.	Gandak	Procurement of one survey and dredging unit for immediate dredging and maintenance of navigable channel in river Gandak with a view to commence IWT operation immediately	700.00
4.	Sone	Procurement of one survey and dredging unit for immediate dredging and maintenance of navigable channel in river Sone with a view to commence IWT operation immediately	700.00

[English]

Calamity Management

2995. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where separate Ministries/ Departments have been created for calamity management;

(b) the amount provided to these Ministries/ Departments during the last three years;

(c) whether any norms have been formulated to identify the works to be done under calamity management; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to assure the compliance of these norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) As per information available with the Ministry, the States/Union Territories of Andaman & Nicobar, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Kerala, Lakshadweep, Manipur, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttaranchal have already converted/re-designated their respective Relief Departments so as to include Disaster Management in their nomenclature.

(b) The Central Government have not provided any financial support for the creation/re-designation of these Departments.

(c) Government of India have issued guidelines to State Governments/UT Administrations recommending, *inter alia*, implementation of institutional measures for coordinated action towards prevention, mitigation, preparedness and response to disasters, setting up of specialized search and rescue teams, training and awareness generation at different levels, developing fire services as Multi-hazard response units, setting up of control rooms with standby communication systems, drawing up of hazard specific disaster management plans, mainstreaming disaster mitigation aspects in all development projects, ensuring adherence to BIS standards/codes in the construction of buildings in seismic zones III, IV & V, constructing/earmarking cyclone and flood shelters, maintaining an on-line inventory of resources etc.

(d) Regular inter-action is maintained with State Governments to monitor the steps taken by them to strengthen their capacity for calamity management. 169 most hazard prone districts in 17 States are being assisted under the Government of India-UNDP Disaster Risk Management Programme in capacity building, awareness generation and preparation of disaster management plans at State/District/Block/Village/Ward/Urban Local Bodies levels. The State Governments have been allowed to utilize upto 10% of the annual allocation made to their Calamity Relief Fund for purchase of equipments for the specialist Search and Rescue teams. The State Governments have also been permitted to utilize the funds made available under the modernization of police forces scheme for equipping the Control rooms at State/District levels. Technical and logistic support to facilitate action by States/UTs in pursuance of the guidelines issued by the Government is also being provided.

Rehabilitation of Surrendered Militants

2996. SHRI M.K. SUBBA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps so far taken for rehabilitation of the militants who have surrendered and laid down their arms, State-wise;

(b) the number of the militants so far laid down arms and how many of them have been rehabilitated by way of employment including self-employment, State-wise and the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years, State-wise;

(c) whether the various States have requested for Central assistance in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(e) the action taken by the Union Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The State Government of Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) had formulated a Scheme for surrender-cum-rehabilitation of militants in J&K on 15th August, 1995, which was revised in June 1997 and further revised since 31.1.2004. As per the revised policy, a monthly stipend of Rs. 2,000/- per month is given to surrenderees for a period of three years after surrender and an immediate grant of Rs. 1.50 lakhs to be kept in the shape of Fixed Deposit Receipts in a bank in the name of the surrenderee which can be drawn by him on completion of three years period subject to good behaviour. Incentives for surrendered weapons are also given as per the prescribed rates. Besides, vocational training for self-employment to those who desire to undergo such training is also given.

The Central Government has formulated a scheme for surrender-cum-rehabilitation of militants in the North Eastern States which is applicable to those militants who have surrendered/surrender after 1.4.1998. This scheme has been revised w.e.f. 1.4.2005 on the lines of J&K surrender scheme. The details of militants surrendered and the reimbursement claimed during the last three years is given below:

Year	Jammu & Kashmir		NE States	
	No. of militants surrendered	Amount released	No. of militants surrendered	Reimbursement released
2003	119	Rs. 0.21 crore	3299	Rs. 12.70 crore
2004	137	Rs. 0.45 crore	1284	Rs. 10.00 crore
2005 (upto 30.11.05)	53	Rs. 0.82 crore	498	Rs. 7.00 crore

The Central Government provides 100% reimbursement of expenditure incurred on the rehabilitation of surrenderees in J&K and North Eastern States. The State Governments are taking action for rehabilitation of surrendered militants.

Besides, major naxalite affected States have Surrender-cum-Rehabilitation Schemes for naxalite who want to shun violence and join the mainstream. While the incentive package varies from State to State, the Central Government reimburses under the SRE Scheme to the naxalite affected States expenditure upto Rs. 20,000/- per surrenderee depending upon whether the naxalite has surrendered with arms or without arms. During the period between the year 2003 to 2005 (upto 30.11.05) 3576 naxalites have surrendered.

(c) The expenditure incurred on scheme for surrender-cum-rehabilitation of militants are being reimbursed by the Central Government to the concerned State Governments.

(d) and (e) In view of the (c) above, do not arise.

Expansion of ICDS

2997. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the norms for granting aid under Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS);

(b) whether the Government proposes to increase the grant from the existing limit;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the ratio in which cost is shared between the Centre and the States;

(d) whether the Govt. proposes to expand the scheme in other parts of the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme is an ongoing Centrally sponsored scheme implemented through the State Governments with 100 per cent financial assistance from the Central Government for all inputs other than supplementary nutrition which the States, till last year, were to provide from their own resources. However, from the year 2005-06, the Government of India has decided to share the cost of supplementary nutrition also with the States. Grant-in-aid for supplementary nutrition would be given on the basis of 50% of actual expenditure or 50% of financial norms, whichever is less.

(d) and (e) The Government has already approved expansion of the Scheme from the existing 5652 Projects and 7.54 lakh Anganwadi Centres to 6119 Projects and 9.42 lakh Anganwadi Centres.

Japanese Language in Curriculum

2998. SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed a MOU with Japan to include Japanese into CBSE curriculum as reported in Times of India dated 28.11.2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the time by when it is likely to be introduced; and

(d) the aims and objectives of including Japanese language in CBSE syllabus?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A joint statement entitled "India-Japan Partnership in a New Asian Era; Strategic Orientation of India-Japan Global Partnership" has been signed between India and Japan, on 29.4.2005, under which both the countries will work together to promote Japanese language studies in India, with a target of 30,000 learners at different levels in next five years, and through measures including the introduction of Japanese language as an optional foreign language in Indian secondary school curriculum.

(c) The Board intends to introduce the course in Class VI from the academic year 2006-07 and progressively in other classes.

(d) The objective of introducing Japanese and other foreign languages in the curriculum is to facilitate the interested students to acquire necessary skills for global competitiveness.

Construction of Six Lane Expressway

2999. SHRI A.K. MOORTHY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to construct a 6-lane expressway from Madurai to Chennai and Tuticorin;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the work is likely to start and be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Presently, there is no such proposal.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Compensation for Acquisitioned Land

3000. PROF. M. RAMADASS: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in the formulation of bye-pass road (NH-17, Mahe Thalassery) in the Union territory of Pondicherry;

(b) the compensation proposed to be given to 150 families whose lands have been identified for acquisition purposes;

(c) the time by which this compensation is likely to be paid;

(d) whether this proposal has been included in the Annual Plan 2005-06; and

(e) if not, the further steps likely to be taken to complete this bye-pass road alongwith the time-frame fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Total length of Thalassery-Mahe Bypass on NH-17 is 18.031 km. Land acquisition in 9.742 km from Chainage 0/00 to 9742m has been completed. In remaining length including the stretches falling in Mahe (Union Territory of Pondicherry), land acquisition has not been taken up.

(b) About 2.215 km (from Chainage 11897 to 14112m) stretch of this bypass passes through Mahe in Union Territory of Pondicherry. Since land acquisition in this section has not been taken up, it is too early to indicate the quantum of compensation to be given to the 150 families of Mahe.

(c) Compensation and time frame of payment for the same will be decided after the land acquisition process is initiated.

(d) and (e) No, Sir, Entire length of NH-17 in Kerala has been identified for 4-laning on Build Operate & Transfer (B.O.T.) basis under NHDP Phase III-B. The work of Thalassery-Mahe bypass will also be taken up along with four laning of NH-17 under NHDP Phase III-B. Bids for the preparing Detailed Project Report (D.P.R.) have been received. It is too early to indicate the time of completion of this bypass.

Diversion of Traffic

3001. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government will consider diverting or controlling traffic speed on the National Highway passing through Kaziranga National Park by putting up sensors or speed guns etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) 315 km of 4 laning of NH-37 between Nagaon to Dibrugarh is included in the Phase 'A' of the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme in the North-Eastern Region (SARDP-NE). All the provisions of signage are included in the project and other measures for protection of the environment as per the guidelines of Ministry of Environment and Forest will be followed. At present there is no proposal for diverting the traffic or controlling speed by putting up sensors or speed guns etc.

[Translation]

Reservation in Private Educational Institutions

3002. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has convened a meeting of the representatives of various organisations/ groups on 23rd August, 2005 to reconsider over the Supreme Court's verdict to do away with reservation in the private educational institutes not getting Government aid;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the suggestions given by the representatives of various organisations/ groups; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) A meeting of leaders of all political parties in Parliament has, on the 23rd August, 2005, arrived at a broad consensus to frame a suitable legislation for ensuring the social justice in admissions to unaided educational institutions without affecting the rights of the minorities under Article 30(1) of the Constitution. A Conference of the Ministers of Higher & Technical Education of the States held on the 27th August, 2005, has also endorsed the said consensus. The Government is in the process of formulating a suitable policy in this regard.

Tender for Sethusamudram Project

3003. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to float tender for "Sethusamudram" Ship Channel Project; and

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be floated?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Global tender has already been floated for dredging work of the Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project;

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Short of Child Target

3004. SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA:
SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA:

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

(a) whether the Government has met the targets fixed for child development in the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether the Government has reduced the Health and Education Funds;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the measures taken by the Government to meet the targets set for child development in the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The monitorable targets set for child development in the Tenth Five Year Plan would be finally assessed after completion of the Plan period. However, due to several socio-economic factors it is unlikely that the targets are achieved by the end of the Plan.

(d) and (e) The funds allocated for health and education sectors in respect of children for the last three years have been as under:

(Rupees in Crores)

Sector	2002-2003 (BE)	2003-2004 (BE)	2004-2005 (BE)
Health	570.52	727.22	1214.38
Education	5905.55	6637.20	7780.80

It is evident from the above that the funds have not been reduced in health and education sector.

(f) Various schemes and programmes are being implemented by Government for children. These include Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, Integrated Child Development Services, Reproductive and Child Health, Accelerated Rural Drinking Water Supply Programme, Central Rural Sanitation Programme, Pulse Polio, Integrated Programme for Street Children, Integrated Programme for Juvenile Justice, Scheme for elimination of child labour, and others.

Review and Recast of Police Law

3005. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth Human Rights has requested the member countries to review and recast police laws, rules and regulations especially those that predated the 1948 universal declaration of Human Rights;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the International Advisory Commission of the Commonwealth, Human Rights Initiative has also urged the member countries to re-examine international security laws to minimize the corruption and to remove obstacles to prosecution or victim compensation and civil suits for police wrong doing;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Union Government thereon; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (e) The Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, a non-governmental organisation had published a report in 2005 on Police Accountability. In this report, the non-governmental organisation's International Advisory Commission had recommended the review and re-cast of the police laws, rules and regulations, especially those that predated the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights and re-examination of internal security laws to minimize the possibility of impunity and remove obstacles to prosecution or victim compensation and civil suits for police wrong doing. These recommendations have been made by the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative from the perspective of a non-governmental organisation and is a general recommendation to all the commonwealth countries. In India laws are made by Parliament after

taking into consideration all aspects of the situation in the country with due respect for human rights. The Government of India has also set-up a Committee of Experts to draft a new Police Act to replace the Police Act of 1861 with a view to ensuring transparency and accountability in the functioning of the police system and also to make it responsive to the concerns of the community, especially the weaker and vulnerable sections of the society.

[Translation]

Non-Availability of Weapons to ITBP

3006. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that ITBP personnel are not provided with warm cloths, shoes, goggles, other equipments, quality food etc.;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof alongwith the action being taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the arms supplied to Indo Tibbet Border Police Force are inferior to the arms supplied to armed forces; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) ITBP personnel have been duly provided with quality food, essential clothing, protective gear and equipment as per their operational requirement and the laid down scale. ITBP personnel posted above 6000 feet altitude are provided with Extreme Cold Clothing and Equipments (ECCE) which consists of 48 articles. In addition to ECCE, troops deployed between 12000 feet to 15000 feet are provided Siachen clothing which consisting of 12 specialised articles and troops deployed beyond 15000 feet are provided Siachen clothing which consisting of 23 specialised articles. Troops posted on border are entitled to free ration on Army scale which is being provided.

(c) and (d) The arms being supplied to ITBP are as per their operational requirement and at par with those being supplied to the other border guarding forces.

[English]

Upliftment of Coastal Communities in Coastal Districts

3007. SHRI M. APPADURAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to uplift Coastal Communities in the Coastal Districts of Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project area; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the system evolved for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) While granting the environmental clearance for the Sethusamudram Ship Channel Project (SSCP), among others, one of the specific conditions stipulated by Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) is to make adequate arrangements to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the coastal communities including fishermen with appropriate budgetary provisions in the project cost. Accordingly, it has been decided that M/s. Sethusamudram Corporation Limited (SCL) would assist in development of a multipurpose integrated minor port facility at Rameshwaram for handling cargo as well as fishing vessels and three fishing harbours at Nagapattinam, Thanjavur and Ramanathapuram districts. As a part of complying with the condition laid down by the MoEF, M/s. Sethusamudram Corporation Limited (SCL) has taken steps to finalise a 'Coastal Community Development Programme'. For this purpose, some Non-Government Organizations, who are engaged in community services and are having self help groups are being identified to impart vocational training and alternative livelihood training to the people living in six coastal districts of SSCP area in order to uplift their economic status. For implementation of this programme, one lead partner having credible experience in the field has been identified for coordinating with SCL for successful implementation of the programme. It is planned to implement this programme initially for a period of 3 months on a trial basis, whereafter the programme will be reviewed for increasing its scope, coverage and effectiveness.

[Translation]

Industrial Growth

3008. SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:
SHRI M. ANJAN KUMAR YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the industrial growth rate during the last six months;

(b) the name of the sectors registering growth during the said period;

(c) whether the Government has fixed any target for growth rate in the manufacturing sector;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to achieve the target fixed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The industrial growth rate during the last six months (April-September, 2005-06) was 8.8% as per the Central Statistical Organisation's Index of Industrial Production (IIP) with base 1993-94.

(b) The name of the sectors registering growth during the said period are Food Products; Beverages, Tobacco & related products; Cotton Textiles; Jute & other vegetable fibre Textiles; Textile Products; Paper & Paper Products and Printing, Publishing & Allied Industries; Leather and Leather & Fur Products; Basic Chemicals & Chemical Products; Rubber, Plastic, Petroleum and Coal Products; Non-Metallic Mineral Products; Basic Metal and Alloy Industries; Machinery and Equipment; Transport Equipment & Parts and Other Manufacturing Industries.

(c) No target has been fixed for the growth rate in the manufacturing sector industry by the Government.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Floriculture Exports

3009. DR. VALLABHBHAI KATHIRIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether floriculture exports from the country have gone up during the last two years and thereafter;

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of quantity and alongwith foreign exchange, country-wise;

(c) whether the Government proposes to provide any incentives, tax benefits to further encourage exports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Floriculture exports had gone up during 2002-03 and 2003-04. However export of these products had declined during 2004-05. Details are given below.

(Quantity: in metric tons; Value: rupees in crores)

2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
—	165.8	30659.53	249.55	26262.35	210.99

—Not available: Source: DGCI&S

(b) Major destinations for Indian floriculture products alongwith quantity and value of exports is given below.

(Quantity: in metric tons; Value: rupees in crores)

Country	2003-04		2004-05	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
United States of America	11921.65	73.13	7281.93	48.68
United Kingdom	3810.64	28.02	3234.60	25.31
Netherlands	2513.60	26.97	2400.22	27.82
Japan	1494.30	25.47	1717.50	15.68
Germany	2668.15	21.35	2325.34	20.93
France	875.87	8.13	583.42	5.27
Italy	1802.13	11.55	1280.58	9

(Soruce: DGCI&S)

(c) and (d) Agricultural and Processed Foods Export Development Authority (APEDA) is extending financial assistance to exporters, under various plan schemes, for market development, infrastructure development, quality development, research and transport assistance. Benefits are also available under Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana on report of flowers.

Expansion/Maintenance of Existing Highways

3010. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
YOGI ADITYA NATH:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:
SHRI RAMSEVAK SINGH:
SHRI RAM SINGH KASWAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received proposals from the various State Governments for the expansion/ maintenance of existing highways during the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the action taken by the Government thereon;

(d) whether the existing national highways matches the requisite standards;

(e) if not, the steps proposed to modernise and bring them upto the requisite standards;

(f) whether the Government proposes to construct bye-passes on the national highways in various States during the remaining Tenth Plan period;

(g) if so, the details of bye-passes likely to be constructed alongwith the time fixed for the construction of such bye-passes including estimated cost, State-wise and NH-wise; and

(h) the steps being taken to construct such bye-passes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The State-wise details of the proposals for development and maintenance of the National Highways received during the current year from the various State Governments and sanctioned up to November, 2005 are given in the enclosed Statement-I. These are in addition to routine repair works carried out through out the year and emergent repair works during rainy season/whenever required.

(d) and (e) Some of the National Highways do not meet the requisite standards of the National Highways. The Government has taken up development of National Highways under different phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) for improvement of National Highways and other plan activities for development.

(f) Yes, Sir.

(g) and (h) The details of the bypasses planned for construction during the remaining period of Tenth Plan *i.e.* in the year 2006-07 are given in the enclosed Statement-II. These are at different stages of pre construction activities like land acquisition, survey and preparation of Detailed Project Report and tendering process. It is too early to indicate the cost of each bypass and time frame for construction of these bye-passes in view of the above position.

Statement I

Expansion/Maintenance of Existing Highways

Proposals received from the State Governments and sanctioned for Development and Maintenance during the current year 2005-06

Sl.No.	State	Proposals received for			Proposals sanctioned for			Present Status
		Development	Maintenance	Total	Development	Maintenance	Total	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
1.	Andhra Pradesh	31	28	59	16	10	26	
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	1	4	2	1	3	
3.	Assam	27	6	33	16	5	21	
4.	Bihar	12	31	43	17	5	22	
5.	Chhattisgarh	29	8	37	19	8	27	
6.	Delhi	3	0	3	0	0	0	
7.	Goa	2	3	5	0	0	0	
8.	Gujarat	23	12	35	16	12	28	Remaining proposals ar ein various stages of scrutiny. The issue of sanction of these proposals would depend upon inter-se priority, availability of funds and meeting the technical parameters/requirements.
9.	Haryana	14	10	24	2	3	5	
10.	Himachal Pradesh	26	11	37	15	11	26	
11.	Jharkhand	25	11	36	7	2	9	
12.	Karnataka	79	28	107	24	15	39	
13.	Kerala	24	12	36	8	0	8	
14.	Madhya Pradesh	32	31	63	26	31	57	
15.	Maharashtra	17	30	47	7	16	23	
16.	Manipur	29	5	34	7	0	7	
17.	Meghalaya	5	1	6	0	0	0	
18.	Mizoram	6	1	7	0	0	0	
19.	Nagaland	6	6	12	0	1	1	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
20.	Orissa	29	14	43	9	0	9
21.	Punjab	23	14	37	13	11	24
22.	Rajasthan	27	24	51	13	24	37
23.	Tamil Nadu	66	27	93	15	13	28
24.	Uttaranchal	22	8	30	10	3	13
25.	Uttar Pradesh	67	29	96	31	22	53
26.	West Bengal	20	13	33	11	12	23

Statement II

Expansion/Maintenance of Existing Highways

Bypasses planned to be constructed during remaining Tenth Plan period i.e. in 2006-07

Sl.No.	State	NH No.	No. of Bypasses to be constructed during the remaining 10th Plan Period
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	7	19
2.	Assam	36	1
		37	1
		53	1
		54	4
3.	Bihar	57	4
4.	Goa	4A	1
5.	Harayna/HP	22	1
6.	Karnataka	7	1
7.	Kerala	17	1
		47	1
8.	Madhya Pradesh	3	3
		75	3
		26	15
		7	8
9.	Maharashtra	3	1
		7	2
		6	1
10.	Meghalaya	44	1
11.	Punjab	21	2
12.	Rajasthan	11A	1
		11	1
13.	Uttaranchal	58	1
		72	2
		74	1
14.	Uttar Pradesh	2	1
		28	4
		58	1
		3	1
		26	10

1	2	3	4
15.	Tamil Nadu	45	4
		45B	6
		7	11
		47	9
16.	West Bengal	31	1

Import of Capital Goods

3011. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD *alias* SADHU YADAV:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the stipulated provisions for the import of capital goods;

(b) whether the import of second hand diesel generating sets have been restricted;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Duty Free Replenishment Certificate Scheme has been amended; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the benefits likely to be accrued from this step of the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Capital goods, including second hand capital goods are importable by any person. However, if such imports require a licence/certificate/permission under the Foreign Trade Policy/Handbook of Procedures, the actual user alone may import the same unless the actual user condition is specifically dispensed with by the licensing authority. The details about importability of various types of capital goods and machinery are given in the book titled "ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items".

(b) and (c) Second hand diesel generating sets are allowed to be imported only against a licence issued in this behalf. The restriction has been imposed because the Government does not intend to permit unrestricted imports of second hand goods like diesel generating sets having wide household use.

(d) and (e) Duty Free Replenishment Certificate (DFRC) Scheme introduced in the year 2000, have been amended from time to time and such amendments notified by Government of India is available at the DGFT Web-site *i.e.* http:/www.nic.in/eximpol. Under DFRC Scheme, duty free import of inputs used in the manufacture of export products are allowed as per Standard Input Output Norms (SION), notified by Government of India.

Implementation of National Highways Programme

3012. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has identified certain risk factors involved in the implementation of National Highways programme;

(b) if so, the details of such risk factors; and

(c) the corrective steps taken by the Government to streamline the implementation of National Highways projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Major risk factors identified in the implementation of projects are as under:

(i) Delay in land acquisition;

(ii) Delay in environmental and forest clearances;

(iii) Delay in shifting of utilities;

(iv) Delay in clearances of Railway over Bridges;

(v) Law and order problems;

(vi) Poor performance by some contractors etc.;

(vii) For BOT projects major risks are also related to traffic, construction and operation.

(c) The corrective steps taken to streamline the implementation of National Highways Projects are as under:

(i) The Contracts are regularly monitored at various levels such as by Supervision Consultants/ Independent Engineers, Project Directors, National Highways Authority of India officials at Headquarters.

(ii) State Governments have appointed Senior Officers as nodal officers for resolving problems associated with implementation of the National Highways Development Project such as land acquisition, removal of utilities, forest/pollution/ environment clearances etc.

(iii) A Committee of Secretaries has been constituted to address inter-ministerial and Central-States issues such as land acquisition, utility shifting, environment approvals, clearance of Road over Bridges etc.

(iv) To expedite the construction of Road Over Bridges, an officer of the Railways has been posted to National Highways Authority of India to coordinate with the Railways. Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with M/s. IRCON International Limited.

Construction of Highway/Expressway from Visakhapatnam to Ranchi

3013. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to construct Highway/Expressway from Visakhapatnam to Ranchi via the Compact Revolutionary Zone connecting Dandakaranya region;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has been approached by the Government of Orissa in this regard; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to assess the financial investment for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) A proposal has been received from the State Government of Orissa to declare Vijyawada-Ranchi Road as National Highway. At present emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways. Hence, this proposal has not been approved.

[Translation]

Trade-Fair

3014. SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visitors visited the India International Trade Fait (IITF), Delhi during the year 2005;

(b) the number of countries, organisations participated in the fair;

(c) the details of arrangements made for smooth conduct of the Fair;

(d) the amount spent by I.T.P.O. in organising on each trade-fair during 2004-05 and 2005-06;

(e) the income earned by I.T.P.O. on each trade fair during the said period;

(f) whether there is-any proposal to shift the venue of IITF from Pragati Maidan to a new place;

(g) if so, the reasons therefor;

(h) whether any discussion was held with various concerned Departments in this regard;

(i) if so, the details thereof;

(j) whether there is also proposal to modernize the Pragati Maidan; and

(k) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Thirty lakhs (approx.).

(b) 257 companies from 33 countries including 13 country level participation besides 7243 Indian companies.

(c) All necessary arrangements like security, transport, easy availability of tickets, booking of stalls, etc. were made.

(d) and (e)

(Rupees in Lakhs)

	Expenditure	Income
2004-05	508.19	2640.07
2005-06	725.50 (Budgetted)	2737.00

(f) to (i) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(j) and (k) Yes Sir. The feasibility of upgrading and increasing the infrastructure facilities including additional space, convention centire, traffic and parking, etc. is being examined.

[English]

Implementation of ICDS Programme

3015. SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL:
SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI JOACHIM BAXLA:

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

(a) whether the Government has conveyed to State Governments and Union Territories to speed up implementation of the Integrated Child Development Scheme in view of the UNICEF reminder regarding malnutrition;

(b) whether the Government has asked State Governments and Union Territories to provide relief to the people of the socio-economically disadvantaged blocks; and

(c) if so, the action/steps being taken by the Government for proper implementation of the ICDS Programme by State Governments and UTs in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) UNICEF, at present, operates under the Government of India-UNICEF Master Plan of Operations 2003-07 and extends support to the Child Development & Nutrition Programme in India. No reminder regarding malnutrition has been received by the Government nor is it UNICEF's mandate to issue such reminder. However, the Government of India have been requesting the State Governments, from time to time, to speed up and effectively implement the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Scheme.

(b) The ICDS Scheme has been expanded recently to cover all community development blocks and major urban slums. Instructions have been issued to all States that villages pre-dominantly inhabited by population belonging to SC/ST and minority community should be given priority in selection of location of Anganwadi Centre (AWC).

(c) The steps taken, in the recent past, for proper and effective implementation of the scheme include:

* Expansion of the Scheme from existing 5652 Projects and 7.54 lakh Anganwadi Centres to 6119 Projects and 9.42 lakh Anganwadi Centres.
* Doubling of financial norms for supplementary nutrition with the States.
* Sharing of 50% cost of supplementary nutrition with the States.
* Increase in the rent of Anganwadi Centres.
* Constant emphasis on States to:
  - — Operationalise all sanctioned projects and Anganwadi Centres (AWCs)
  - — Fill up all vacant posts of ICDS functionaries.
  - — Ensure regular supply of supplementary nutrition as per schematic norms.
  - — Make available medicine and pre-school education kits in all AWCs.
  - — Ensure effective convergence of health nutrition, education and safe drinking water services under various programmes.

Draft Bill on Sexual Harassment of Women

3016. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI CHANDRA MANI TRIPATHI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEY:
SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:
SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR:
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR RANA:
SHRIMATI KIRAN MAHESHWARI:

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

(a) whether the National Commission for Women has submitted a draft Bill to the Union Government on prevention of sexual harassment of women at the workplace;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the proposed Bill is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The National Commission for Women (NCW) had submitted to the Department of Women and Child Development, a draft Bill titled 'The Sexual Harassment of Women at the Workplace (Prevention and Redressal) Bill, 2004' in August, 2004. This Bill was examined in the Department and drafted afresh in consultation with prominent organizations working for women's rights. The fresh draft titled "the Protection against Sexual Harassment of Women Bill, 2005", which can be accessed at the Department's web site (www.wcd.nic.in), was discussed in a National Consultation organized by the NCW in October, 2005. The re-drafted Bill in pursuance of the National consultation is yet to be received from NCW.

(c) No time frame can be stipulated in this regard at this stage.

[Translation]

Dumping of Agriculture Products

3017. SHRI V.K. THUMMAR:
DR. K. DHANARAJU:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether large scale cheap agricultural products are being dumped into the country;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made with regard to the quality of Goods dumped into the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has initiated any action against such dumping; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the countries dumping such goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Anti-dumping investigations are normally initiated by the Directorate General of Anti-dumping & Allied Duties (DGAD) on the basis of application filed by the domestic industry alleging dumping, injury and casual link between dumping and injury. The DGAD has till date not initiated any anti-dumping investigation involving agricultural products. However, the Directorate General of Safeguards under the Ministry of Finance had initiated safeguard investigation against surge in import of Starch, Modified Starch, Sago based Tapioca, Tapioca Starch and Sago.

(d) and (e) On the basis of recommendation by the Director General of Safeguards, the Government has imposed safeguard duty on the imports of Tapioca Starch for a period of three years at the rate of 33% advalorem basis for the first year of imposition, at the rate of 23% for the second year and at the rate of 13% advalorem for the third year vide notification bearing No. 40/2005—Customs dated 2nd May 2005.

State Contribution to SSA

3018. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE:
SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:
SHRI ANANTH KUMAR:
SHRI RAVICHANDRAN SIPPIPARAI:
SHRI HARIBHAU RATHOD:

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

(a) the details of the funds made available by the different States during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise;

(b) whether all the State Governments are providing their share of 25 per cent for the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan;

(c) if not, the details thereof alongwith the action taken against such States, State-wise; and

(d) steps taken/proposed to be taken to ensure that the contribution of each State is made to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) Presently all States except Kerala, Aruanchal Pradesh, Delhi, Mizoram and Manipur are upto date with their State share releases due till 31.3.2005 under the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The Central Government has not released the second installment of funds for 2005-2006 under SSA to these States.

The contributions received from the States during the last three years is given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

State Contribution of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl.No.	Name of States	2002-03 State share releases	2003-04 State share releases	2004-05 State share releases
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2547	4383.57	9076.36
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	470.67	0	600
3.	Assam	750	2238.17	6000
4.	Bihar	2849	6671.99	10586
5.	Chhattisgarh	0	49	6896.58
6.	Gujarat	2250	2158	7296
7.	Himachal Pradesh	565.53	985.67	2039.39
8.	Haryana	938.99	2291.66	4293.85
9.	Jharkhand	2428.82	3718.96	8038
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	0	1969.73	2734.16
11.	Karnataka	1512.22	1259	10650
12.	Kerala	750	1611.14	721.84
13.	Madhya Pradesh	2647.09	13352.43	15932
14.	Maharashtra	1989.72	8963.45	8560.82
15.	Manipur		0	368
16.	Meghalaya	391.97	400.33	557.83
17.	Mizoram	152.66	154.62	810.13
18.	Nagaland	0	500	579

1	2	3	4	5
19.	Orissa	1267.46	1536.16	9581.83
20.	Punjab	973.17	3083	2677.83
21.	Rajasthan	1316.23	6255	11000
22.	Sikkim	75	140	200
23.	Tamil Nadu	4508.97	3501.95	8839
24.	Tripura	555	563.44	1277.75
25.	Uttaranchal	1203.95	1168.48	3053.77
26.	Uttar Pradesh	6722.47	11347.77	29253.75
27.	West Bengal	3429.16	5563.33	13841.45

[English]

Car Import

3019. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU:
SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the norms fixed for issue of licence for import of Car;

(b) whether these norms are being strictly followed;

(c) whether any provision with regard to hundred percent tax exemption on import of cars exist with the Government;

(d) if so, the details of the licences issued in this regard;

(e) whether any mechanism exist with the Government to see that the provision stipulated in the licence are being strictly implemented; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Cars can be freely imported by any individual/company on payment of full customs duty subject to furnishing homologation certificate. Cars can also be imported at a concessional duty of 5% under Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme subject to an undertaking by EPCG licence holder to fulfil export obligation equivalent to 8 times of customs duty saved amount within 8 years. The EPCG licence for import of car is issued to travel/transport/tour operators, hotels/ owners of golf resort and hotels, provided they have an export earning of Rs. 1.5 crores or more in the preceding three years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. There is no provision for issuance of licence, under any export promotion schemes, with 100% exemption of customs duty on imported cars.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. The mechanism to monitor the provisions stipulated in licence are laid down in para 5.9.1 of Handbook of Procedure (Vol. 1). The licence holders are required to submit to the licensing authority by 30th April of every year report on the progress made in the fulfilment of export obligation against the licence issued to them. In case of non compliance, the Bank guarantee submitted by them is liable for forfeiture.

Central University Status of Educational Institutes

3020. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN:
DR. SATYANARAYAN JATIYA:
SHRIMATI KARUNA SHUKLA:
SHRI B. MAHTAB:
SHRI M.K. SUBBA:

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

(a) the number of State Universities granted Central Universities status during the last three years;

(b) the number of proposals received from State Governments pending with the Union Government for grant of Central University status;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to consider the proposals;

(d) whether there has been any demand for awarding of Central University status to National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) as reported in "The Hindu" dated November 18, 2005;

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith action taken in this regard; and

(f) the details of funds likely to be allocated on awarding of Central University status to NIFT?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Two.

(b) and (c) Proposals for conversion of State Universities are received from State Governments and other quarters, from time to time. Proposals, specifically in regard to State Universities situated at Vishakhapatnam, Bilaspur, Bhopal, Jabalpur, Rewa, Sagar, Patna, Sambalpur, Jaipur and Jodhpur have been received in the past. Presently the Government is concentrating on consolidation of facilities of the existing universities rather than on increasing the number of Central Universities. Apart from the exception made in the case of the North East Region, the only exception has been in respect of the Allahabad University which is in a different category, being restoration to its one time status of a Central University. In view of the priority to consolidation of existing universities from the available resources, granting of Central University status to more state universities would not be possible at present.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) and (f) Do not arise.

Terrorist Organisations

3021. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and name of the foreign based terrorist organisations presently operating in the country;

(b) whether the Union Government has taken any step against these terrorist organisations; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Available reports indicate that there are terrorist organisations presently operating in the country who are foreign based. These mainly include Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Hizb-ul-Mujahideen (HM) and Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), Harkat-ul-Jehad-e-Islami (HUJI), Al Badr and Harkat-ul-Mujahideen (HUM), Babbar-Khalsa International (BKI) is also making an effort to cause trouble/violence in Punjab and Delhi. Some of the leaders of some terrorist outfits like United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA), National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT), All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) and People's Liberation Army (PLA), operating in the North-East, continue to have sanctuary outside the country.

(b) and (c) All the aforementioned terrorist organizations remain banned under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 as amended in 2004.

WTO Negotiations

3022. SHRI REWATI RAMAN SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India had been taking the lead in ariculating the interests of developing countries in WTO negotiations of several provisions in the WTO agreement that clearly favoured the developing countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Since India became a original Contracting Party in the General Agreement on Tariff and Trade 1947 and right through until now, including when India became a founder Member of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) on 1 January 1995, India has continued to remain on resonance among other developing

countries. In the negotiations on agriculture underway in the WTO, India is a founder Member of the developing country alliances namely, the G-20 and the G-33 on Special Products and the Special Safeguard Mechanism for developing countries. India has continued to emphaise that special and differential treatment for developing countries must be integral to all aspects of the negotiations.

DOC discontinued by IGNOU

3023. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether academic course styled 'Diploma in Computers in Office Management' (DOC) has discontinued by IGNOU;

(b) if so, whether IGNOU has printed excess number of booklets required for the said course;

(c) if so, the number of booklets printed by IGNOU during each of the last three years academic sessions before discontinuation of course;

(d) the number of excess booklets lying with IGNOU at the time of discontinuation of course alongwith expenditure incurred thereon;

(e) whether the said material has been disposed of by IGNOU;

(f) if not, the details in this regard; and

(g) if not, the action taken by the Government against the officials responsible for such loss of revenue?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) According to the information furnished by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), the course styled 'Diploma in Computers in Office Management' (DOC) was discontinued from January 2000. The University had printed number of booklets for this course which turned out to be excess. The number of booklets printed are as under:-

1997	—	803000
1998	—	Nil
1999	—	Nil

(d) 521228 booklets valued at Rs. 54.00 lakhs were found to be in excess, at the time of discontinuation of the said course.

(e) to (g) The IGNOU has since disposed off the unused booklets through sale which has realized a sum of Rs. 8,63,380/-.

[Translation]

Incidents of Discrimination in NSTFDC

3024. SHRI TUFANI SAROJ: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 3980 given on August 23, 2005 regarding Incidents of Discrimination in NSTFDC in state:

(a) whether the information has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Ministry has received complaints from various sources, such as, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, Lok Sabha Secretariat, Cabinet Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, Home Minister's Office, Central Vigilance Commission, National Commission for Scheduled Castes, etc., alleging discrimination and harassment of SC/ST employees working in National Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSTFDC), besides financial irregularities in various dealings/decisions of the Corporation. The factual report furnished by NSTFDC, finding these allegations to be baseless has been forwarded to the Lok Sabha Secretariat, the Central Vigilance Commission, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes and others.

(c) Does not arise.

[English]

Introduction of Right to Education Bill

3025. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI:
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR RANA:

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

(a) whether the Government has introduced the Right to Education Bill, 2005 in the Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof including its specific objective; and

(c) whether special provisions have been incorporated therein in order to ensure effective implementation of Government's responsibility to provide free and compulsory education to children between the age of six to fourteen?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Education to Deprived Children

3026. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI NARENDRA KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:

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

(a) whether the Government propose to arrange for sending the children to schools who are deprived of school education;

(b) if so, whether any assessment has been made regarding the children deprived of school education;

(c) the details of the number of such children, State-wise;

(d) the reasons for being deprived of school education by these children; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) Based on State/Union Territory reports the number of 'out of school' children (6-14 years) is estimated to be around 95 lakhs in October, 2005. State-wise details are given in the enclosed Statement.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is a comprehensive and integrated flagship programme of the Government of India, to attain Universal Elementary Education (BEE) in the country in a mission mode. Launched in partnership with the State Governments and local self- Governments, SSA aims to provide useful and relevant education to all children in the 6-14 age group by 2010.

Statement

Sl.No.	State	No. of children out of schools (6-14 years) (figures in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0.569
2.	Andhra Pradesh	2.554
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0.466
4.	Assam	3.266
5.	Bihar	20.508
6.	Chandigarh	0.308
7.	Chhattisgarh	4.186
8.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0.104
9.	Daman and Diu	0.003
10.	Delhi	1.908
11.	Goa	0.000
12.	Gujarat	2.207
13.	Haryana	2.876
14.	Himachal Pradesh	0.029
15.	Jammu and Kashmir	1.538
16.	Jharkhand	3.888
17.	Karnataka	0.108
18.	Kerala	0.128
19.	Lakshadweep	0.000
20.	Madhya Pradesh	4.280
21.	Maharashtra	2.346

1	2	3
22.	Manipur	1.110
23.	Meghalaya	1.499
24.	Mizoram	0.027
25.	Nagaland	0.538
26.	Orissa	2.146
27.	Pondicherry	0.018
28.	Punjab	0.749
29.	Rajasthan	2.239
30.	Sikkim	0.098
31.	Tamil Nadu	1.692
32.	Tripura	0.014
33.	Uttar Pradesh	25.176
34.	Uttaranchal	0.087
35.	West Bengal	8.969
	Total	95.649

[English]

Conference of Chief Ministers of North Zone

3027. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether North Zone Chief Ministers Conference was held in Shimla in the month of October, 2005;

(b) if so, the issue discussed in the meeting;

(c) whether this meeting was held after a gap of 6 years under the Chairmanship of Home Minister;

(d) if so, whether the meeting was attended by CMs of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi also; and

(e) if so, the outcome of the meeting held?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) The 25th meeting of Northern Zonal Council comprising the States of Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh and the Union Territories of Delhi and Chandigarh was held in Shimla on 25th October, 2005.

(b) The main issues discussed in the meeting are as under:

(i) Panchayati Raj Institutions; (ii) Trafficking in women and Children; (iii) Sharing of information on crime and criminals; (iv) Police Telecommunication System (POLNET); (v) Prison Reforms; (vi) Disaster Management; (viii) Right to information Act; (viii) National Employment Guarantee Scheme; (ix) Utilisation of funds by State Governments; (x) Sharing of armed police among the States in the zone for public order duties; (xi) Good governance; (xii) Infrastructure; (xiii) River water sharing and (xiv) Agriculture/horticulture.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir. The meeting was, among others, attended by the Chief Ministers of Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.

(e) The Council made recommendation and suggestions on various issues discussed in the meeting.

[Translation]

Construction Work in NH-3

3028. SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the places where the construction/repair work has been done on National Highway No. 3 in kilometer known as Agra-Mumbai National Highway during the last three years;

(b) the places where railway over bridges are being constructed on the said National Highway;

(c) whether the Government has any plan to convert the said National Highway into 4 lanes and also to construct a bye-pass used in Shajapur, M.P.;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether there is no such development plan at present; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and the time by which the plan is likely to be formulated in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) The details of the sections/ chainage where the construction/repair work on National Highway No. 3 between Agra-Mumbai have been sanctioned during the last three years are given in the enclosed Statement. These are in addition to the routine maintenance work and flood damage works undertaken at the places wherever required.

(b) The construction of Railway Over Bridge (ROB) in Uttar Pradesh at km 14.41 of NH-3 section have been taken-up. In addition, construction of ROBs at km 265/ 800 of Pimalgaon-Dhule section, ROBs at km 445/250, 451/200, 459/200, 486/660, 494/600 & 515/690 of Vadape-Gonde section, one ROB at Ch. 8/893 on Guna Bypass in Madhya Pradesh and one ROB at Ch. 2.43 of Indore—Halghat section has been included in the improvements programmes of the respective road sections.

(c) to (f) Four laning of 398 km of NH-3 have been taken-up/planned under different phases of National Highways Development Project (NHDP) such as Phase II and III A. Further, 247 km length have been identified for inclusion in the balance programme of NHDP Phase III. All the works of NHDP II and NHDP IIIA are targeted for completion by December 2008 and December 2009, respectively. Four laning of left over length of NH No. 3 will depend on traffic level, availability of funds and inter-se priority and hence no time frame for further four-laning work can be indicated at present. The construction of Shajapur bypass has been identified to be taken up on the Build Operate and Transfer (BOT) basis.

Statement

Sections/Chainage where the construction/repair work have been sanctioned on NH-3 from Agra to Mumbai during last three years

Sl.No.	State	Section/Chainage (km)
1	2	3
1.	Maharashtra	km 168/500-180, 186-193, 197-213, 233-255, 250-265, 268-270, 270-291, 291-340, 347-350, 354-355, 365-427, 427-451, 455-479, 493-510, 520-529, 533-535.
2.	Madhya Pradesh	South of Indore Section: km 21-30, 72, 74-121 & 132. MP-Rajasthan Border to Morena. North of Indore Section: km 104, 109, 110, 112-115/8, 120, 129-138, 155, 159, 163-170 & 171-173/3, 182-215, 243-261, 276-281, 283, 307-318, 320, 321-327, 348, 362-363, 364-377, 388/2, 389-6-10, Repairs to bridge in Km. 494/8, 521-527, 538-542, 548, 550, 552-555, 560-573.
3.	Uttar Pradesh	Section of Agra to U.P.-Rajasthan Border (km 8 to km 24) were four laned in 2001.
4.	Rajasthan	Rajasthan-UP Border (km 24 to 41).

[English]

Recreational Harbour-Marina Project

3029. DR. K.S. MANOJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala has submitted the proposal recreational project on Harbour-Marina at Alappuzha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government has accorded sanction for the project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Irregularities in IIT's

3030. SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI TUKARAM GANPAT RAO RENGE PATIL:

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

(a) whether any financial irregularity has been committed in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) during each of the last three years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, IIT-wise;

(c) the number of persons against whom action has been taken by the Government in this regard alongwith the names of the persons found guilty; and

(d) the outcome of the action taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his report for the year 2003-04 which has been prepared for submission to the President under Article 51 of the Constitution have made certain observations regarding overpayment, due to incorrect pay fixation of Assistant Professors, irregular payment of bonus, non-eligible employees; short recovery of licence fee due to non implementation of revised rate of recovery of licence fee in respect of quarters allotted to employees of IIT Bombay; and undue favour by IIT Kharagpur due to non acceptance of the offer of the lowest pre-qualified tenderer for the construction of a lecture hall complex in IIT Kharagpur.

Ministry has received the CAG Report and requested all IITs to furnish necessary comments thereon. Necessary action is taken in such matters as per procedure established in this regard.

[English]

Creation of North-East Regional Office

3031. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a North-East Regional office of the Ministry was created and is operating in Guwahati;

(b) if so, details thereof and functional status thereof;

(c) whether post of Chief Engineer, NER was temporarily withdrawn from Guwahati and allowed to function from Delhi;

(d) if so, details thereof with reasons for such withdrawal; and

(e) the time by which the office is likely to be made functional by reposting the Chief Engineer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Regional Office at Guwahati is functioning since 1st September, 1976.

(c) and (d) The last Chief Engineer was transferred from Guwahati to New Delhi in December, 1992 for administrative reasons. At present all Regional Offices are headed by Superintending Engineers. However, keeping in view the importance of North Eastern Region, a Zone headed by a Chief Engineer has been created at Headquarters in New Delhi, exclusively for this Region.

(e) There is no proposal at present for posting of Chief Engineer in the North East.

Illegal Migrants

3032. SHRI CHANDRA KANT KHAIRE:
SHRIMATI KALPNA RAMESH NARHIRE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of illegal migrants from various countries living in the country, State-wise;

(b) the number of illegal migrants deported during each of the last three years, country-wise; and

(c) the number of cases wherein convict were prosecuted, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) A statement is attached as Statement-I.

(b) A statement is attached as Statement-II.

(c) Powers to detect and prosecute the foreigners who are staying illegally in country have been delegated to the States/Union Territories. Data regarding prosecution and conviction is not maintained centrally.

Statement I

Foreigners Staying Illegally (State/UT-wise)

(2002-2004)

State/UT	2002	2003	2004
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	552	0	389
Andhra Pradesh	37	36	36
Arunachal Pradesh	117	0	0
Assam	26,490	26,669	27,104
Bihar	187	38	38
Chhattisgarh	1,360	1	0
Delhi	76	74	74
Goa	13	0	0
Gujarat	223	180	190
Haryana	41	0	0
Himachal Pradesh	9	2	2
Jammu and Kashmir	68	86	83
Jharkhand	2	0	0
Karnataka	45	211	82
Kerala	308	303	967
Madhya Pradesh	367	265	105
Maharashtra	1,626	1,763	1,465
Meghalaya	1	0	0
Nagaland	1	0	0
Orissa	398	390	398
Punjab	129	244	311
Rajasthan	2,405	1,579	2,677
Tamil Nadu	48	34	35
Uttar Pradesh	1,190	578	819
Uttaranchal	3	3	1
West Bengal	11,122	14,131	11,726
Total	46,818	46,587	46,502

Statement II

Country-wise breakup of deported foreigners from India

(2002-2004)

Country	2002	2003	2004
1	2	3	4
Afghanistan	13	17	29
Armenia	0	0	1
Australia	0	14	3
Austria	0	0	1
Azerbaijan	0	0	1
Bahrain	0	1	0
Bangladesh	5,652	18,801	38,005
Belarus	3	0	0
Belgium	0	4	0
Botswana	0	1	0
Cameroon	0	0	2
Canada	2	6	3
China	7	16	31
Congo	0	0	1
Czech	1	0	0
Colombia	0	0	1
Denmark	0	1	1
Djibouti	0	1	0
Estonia	0	1	0
Ethiopia	4	7	1
Finland	0	5	0
France	2	14	6
Georgia	1	0	0
Germany	0	23	5
Greece	0	1	0

1	2	3	4
Hungary	0	4	8
Iceland	0	5	0
Indonesia	20	31	29
Iran	6	9	7
Ireland	0	0	1
Israel	0	4	5
Iraq	2	0	0
Italy	1	4	6
Ivory Coast	3	0	1
Japan	1	11	3
Jordan	2	0	2
Kazakhstan	1	0	0
Kenya	18	23	14
Korea South	2	94	2
Latvia	0	0	1
Liberia	0	1	1
Malasia	0	27	6
Maldives	0	1	0
Mexico	0	0	1
Myanmar	478	918	760
Nepal	8	17	17
Netherlands	1	6	2
Newzealand	0	2	0
Nigeria	10	37	33
Norway	1	1	0
Oman	3	1	0
Pakistan	67	64	60
Palestine	1	1	0
Philipines	0	1	0
Portugal	1	2	1
Qatar	0	0	1
Romania	0	0	4
Russia	0	10	2
Saudi Arabia	2	7	0
Seychelles	0	13	0
Singapore	1	140	1
Somalia	22	0	2
South Africa	0	10	0
Spain	0	1	1
Srilanka	13	148	56
Stateless (Tibet)	8	1	10
Sudan	5	59	3
Sweden	0	4	1
Switzerland	2	2	0
Tanzania	0	11	0
Thailand	12	14	4
Trinidad & Tobago	0	1	0
Turkey	1	0	13
U.A.E.	2	0	0
U.S.A.	1	125	8
Uganda	3	2	2
Ukraine	1	0	2
United Kingdom	2	37	12
Uzbekistan	1	2	12
Vietnam	0	0	1
Yemen	7	2	2
Zimbabwe	0	2	1
Total	6,394	20,768	39,189

Match Industry under SAFTA

3033. SHRI CHENGARA SURENDRAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to open Indian Markets for South Asian countries under the South Asia Free Trade Agreement (SAFTA);

(b) if so, whether the Government has kept match industry out of the SAFTA;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether free trade in labour-intensive match industry will adversely affect the traders and farmers of the country especially in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the steps taken by the Government to protect the interests of the workers of this industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes Sir. South Asian Free Trade Area Agreement (SAFTA), which was signed by SAARC Member States, namely India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka during the Twelfth SAARC Summit held in Islamabad, Pakistan on 4-6 January, 2004, is scheduled to come into force from 1st January, 2006.

The Agreement provides for a phased Trade Liberalization Programme (TLP) except on those items kept in the Sensitive List.

(b) to (e) Representations were received from the domestic industry expressing apprehensions that import of Matches, reserved for exclusive manufacture in small-scale sector, under SAFTA Tariff Concession would adversely affect the domestic industry. After due consideration of the matter, the concerns of the domestic industry have been addressed by keeping Matches (HS Code No. 360500) in the final Sensitive List of India under SAFTA.

Reservation for Disabled Students

3034. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

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

(a) whether the Government has prepared a comprehensive action plan to provide education to children and youth with disabilities in mainstream educational settings;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether 3% reservation for disabled students is not being implemented at present;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken or being taken by Government to implement the new action plan in letter and spirit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) The Government has drafted an Action Plan for Inclusion in Education of Children and Youth with Disabilities (IECYD) which aims at—

1. Enrolment and retention of all children with disabilities in the mainstream education system.
2. Providing quality education through appropriate curricula, organizational arrangements, teaching strategies, resource use and partnership with their communities in order for children and young persons with disabilities to develop their learning and abilities.
3. Support higher and vocational education through proper implementation of the existing reservation quota in all educational institutions and creation of barrier free learning environments.
4. Disability focused research and interventions in universities and educational institutions.

(c) to (e) Section 39 of the Persons with the Disabilities Act, 1995 provides for 3% reservation of persons with disabilities in admission in seats in Government educational Institutions and Institutions receiving grants from the Government, and this is being implemented.

Special Economic Zone for IT

3035. SHRI D.V. SADANAND GOWDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the Government intends to set up a Special Economic Zone for Information Technology Sector at Mangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the decision to set up Special Economic Zone is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) There is no proposal for the Central Government to set up any new Special Economic Zones (SEZs) and the policy of the Government is to encourage and facilitate establishment of SEZs in the private sector or joint sector in association with the State Governments or by the State Governments themselves. Accordingly, on the basis of proposal received, approval has been given on 31.8.2005 for setting up a Special Economic Zone for information technology sector at Mangalore by Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board.

Science Education

3036. SHRI BALASHOWRY VALLABHANENI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the annual growth of science students is 1.6 per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to revive science learning at college level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) As per the India Science Report, published by National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in 2005, the annual growth rate in gross enrolment in Natural Science in higher education (graduate+) is 1.6% during 2000-03.

Employment Opportunities Under Export

3037. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has evolved a policy to create job opportunities by increasing exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the estimated number of persons employed by exporters during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) The Government has taken a number of initiatives to promote exports and employment as part of the Foreign Trade Policy (FTP). In order to expand employment opportunities certain special focus initiatives have been identified for the agriculture, handlooms, handicraft, gems and jewellery and leather sectors.

(c) There are no final annual estimates of employment created through exports. However, preliminary findings of a study conducted by the Research & Information System for Non-Alligned Countries (RIS) project the total employment generation through exports at almost 16 million during 2004-05.

[Translation]

Insurance Scheme for Tribals

3038. SHRI MAHAVIR BHAGORA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has implemented insurance scheme for tribals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the total number of families benefitted therefrom, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to implement the said scheme in all the States; and

(d) if so, the time by which it will be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) to (d) Since 2004-05, the Ministry has taken an initiative and launched the Scheme for providing insurance cover to the Primitive Tribal Groups (PTGs) through Life Insurance Corporation of India, under "Janashree Bima Yojana", to cover five lakh PTG-families in 16 States and one UT by the end of 10th Five Year Plan. The State-wise and year-wise details of families covered and proposed to be covered under this scheme are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Insurance Scheme for Tribals

Sl.No.	Name of the State	Families* covered during 2004-05	Families* covered/ to be covered during 2005-06	Families* to be covered during 2006-07
1.	Andhra Pradesh	12000	24000	22000
2.	Bihar	1000	2000	2920
3.	Chhattisgarh	8000	18000	19500
4.	Gujarat	5000	10000	11000
5.	Jharkhand	14000	29000	29000
6.	Karnataka	2000	4000	2500
7.	Kerala	500	1000	3000
8.	Madhya Pradesh	20000	40000	30000
9.	Maharashtra	14000	28000	28000
10.	Manipur	2000	500	0
11.	Orissa	2500	5000	8500
12.	Rajasthan	2500	5000	6500
13.	Tamil Nadu	8000	16000	16000
14.	Tripura	5000	10000	10000
15.	Uttaranchal	500	1420	4580
16.	West Bengal	3000	6000	6500
17.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	80	0
	Total	100000	200000	200000

*Number of families is taken on the basis of 1991 Census assuming five members in a family.

Upgradation of Schools

3039. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI NARENDER KUMAR KUSHAWAHA:
MOHD. SHAHID:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:

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

(a) whether there is a proposal to upgrade schools throughout the country as reported in *Rashtriya Sahara,* dated November 21, 2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith present status of the proposal; and

(c) the amount is likely to be spent under this programme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A.

FATMI): (a) to (c) Most schools come under the purview of State Governments and it is for the respective State Governments to upgrade such schools. So far as schools under the Central Government are concerned, upgradation/ improvement is a continuous process and is attended to as and when the need arises. Navodaya Vidyalayas have been set up in more than 500 districts with the objective to provide good quality modern education to serve in each district as focal points for improvement in quality of school education.

[English]

Non-submission of Tribal Advisory Council Meeting Report

3040. SHRI S. AJAYA KUMAR: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of Tribal Advisory Council meeting of various States has not been submitted during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Tribes Advisory Councils have been constituted as per para 4 of the Fifth Schedule to the Constitution. The views of the Tribes Advisory Council of the State are incorporated and dealt with in the Governor's Report of the concerned State, indicating steps taken in accordance with the recommendations of the Tribes Advisory Council.

Welfare of Seamen

3041. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the sea-going vessels of more than 200 GRT belonging to Lakshadweep Administration operated under the provisions of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Administration implemented Part 7 of the Act relating to welfare of the seamen;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Lakshadweep Administration made any collective bargaining agreement;

(f) if so, the details of Articles of Agreement made with seamen under section 100 of the above Act;

(g) whether the Lakshadweep Administration implemented the Award of Paul Antony Tribunal and Ms. Kumud Bansal Tribunal;

(h) if so, the details thereof; and

(i) if not, the time by which the said awards are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration vessels are manned through three different manning systems as under:

(i) Manning by Shipping Corporation of India Ltd. (SCI): M.V. Tipu Sultan having passenger capacity of 668 is fully manned by Shipping Corporation of India Ltd.

(ii) Vessels are manned by officers of SCI with crew complement of UTL:

(a) M.V. Deepsettu with 140 passenger capacity

(b) 60 MT oil; barge

(c) Inter island ferry vessels.

(iii) Full manning by Lakshadweep Development Corporation Ltd.:

(a) M.V. Barath Seema with 386 passenger and 160 MT Cargo capacity;

(b) M.V. Adminidivi with 150 passenger and 25 M.T. cargo capacity;

(c) M.V. Minicoy with 150 passenger and 25 M.T. Cargo capacity; and

(d) 4 Nos. of cargo barges with 600 M.T. capacity per vessel.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. However, it is clarified that the UTL crew working on board Administration vessels as

indicated against category No. (ii) above are regular Central Government employees appointed under CCS Rules enjoying all the benefits of the Government service. As such, they are entitled for basic salary and allowances like DA, CCA, TA, SCA, HRA etc. as admissible to central government employees from time to time. Besides they are entitled to all other benefits including pensionery benefits under CCS Rules. Unlike crew engaged on roaster basis where the crew are required to sign on and sign of for each period of their engagement, the UTL crew by virtue of their being regular employees of the Administration are entitled for salary and allowances throughout their services. There is no question of signing on or signing of in their case. They continue to get the salary and allowances throughout their service like any other government servants whether they are working on board the ship of the Administration or on shore assignment. As such the question of implementing part 7 of the Act relating to welfare of the seamen does not arise. However, medical treatment facilities are available for them. Whenever on board, accommodation facilities are available to them and where on board accommodation is not available, then either rent free accommodation or HRA is allowed to them as per rules. However, no victualling allowance is allowed. In this connection, it may kindly be noted that United Territory of Lakshadweep crew are government employee and cannot simultaneously claim benefit under both CSS Rules and M.S. Act. However, in case of the crew appointed by SCI and LDCL in respect of ships operated by them, the Administration does not come in the picture so far as engagement of crew and related matters are concerned.

(e) and (f) No, Sir. Since UT crew are central government employees there is no question of negotiating with any union in respect of their salary and allowances which are to be determined under the relevant rules in accordance with the central pay commission's recommendations.

(g) to (i) The Lakshadweep Administration has already implemented the under-mentioned provisions of the Paul Antony Tribunal which was exclusively constituted for UTL seamen.

UTL crew is permitted OTA, Daily Allowance and sailing allowance in relaxation of Govt. Rules as follows:

O.T.A.: (i) Upto a maximum of 240 Hrs. per month in case of ships sailing for more than 12 hours,

(ii) Upto a maximum of 150 Hrs. per month for ships for less than 12 Hrs. sailing per day.

Daily Allowance: At the rate applicable to the next higher class of cities

Sailing Allowance: (a) Rs. 40/- per day for more than 12 hrs. sailing; (b) Rs. 30 per day for less than 12 hrs. sailing.

As far as Ms. Kumud Bansal Tribunal is concerned, it is not related to UTL seamen.

Affiliation of Education Institutes

3042. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made affiliation of educational institutes easier as reported in the *Hindustan Times* dated 19.11.2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the norms prescribed for affiliation; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) The All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) has revised its approval process and norms for technical institutes. The new initiatives taken by AICTE include 'Mandatory Disclosure' by the institutes, 'Time-bound Anytime Round the Year' processing, 'No Objection Certificate' from the State Government not required etc. The revised norms include reduction in land requirements for certain categories of institutions/cities, increase in the requirement of built up area, relaxation in faculty cadre ratio etc. The details of the revised norms are available on AICTE website www.aicte.ernet.in.

The norms and standards of the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) for grant of recognition to institutions for starting/conducting various teacher education courses have not yet been revised.

Raising of Road Level on National Highway

3043. SHRI S.D. MANDLIK: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road traffic was disrupted on the National Highway between Ratnagiri and Kulhapur due to heavy rains and floods;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to raise the road level by 3 meters and above to avoid the traffic disruption on this NH;

(c) if so, whether the Government has received any suggestion in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action proposed to be taken and the time by which this work is likely to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir. The road traffic on Ratnagiri Kolhapur Road, National Highway No. 204 was disrupted due heavy rains and floods in July, 2005.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Suggestion for permanent repair of the road has been received. However, no detailed proposal for raising has been received.

(e) Does not arise.

Export of Adulterated Chilli

3044. SHRI A. SAI PRATHAP: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the spices export licenses of some exporters have been cancelled due to export of adulterated chilli last year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken against such exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Consequent to the issuance of Rapid Alert Notifications by the European Union indicating presence of a prohibited colourant, Sudan 1, in the consignments of chilli exported from India, Spices Board has cancelled the Certificate of Registration as Exporter (CRES) of the following Exporters during the current year:

- M/s. Gautam Export Corporation, Mumbai
- M/s. Patons Exports, Mumbai
- M/s. S.G. Spice & Seed Trading Company Private Limited, Mumbai.

CRES of M/s Volga Spices & Masala Mills Private Limited, Mumbai was also cancelled as the material exported by the above three exporters was sourced from M/s. Volga Spices.

Proposal from States regarding Centrally Sponsored Schemes

3045. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some proposals received from Government of Karnataka under Centrally Sponsored Schemes for Department of Education and Department of Women and Child Development are pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, whether the Government has received any such proposal from other States also;

(c) if so, the details thereof, scheme-wise;

(d) the time by which these proposals are likely to be cleared;

(e) the total amount sought by the State Governments for schemes of both these Departments of the Ministry; and

(f) the details of the schemes approved so far and those pending for clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Coordinated Development of Ports

3046. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI:
SHRI PARSURAM MAJHI:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an urgent need for better cooperation between Centre and maritime States to ensure coordinated development of major and minor ports;

(b) if so, whether this issue was discussed during the recent meeting of maritime State Development Council;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the details of recommendations adopted at the meeting;

(e) whether the Government has earmarked for Rs. 60,000 crores for the development of various major ports;

(f) if so, the amount proposed to be provided to each maritime State for the development of ports, Channels and backwater;

(g) the year by which the said amount is likely to be spent; and

(h) the details of projects proposed to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Maritime States Development Council (MSDC) under the Chairmanship of Minister of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways discussed various issues of common interest by the participants including representatives from the Maritime States and Union Territories during its meeting held in Bhubaneswar on 10.11.2005 and made 33 recommendations on the following issues:

(i) Need to hold MSDC meetings frequently.

(ii) Concessions to young boys from fishermen community in undergoing seafarers training.

(iii) Acceptance of hydrographical surveys done by private agencies.

(iv) Land to Directorate General of Lighthouse & Lightships and Directorate General of Shipping.

(v) Barge policy.

(vi) Draft Maritime Policy for the maritime sector.

(vii) Viability gap fund scheme.

(viii) Amendment in the provisions of Indian Ports Act, 1908 and allied issues.

(ix) Proposal to declare new National Waterway No. 5.

(x) Environmental clearance for port projects.

(xi) Impounded foreign fishing vessels.

(xii) Wireless communication.

(xiii) Functioning of Port Health Officer and plant quarantine organization on holidays.

(xiv) Constitution of State Maritime Boards and representation to Navy and Coast guard.

(xv) Preference in appointment of captains of ports.

(xvi) Perspective Plans and development of port facilities at Lakshadweep and Vizhinjam Harbour.

(xvii) Concessional tax regime.

(xviii) Coastal Shipping.

(xix) Oil spill contingency plan.

(xx) Shore reception facilities.

(xxi) Central Government assistance for undertaking Hydrographic Survey of Minor Ports.

(xxii) Setting up of two international shipyards.

(xxiii) Fixing of IV limits.

(xxiv) Assistance for development of minor ports.

(xxv) Consulting Ministry of Defence and Ministry of External Affairs regarding visit of foreign security personnel to ports.

(xxvi) Including representative of Maritime States in Navigational Safety in Ports Committee (NSPC).

(xxvii) Amendment of IV Act and framing of rules thereunder.

(xxviii) Customs duty exemption for ship-breaking industry.

(xxix) Marking of light, buoys and wrecks on the hydrographic maps.

(xxx) 'Port of Refuge' and Crisis Management.

(xxxi) Sharing of infrastructure with minor ports.

(xxxii) Study for security & disaster measures.

(xxxiii) Exemption from payment of Income Tax to Major Ports and Maritime Boards.

(e) to (h) The Government has taken up preparation of the National Maritime Development Programme which would include specific schemes and projects to be taken up over a period upto the year 2011-12. The total investment in projects relating to major ports under the

Programme is expected to be about Rs. 55,804 crores. The Programme is proposed to be implemented through public private partnership, in two phases. Public investment are planned primarily for creation of common user infrastructure facilities. Private investments are expected in the areas where operations are primarily commercial in nature. Projects falling under the following broad categories have been identified for inclusion in the Programme:—

(i) Projects related to Port Development (construction of jetties, berths etc.)—76 projects.

(ii) Procurement, Replacement or Upgradation of Port Equipment—52 projects.

(iii) Deepening of Channels for Improvements in Drafts-25 projects.

(iv) Projects related to Port connectivity—45 projects.

(v) Other related schemes—78 projects.

Port-wise breakup of the number of projects and the investment envisaged is enclosed as Statement.

Statement

Port-wise breakup of the number of projects and the investment envisaged under National Maritime Development Programme for Major Ports

Sl.No.	Name of the Major Port	No. of Projects	Expected Investment (Rs. in crores)
1.	Kolkata	40	6494.45
2.	Paradip	28	2402.83
3.	Visakhapatnam	38	2621.00
4.	Ennore	14	6466.00
5.	Chennai	14	2247.14
6.	Tuticorin	24	4571.25
7.	Cochin	14	7920.00
8.	New Mangalore	20	7148.00
9.	Mormugao	12	808.00
10.	Mumbai	14	2766.06
11.	Jawaharlal Nehru	32	7278.00
12.	Kerala	26	5081.00
	Total	276	55803.73

Commission for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes

3047. SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU:
SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI:

Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has set up a Commission to deal with the cases of Scheduled Tribes for their welfare and also inclusion of certain castes in the category of Scheduled Tribes;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the criteria adopted for the same;

(c) the number of castes included in the Central List of STs, Stares-wise and Community-wise;

(d) whether the Government has received any request from Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka for inclusion of castes in the Central list of STs;

(e) if so, the time by which such requests are likely to be acceded to; and

(f) the final assistance provided to ST people through NGOs, in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to help them?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH-EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) On the 89th Amendment of the Constitution coming into force from 19.02.2004, resulting in the bifurcation of the erstwhile National Commission for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes, the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes has been set up under Article 338A.

(c) The information pertaining to the state-wise & community-wise list of Scheduled Tribes is available in the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 2004-05, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(d) and (e) Yes, Sir. The approved modalities for inclusion/exclusion of any community in the list of Scheduled Tribes under Article 342 of the Constitution with various agencies such as State Government, Registrar General of India and National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, which takes time and no definite time-frame can be specified.

(f) Financial assistance provided to the NGOs during last three years are given below:—

(Rupees in crores)

Name of State	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Andhra Pradesh	4.82	4.75	6.05
Karnataka	2.98	1.73	3.16

Missing of Manuscript

3048. SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA:
SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY:

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

(a) whether the publication department of NCERT is yet to receive a single new manuscript and three deadlines has already been missed as reported in the 'Times of India' dated December 2, 2005;

(b) if so, the details and the facts thereof;

(c) the reasons for delay in this regard; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to check the recurrence of delay in future and to get the new books published within the scheduled time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (d) NCERT has taken steps to meet the deadline of supplying new textbooks before the commencement of the new academic session- 2006-07. It has sent a rejoinder to this effect and this has been published in the same newspaper on 7th December, 2005.

Viability Gap Funding for Road Projects

3049. SHRIMATI JAYABEN B. THAKKAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is discussing with World Bank and Asian Development Bank to provide viability gap funding for road projects offered on Build Operate and Transfer basis; and

(b) if so, the further development made in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) World Bank and Asian Development Bank have shown interest in providing viability gap funding for road projects offered on Build Operate and Transfer basis.

(b) The discussions with World Bank and Asian Development Bank are at a very preliminary stage and it is premature to give any details in this regard.

National Programme on Rural Industrialisation

3050. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target fixed under the National Programme on Rural Industrialisation in the country especially in the Industrially Backward Areas of Gujarat during the last three years has been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to achieve the targets?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) State-wise details of the number of rural industrial clusters taken up for development under the National Programme on Rural Industrialisation (NPRI) as on 31.03.2005 are given in the enclosed Statement. No targets are fixed under NPRI. Approval of proposals under this programme in individual States depends on the receipts of proposals in conformity with the programme guidelines and the annual availability of funds. Funds for a diagnostic study on re-rolling mills at Sihor in Bhavnagar District of Gujarat could not be released due to non-compliance of the prescribed conditions by the State Government.

Statement

State-wise number of rural industrial clusters under the National Programme on Rural Industrialisation

Sl.No.	Name of State	Number of rural industrial clusters
1.	Assam	4
2.	Bihar	1
3.	Haryana	4
4.	Himachal Pradesh	2
5.	Maharashtra	1
6.	Orissa	3
7.	Rajasthan	2
8.	Uttar Pradesh	2

Four-Laning of National Highways

3051. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed any agreement under BOT (Build Operate and Transfer) contract for four-laning of various National Highways in the country, State-wise;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the above projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The details of the BOT contracts for four laning of various National Highway in the country, state-wise with target date of completion are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Regarding Four-Laning of National Highways

Details of BOT (Toll based/Annuity based) Projects undertaken by NHAI

Sl.No.	Station from to	Category	NH No.	Length	Total Project Cost (Rs. Crore)	Target date of Completion	State Name
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	Toll Based Projects						
NHDP Phase I							
1.	Vivekananda Bridge and Approach	GQ	2	6	641	Aug. 2007	West Bengal
2.	Mahapura (near Jaipur)-Kishangarh (6 Lane)	GQ	8	90.38	644	4 Laned	Rajasthan
3.	ROB at Kishangarh	GQ	8	1	18	4 Laned	Rajasthan
4.	Nellore-Tada	GQ	5	110.517	621.35	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Satara-Kagal	GQ	4	133	600	Dec. 2005	Maharashtra
6.	Tumkur-Neelmangala	GQ	4	32.5	155	4 Laned	Karnataka
7.	Durg Bypass	Others	6	18	70	2 Laned	Chhattisgarh
8.	Delhi-Gurgaon Section (Access Controlled 8/6 Lane)	Others	8	27.7	555	Dec. 2006	Delhi (9.7)/ Haryana (18)
9.	Nandigama-Vijayawada	Others	9	35	138.65	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
	Total			454.10	3443.00		
NHDP Phase II							
1	Rajkot Bypass & Gondal Jetpur	EW	8B	36	285	Nov. 2007	Gujarat
2.	Salem to Kerala Border Section	NS	7&4	53.525	469.8	NA	Tamil Nadu

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
3.	Salem to Kerala Border Section	NS	7	48.51	379.8	NA	Tamil Nadu
4.	Panipat Elevated Highway	NS	1	10	270	NA	Haryana
5.	Farukhanagar to Kottakata	NS	7	46.162	267.2	NA	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Farukhanagar to Kotakatta	NS	7	55.74	313.7	NA	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Krishnagiri to Thopurghat	NS	7	62.5	372.7	NA	Tamil Nadu
8.	Salem to Karur	NS	7	41.55	253.5	NA	Tamil Nadu
9.	Salem to Karur	NS	7	33.48	205.6	NA	Tamil Nadu
10.	Karur to Madurai	NS	7	68.125	327.2	NA	Tamil Nadu
11.	Karur to Madurai	NS	7	53.025	283.5	NA	Tamil Nadu
12.	Trishur to Angamali	NS	47	40	312.5	NA	Kerala
	Total			548.62	3720.50		
NHDP Phase-IIIA							
1.	Mahaua-Jaipur Km to km 228		11	108	483	Mar. 2009	Rajasthan
2.	Bharatpur-Mahaua Km 63 to km 120		11	57	250	Jan. 2009	Rajasthan
3.	Vadape-Gonde Km 440/000 to km 539/500		3	100	579	Apr. 2009	Maharashtra
4.	Pimpalgaon-Dhule Km 380/0 to km 265/0		3	118	556	Mar. 2009	Maharashtra
5.	Guna Bypass Km. 319/700 to km 332/100		3	14	46	Jul. 2007	Madhya Pradesh
6.	Pune-Khed Km 12/190 to km 42/000		50	30	127.6	Dec. 2005	Maharashtra
7.	Raipur-Aurang Km 232 to km 281		6	45	190	Jan. 2009	Chhattisgarh
8.	Ambala-Chandigarh km 5.735 to km 39/961 of NH-22 and km 0/0 to km 0/871 of NH-21		21 & 22	36	298	Nov. 2008	Punjab/Haryana
9.	Jalandhar-Amritsar Km 407/100 to km 456/100		1	49	263	Nov. 2008	Punjab
10.	Meerut—Muzaffarnagar Km 52.250 to km 131.00		58	79	359	Mar. 2009	Uttar Pradesh

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	Agra-Bharatpur		11	45	195	Jan. 2009	UP/Rajasthan
12.	Indore-Khalghat		3	80	472	Jun. 2009	Madhya Pradesh
13.	Kondhali-Talegaon		6	50	212	Jan. 2009	Maharashtra
14.	Sitapur-Lucknow		24	75	322	Jun. 2009	Uttar Pradesh
15.	Nagpur-Kondhali		6	40	168	Dec. 2008	Maharashtra
	Total			926	4521		
			Annuity Based Projects				
1.	Panagarh-Palsit	GQ	2	64.457	350	4 Laned	West Bengal
2.	Palsit-Dankuni	GQ	2	65	432.4	4 Laned	West Bengal
3.	Ankapalli-Tuni	GQ	5	58.947	283.2	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
4.	Tuni-Dharmavaram (AP-16)	GQ	5	47	231.9	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
5.	Dharmavaram-Rajahmundry (AP-15)	GQ	5	53	206	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
6.	Nellore Bypass	GQ	5	17.166	143.2	4 Laned	Andhra Pradesh
7.	Maharashtra Border-Belgaum	GQ	4	77	332	4 Laned	Karnataka
8.	Tambaram-Tindivanam	Others	45	93	375	4 Laned	Tamil Nadu
	Total			475.57	2353.70		

Refugees from East Pakistan

3052. SHRI NARAYAN CHANDRA BORKATAKY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the refugees from erstwhile East Pakistan and present Bangladesh will be covered and get refugee status under the Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to rehabilitate them in the country including redistribution in other States;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has used the same definition and meaning for the term "refugees" and "displaced persons" while dealing with the persons/ immigrants from Pakistan and Bangladesh;

(e) if so, the details of the Home Minister's discretionary fund in this regard alongwith the criteria for utilization thereof;

(f) whether the said fund has been utilized in Assam in the last three years; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) to (c) As per the understanding between India and Bangaldesh, persons who were forced to leave East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) and came to India before 25.3.1971, would not be sent back to Bangaldesh.

(d) "Displaced persons" were defined in the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act, 1950 and The Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Act, 1954. Both these Acts, stand repealed w.e.f. 6.9.2005. Term 'Refugee' was not defined in these two Acts.

(e) The Union Home Minister does not have any discretionary fund for the persons who have entered into India from Bangladesh before 25.3.1971.

(f) and (g) In view of (e) above, do not arise.

[Translation]

Collaboration between WCD & KVIC

3053. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Women and Child Development Department (WCD) in collaboration with Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) has chalked out any plan to set up small industries for the rural women and create a market for their produce so as to improve the socio-economic condition of rural women and children living below the poverty line;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the latest position of this scheme;

(d) the number of blocks in which the 'Swa Shakti Pariyojana' is being implemented, as on date, State-wise;

(e) whether the Government has any proposal to extend this project;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the achievements made so far, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) on 28th September, 2005 to jointly strengthen the manufacture and marketing of produce of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) formed under the scheme of Swayamsidha. According to the MoU, KVIC will assist in developing brand image for the produce of SHGs, help to market the produce by lending space in its outlets, impart training in marketing and help access their resource centers.

(d) Swa-Shakti Project ended on 30th June, 2005.

(e) and (f) There is no approved proposal yet.

(g) A statement indicating the State-wise achievements made under Swa-Shakti so far is enclosed.

Statement

State-wise achievements under the scheme of Swa-Shakti

Particulars	Bihar	Chhattisgarh	Gujarat	Haryana	Jharkhand	Karnataka	M.P.	U.P.	Uttaranchal	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	10	11
1. SHG Status										
(a) No. of SHGs formed	441	560	2706	1550	1678	2149	2462	5530	571	17647
(b) Total Membership	5121	8091	44848	22009	22242	36522	31533	63907	7689	243962
(c) Amount of Groups Savings. (Rs. in lakh)	49.70	38.51	345.74	229.00	128.23	618.35	282.48	830.87	52.50	2575.38
(d) Number of Groups Inter-Loaning	441	560	2593	1410	1522	2149	2462	5149	560	16846
(e) Amount Inter-Loaned (Rs. in lakh)	47.49	65.86	392.51	232.00	266.52	1968.58	361.40	2727.20	84.19	6145.75
(f) Groups Linked with Banks	322	319	1094	1319	1210	1756	1616	4383	237	12256

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
2.	**Training**										
	(a) No. of SHG members who received advance level training (Cluster development, visioning, convergence etc.)	3488	4355	44848	2611	6894	32624	28144	29745	4875	157384
	(b) No. of members acquired skill development training	2532	4800	18528	5764	5295	22775	23730	26912	4354	114690
3.	**Cluster Status**										
	(a) No. of Clusters Formed	57	52	122	114	145	201	218	229	75	1213
	(b) No. of Clusters Registered*	19	48	120	102	142	41	189	203	32	876
4.	**B.C.C. Status**										
	(a) No. of B.C.Cs formed	4	14	55	69	18	42	47	64	20	333
	(b) No. of SHG members accessing BCC services	2314	2217	26895	789	4402	3762	12535	368	940	54222
5.	**IGA/Med Activity**										
	(a) No. of women involved in IGA	4828	3018	16215	6259	19138	30202	15681	65261	2809	163411
	On-farm	2956	1684	7546	2255	13591	18464	9189	45537	2024	103246
	Off-farm	1872	1334	8669	4004	5547	11738	6492	19724	785	60165
6.	**Convergence**										
	(a) No. of Groups linked with Govt. schemes	419	427	2242	780	1047	2149	2024	5366	289	14743
	(b) No. of SHG Members Linked with Govt. Schemes	3192	3667	18432	4176	3993	36141	18088	42347	1817	131853
	(c) No. of SHG members acquired functional literacy	3734	3207	6242	1140	2816	7322	8832	11040	2161	46494
7.	**Community Asset**										
	(a) No. of community assets created	215	130	582	3	112	173	434	203	82	1934

*Under clusters status the data of Karnataka is on CGAs, the data of Bihar is on Cooperative

Violation of International Border

3054. SHRI JUAL ORAM:
SHRIMATI RUPATAI D. PATIL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of violation of international agreement on borders reported during each of the last three years, border-wise; and

(b) the action being taken by the Government to check the violation of international borders in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) There have been 9 (nine) instances of violation of India-Bangladesh border, 1 (one) instance each on India-Pakistan, India-Nepal and India-Myanmar borders during the year 2002 to 2005 (till date).

(b) The matter regarding violation of the international borders/LAC has been raised with respective neighbouring countries through diplomatic channels as well as border personnel meetings. The Government of India is committed to safeguarding the sanctity of India's international boundaries and to take all necessary steps to ensure that these are not violated.

[English]

Proposal for Modernisation of Police

3055. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS:
SHRI ABDUL RASHID SHAHEEN:
SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR:
SHRI G.M. SIDDESWARA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any new Project/proposal for modernisation of police forces in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the funds allocated, the amount released and the amount utilized for implementation of these projects, State-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government has reviewed the utilisation of Central funding by the various States;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether all the police stations across the country will be linked up, to exchange information;

(g) if so, the progress made and target achieved so far in this regard; and

(h) the time by which all the Police Stations in the country will be linked up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces has been revised in 2005-06 by the Government. Under the revised Scheme, the States have been re-categorized into category 'A' and 'B' with 100% and 75% Central funding respectively. The States of J&K and seven North-Eastern States have been included in category 'A' with 100% Central funding and the remaining States have been included in category 'B' with 75% Central funding for MPF Scheme. Consequently, the annual Central allocation under the scheme has been raised to Rs. 1645 crore.

(c) to (e) A statement showing the State-wise details of Central funds released and utilized during the period 2000-01 to 2004-05 is enclosed.

The utilization of Central funds by the States is being reviewed and monitored regularly by the Government. States showing inadequate utilization of funds are being suitably advised, from time to time.

(f) to (h) A satellite-based scheme called "POLNET" has been conceptualized for linking the police stations, the district headquarters and the State headquarters. Under the scheme, very small aperture terminals, *i.e.* V-SATs have been installed in the National Capital, all the State Capitals and 576 district headquarters for voice, fax and data connectivity. Multi Access Radio Telephone (MART) links are also being provided from district headquarter to police stations wherever line of sight feasibility is available.

Statement

Scheme for Modernization of State Police Forces—2000-01 to 2004-05—Funds released/utilization position (Position as on 23.11.2005)

(Rs. in crore)

Name of State	2000-01 Central funds released	2000-01 Central funds utilized	2000-01 unspent balance	2001-02 Central funds released	2001-02 Central funds spent	2001-02 unspent balance	2002-03 Central funds released	2002-03 Central funds spent	2002-03 unspent balance	2003-04 Central funds released	2003-04 Central funds spent	2003-04 unspent balance	2004-05 Central funds released	2004-05 Central funds spent	2004-05 unspent balance
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Andhra Pradesh	72.02	72.02	00.00	77.20	77.20	00.00	81.32	80.64	00.68	69.46	65.38	04.08	79.73	34.21	45.52
Arunachal Pradesh	01.15	00.69	00.46	04.45	03.94	00.51	5.20	01.40	03.80	7.24	1.72	05.52	9.13	6.15	2.98

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Assam	36.58	18.29	18.29	38.59	19.60	18.99	16.50	07.57	08.93	36.52	34.21	02.31	41.17	41.17	00.00
Bihar	57.58	50.40	07.18	54.00	20.70	33.30	11.50	11.50	00.00	0.436	0.43	00.00	45.00	45.00	00.00
Chhattisgarh	20.58	20.58	00.00	21.97	21.13	00.84	16.70	15.77	00.93	17.47	13.58	03.89	32.72	12.75	19.97
Goa	02.02	1.77	00.25	02.00	01.25	00.75	2.00	01.10	00.90	1.40	01.25	00.15	0.28	0.28	00.00
Gujarat	59.76	55.76	03.98	50.00	48.15	01.85	50.00	49.09	00.91	42.21	42.21	00.00	39.04	23.30	15.74
Haryana	28.32	28.32	00.00	24.46	24.46	00.00	22.10	22.10	00.00	20.00	20.00	00.00	22.13	22.13	00.00
Himachal Pradesh	01.34	01.34	00.00	06.38	03.16	03.22	6.20	01.01	05.19	0.69	0.69	00.00	2.57	2.57	00.00
Jammu and Kashmir	30.82	30.82	00.00	28.50	28.50	00.00	28.50	28.50	00.00	25.00	24.00	01.00	110.69	110.67	00.02
Jharkhand	40.15	33.43	06.72	28.93	27.74	01.19	12.73	12.42	00.31	8.50	5.72	02.78	22.23	1.63	20.60
Karnataka	82.85	82.85	00.00	76.90	76.89	00.01	75.00	69.02	05.98	69.31	67.45	01.86	58.67	53.61	05.26
Kerala	29.28	28.24	01.04	31.16	29.96	01.20	25.13	25.13	00.00	22.00	22.00	00.00	26.45	17.74	08.71
Madhya Pradesh	54.49	54.49	00.00	53.00	52.64	00.36	51.33	46.79	04.54	48.24	44.73	03.51	42.07	25.78	16.29
Maharashtra	83.10	73.38	09.72	92.10	92.10	00.00	67.94	67.41	00.53	62.64	56.13	06.71	71.00	56.90	14.10
Manipur	04.10	2.05	02.05	04.95	02.45	02.50	0.73	0.80	00.43	11.50	4.84	06.66	15.24	12.25	02.99
Meghalaya	01.54	01.09	00.45	05.19	03.55	01.64	0.55	00.55	00.00	5.29	2.63	02.69	7.58	2.82	04.96
Mizoram	04.95	4.95	00.00	05.50	05.50	00.00	5.50	2.75	02.75	8.47	1.76	06.71	7.45	1.49	05.96
Nagaland	02.84	2.84	00.00	13.46	13.46	00.00	9.95	9.95	00.00	21.00	19.34	01.66	13.09	9.03	04.06
Orissa	30.58	29.94	00.64	30.50	28.40	02.10	16.76	15.37	01.39	21.91	16.03	05.88	27.66	15.43	12.23
Punjab	35.76	35.31	00.45	32.10	15.01	17.09	32.10	9.99	22.11	19.34	08.04	11.30	22.89	11.06	11.83
Rajasthan	45.52	45.52	00.00	61.10	57.37	3.73	16.17	16.17	00.00	43.10	40.12	02.98	42.42	11.62	30.80
Sikkim	01.83	00.11	01.72	2.87	00.89	01.98	0.09*	00.09	00.00	00.94	0.69	00.25	5.90	4.90	01.00
Tamil Nadu	76.50	76.47	00.03	68.10	68.10	00.00	68.10	54.98	68.10	50.50	00.00	04.48	56.78	30.88	25.90
Tripura	06.39	6.39	00.00	05.60	5.60	00.00	5.60	5.60	00.00	12.83	9.74	3.09	12.44	8.13	04.31
Uttar Pradesh	123.97	117.49	06.48	116.05	105.96	10.09	60.39	53.38	07.01	65.02	65.02	00.00	108.33	97.36	10.97
Uttaranchal	05.50	5.46	00.04	06.44	06.44	00.00	6.58	6.58	00.00	7.41	5.77	01.64	7.99	3.55	04.44
West Bengal	60.48	33.79	26.69	56.50	21.03	35.47	0.33*	00.33	00.00	2.17	1.99	00.18	29.15	27.15	02.00
Total	100.00	913.81	86.19	1000.00	863.18	136.82	695.00@	628.61	66.39	705.27	625.97	79.30	960.00	689.36	270.64

*Amount indicated against Sikkim and West Bengal is only for POLNET Project.

@ Includes an amount of Rs. 8.78 crore for POLNET project in All States.

Registration of Marriage

3056. KUNWAR MANVENDRA SINGH:
SHRI ANIRUDH PRASAD ALIAS SADHU YADAV:
SHRI KC. PALANISAMY:

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

(a) whether draft bill on compulsory marriage registration has been prepared by National Commission for Women;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether NCW (National Commission for Women) has received suggestions from National Minority Commission;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which the said bill is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The draft bill has not yet been finalized by the Commission.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The views of the National Commission for Minorities, among others, have been considered by NCW while in the process of finalizing the draft bill.

(e) No time frame is envisaged at this stage.

Trade with Bangladesh

3057. SHRI ADHALRAO PATIL SHIVAJIRAO:
SHRI PRABODH PANDA:
SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of items imported/exported to Bangladesh during the last two years, item-wise alongwith foreign exchange spent and earned therefrom;

(b) whether the Government proposes to revise bilateral trade agreement signed with Bangladesh;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(d) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(e) whether the World Bank has conducted any study trade potential between India and Bangladesh;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The details of items imported/exported to Bangladesh during the last two years, item-wise alongwith foreign exchange spent and earned therefrom are given below in two separate tables:

Statement showing trade with Bangladesh

(Figures in Rs. $ Million)

Year	India's exports to Bangladesh	India's imports from Bangladesh	Total Trade
2003-04	1646.08	62.24	1708.32
2004-05	1586.18	54.88	1641.06
2005-06 (April-August)	587.69	29.45	617.14

Data Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata (Supplied by NIC. DOC

Statement showing year-wise export of some important items to Bangladesh

(Figures in Rs. $ Million)

Commodity	Year		
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06 (April-August)
Wheat	87.35	96.29	75.73
Cotton Yarn, Fabrics Madeups etc.	52.44	79.16	70.01
Fresh Vegetables	8.80	32.56	11.71
Manufactures of Metal	35.59	32.21	15.57
Machinery and Instruments	45.92	25.98	32.73
Transport Equipments	41.84	24.20	25.82
Petroleum Crude & Products	1.18	22.77	37.70
Pulses	15.01	20.74	26.96
Drugs Phrmcutes & Fine Chemls	17.02	20.73	19.52
Plastic & Lenoleum Products	13.11	13.87	36.83
Manmade Yarn Fabrics Madeups	12.09	12.97	18.47
Coal	17.15	11.74	10.39
Gls/Glswr/Cermcs/Reftrs/Cmnt	6.44	11.58	10.79
Prmry & Semi-Fnshd Iron & Stl.	31.34	11.23	30.58
Rice (Other than basmati)	109.11	10.42	35.94
Inorganic Chemicals	10.91	5.93	14.79
Other Commodities	2.29	4.21	4.36
Fertilizers Manufactured	—	3.54	0.47
Leather	0.71	0.90	1.01
Cotton Rawcomb/Uncomb/Waste	0.19	0.29	0.45
Oth. Txt. Yrn. Fabs. Madeup Artl	1.35	0.26	1.76
Readymade Gments (Wovn & Knit)	2.24	0.20	0.11
Metalifers Ores & Metal Scrap	0.00	0.20	0.27
Artfcl. Resns. Plstc. Matrls. etc.	0.05	0.15	0.13
Madeup Textile Articles	0.01	0.02	4.12
Fruits & Nuts Excl. Cashew Nuts	0.89	0.01	0.56
Vegetable Oils Fixed (Edible)	—	0.01	0.34

Data Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. A bilateral trade agreement between India and Bangladesh was signed on 4th October, 1980 for a period of three years with the provision for extension of three years by mutual consent subject to such modification as agreed upon. Its validity has been extended from time to time and, at present, its validity is up to 31st March, 2006. While extending this agreement, we are also under the process of preparing the draft text of the revised agreement incorporating the views of the concerned Ministries and also the views of the Government of Bangladesh. During the second meeting of India-Bangladesh Joint Working Group on Trade held on 23-24 March, 2004, at New Delhi, both sides had arrived at common agreed text for signing of the revised agreement and, accordingly, a copy of this draft revised text agreement had been forwarded through our High Commission, Dhaka, to Bangladesh Government for concurrence. The Bangladesh side has suggested some minor changes in the draft agreement. One of them was relating to Article 9 where they wanted to delete "on basis of Shipping Preference" to be read as "both the Governments agree to utilize to the maximum extent possible the vessels owned/chartered by the shipping organizations of the two countries concerned for shipping cargoes imported or exported under this agreement at competitive freight rate". This issue has yet not been resolved and, therefore, the revised bilateral trade agreement has not been signed. This issue also came for the discussion during the third meeting of the India-Bangladesh Joint Working Group on Trade held on 1-2 August, 2005 at Dhaka where both sides agreed to resolve the issue at the earliest.

(e) to (g) The Government of India has not aware of any study conducted by the World Bank on trade potential between India and Bangladesh.

[Translation]

Corruption in KVS

3058. SHRI JIVABHAI A. PATEL:
SHRI HARISINH CHAVDA:
SHRI BIR SINGH MAHATO:
SHRI HARIKEWAL PRASAD:

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

(a) whether the officials of Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) have been charged of corruption;

(b) if so, the details of such officials alongwith the action taken against such officials for the last three years;

(c) whether any system exist with the KVS to examine the cases of corrupt officials;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the officials proved guilty;

(e) whether some of these guilty officials are still working with KVS; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) and (b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) to (f) Yes, Sir. The complaints are got investigated departmentally. Wherever serious allegations having vigilance angle are prima facie found, show cause notices are issued and on receipt of replies the case files in respect of Group 'A' officers are submitted to the Central Vigilance Commission for first stage advice. On receipt of advice of the Central Vigilance Commission, charge-sheet is prepared and issued by the competent Disciplinary Authority. Cases where only administrative or academic irregularities are found, are directly dealt with in KVS by the Competent Authority. Similarly for Group B & C employees, action is initiated departmentally under CCS (CC & A) Rules, 1965 by the Disciplinary Authority. The details of guilty officials are being collected.

[English]

Levy of Toll Tax

3059. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR RANA:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering reduction in toll tax charged on National Highways;

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

(c) whether the various State Governments and other organisations have represented for exemption in toll tax to Ex-M.P.s/Ex-Legislatures; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Traffic Signals on National Highways

3060. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the requisite number of traffic signals have been set up on the national highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures taken to keep these signals functional;

(c) whether the Government proposes to replace the existing traffic signals on the national highways in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh by signals set up on international routes; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) National Highways are designed as Signal free facilities by providing properly designed intersections. Signals in urban/semi urban areas are sometimes provided by the local bodies on National Highways.

(c) and (d) There are no proposals for replacing signals on National Highways in the country by this Ministry. No proposals have been submitted by the State Government of Madhya Pradesh.

[English]

Indo-American Centres

3061. SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to the Indo-American Centres established in various IITs;

(b) whether these Centres have been able to achieve the desired objectives;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether IITs propose to launch joint research programmes with the Americans in hardware manufacturing; and

(e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) There is no Indo American Centre in IITs.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) IIT Kanpur has submitted a proposal for "Indo U.S. Centre for Advanced and Futuristic Manufacturing" to the Department of Science & Technology. At present, the proposal is under consideration of the Department of Science & Technology. Moreover, two individual faculty members of IIT Bombay have been undertaking projects on Process improvement (Reliability Aspect) for manufacturing ICs and Capacitance Extraction for design of future ICs both in collaboration with NTEL Corporation.

Expenditure on Secondary Education

3062. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an outlay for Secondary Education Sector under Annual Plan 2003-04 in the Central Sector was revised;

(b) if so, the details of outlay sanctioned and revised thereafter;

(c) whether an expenditure of Rs. 639.08 crores has been incurred during the said period;

(d) if so, the reasons for revising and under utilization of the outlay for 2003-04; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to utilize the funds allocated for the sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The sanctioned outlay for 2003-2004 was Rs. 669 crore and the revised outlay was Rs. 659.43 crore.

(c) The Expenditure in Secondary Education Sector under the Annual Plan 2003-04 was Rs. 637.99 crore.

(d) The under utilization was among others, due to various factors like inadequate number of feasible proposals, non-receipt of adequate number of proposals, slow progress of work.

(e) Effective implementation of schemes for utilization of funds is continuous effort.

Anti Dumping Duty on Shrimp

3063. SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. Government has decided not to revoke the anti-dumping duty on Shrimp from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the possible impact on the Shrimp exporters of India; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to protect the interests of the indigenous Shrimp industry exporters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) Anti-dumping duty on import of shrimp from India levied by the USA at present is subject to annual administrative assessment by the U.S. authorities, which is yet to be conducted by them. After the Changed Circumstances Review conducted by the United States International Trade Commission in the wake of tsunami disaster anti-dumping duties have remain unchanged.

(c) On account of anti-dumping duty and the related customs security bond requirement imposed by the US Customs, the cost of exporting shrimp to the USA has gone up.

(d) The Marine Products Export Development Authority and the Seafood Exporters Association of India have been defending the interests of the Indian shrimp industry.

Implementation of Condensed Courses of Education through NGO

3064. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB) has implemented Condensed Courses of Education through NGO to enable women to pass matric/secondary/ middle and primary level examinations and upgradation of skills of women to meet the demands of the changing environment;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the total number of courses organized vis-a-vis the expenditure incurred thereon during each of the last three years;

(d) the funds allocated during the current financial year for the implementation of this scheme; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to strengthen the scheme to make it more useful?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the scheme, education at all the three levels, *i.e.* Primary, Middle & Secondary is provided to girls/women above the age of 15 years who are school dropouts and who have not been able to join mainstream education system due to their adverse family circumstances or reasons beyond their control. Skill up-gradation and vocational training is also a component of the Scheme.

(c) As per enclosed Statement.

(d) During the current financial year, an amount of Rs. 600 lakhs have been allocated for the implementation of the scheme.

(e) To strengthen the Condensed Courses Scheme, an independent evaluation of the scheme is made from time to time and suitable modifications are made keeping in view the suggestions/recommendations received.

Statement

Number of condensed courses conducted and expenditure during the last three years

Sl.No.	Year	One Year duration		Two year duration	
		No. of courses	Expenditure Released (Rs. in lakhs)	No. of courses	Expenditure Released (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	2002-2003	48	20.31	89	179.65
2.	2003-2004	77	52.89	315	347.11
3.	2004-2005	116	71.97	469	509.30

Mushroom Exporters

3065. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether US has withdrawn Anti Dumping proceedings on Indian mushroom exporters;

(b) if so, the extent to which this decision has helped the Indian Mushroom exporters; and

(c) the details of increase of exports during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Details of exports of mushrooms during the years 2003-04 to 2005-06 are given below.

(Quantity: metric tons; Value: rupees in crores)

Product	2003-04		2004-05		2005-06* (April-June, 2005)	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
Mushroom fresh	6202.09	23.52	3540.79	13	153.64	4.91
Mushroom prepared/preserved	17104.61	66.18	23661.09	82.23	1764.58	5.04
Dried mushroom	140.40	18.56	102.00	20.63	21.53	5.97
Total	23447.10	108.26	27303.88	115.86	1939.75	15.92

Source: DGCI&S

*provisional data

[Translation]

Four-Laning of Meerut-Mujaffarnagar-Saharanpur Road

3066. SHRI RASHEED MASOOD: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has approved to convert the Meerut-Mujaffarnagar-Saharanpur road into four lane;

(b) if so, the time by which the said construction work is likely to begin;

(c) whether the said highway *i.e.* Meerut-Mujaffarnagar-Saharanpur Road is proposed to be converted into four lane till Ambala;

(d) if so, the time by which it is likely to be completed; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) Only Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section of National Highway No. 58 has been approved for 4-laning under NHDP Phase-IIIA and the construction work is likely to start by March 2006 and targeted to be completed by December 2009.

Muzaffarnagar-Saharanpur is a State Road and not National Highway and hence its development to 4-Lane Road is the responsibility of the State Government concerned.

Saharanpur-Ambala National Highway is not proposed for 4-laning keeping in view the traffic intensity.

[English]

Industrial Policy for North Eastern Region

3067. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government have requested for modification in the Special North-Eastern Industrial Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) whether the existing industries surviving in the region since long outside the specified areas are not entitled to enjoy the benefits under the policy; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government for the survival and growth of such industries in the free market economy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (d) Government announced the North-East Industrial Policy (NEIP) on 24th December, 1997, for promoting industrialization in the North-Eastern Region. Under this Policy, various concessions have been allowed to industrial units in the North Eastern Region, which include development of industrial infrastructure, excise and income-tax exemption and Subsidy under various Schemes like Central Capital Investment Subsidy Scheme, Central Interest Subsidy Scheme and Central Comprehensive Insurance Scheme. The benefits are available to the new industrial units or their substantial expansion in the notified areas of the North Eastern region. The benefits are available to some 'specified industries' even if these are located outside such notified areas.

Subsequently, several requests have been received from the State Governments of North Eastern Region and various stakeholders to revise the North East Industrial Policy to make it more attractive. Based on the impact study conducted by the Ministry and the discussions with various stakeholders, a revision of the North East Industrial Policy, 1997 is under consideration.

Trade with Saudi Arabia

3068. SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether WTO has agreed to include Saudi Arabia as its 149th member of the global group;

(b) if so, whether there is possibility of increase in trade with Saudi Arabia after its inclusion in WTO; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and fields identified for this?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. On 11th November, 2005

the General Council of the WTO approved Saudi Arabia's terms of accession. Saudi Arabia will become the 149th Member of the WTO 30 days thereafter *i.e.* on 11th December, 2005.

(b) and (c) WTO provides a predictable rule based multilateral trading system, which protects a country from the bilateral pressures of the other trading partners. By virtue of becoming a member of the WTO, the member country is automatically entitled to get the most favoured nation (MFN) and national treatment for its exports from all other countries. Republic of India has signed Bilateral Agreement with Saudi Arabia in the field of tariff on goods and services. This Agreement includes grant of Initial Negotiating Rights (INRs) for 201 tariff lines negotiated with India. Pursuant to this, there is a settlement on 341 tariff lines to India. In services, Saudi Arabia has agreed to provide Mode 4 commitments in number of service categories. These measures are likely to give a boost to the trade between the two nations, particularly in the areas of oil, gas, petrochemicals and information technology.

Trade Relation with Neighbouring Countries

3069. SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) at its recent meeting held in October, 2005, decided to be more pro-active in increasing interaction with neighbouring countries especially the less developed countries;

(b) if so, the exports, imports and balance of trade to each of these countries during the last three years and thereafter, country-wise; and

(c) the targets, fixed, for the trade and strategy with respect to each of these less developed countries alongwith the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The Trade and Economic Relations Committee (TERC) under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister, in its recent meeting held in October, 2005 decided to enhance the level of economic engagements with Bangladesh, Myanmar and Pakistan.

(b) The export-import and trade balance with all the above three countries are as follows:—

(In US$ Million)

Year	Bangladesh			Myanmar			Pakistan		
	Import	Export	Trade Balance	Import	Export	Trade Balance	Import	Export	Trade Balance
2002-03	62.05	1176	1113.95	336.04	75.07	-260.97	44.85	206.16	161.31
2003-04	62.24	1646.08	1583.84	409.01	89.64	-319.37	57.74	286.55	228.81
2004-05	54.88	1586.18	1531.30	398.54	109.73	-288.81	95.33	505.44	410.11

(c) The proposed initiatives intend to address the market access issue of the goods from the above three countries. The initiatives have been finalized for Bangladesh and Pakistan under the framework of South Asia Free Trade Area (SAFTA). SAFTA will be implemented from 1st January, 2006. For Myanmar, the initiatives are being discussed under the Bay of Bengal Initiative of Multisectoral Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Grouping. It is expected that these initiatives would improve the trade relations with our less developed neighbouring countries.

Ships Under Construction at Hindustan Shipyard

3070. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of 700 PAX passenger ship of Lakshadweep Administration now under construction in Hindustan Shipyard, Vishakhapatanam;

(b) by which date the ship was originally planned to be constructed as per the terms of contract;

(c) the reasons for the delay in completion of the ship;

(d) whether any action is being contemplated to speed up the ship construction;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether the non-completion of the construction work of ship is due to deficiency of funds;

(g) if so, whether the Government proposes to provide adequate funds for the purpose; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) As per the information furnished by HSL, the overall completion in terms of actual Hull, Machinery, fitment and Equipment is 60% in respect of the 700 Passenger ship of Lakshadweep Administration under constriction at HSL. The main activities which are outstanding for the completion of the ship are with respect of Deck machinery, electrical, piping, outfitting, accommodation, air-conditioning, navigation and communication equipment.

(b) The ship was originally planned to be constructed by February, 2003 as per terms of the contract.

(c) The main reasons for the delay in completion of the ship are as follows:

(1) Delay in finalization of Design & Documentation to meet the rules and norms,

(2) Delay in procurement of second phase steel,

(3) Non-availability of Building Dock for commencement of erection of panels since Building Dock was pre-occupied by 500 Cu. Meter Grab Hopper Dredger of Visakhapatnam Port Trust and INS Vagli, Submarine of Indian Navy and,

(4) Working Capital problems faced by HSL.

(d) to (h) Yes, Sir. The following actions have been taken by this Department to speed up the construction of the ship:

(i) A proposal is under consideration of the Government for providing a one-time financial assistance of Rs. 34.07 crores to HSL for completion of the vessel.

(ii) UTL Administration has been requested to consider a cost escalation of Rs. 9.88 crores due to change in the scope of work and additional requirement over and above what was initially agreed to in the contract.

(iii) Pursuant to the request of this Ministry, UTL Administration has also released Rs. 8.00 crore to HSL in advance out of Rs. 14.03 crores which was to be released by UTL to HSL after the delivery of the vessel. This has been done so as to enable HSL to continue with the construction of the vessel without further loss of time.

[Translation]

Indo-Indonesia Trade

3071. PROF. MAHADEORAO SHIWANKAR:
SHRI SHISHUPAL N. PATLE:
SHRI MOHD. TAHIR:
SHRI MUNSHI RAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of trade between India and Indonesia and percentage increase registered in comparison to last year;

(b) whether any business conference has been held between India and Indonesia recently as reported in the *Dainik Jagaran* dated November 24, 2005;

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith discussion held and outcome thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to increase the trade with Indonesia?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Present status of trade between India and Indoensia is as under:

(Value in US$ Million)

Year	Export	Import	Total
2004-05 (Apr-Aug)	448.75	1006.71	1455.46
2005-06 (Apr-Aug)	432.37	1006.19	1438.56
Percentage increase	(-)3.65	(-)0.05	(-)1.16

(Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata)

(b) to (d) Yes, Sir. During the recent visit of the Indonesian President to India, a Business Summit was organized by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi on 23.11.2005. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed for setting up of a Joint Study Group (JSG) to examine the feasibility of Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between India and Indonesia.

[English]

Investment for Strengthening Road Infrastructure

3072. SHRI B. MAHTAB: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is investing heavily in strengthening of road infrastructure in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government is aware that Panikoili-Keonjhar-Rajamunda National Highway-215 of Orissa is in a precarious condition; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the road?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) State-wise details of funds allocated for National Highway works being executed by State Public Works Departments are given in the enclosed Statement. Allocation for National Highway works executed through National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Border Roads Organization (BRO) are made Project-wise and not State-wise. Allocations made to NHAI and BRO for National Highway works during 2005-2006 are as under:-

		Amount (Rs. in crores)
(i)	NHAI	16,169.74
(ii)	BRO	377.00

(c) and (d) About 135 km of National Highway-215 was severely damaged during current monsoon. Various improvement works in a length of about 119 km of this highway have been sanctioned. The estimate for works on another 7 km of this National Highway is included in the Annual Plan Programme of 2005-2006. In addition four laning and strengthening of 249 km of National Highway-215 has been approved under NHDP-III.

Statement

State-wise details of funds allocated for national highways works during 2005-2006

Sl.No.	Name of States/UTs	Amount (Rs. in crores)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	86.23
2.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	5.00
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	7.00
4.	Assam	61.50
5.	Bihar	79.00
6.	Chandigarh	2.00
7.	Chhattisgarh	53.70
8.	Delhi	5.50
9.	Goa	5.50
10.	Gujarat	69.77
11.	Haryana	47.00
12.	Himachal Pradesh	42.00
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	0.00
14.	Jharkhand	35.00
15.	Karnataka	74.61
16.	Kerala	55.96

1	2	3
17.	Madhya Pradesh	99.03
18.	Maharashtra	100.65
19.	Manipur	16.07
20.	Meghalaya	26.21
21.	Mizoram	21.50
22.	Nagaland	11.00
23.	Orissa	67.63
24.	Punjab	49.01
25.	Pondicherry	5.00
26.	Rajasthan	75.36
27.	Tamil Nadu	180.91
28.	Uttaranchal	25.06
29.	Uttar Pradesh	139.30
30.	West Bengal	266.00

Disaster Management Curriculum in D.U.

3073. SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Delhi University proposes to begin course on managing disasters as reported in the *Times of India* dated 28.11.2005;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the names of the colleges in which such courses has been started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (c) According to information furnished by the University of Delhi, the University has not proposed to begin course on managing disaster. It, however, has decided to organize short term training programmes on disaster management for students drawn from different colleges at Maitreyi College and Sri Venkateswara College.

National Highway Projects in Karnataka

3074. SHRI IQBAL AHMED SARADGI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Karnataka has forwarded some road projects for approval regarding Declaration of four new National Highways-Jewargi-Lingasgur-Sindhnur-Bellary Road, Dharwad-Ramanagaram Road, Doddaballapur-Kolar road and connecting NH 218 to NH-63 (Bagalkot-Bhanapur) and upgradation of NH-48 (four-laning from Nelamangala to Mangalore and upgradation of NH-4 (four-laning from KR Puram to Kolar Border);

(b) if so, the present status of the proposals;

(c) the details of the projects approved so far and those pending for clearance;

(d) the total amount allocated for these projects; and

(e) the time by which the pending proposals are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (e) The Government of Karnataka has submitted proposals for declaration of Jewargi-Lingasgur-Sindhnur-Bellary, Dharwad-Ramanagaram, Doddaballapur-Kolar and Bagalkot-Badami-Yelburga-Kunkur Roads as National Highways. At present emphasis is being given for development of roads already declared as National Highways instead of declaring more roads as National Highways. Hence, these proposals have not been approved.

Upgradation of only Nelamangala-Hassan Section of NH 48 and K.R. Puram-Kolar Section of NH 4 have been included for four laning on BOT basis under National Highway Development Project Phase-IIIA. The preparation of the Detailed Project Reports for these projects have been taken up.

National Campaign on Birth Certificates

3075. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has launched the second phase of the National Campaign on Birth Certificates to provide certificates to all the children born during the past 10 years;

(b) if so, the main features of the Campaign;

(c) the results of the first phase of the Campaign;

(d) the total number of birth certificates issued during this first phase;

(e) whether the Government would achieve 100% registration by 2010 as targeted in the National Population Policy 2000;

(f) if so, the other steps being taken by the Government to achieve this target; and

(g) the extent to which it has been achieved till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT): (a) and (b) Yes Sir; the second phase of the National Campaign on Birth Certificates targets to cover those children below 10 years whose birth was registered but not covered in the 1st phase of the Campaign as well as the unregistered children.

(c) and (d) During the 1st phase of the National Campaign, nearly 3.44 crore children were issued birth certificates.

(e) to (g) The current level of registration of births in the country is about 58.0 per cent and that of deaths is about 54.5 per cent. Major states which have low level of registration of births and deaths are Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Assam and Rajasthan. The Government is seized of the position in these states and reviews it with them regularly. The Government has been extending assistance to them for training of functionaries, creation of awareness amongst the public as well as for computerization to improve the levels of registration. The provisions of Registration of Births and Deaths Act, 1969 need amendment for which a Committee has been formed already. The Government is working towards attaining the target mandated under the National Population Policy, 2000.

[Translation]

Free Trade Agreement

3076. SHRI ALOK KUMAR MEHTA:
SHRI P.C. THOMAS:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details with regard to Free Trade Agreements signed with different countries including the outcome thereof;

(b) quantum of export/import of items post/ante to Free Trade Agreement with Sri Lanka;

(c) whether the domestic prices of pepper, rubber, coconut/copra, tea and coffee have been affected as a result of Free Trade Agreement with Sri Lanka;

(d) if so, the details with regard to variation in prices/ production and exports/imports of these items; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) India has so far signed Free Trade Agreements (FTA) with Sri Lanka, Singapore and Bhutan. Apart from this, the South Asian Free Trade Area Agreement of which India is a signatory, consisting of all the members of SAARC countries, namely, India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, was signed in January, 2004 and is scheduled to come into force from 1st January, 2006. The texts of all these Agreements are available in department's website at www.commerce.nic.in.

India Sri Lanka FTA was signed in December, 1998 and came into operation with effect from March, 2000. India-Sri Lanka FTA seeks to establish free trade area through elimination of tariff in a phased manner. Under this FTA, except for 429 items included in the negative list and tariff rate quota on tea for US$ 15 million and for garments for 8 million pieces, India has already completed its commitment on duty reduction to zero on 18th March, 2003. Sri Lanka, on the other hand, except for the negative list of 1160 tariff lines, would complete its commitment of zero percent duty in 2008. Due to signing of India-Sri Lanka FTA, trade between two countries have grown considerably.

(b) The statement below shows that there has been increasing and steady growth in India's bilateral trade with Sri Lanka during the period after operation of FTA from the year 2000-01.

India-Sri Lanka Bilateral Trade

(Value in US$ Million)

Year	Exports	Imports	Total Trade
1999-2000	499.27	44.23	543.50
2000-01	629.46	44.77	674.23
2001-02	630.89	67.38	698.27
2002-03	920.98	90.83	1011.81
2003-04	1320.39	194.45	1514.84
2004-05	1353.75	364.25	1718.00
2005-06 (Apr.-Aug.)	795.83	191.41	987.24

Source: DGCI&S, Kolkata

(c) (i) India-Sri Lanka FTA has not affected the domestic pepper industry because the data available with us shows that import from Sri Lanka has been around 8% of the total production of pepper in India.

(ii) In the India-Sri Lanka FTA, all forms of natural rubber are included in India's negative list. This means that the duty concessions granted to the imports to India from Sri Lanka are not applicable in the case of natural rubber. Therefore, the agreement has not affected the domestic prices of natural rubber.

(iii) Desiccated coconut/copra is also in the negative list of India and hence duty concessions have not been granted to the imports of desiccated coconut from Sri Lanka into India. Therefore, the agreement has also not affected the domestic prices of desiccated coconut/copra.

(iv) Under the India-Sri Lanka FTA, there is a provision of import of tea from Sri Lanka to the extent of 15 Million Kgs per annum. The quantum of tea actually imported under this agreement was not more than 0.61 million kg in a year and, therefore, has not affected the domestic prices of tea.

(v) As far as coffee is concerned, Sir Lanka is a insignificant producer of coffee. No coffee was imported into India during the last three years *i.e.* 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 and, hence, it has not affected the domestic prices.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Study regarding Water Transport in River Narmada

3077. SHRI KRISHNA MURARI MOGHE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study has been conducted by foreign agencies on the potential of water transport in river Narmada flowing in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which the action is likely to be initiated by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) M/s Haskoning (Royal Dutch Consulting Engineers and Architects, Nijmegan) and M/s Consulting Engineering Services, New Delhi had conducted Phase I feasibility study and submitted their report (in August 1985) on navigation on Narmada River from Hoshangabad to Sea (Gulf of Khambat). The consultants had recommended completion of the full feasibility study covering 'Difficult river stretches' in Phase-II and 'Financial and Economic analysis' in Phase-III. These two phases, however, were not undertaken. Since the study was incomplete, no action could be taken by the Government in this regard.

Awards to Small Scale Entrepreneurs

3078. SHRI HEMLAL MURMU: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of National Award schemes being implemented by the Government for Small Scale Industries/Entrepreneurs;

(b) whether various Small Scale Industries/ Entrepreneurs have been given awards recently; and

(c) if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Central Government has been operating three schemes of National Awards for Small Scale Industries, namely, National Awards to Small Scale Entrepreneurs, National Award for Research and

Development Efforts in Small Scale Industries and National Awards for Quality Products.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 42 National Awards for the year 2003 were given to Small Scale Industries/Entrepreneurs in October 2005, the State-wise details of which are as follows:

Sl.No.	Name of State	No. of Awards to Small Scale Entrepreneurs	No. of Awards for Research and Development Efforts in Small Scale Industries	No. of Awards for Quality Products
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1	—	1
2.	Assam	1	—	—
3.	Chhattisgarh	1	—	—
4.	Delhi	1	—	1
5.	Gujarat	4	1	5
6.	Haryana	1	—	2
7.	Himachal Pradesh	1	—	1
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	1	—	—
9.	Jharkhand	1	—	—
10.	Karnataka	1	—	—
11.	Kerala	1	—	—
12.	Madhya Pradesh	1	—	1
13.	Maharashtra	1	—	1
14.	Orissa	1	—	—
15.	Punjab	1	—	2
16.	Rajasthan	1	—	1
17.	Tamil Nadu	2	—	—
18.	West Bengal	2	1	—
19.	Uttar Pradesh	1	1	—
	Total	24	3	15

[English]

Comprehensive Interest Subsidy Scheme by KVIC

3079. SHRI SUGRIB SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether interest subsidy under a Comprehensive Interest Subsidy Scheme is admissible for institutional financing of the Khadi and Village Industries Programme;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith Interest Subsidy Eligibility criteria fixed during last two years;

(c) whether the additional interest subsidy was given by KVIC to various such institutions during the said period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken to revise the provision of the Interest Subsidy Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Under the Interest Subsidy Eligibility Certificate (ISEC) Scheme, implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), loans at the concessional rate of interest of 4 per cent per annum for assessed requirement of capital expenditure and working capital are made available by banks to registered institutions producing khadi and polyvastra items. The difference between the actual interest rate of the bank and 4 per cent is paid by the Central Government through KVIC to the lending bank. Assistance under the ISEC Scheme was available to village industry units set up prior to 01 April 1995. Village industry units set up thereafter have been assisted under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP).

(c) There is no other scheme for providing interest subsidy on loans to khadi and village industry institutions/ units.

(d) Does not arise.

Golden Quadrilateral Project

3080. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Empowered Committee of Secretaries has suggested a number of measures to expedite the Golden Quadrilateral Project;

(b) if so, the details of recommendations made by the Committee; and

(c) the extent to which the said recommendations would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) Empowered Committee of Secretaries (COS) has been constituted to resolve issues related to bottlenecks in the ongoing projects and for Central-State and Inter-Ministerial coordination.

(b) and (c) In accordance with the main recommendations of the Committee, Nodal Officers have been appointed by the State Governments for inter departmental coordination, MoEF has streamline some of their procedures for expeditious clearances of projects, an officer from Ministry of Railways has been deputed for expeditious clearances of Road Over Bridges, Ministry of Home Affairs has agreed to consider deploying Central Para Military Forces for projects in vulnerable areas, procedure for acquisition of land has been simplified by giving powers to Ministry of Shipping, Road Transport and Highways to issue notifications on the standard formats approved by Ministry of Law.

Export Development Fund

3081. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the Export Development Fund and achievement made in the country especially in North Eastern Region;

(b) the details of export-import made with the countries bordering NER during each of the last three years;

(c) whether any specific study has been conducted by (IIFT) Indian Institute of Foreign Trade;

(d) if so, the details thereof also with action taken in this regard; and

(e) the status of reopening of the old Still-Well Road, at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) An Export Development Fund (EDF) has been set up under the Assistance to States for Developing Export Infrastructure and Allied Activities (ASIDE) scheme with the objective of using the resources of the North Eastern Region for the development of exports. So far, a total amount of Rs. 29.66 crore has been sanctioned under the Export Development Fund, for 41 export oriented projects/activities.

(b) The details of trade with the countries bordering the North Eastern Region (NER) during each of the last three years are as follows:-

Name of the Country	Year-wise Total Exports (in Rs. crore)*			Year-wise Total Imports (in Rs. crore)*		
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Bangladesh	5691.28	7998.97	7218.52	300.29	356.70	266.24
Myanmar	363.31	411.92	493.01	1626.28	1879.40	1790.72
China	9560.39	13579.05	24015.34	13512.15	18625.13	30413.79

*Source: DGCI&S

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. A study has been conducted by the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade on the Industrial Development and Export Potential of the North Eastern Region. The report concludes that there is a sizeable potential for promoting trade from the North Eastern Region. The study has recommended the setting up of enterprises to promote production and trade of items having potential for growth of exports, particularly in respect of Horticulture, Plantation Crops and Sericulture. The study has also recommended the revival of riverine routes and development of rail and road transportation system in the North Eastern Region. Assistance is being provided to the State Governments under the ASIDE Scheme to develop the necessary infrastructure for promotion of trade in addition to the funds provided under the EDF, for taking up export oriented projects/activities.

(e) No decision has been taken on the reopening of the old Still-well Road.

Basic Science Education

3082. SHRI S.K. KHARVENTHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UGC has formulated any scheme for strengthening the basic science education and research;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount earmarked for the same;

(c) whether the recommendations made by the High Power Expert Committee headed by Prof. M.M. Sharma has been implemented;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): (a) to (e) A Task Force was set up by the Government, for strengthening basic science education and research within the existing university system. The recommendations inter-alia include to create 1000 positions of research scientists at various levels, five fold increase in the number of Ph. Ds from Indian universities and provision of fellowships in basic sciences for pursuing Doctoral research etc. The report has been given to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for further action.

Outlived Ship

3083. DR. P.P. KOYA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a passenger ship namely MV Tipu Sultan operated by the Shipping Corporation of India for Lakshadweep Administration to carry passengers between Islands and Mainland;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this ship has outlived normal life of the ship and is in operation after getting re-fitment certificate;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the number of times this ship has undergone major and minor repair resulting in cancellation of scheduled voyages during the last two years; and

(f) the number of days the ship was under repair and it was available for service during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M.V. Tipusultan is an all weather vessel with passenger capacity of 658 which was built in 1982 in Greece and resumed operation after modifications on 23.9.1988.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The ship was built in the year 1982 in Greece as a vehicle carrier. The ship was purchased by the Government of India in the year 1988 and after suitable modification and re-fitment in the superstructure for passenger carrying, the ship was taken over by the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration and resumed operation in September, 1988. This ship has already served its economic life and accordingly the same was to be phased out by year 2003-04. However, the Union Territory of Lakshadweep Administration could not withdraw this ship from service for want of a suitable replacement. At present the ship is being operated after carrying out annual repairs and maintenance every year.

(e) The vessel was repaired once each during 2003-04 and 2004-05 as per its annual dry docking repair schedule and has been repaired twice during 2005-06 till date.

(f) During the year 2003-04, the vessel remained in the dry dock for 101 days and was available for service for 264 days whereas during the year 2004-05 the vessel was laid for 85 days for repairs/dry dock and was available for service for 288 days. During the year 2005-06 till date the ship was laid for repair/dry dock for 168 days and was available for service only for 82 days.

Education to Girls

3084. SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has approved a new programme called National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level; (NPEGEL);

(b) if so, the details of the additional assistance provided to each State and UT for the implementation of NPEGEL;

(c) the number of blocks where this scheme is implemented at present, State and UT-wise;

(d) whether the Union Government has sought the details progress report regarding level of rural female literacy;

(e) if so, the details thereof, State and UT-wise;

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereon; and

(g) the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (g) In July 2003, the Government of India launched a programme called 'National Programme for Education of Girls at (NPEGEL)' under the existing scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) for providing additional components for education of girls. A statement indicating the blocks covered and financial assistance provided to eligible States so far, under the NEPGEL, is enclosed. The Central Government regularly monitors the progress of the NPEGEL in terms of its targets and achievements.

Statement

No. of Blocks covered and Funds released by GOI under National Programme for Education of Girls at Elementary Level (NPEGEL) Component of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA)

(Amount Rs. in Lakhs)

Sl.No.	State	No. of blocks covered	Funds released by Government of India (2003-04 to 2005-06)
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	570	5305.44
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	7	9.00
3.	Bihar	469	3607.54
4.	Chhattisgarh	99	2494.52
5.	Gujarat	91	1761.72
6.	Haryana	27	413.65
7.	Himachal Pradesh	7	91.82

1	2	3	4
8.	Jammu and Kashmir	104	673.54
9.	Jharkhand	193	2222.41
10.	Karnataka	58	1196.30
11.	Madhya Pradesh	284	14763.75
12.	Maharashtra	49	1125.25
13.	Meghalaya	1	10.67
14.	Mizoram	1	3.74
15.	Orissa	142	3951.13
16.	Punjab	12	61.53
17.	Rajasthan	180	2408.45
18.	Tamil Nadu	29	917.99
19.	Tripura	2	5.69
20.	Uttar Pradesh	746	10592.00
21.	Uttaranchal	36	728.38
22.	West Bengal	57	1181.59
	Total	3164	53526.11

Employment to People Living in Forest Areas

3085. SHRI JASHUBHAI DHANABHAI BARAD: Will the Minister of URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has prepared any scheme/programme for poverty alleviation and provision of employment to the people those who are living in forest areas;

(b) if so, the details of the same;

(c) whether these schemes includes connectivity of roads, construction of bridges, drinking water, cultivation of agricultural land and water resources works;

(d) if so, whether these also includes provision of electricity to these villages; and

(e) if so, the other steps being taken by the Union Government to improve the standard of living of these people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation has not prepared any scheme/ programme for poverty alleviation and provision of employment to the people those who are living in forest areas.

However, in the urban areas, Ministry of Urban Employment & Poverty Alleviation is implementation an employment oriented Urban Poverty Alleviation Scheme named Swarna Jayanti Shahari Rojgar Yojana (SJSRY), on all India basis, with effect from 1.12.1997. The scheme envisages to provide gainful employment to the urban employed and underemployed poor through, firstly, encouraging the setting up of self-employment ventures by those who have studied upto 9th standard and, secondly, by providing wage employment by utilizing their labour for construction of socially and economically useful public assets.

Special attention is given to women, persons belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and Disabled persons under SJSRY. The percentage of women beneficiaries under the scheme should not be less than 30%. Also the Scheduled Tribes must be benefited at least to the extent of the proportion of their strength in the local population.

Railway Connectivity to Major Ports

3086. SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government held a meeting with senior officials of railways to revive a railway connectivity to the major ports to assess future requirements;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the assessment on existing traffic and project growth in the coming years

(d) the outcome of the discussions held;

(e) whether any final decision taken to provide more connectivity by railway to ports; and

(f) if so, the measures are likely to be implemented to improve the rail linkage to ports for improving the ports and also transportation of goods for these ports?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (f) The Committee on Infrastructure set up by the Government, has constituted a Committee of Secretaries under the Chairmanship of Member Secretary, Planning Commission to review rail and road connectivity of Major Ports. Secretary (Shipping), Secretary (Road Transport and Highways), Secretary (Environment & Forests) and Member (Traffic), Railway Board are the members of this Committee. The Committee is mandated to review the existing rail and road connectivity of all major ports and to give its recommendations taking into account future traffic requirements. The report of the Committee is being finalized.

Development of N.E.R.

3087. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Will the Minister of DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of projects sanctioned by the Government for development of North Eastern Region particularly in Assam during each of the last three years and current year, till date Project-wise, State-wise;

(b) the amount sanctioned by the Government for each project;

(c) whether the Government has prepared any perspective plan as well as vision document on the future development of NER;

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the thrust areas identified, target fixed for its finalization; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check the misutilisation of funds released for such projects?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region sanctions development projects from Non Lapsable Central Pool of Resources (NLCPR). The total number of projects sanctioned under this Scheme during each of the last three years and current year, till 30.11.2005 for each state is given as under:

State	Number of Projects Sanctioned since 2002-03 upto 30.11.2005				
	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	Total
Arunachal Pradesh	11	1	3	10	25
Assam	8	10	43	22	83
Manipur	15	0	19	1	35
Meghalaya	6	1	3	4	14
Mizoram	5	11	0	1	17
Nagaland	6	6	2	4	18
Sikkim	5	3	13	0	21
Tripura	3	0	4	4	11
Total	59	32	87	46	224

The North Eastern Council (NEC) also sanctions projects for development of North Eastern Region including Assam. The details regarding NEC Schemes are being collected from NEC Secretariat at Shillong.

(b) The project-wise amount sanctioned for each of the projects sanctioned under NLCPR is given in the enclosed Statement.

(c) and (d) NEC has been mandated to formulate a perspective plan called-VISION NER 2020. The process of identifying the thrust areas has not yet been completed. The final Vision document is targeted for finalization by first quarter of 2006-07.

(e) These projects are implemented generally by the State Government or agencies appointed by them. The Planning and Development Department of the State concerned has been entrusted with field inspections of the projects. For each new project, the State is to identify a nodal officer who has the responsibility of implementation of that project on schedule. Besides, the State Chief Secretary has been entrusted with the responsibility of quarterly review of each of the projects and to send the proceedings of the quarterly review.

The Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region also, from time to time, reviews the progress of each project with the Chief Secretary and other officials of the State Government. In addition, officers of this Ministry also visit the project sites to review and monitor the progress of these projects.

Moreover, this Ministry takes steps like conducting of Special Audits or Concurrent Audits by the Comptroller & Accountant General of certain selected projects so that they are properly implemented by the respective State Governments or the agencies identified by them. External evaluation of project implementation by independent agencies in some cases is also undertaken.

Statement

Projects Sanctioned for Arunachal Pradesh under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

Sl.No.	Projects/Scheme Name	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Construction of Academic Block of Arunachal pali Vidyapith, Chokham, Phase-I	0.59
2.	Anti erosion works on kley river under Lower Subansiri District	7.31
3.	Treatment of Aba river basin at Old Abali village in Dibang District	2.98
4.	Sub-transmission and Distribution - 2x1 MVA Substation at Sangram	0.55
5.	Sub-transmission and Distribution - 2x4 KVA Substation at Bomdila	1.72
6.	Sub-transmission and Distribution - 2x5 MVA Substation at Old Ziro	2.64
7.	Sub-transmission and Distribution - 33 KV DC line from Geku-Along-Passighat	16.53
8.	Sub-transmission and Distribution - 33 KV Express line from Tago to Old Ziro	0.68
9.	Improvement and realignment of Porter Track from Jhang to Sulungthi (95 KMs)	2.55
10.	Doparijo Water Supply Scheme	3.97
11.	Naharlagun Water Supply Scheme	11.73
12.	Construction of porter Track from Nuranang to Mago	2.59
13.	Construction of Academic Block of Arunachal pali Vidyapith, Chokham, Phase-II	0.81
14.	Construction of 11/KV Transmission lines from Hawai to Kibithu	2.34
15.	Water supply project at Bomdila Township	16.59
16.	Construction of 200 seated Girls Hostel in J.N. College at Pasighat in Arunachal Pradesh	5.15

1	2	3
17.	Construction of New OPD Block at Rama Krishna Mission Hospital, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh	3.88
18.	132 KV S/C Transmission Line from Along to Pasighat	29.02
19.	Construction of road from Dipu Lamgu bridge point to Pipu (14 KM)	3.03
20.	Construction of road from Bameng to Lada (70 KM)	6
21.	Improvement of Porter Track from Tungri to Mago	2.58
22.	Construction of Motorable Suspension Bridge over Lohit River to connect Manchal Circle Headquarters	9.66
23.	Construction of Steel suspension Bridge over Siang river at Kodak near Tuting	13.04
24.	Construction of 15 Km road from Lhou Nallah to Mukto (Co. HQ) via Gomkelling and Serjong	14.13
25.	Road from NH-52A Nirjuli to Sagalee (SH: Doimukh to Toru-45 km)	15.54
	Total	175.61

Project Sanctioned for Assam under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

Sl.No.	Projects/Scheme Name	Sanctioned Amount (Rs. in crore)
1	2	3
1.	Guwahati University Campus. Kokrajhar	5.00
2.	Assam Medical College (HOPE)	20.00
3.	Shankar Dev Netralaya (equipments)	0.82
4.	Shankar Dev Netralaya (OT)	1.53
5.	Conversion of 100 bedded Civil Hospital to 200 Bedded Hospital with construction of Staff Quarters and improvement & renovation of existing buildings at Haflong in North Cacher Hills	11.20
6.	Construction of 100 bedded Hospital at Kajalgaon in BTC area of Assam	41.91
7.	Renovation/Re-construction of RNB Civil Hospital at Kokrajhar	7.43
8.	Raising & strengthening Brahmaputra Dyke from Dizmore to Sonarigaon from 14th to 23. 15th including closing of Amguri and Armey Nalla	11.51
9.	Borjan Composite Irrigation Scheme in Assam	22.29
10.	Champamati Irrigation Project	43.85
11.	Sukla Irrigation Project	8.13

1	2	3
12.	Diphu Sports Complex at Diphu Karbi Anglong District	5.01
13.	Creation of Main Athletic Stadium Complex alongwith a multi-purpose Indoor Hall at Guwahati for National Games 2005	75.10
14.	BTPS-Agia-Sorusajai Power line	28.38
15.	Powerline to Balipara Industrial Growth Centre, Sonitpur	8.73
16.	Installation of Street Lights from Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport upto Jalukbari near Guwahati University for National Games 2005	2.39
17.	Jagun-Kharsang Road (11 KM)	3.04
18.	RCC Bridge 4/1 on Hatigaon-Betapara (1nos)	1.54
19.	RCC Bridge on Mandakata North Guwahati Road (2 nos)	2.40
20.	RCC Bridge on Additional Approach to Airport road (2 nos)	1.73
21.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/2-Haripur Sansarghat Road in Nalbari District	2.26
22.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 20/1-Nalbari Palla Road in Nalbari District	1.44
23.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/3, 10/2 and 14/1 on Pengeri Philobari Road in Tinsukia District with approaches	2.34
24.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 6/1 on Udalguri Barbengera Road in Darrang District with approaches	1.04
25.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 40/1 on Bagals Road in Kamrup District	1.29
26.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 26/3 on Samar Ali Das Road in Karbi Anglong District in Assam	1.68
27.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 12/3 on Balkulia Rajapathar Road in Karbi Anglong District	1.74
28.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/2 on Manja to Hidim Teron Road in Karbi Anglong District	1.78
29.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 24/1 on Barpathar-Bokajan Deithor-Chowkihola (BBDC) Road in Karbi Anglong District	0.55
30.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 40/2 on CPDMDK Road in Karbi Anglong District	1.32
31.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 13/1, 14/1, 15/1, 20/3 and 22/1 on Silchar Kumbhirgram Road in Cachar District	5.68
32.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 35/2 and 53/2 on Moran Naharkatia Road in Dibrugarh District	1.14
33.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 12/1 and 12/2 on Bangaon Jagara Road in Nalbari District	1.75

1	2	3
34.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 8/2, 20/1, 21/1, 23/3, 29/2, 32/1, 36/1 and 40/1 on Mangaldoi Bhutiachang Road in Darrang District	6.85
35.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/1, 6/3, 6/4, 6/6, 10/5, 12/1, 13/1, 21/2 and 23/2 on Border Roads (Gar Ali) in Jorhat District	3.98
36.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 2/1 and 2/2 on Jonnai Silapathar Road in Dhimaji District	1.90
37.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 42/5 & 74/1 on DLHS Road in Karbi Anglong District	1.43
38.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 156/2, 159/1, 163/2, 165/3, 172/2, 174/2, 177/1 and 182/2 on Dhodar Ali Road in Sivasagar District	3.53
39.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/2, 9/2, 10/2 and 17/1 on Met Na-Ali Jorhat Titabor in Jorhat District	1.43
40.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/3, 2/1 and 3/1 on Namti Ali in Sivasagar District	0.90
41.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/2 and 3/1 on Sarupeta Bhuyapara in Barpeta District	1.77
42.	Improvement of Bhangagarh-Bharalumukh VIP Road for National Games 2005	9.83
43.	Improvement of Road between Hatigaon Bhetpara Road for National Games 2005	4.56
44.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 16/1, 19/1 and 19/3 on Bagals Road in Nalbari District with approaches	4.05
45.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/1 on Kokrajhar Monakocha Road over River Gaurang in Kokrajhar District with approaches	9.91
46.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 1/1, 4/1, 8/1 and 9/2 on Fakiragram Sapatgram Road in Dhubri District with approaches	5.15
47.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 4/1, 6/1 and 14/1 on North Lakhimpur Kamalabari Road	4.55
48.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 9/2 on Borbhogia Mikirbhata Road in Morigaon District with approaches	2.39
49.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 17/4, 20/2 and 26/1 on Mt. Sepon Sunpura Road in Sivasagar District (Assam) with approaches	3.78
50.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 2/3, 5/1, 9/1, 11/1, 15/3, 16/1, 18/1 and 19/4 on Itakhola Pavoi Road in Sonitpur District (Assam) with approaches	8.75
51.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 6/1 on Chariali Pavoi Road in Sonitpur District with approaches, protection work and sub-way	0.89

1	2	3
52.	Construction of RCC Bridge No. 3/2 over River Mansiri on Charduar Road with approaches in Sonitpur District	1.66
53.	Improvement of Dhamdhama Tupalia Subankhata (DTS) Road (Metalling and black-topping of remaining stretches including improvement of existing metalled surface)	5.89
54.	Improvement of Kaurbaha-Nagrijuli Road by metalling and black-topping including conversion of SPT Bridges into RCC Minor Bridges under special package for BTCAD	5.71
55.	Metalling and Black-topping of Narabari Dawkibari Road (Narabari to Florican Garden via Malgaon)	15.95
56.	Improvement of North Kajolgaon Dangtol Road	5.98
57.	Improvement of Bhowraguri Kachugaon Road in Kokarjhar	23.91
58.	Improvement and upgradation of Kashikotra to Basugaon Road	5.56
59.	Improvement of Sundari Bidyapur via Kakragaon Road	9.31
60.	Metalling and backtopping of Gossaigaon to Sarabili Road including improvement of existing hard crust and conversion of STP bridge to RCC bridges	20.82
61.	Widening and Strengthening of Fakiragram-Serfanguri Road including conversion of STP bridge to RCC bridges	20.64
62.	Improvement of North Kajolgaon Bengtol Sonitpur Road, Chirang	8.10
63.	Construction of Road from NH-31 at Barama to Masalpur, Baska	10.86
64.	Improvement of Jalah Rupahi Saudarbhitha Gobardhana Road, Baska	10.00
65.	Improvement of Udalguri Bhakatpara road via Bhairaguri, Udalguri	4.44
66.	Improvement of Barnagaon Pakribari road, Udalguri	1.50
67.	Improvement of Kalaigaon Kundarbil road, Udalguri	1.32
68.	Goreswar to Khoirabari Road	6.57
69.	Bhergaon-Chouni-Khagrabari-Dimakuchi Road	1.32
70.	Lailongpara-Kopati Road (Via Boro Bazar)	1.32
71.	Khowrang Mahanpur Road	2.50
72.	Chapaguri-Khagrabari Road	6.30
73.	Tulsijhyora-Kailamaila Road via Amguri	9.00
74.	Bijni-Panbari Road	15.58

1	2	3
75.	Gossaigaon to Kazigaon via Bhukka, Tipkai Road	11.00
76.	Greater Silchar Water Supply Scheme	12.30
77.	Haflong Water Supply Scheme	1.42
78.	Stabilisation of Silchar Water Supply Scheme	3.86
79.	Kokrajhar Water Supply Scheme, Kokarjhar	24.02
80.	Subankhata Water Supply Scheme	3.64
81.	Construction of Multi-Storey Secretariat Complex	69.00
82.	Kamakhya Temple Development	4.89
83.	Construction of Bodofa Cultural Complex at Kokarjhar	10.00
	Total	736.02

Projects Sanctioned for Manipur under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

1.	Construction of Government College to Technology	10.00
2.	Infrastructure Development of Manipur University Phase II	3.88
3.	Construction of 8 Classrooms in Rengkai Govt. High School, Rengkai, Churachandpur	0.60
4.	Construction of Thoubal District Hospital	1.86
5.	Strengthening of Health equipments in Govt. Hospitals	8.27
6.	Construction of 33 kv sub-station at Tousem	2.54
7.	Construction of 33/11 kv sub-station at Noney	3.82
8.	Construction of 33/11 kv sub-station at Tamei	2.91
9.	Construction of 33/11 kv, 2x5 MVA sub-station at Maram (Senapati Distt.)	2.81
10.	Construction of 33/11 kv, 2x5 MVA substation at Singhat	4.10
11.	Installation of 132/33 kv substation at Rengpang (Tamelong District)	6.44
12.	ST&D - 2x1MVA Sub Station at Shivapurikhan	1.32
13.	ST&D-33 KV DC line from Mongsangei to Khumanlampak via kongba	4.52
14.	Installation of Sub Station at Thanlon	5.44
15.	Installation of Sub Station at Thinkew	3.15
16.	Installation of Sub Station at Namare	3.75

1	2	3
17.	Installation of Sub Station at Lakhamai	2.87
18.	Construction of Sinjemai Bridge	3.69
19.	Augmentation of Water Supply for Chandel HQ and surrounding areas	5.64
20.	Augmentation of Water Supply for Churachandpur town from Khuga dam (Khuga river source) - Zone-III	8.15
21.	Augmentation of Water Supply for Churachandpur town from Koite and Loklao river sources-Zone-I	14.17
22.	Augmentation of Water Supply for Ukhrul District Headquarter	5.29
23.	Composite water supply for Senapati District Headquarter	4.68
24.	Composite water supply for Tamenglong District Headquarter	4.70
25.	Upgradation of existing treatment plant at Bungmual from Lanva river source (Churachandpur District)-Zone-II	1.08
26.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Mao	5.65
27.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Maram	3.06
28.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Noney	1.42
29.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Tadubi	4.30
30.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Kangpokpi	2.12
31.	Augmentation of Water Supply Scheme at Saikul	1.68
32.	Waithou Pat Water Supply Scheme	59.71
33.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Tamei	1.00
34.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Khoupum	1.49
35.	Augmentation of Water Supply at Chakpikarong	1.15
	Total	197.26

Projects Sanctioned for Meghalaya under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

1.	Sub Transmission & Distribution Scheme - Master plan for distribution of power in Meghalaya	24.00
2.	Sub Transmissions & Distribution Scheme - T&D scheme-commissioning of transformer at Khaliehriat	1.64

1	2	3
3.	Sub Transmission & Distribution Scheme—T&D scheme- commissioning of transformer at NEHU	2.00
4.	Jowai Water Supply Project	15.41
5.	Tura Phase-III Water Supply Project	21.58
6.	Upgradation of Market at Mowphlong	1.90
7.	Construction of 132 kV D/C line form Sarusajai to Byrnihat	9.78
8.	Additional requirement of R.K. Mission, Cherrapunjee for construction of School Building, Library, Laboratory & Computer Classes	2.00
9.	Construction of 132/33 kV S/S at Lumshnong with LILO from Khleirhiat to Badarpur	4.63
10.	Construction of new 132 kv S/C line connecting Khleihriat S/S (PGCIL) and Khliehriat (MeSEB) at Khleihriat	2.52
11.	Infrastructural Requirements of Mawsynram Border Area College	2.86
12.	Building Infrastructure of Thomas Jones Synod College, Jowai	3.37
13.	Reconstruction of 10 Bridges and Approaches on Mawphlang-Balat Road in Meghalaya	9.01
14.	Upgradation of Double Lane and Strengthening of Dkhiah-Sutnga-Saipung-Moulsei-Haflong Road (9th to 16th k) in Meghalya	4.46
	Total	105.16

Projects Sanctioned for Mizoram under NLCPR since 2002-03 upto 30.11.2005

1.	Construction of Out-Patient Department Block, Civil Hospital, Aizawl	3.71
2.	Six bedded ICU at Civil Hospital, Aizawl	1.42
3.	Power Evacuation from Thermal Power Plant, Bairabi	4.56
4.	Sub-transmission and Distribution Lines-Lunglei Town	8.30
5.	Construction of 33 kV D/C Serlui 'B' Kolasib Switchyard at Serlui 'B'	3.15
6.	Construction of Link Roads to Bamboo Plantation-Plot No. A from W. Serzawl Saiphalo/Saitlaw 18 kms.	5.82
7.	Improvement and widening of Bawngkawn to Durtland Road	6.81
8.	Construction of Link Roads to Bamboo Plantation-Plot No. B from Dur Lui-Sairum and Dur Lui-Mualkhang	6.17

1	2	3
9.	Bridge over River Chawngte (P to C) (LAI & Chakma ADC)	2.55
10.	Bridge over River Chawngtelui to Diltlang to Chwngte Road (LAI ADC)	2.03
11.	Bridge over River Vanva on Haulawng-Bualpui-Chhiphir Road	1.46
12.	Bridge over River Tuisih on Tuipang-Zwangling-Chheihhlu Road (Mara ADC)	1.14
13.	Chawngte-Borapansury Road within Chakma Autonomous District Council	1.46
14.	Lungtian-Mamte Road via Vartek Kai within Lai ADC	26.65
15.	Infrastructure Development of Mizoram University (Additional)	23.26
16.	Greater Mamit Water Supply Scheme	5.77
17.	State Capital Project, Aizawl	5.18
	Total	118.44

Projects Sanctioned for Nagaland under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

1.	Construction of Sports Hall at Mokokchung	1.94
2.	Dimapur Ganesh Nagar Road	12.12
3.	Improvement and Upgradation of District headquarter Road	20.00
4.	Construction of Road from Purana Bazar NH-39 By Pass to Kohima-Bokajan (NEC)-72 km (length-22 km)	22.18
5.	Improvement of Roads in Tuensang district of Nagaland (PM's Package)	40.72
6.	Improvement of Roads in Mon district of Nagaland (PM's Package)	23.74
7.	Improvement of Roads in Wokha district of Nagaland (PM's Package)	4.35
8.	Tohok-Chenkhao-Wangti, (31 km.)	9.89
9.	Tohok-Chen Hq.-Chenlaiso-Wangti (49 km)	12.20
10.	Lampong Singha to Phomehing via Changnyun EAC Headqarter (Mon Seminar Road)	8.78
11.	Replacement of Hemilton Bridge on Diku-Chara Road	1.60
12.	Sub transmission system in Mokochung	6.99
13.	23 MW HFO Thermal Power Plan, Dimapur (PM's Package)	32.00
14.	Construction of 66 KV S/C transmission line from Tizit to Mon	12.43

1	2	3
15.	Sainik School, Pungiwa	14.07
16.	Water Supply Scheme for Mon and Chui Villages	3.92
17.	Vitalization of Referal Hospital, Dimapur	35.62
18.	Upgradation of District Hospitals	14.40
	Total	276.95

Projects Sanctioned for Skkim under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

1.	Surface improvement: Pelling Dentam Road & BB Lal suspension bridge	12.51
2.	Upgradation of Ranka Burtuk Gangtok Road in East Sikkim	4.20
3.	Diversion of Ranipool-Pakyong Road (10 kms) in East Sikkim	2.37
4.	Carpeting/Surface Improvement, Protective works and Drainage on Namchi—Rabongla road (26 Kms) in South Sikkim	12.07
5.	Upgradation of Rabongla-Makha Road (26 Kms.) in South Sikkim	9.94
6.	Carpeting/Surface Imrpovement of Soreng-Budang Road via Malbassey (10 km) in South Sikkim	3.39
7.	Carpeting/Surface Imrpovement of Dentam-Uttery Road (10 km) in West Sikkim	3.99
8.	Slope stabilisaiton of Labing landslide (160m) and Chongrang landslide (800 m) on Yuksom-Legship road in West District	1.28
9.	Replacement of 2 Nos. of suspension bridges on Pelling-Yuksom Road in Sikkim	3.28
10.	Diversion to Ranipool Pakyong Road	2.37
11.	Central Load Dispatch Centre	8.49
12.	Construction of 66 kV S/C transmission line from Myong to Chungthang and transformer bay at Chungthang and feeder bay at Mayong	6.84
13.	Remodelling of transmission and distribution network of Gangtok town	22.44
14.	Extension of 132 kV system in South and West Districts of Sikkim covering Gyalshing, Pelling and Rabongla	23.03
15.	Augmentation of Rongli Water Supply	1.68
16.	Multi-stage pumping for drinking water from River Rangeet to Namchi	9.01
17.	Extension of Gangtok Sewerage Project Phase II	7.00

1	2	3
18.	Water Supply Scheme for newly developed township Pangthang/Bojoghari	5.86
19.	Augmentation of Gyalshing Water Supply Scheme	7.52
20.	Augmentation Water Supply Scheme for Greater Gangtok Phase-II	24.34
21.	Renovatioin/Upgradation of Dacheling Cremation Ground	1.09
	Total	172.70

Projects Sanctioned for Tripura under NLCPR since 2002-03 up to 30.11.2005

1.	State Level Para Medical Institute at Agartala in Tripura	14.07
2.	1x21 MW Gas Thermal project Rokhia (Unit VIII)	80.94
3.	ST&D-Distribution works	13.99
4.	ST&D-Metering and Instrumentation	6.79
5.	ST&D-System Improvement	5.77
6.	Drinking water supply scheme for Dharamnagar	5.49
7.	Drinking water supply scheme for Teliamura	6.21
8.	North District Hospital	9.40
9.	South District Hospital	9.40
10.	Government Medical College and Hospital Project at Agartala	77.03
11.	Development of G.B. Pant Hospital	11.52
	Total	240.61

[Translation]

Disappearance of Marine Engineers

3088. SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK:
SHRI VIRCHANDRA PASWAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the marine engineers had gone missing while on duty as reported in *The Navbharat Times* dated October 20, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the names of the shipping companies, whose marine engineers have disappeared or become victims of death during the last three years till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government has taken/propose to take any action against these shipping companies after conducting inquiry at the Central level;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Yes,

Sir. The following marine engineers have gone missing/ disappeared while on duty and as reported in *The Navbharat Times* dated 20th October, 2005.

1. Shri Ashu Mallick
2. Shri R. Ali Zahdi
3. Shri Inderjeet Singh
4. Shri Hasan Zaheer
5. Shri Gautam Mallick

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The names of the Shipping Companies whose marine engineers have been reported to have disappeared or have become victims of death during last three years (2003 to 2005) are as below:

Year 2003

1. Shipping Corporation of India
2. Anglo Eastern Ship Management Ltd., Hong Kong

Year 2004

1. Pratibha Shipping

Year 2005

1. Shipping Corporation of India
2. Great Eastern Shipping Company
3. Jupiter Ship Management Inc. Majuro, Marshall Islands
4. MSC Ship Management (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai
5. Executive Ship Management Pvt. Ltd. Singapore

(e) to (g) In the incidents reported in Indian waters involving Indian vessels, the Directorate General of Shipping, Mumbai invariably carriers out preliminary inquiry. In the course of such inquiry when it appears that death has been caused on board the ship by violence or other improper means, immediate steps are taken for bringing the offender to trial in accordance with Section 452 of Merchant Shipping Act, 1948. Indian Maritime Administration, however, has no jurisdiction in cases where the casualties occur in foreign waters and on board foreign flag vessel for conduct in inquiry/investigation. Even in such cases, the matter is always taken up with the flag state as and when an Indian crew-member is reported to be missing or involved in an accident on board a foreign flag vessel in foreign waters. Details of the action taken by the Indian Maritime Administration are given in the enclosed Statement.

Statement

Following actions against individuals/shipping companies, whose marine engineers have been reported missing, has been initiated by the Indian Maritime Administration:

Shipping Corporation of India

(i) One Engine Room petty officer was reported missing from ship M.T. Havildar Abdul Hameed PVC on 3.07.2003 when the vessel was at RAVVA Oil Field Anchorage-East Coast of India. The investigation was conducted by the Shipping Master, Kolkata on 7.7.2003. After due analysis of the statements of the crew and the logbook entries the inquiry officer concluded that the reason for disappearance of Mr. A. Arun Kumar could not be established.

(ii) One-Third Engineer died as a result of boiler explosion on board M.T. Basaveshwara on 27.05.2005 when the vessel was at New Mangalore. The inquiry report indicates that the engineer died due to back firing of boiler, which was the result of poor maintenance. Suspension of certificate proceedings has been initiated against Master, Chief Engineer, Second Engineer and Fourth Engineer. The owners have been directed to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the concerned Superintendent responsible for maintenance of the vessel. It was also recommended that a warning letter should be issued to the concerned Dy. General Manager, In-charge of the ship.

Great Eastern Shipping Company

With regard to killing of Second Engineer by Fourth Engineer on board M.T. Jag Leela, M/s. Great Eastern Shipping Co. Ltd., the owners, has taken up matter with police authorities for investigation as ordered by the Directorate. It is reported that Fourth Engineer is under judicial custody in Mumbai and criminal proceedings have been initiated against him.

Pratibha Shipping

In the case of Chief Engineer Shri M. Patwardhan on board M.T. Cauvery owned by Pratibha Shipping the inquiry report indicated that Shri M. Patwardhan lost his life due to falling over board, while he was working on deck without taking adequate safety measures. A Merchant Shipping Notice highlighting the incident was issued to the maritime fraternity so that seafarers could be made aware and similar incidents do not reoccur.

MSC Ship Management India Pvt. Ltd.

Shri Hasan Zaheer, a Marine Engineer had reportedly jumped over board when the vessel MSC Carmen, under Panama Flag, was *en route* to Mombassa on 12 October 2005. The Flag State Authority was requested by the Indian Maritime Administration to conduct investigation into the casualty. In the enquiry report submitted by the Flat State it has been indicated that there was an eye witness on board who saw Shri Hasan Zaheer jumping over board from port side poop deck (aft left hand side of the vessel). Indian manning agent is MSC Ship Management (India) Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai. The reasons for jumping over board could not be ascertained by the flag state authorities.

Anglo Eastern Ship Management Ltd., Hong Kong

A fatal accident on board M.V. Federal Kivalina of Hong Kong flag involving Mr. Rajesh Digambar Jamnik, Chief Engineer and Mr. Dilip Kumar Srivastav was reported to have occurred on 14.02.2003. The marine department of Hong Kong has in its report stated that the most probable cause of the accident was due to inhalation of a toxic gas prevailing in the area of the work place.

Jupiter Ship Management Inc. Majuro, Marshall Islands

Jupiter-6 was owned by above-mentioned company. This vessel was towing M.V. Pointing (unmanned) ex-MV Satsung from West Coast of Africa and bound for Alang, India. There is no contact with the vessel since 5th September 2005. The vessel is reportedly missing from position 35.52.06 S 023. 25.9 E along with 10 Indians and 3 Ukrainians. Palican Shipping & Engineering Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai is the manning agent of Jupiter 6. The matter was taken up with the MRCC Cape Town who have reported that MV Satsang was spotted adrift by MV Poseidon. On orders from the South African Government she was reconnected to SMIT AMANDLA on 7th October, 2005. The tow was passed on 10th October, 2005 from SMIT AMANDLA to the tug Ruby Deliverer which has now arrived in India on 28th November, 2005 for demolition. Surveyor-in-charge of the Mercantile Marine Department at Jamnagar has carried out a fact finding inquiry from the crew of the vessel that finally towed MV Satsang. The inquiry report is awaited.

Executive Ship Management Pvt. Ltd.

Shri Mitesh Kumar, 3rd Officer, employed on MT North Challenge, Flag Panama, found missing on 14.10.2005 when the vessel was *en route* from Acajutla (El Salvador) to San Francisco, USA. At the request of the Indian Maritime Administration the Indian Consulate at San Francisco has carried out investigations into the incident. The US investigating Agency (Customs & Border Protection, US Department of Homeland Security) has also boarded the vessel on 20th October, 2005. Enquiry reports from both the authorities are, however, awaited.

12.01 hrs.

OBSERVATION BY THE SPEAKER

Re: Business transacted during the previous week

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, for your information, I want to briefly recapitulate the main items of business transacted by the House during the last week.

Out of 100 Starred Questions admitted, only 13 could be answered orally. Replies to the remaining Starred Questions along with the replies to 1007 Unstarred Questions were laid on the Table.

The House also took up three Calling Attention matters: (1) "Situation arising out of damage caused by floods due to heavy rains in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka" raised by Dr. Chinta Mohan; (ii) "Situation arising out of fall in prices of pepper, cardamom, arecanut and other agricultural cash crops thereby leading to starvation and death amongst the workers engaged in this sector" raised by Shri P. Karunakaran; and (iii) "Situation arising out of hike in charges of medical investigation in All India Institute of Medical Sciences" raised by Shri Basu Deb Acharia.

During the period, as many as 33 matters of urgent public importance were raised. Also 60 matters were raised under Rule 377.

[Mr. Speaker]

As regards the Legislative Business, the House took up combined discussion on the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2005 and the State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Bill, 2004 for about 1 hour and 25 minutes before it was passed.

The House also discussed the Disaster Management Bill, 2005 (as passed by Rajya Sabha) for 1 hour and 18 minutes. The discussion was not concluded.

The House also took up a Short Duration Discussion under Rule 193 regarding (I) role of India in WTO with particular reference to the forthcoming "Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO in Hong Kong" discussed for about 3 hours and 09 minutes before the discussion was concluded and (II) on Statements laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 28 November, 2005 regarding (i) serial bomb blasts in Delhi on 29.10.2005; (ii) terrorist violence in Jammu and Kashmir; (iii) Naxalite attacks that took place in Jehanabad, Bihar on 13.11.2005; and (iv) Naxalite attack that took place at the Home Guard Training Centre, Giridih, Jharkhand on 11.11.2005. The discussion lasted for 5 hours and 24 minutes and was concluded.

As regards the Private Member's Business, 9 Bills were introduced and one Constitution (Amendment) Bill, 2004 seeking to amend the Constitution with a view to setting up of one primary health centre in every village with all medical facilities in the country, moved by Shri Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy was taken up for discussion for about 2 hours and 24 minutes and the discussion was not concluded.

During this period, 3 Reports, 4 Action Taken Reports, and 2 Reports on Bills of Departmentally Related Standing Committees were presented.

Out of the total 12 hours and 43 minutes lost during the week, 11 hours and 38 minutes were lost on 5.12.2005 and 6.12.2005 due to forced adjournments and interruptions, on account of the issue relating to revelations made on the Volcker Committee Report. The House sat extra for 1 hour and 11 minutes to transact the essential items of business.

I once again seek your co-operation for smooth conduct of the proceedings.

Now, Papers to be laid on the Table.

12.04 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

[English]

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-sections (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation Limited, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3169/2005]

(2) A copy of the Statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying the Annual Report and Audited Accounts of the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited for the year 2004-2005 within the stipulated period of nine months after the close of the accounting year.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3170/2005]

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (4) of section 124 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

(i) G.S.R. 544(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2005 approving the Murmugao Port Employees' (Medical Attendance) Amendment Regulations, 2005.

(ii) G.S.R. 625(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 2005 approving the Visakhapatnam Port Employees (Classification, Control and Appeal) Amendment Regulations, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3171/2005]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Visakhapatnam, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3172/2005]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3173/2005]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Chennai Port Trust, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3174/2005]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3175/2005]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Kandla Port Trust, Kandla, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Kandla Port Trust, Kandla, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3176/2005]

(7) (i) A copy of the Annual Administration Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Mumbai Port Trust, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3177/2005]

8. A copy each of the following Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (2) of section 103 of the Major Port Trusts Act, 1963:—

(a) (i) A copy of the annual Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the New Mangalore Port Trust, New Mangalore, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3175/2005]

(b) (i) A copy of the annual Accounts of the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, together with Audit Report thereon.

(ii) A copy of the Review by the Government of the Audited Accounts of the Jawaharlal

Nehru Port Trust, Navi Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3178/2005]

(9) A copy of each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Ennore Port Limited, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3179/2005]

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Statement regarding Review by the Government of the working of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3180/2005]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Fragrance and Flavour Development Centre, Kannauj, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3181/2005]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Ferozabad, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre for the Development of Glass Industry, Ferozabad, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3182/2005]

(4) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Centre Footwear Training Institute, Agra, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Centre Footwear Training Institute, Agra, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3183/2005]

(5) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship, Guwahati, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3184/2005]

(6) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Institute of Small Industry Extension Training, Hyderabad, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3185/2005]

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956:—

(i) S.O. 1117(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway Nos. 13, 17 and 48 in the State of Karnataka.

(ii) S.O. 1170(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 810(E) dated the 13th July, 2004.

(iii) S.O. 1171(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd August, 2004 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Karnataka.

(iv) S.O. 661(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad—Bangalore section) in the State of Karnataka.

(v) S.O. 1025(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1206(E) dated the 16th October, 2003.

(vi) S.O. 1026(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31C in the State of West Bengal.

(vii) S.O. 1110(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 8th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of West Bengal.

(viii) S.O. 1098(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 234 (E) dated the 18th February, 2005.

(ix) S.O. 1099 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 75 (Gwalior-Jhansi section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(x) S.O. 1100(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land building (four-laning) (Madhya Pradesh-Uttar Pradesh Border) of Gwalior-Jhansi Section including Gwalior Bypass in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xi) S.O. 1150(E) and S.O. 1151(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7, including construction of bypasses (Lakhnadon-Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra Border) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xii) S.O. 1190(E) to S.O. 1193(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 26, in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xiii) S.O. 457(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 31st March, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for widening of National Highway No. 6 (Sambalpur-Raipur section) in the State of Chhattisgarh.

(xiv) S.O. 1035(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 234(E) dated the 18th February, 2005.

(xv) S.O. 581(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1107(E) dated the 11th October, 2004.

(xvi) S.O. 581(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, including construction of by-passes (Jhansi-Lakhnadon section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xvii) S.O. 583(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, including construction of by-passes in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xviii) S.O. 584(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th April, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26, including construction of by-passes (Jhansi-Lakhnadon section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xix) S.O. 1157(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (four-laning or six-laning) of National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xx) S.O. 1040(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xxi) S.O. 1164(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2005 authorising the Additional District Magistrate, Land Acquisition Joint Organisation, Meerut, to acquire land on National Highway No. 58 (Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xxii) S.O. 1039(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xxiii) S.O. 1032(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Lakhnadon-Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra Border) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xxiv) S.O. 1033(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (construction) of Dholpur Bypass on National Highway No. 3 (Agra-Gwalior section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xxv) S.O. 1036(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 75 (Gwalior-Jhansi section) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xxvi) S.O. 1065(E) and S.O. 1066(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 28th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Lakhnadon-Madhya Pradesh/Maharashtra Border) in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

(xxvii) S.O. 1038(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xxviii) S.O. 654(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 75 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(2) S.O. 1156(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning or six-laning) of National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xxx) S.O. 1045(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 8 (Himmat Nagar-Chiloda section) in the State of Gujarat.

(xxxi) S.O. 1046(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 76 in the State of Rajasthan.

(xxxii) S.O. 1050(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Chennai to Tada) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(2) S.O. 1057 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 5 (Nandigam to Ichapuram) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(xxxiv) S.O. 1089(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd August, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 2 (Panagarh to Kolkata) in the State of West Bengal.

(xxxv) S.O. 1034(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (Construction) of Agra Bypass on National Highway Nos. 2 and 3 in the State of Uttar Pradesh, together with a corrigendum thereto (in Hindi version only) published in Notification No. 1426(E) dated the 29th September, 2005.

(xxxvi) S.O. 1149(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Manser—Nagpur section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(xxxvii) S.O. 1166(E) and S.O. 1167(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 6 (Nagpur-Dhule section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(xxxviii) S.O. 653(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th May, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 26 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(2) S.O. 1152(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 7 (Jabalpur-Nagpur section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(xl) S.O. 1049(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 5 (Chennai-Vijayawada section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(xli) S.O. 1058(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 27th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building and widening of National Highway No. 5 (Vijayawada-Visakhapatnam section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(xlii) S.O. 1082(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 645(E) dated the 31st May, 2004.

(xliii) S.O. 1083(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 1st August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-

Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(xliv) S.O. 1041(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 25th July, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Boarder) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xlv) S.O. 1165(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd August, 2005 authorising Special Land Acquisition Officer, Joint Organisaiton, Saharanpur, to acquire land on National Highway No. 58 (Meerut-Muzaffarnagar section) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(xlvi) S.O. 1208(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 808(E) dated the 9th July, 2004.

(xlvii) S.O. 1209(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th August, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(2) S.O. 1278(E) to 1281(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur—Hyderabad section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(2) S.O. 1432(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 30th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening), of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(l) S.O. 1464(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of existing toll plazas on National Highway No. 5 (Vijayawada-Eluru-Visakhapatnam section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(li) S.O. 1449(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(lii) S.O. 1489(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 17th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Hyderabad-Bangalore section) in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

(liii) S.O. 1537(E) to S.O. 1539(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of different stretches on National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(liv) S.O. 1389(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 26th September, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 4 (Kanchipuram-Walajahpet section) in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(lv) S.O. 1514(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 2005 regarding levy of fee to be recovered from the users of four laned stretch of National Highway No. 4 (Hirebagewadi-Dharwad section) in the State of Karnataka.

(liv) S.O. 1242(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lvii) S.O. 1506(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lviii) S.O. 1524(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow to Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lix) S.O. 1554(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd November, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning) of National Highway No. 8 (Talasari-Manor section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(lx) S.O. 1485(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th October, 2005 authorising Additional District Magistrate, Office of the Deputy Commissioner (South), District South Delhi, to acquire land for widening including construction of bypass on National Highway No. 2 in the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

(lxi) S.O. 1384(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 23rd September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lxii) S.O. 1241(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning or six laning) of National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lxiii) S.O. 1505(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 19th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 28 (Lucknow-Uttar Pradesh/Bihar Border) in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lxiv) S.O. 1232(E) and S.O. 1233(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning or six laning) of different stretches on National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lxv) S.O. 1276(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. 115(E) dated the 25th January, 2005.

(lxvi) S.O. 1277(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 13th September, 2005 acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Nagpur-Hyderabad section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(lxvii) S.O. 1308(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2005 authorising the Special Land Acquisition Officer Scarcity No. 2, Nashik, to acquire land on National Highway No. 3 (Vadape-Gonde section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(lxviii) S.O. 1309(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 14th September, 2005 authorising the Special Land Acquisition Officer Nos. 2 and 3, Dhule to acquire land on National Highway No. 3 (Pimpalgaon-Dhule section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(2) S.O. 1528(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 22nd October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 4 (Pune to Satara section) in the State of Maharashtra.

(lxx) S.O. 1459(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 5th October, 2005 authorising Special Land Acquisition Officer, General, Nagpur to acquire land on National Highway No. 7 (Kamaptee-Kanhan Bypass) in the State of Maharashtra.

(lxxi) S.O. 1479(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (four-laning or six-laning) of National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(2) S.O. 1571(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th November, 2005 authorising of Land Acquisition Officer, PWD (B&R), Jalandhar to acquire land on National

Highway No. 1 (Jalandhar-Amritsar section) in the State of Punjab.

(lxxiii) S.O. 1227(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 2nd September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (four-laning or six-laning) of National Highway No. 25 in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

(lxxiv) S.O. 1476(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of National Highway No. 7 (Bangalore-Hosur section) in the State of Karnataka.

(lxxv) S.O. 1427(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 29th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building, maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 31 in the State of West Bengal.

(lxxvi) S.O. 1525(E) and S.O. 1526(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 21st October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation and different stretches of National Highway No. 47 [Tamil Nadu-Kerala Border (Walayar) to Thrissur section] including construction of by-passes in the State of Kerala.

(lxxvii) S.O. 1329(E) and S.O. 1330(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. 47 [Tamil Nadu—Kerala Border (Walayar) to Thrissur section] including construction of by-passes in the State of Kerala.

(lxxviii) S.O. 1497(E) and S.O. 1498(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th October, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for building (widening) of different stretches of National Highway No. 47 (Mannuthy-Aluva section) including construction of by-passes in the State of Kerala.

(lxxix) S.O. 1328(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 2005 regarding acquisition of land for public purpose of building (widening) of National Highway No. 47 (Mannuthy-Aluva section) including construction of by-passes in the State of Kerala.

(lxxx) S.O. 1584(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 2005 making certain amendments in the Notification No. S.O. 1096(E) dated the 4th August, 2005.

(lxxxi) S.O. 1585(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 10th November, 2005 entrusting the stretches of various National Highways mentioned therein to National Highways Authority of India.

(2) Twenty-seven statements (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at I to xxvii of (1) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3186/2005]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(2) Review by the Government of the working of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Road Construction Corporation Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3187/2005]

(2) A copy of the Central Motor Vehicles (Fifth Amendment) Rules, 2005 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 589(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th September, 2005 under sub-section (4) of section 212 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 together with an explanatory memorandum and Corrigendum thereto published in Notification No. 652(E) dated 31st October, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3188/2005]

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of Repatriates Cooperative Finance and Development Bank Limited, Chennai, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3189/2005]

(2) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Review by the Government of the working of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rehabilitation Plantations Limited, Punalur for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3190/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 141 of the Border Security Force Act, 1968:—

(i) The Border Security Force Water Wing Group-"A" (Technical Staff) Recruitment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 231 in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2005.

(ii) The Border Security Force Water Wing (Group-"B" Combatised Technical Staff) Recruitment Rules, 2005 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 232 in Gazette of India dated the 16th July, 2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3191/2005]

(2) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) Statement regarding Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3192/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M.A.A. FATMI): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

(ii) A copy of the Annual Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, together with Audit Report thereon.

(iii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Rashtriya Sanskrit Sansthan, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3193/2005]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 33 of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993:—

(i) The National Council for Teacher Education (assignment of functions to the

Executive Committee) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. F. No. 34-2/2005/NCTE/CDN in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2005.

(ii) Notification No. F. No. 9-5/2005/NCTE/ published in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, repealing the NCTE (Procedure to be followed in processing applications for recognition received from institutions existing prior to the establishment of NCTE) Regulations, 2001.

(iii) The "NCTE (form of application for recognition, the time limit of submission of application, determination of norms and standards for recognition of teacher education programmes and permission to start new course or training) (5th Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. F. No. 49-5/2005-NCTE/N&S in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2005.

(iv) The National Council for Teacher Education (determination of minimum qualifications for recruitment of teachers in schools) (Amendment) Regulations, 2005 published in Notification No. F. No. 91-1/2005-NCTE/(N&S) in Gazette of India dated the 30th August, 2005.

(4) A copy of the Notification No. F. 47-5/2003/NCTE/CDN (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 6th July, 2005 regarding nomination of a member to the Eastern Regional Committee of the National Council for Teacher Education, Bhubaneshwar issued under section 20(3) of the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.

(5) Statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3194/2005]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Development Authority, New Delhi, for the year 2003-2004.

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

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3195/2005]

(3) (i) A copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts.

(ii) A copy of the Review (Hindi and English versions) by the Government of the working of the Federation of Indian Export Organizations, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3196/2005]

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(a) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the PEC Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the PEC Limited, New Delhi, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3197/2005]

(b) (i) Review by the Government of the working of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005.

(ii) Annual Report of the Export Credit Guarantee Corporation of India Limited, Mumbai, for the year 2004-2005, alongwith Audited Accounts and comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3198/2005]

12.06 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha:-

(i) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th December, 2005 agreed without any amendment to the Prevention of Insults to National Honour (Amendment) Bill, 2005 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th December, 2005."

(ii) "In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th December, 2005 agreed without any amendment to the State Emblem of India (Prohibition of Improper Use) Bill, 2005 which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 6th December, 2005."

12.06$^{1}/_{4}$ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

Ninth Report

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): I beg to present a copy of the Ninth Report (Hindi and English versions) of Committee on Petitions.

12.06$^{1}/_{2}$ hrs.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON OFFICES OF PROFIT

First and Second Reports

[English]

SHRI CHANDRA BHUSHAN SINGH (Farrukhabad): I beg to present a copy of the First and Second Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit.

12.06$^{3}/_{4}$ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS

Eighth and Ninth Reports

[English]

SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE (Ratnagiri): I beg to present a copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Chemicals and Fertilizers:-

(1) Eighth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Fifth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers (Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals).

(2) Ninth Report on Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Sixth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-06) of the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers (Department of Fertilizers).

12.07 hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Twenty-sixth and Twenty-seventh Reports

[Translation]

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI (Garhwal): I beg to lay a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the Standing Committee on Finance:

(1) Twenty-sixth Report on the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, 2005; and

(2) Twenty-seventh Report on the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2005.

12.07¼ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

One Hundred Sixty-eighth and One Hundred Sixty-ninth Reports

[English]

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN (Mathurapur): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each (Hindi and English versions) of the following Reports of Standing Committee on Human Resource Development:

(1) One Hundred Sixty-Eighth Report of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development on Action Taken by Government on recommendations/observations contained in Hundred Fifty-Ninth Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of Department of Secondary and Higher Education; and

(2) One Hundred Sixty-Ninth Report on Action Taken by Government on recommendations/ observations contained in Hundred Sixty-Third Report on Demands for Grants (2005-2006) of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

12.07½ hrs.

STANDING COMMITTEE ON INDUSTRY

One Hundred Seventy-seventh Report

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): I beg to lay the One Hundred Seventy-seventh Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry on "The KVIC (Amendment) Bill, 2005."

12.08 hrs.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

Status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Fourth Report of Standing Committee on Urban Development on Demands for Grants (2004-05) of the Ministry of Urban Development

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Kumari Selja. If it is a long statement, you can lay it on the Table of the House.

*THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay this statement in pursuance of the new direction 73A, which reads as under:—

"The Minister concerned shall make once in six months a statement in the House regarding the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the Reports of Departmentally Related Standing Committee of Lok Sabha with regard to his Ministry."

I would like to inform for the benefit of the hon. Members of the House that the 4th Report of the Standing Committee of the 14th Lok Sabha on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation was recommendations out of which 27 recommendations have been accepted by the Government. Latest status of Action Taken on the recommendations accepted by the Government has been indicated against such recommendation in the enclosed Statement.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given adjournment motion and you yourself had said from the Chair. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It comes after Calling Attention.

...(Interruptions)

*Laid on the Table and also placed in Library. *See* No. LT 3199/2005

MR. SPEAKER: All the issues are important issues.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, I have given a Calling Attention notice to raise it in the "Zero Hour". *...(Interruptions)* You have promised me to allow me to raise my issue in the 'Zero Hour' *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Bettiah): Sir, you had told *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: It is a very serious and sensitive issue. *...(Interruptions)* Genocide is taking place is Bihar. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I have not said that I will not allow you, I have said that I will allow you at the appropriate time. We have laid down our procedure.

[Translation]

You are also a part of it.

[English]

Calling Attention will come now.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, you had given assurance to allow us after the Question Hour. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, We need your order. *...(Interruptions)* your permission *...(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You don't listen to my orders then what order should I give? You should follow my orders. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA (Bankura): Adjournment Notice should get preference over others. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have given a notice of Adjournment Motion. *...(Interruptions)* You should let us speak because there has been such precedent in this House. *...(Interruptions)* It is a very important issue. *...(Interruptions)* Such precedents have been there in case of an adjournment motion. *...(Interruptions)* I want to bring this to your notice. *...(Interruptions)* I want your permission to raise this serious issue. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It is a matter of great sorrow for me.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: There is only one hon. Member for Calling Attention.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: If we adjourn the House then no body will get a chance to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn and go away.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MD. SLAIM (Calcutta-North East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, minorities have been attacked in Bihar. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, five persons belonging to minority have been shot dead. *...(Interruptions)* Poor persons of minority community have been brutally murdered. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I will allow it to be raised by you. I have said that I will allow you.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please go to your seat. This is very unfortunate.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: My direction is that the Calling Attention will be taken up as per rules at that time only.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: According to you, the Speaker does not know how to regulate the proceedings!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Then you take action. You take action on that please. You have got an ignorant Speaker!

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have not allowed. I have told you that there is only one Member and I will not allow a second Member on Calling Attention. I have already said that. Can you not wait for 10 or 15 or 20 minutes?

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Adjournment Motion I have not admitted. I have not admitted it Mr. Raghunath Jha.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, Mr. Prabhunath Singh please. It is very unfortunate. I can only say this much.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Our image is being tarnished. You should improve your image a bit, improve the image of the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: It is therefor us to see the example of cooperation.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded. You take action against the Chair.

*...(Interruptions)**

12.14 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

Need to look into the progress of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana in Bihar and steps taken by the Government in this regard

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH (Maharajganj, Bihar): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister of Rural Development towards the following matter of urgent public importance and request him to give a statement in this regard: "Need to look into the progress of implementation of Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana in Bihar and steps taken by the Government in this regard."

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You can lay the statement.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF THE RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): Mr. Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I beg to lay following statement on the table of the House.

@In Phase-I and Phase-II of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), a total of 969 road works of 2219 kilometers length amounting to Rs. 452 crore were cleared. A total of Rs. 359.90 crore have been released. So far 463 road works having 1157.90 kilometer length have been completed with an expenditure of Rs. 298.05 crore.

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*Not recorded.

@Laid on the Table and also placed in Library, *see* No. LT 3200/2005.

In the year 2004, State Government of Bihar requested that the work for implementation of this programme may be entrusted to Nominated Executing Agencies. Accordingly, the central agencies *viz.* M/s IRCON International Limited (IRCON), M/s National Buildings Constructions Corporation Limited (NBCC), M/s National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Limited (NHPC), M/s. National Projects Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC) and also Central Public Works Department (CPWD) were identified for implementation of the programme in various districts of Bihar.

The progress of works achieved by the central agencies is as follows:—

- 252 number of road works have been cleared by the Ministry of Rural Development valued at Rs. 723 crores (Rupees seven hundred and twenty three crores) for a length of 2391 kilometers.
- 4 road works for a length of 34.29 kilometers have been completed so far.
- Work for 130 road works is in progress for a length of 1208.77 kilometers is in progress.
- Tenders have been invited for 65 road works for a length of 521 kilometers.
- The tendering for 52 road works for a length of 515 kilometers is in progress.
- The Detailed Project Reports for 328 number of road works for a length of 2877 kilometers are under preparation and scrutiny.

The progress of implementation of works taken up by these central agencies is being regularly reviewed both at the level of the State Government and at the level of the Central Government in order to ensure timely completion.

The State Government has been requested to prepare the supplementary proposals for the missing links of the road works have been taken up the first two phases.

The State Government has been requested for early finalization of the Core Network along with the Comprehensive New Connectivity Priority List (CNCPL)/ Comprehensive Upgradation Priority List (CUPL).

The State Government has also been requested to finalize the Action Plan to provide all—weather connectivity to 9956 eligible habitations and for upgradation of 9295 kilometers under Bharat Nirman.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not raise hands. If anybody raises hands, I am not going to allow any second Member.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I have already said that whose names are there, they will only be allowed.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Definitely, I will consider it, please take your seat.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of hon'ble Minister, that Pradhan Mantri Sadak Yojana is totally a Centrally sponsored scheme. The objectives of first phase of this scheme is to connect villages having a population of one thousand in the plains and five hundred in hilly areas with main roads. Under this scheme 1907 villages have been selected in Bihar, number of roads is 968 and total length is 2220 kms. I want a part wide reply from the hon'ble Minister that out of 2222 kms of road in Bihar, the length of road in kilometers for which approval has been given for construction so far and the amount allocated therefor? There is a slight difference between the data given by him earlier in the booklet and today's reply.

He may have a look at the figures and state clearly as to how much amount he sanctioned and the amount released so far. I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister towards the fact that this scheme started in 2000-2001 and in the first phase, 298 roads measuring 811.66 km. were selected from Bihar, for which an amount of Rs. 149.9 crore was released. According to official figures, 143 roads measuring 413 km were constructed till October, 2004, which is around 50 percent achievement. Official figures put it at 50 per cent achievement, but ground reality is different.

[Shri Prabhunath Singh]

This is for information of hon'ble Minister only. We are not levelling charges and counter-charges though the work was initiated and tenders were floated but only 50 per cent target was achieved in the first phase and a lot of work is still incomplete and there is much to be done. When the work has not been completed, how can he claim it as an achievement? He constituted investigation team consisting of retired engineers from all over the country to look into the quality and quantum of the work and to submit a report thereon, on the basis of which the Central Government is to take action. Hon. Minister should not treat it as charges, he has provided employment to retired and unemployed people. If he cannot get his work done by those people who are in service and even fear the risk of getting suspended and facing action, how can he expect fair and proper work from the people who have retired and are not under his control and have come to him to earn their livelihood? We are of the opinion that the people sent there have not done investigation properly and as result thereof, the quality has not improved. Secondly, I would like to submit that he should pay your attention to the quality. The Committee constituted to look into the quality of roads in Bihar has submitted its report. On the basis of that report, will he please state the name of places where the quality is proper and those places which lack quality according to his assessment. Whether he has advised the State Government to take action against the concerned officials and contractors in respect of the places where the work has not been executed according to quality? Has he issued to them any guidelines? If he has issued guidelines, will he please enlighten us about action taken against them? The achievement of the amount released during 2002-03 is stated to be around 14 per cent according to official figures. We want to know whether he will release the amount sanctioned but not released for the roads in Bihar during 2000-2001 and 2002-2003. Would he like to complete the roads yet to be completed?

At the same time, I would like to know whether the figures which is available with us is true and if so, he has not sanctioned even 1 km of road in Bihar in 2003-04. As he has not sanctioned, there is no question of releasing money. Therefore, I would like to know about the road constructed phase-wise in Bihar during 2003-04, he has got assessed the total number and length of the roads, whether he will release amount for Bihar for its share in 2003-04? Will he get the roads constructed in Bihar?

Sir, so far as year 2004-05 and 2005-06 are concerned, it is true that a meeting was organised in his office and we were also invited to participate in it. We have been repeating it in Parliament and outside that the Agency for Bihar is not working properly and therefore, the work should be get done through Central Agency which was also agreed upon. He has written in the letter also that these works have been assigned to Central Agency and even tenders have been invited for several places. In reply to a question he had referred that he send letters to us and we do not go through them and are not aware of ground reality. I would like to submit that I have gone through the letter.

MR. SPEAKER: You are stretching your point too much.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: Sir, I am sticking to the point only.

The letter sent to us by the hon. Minister contains list of only three districts, and not entire Bihar. These three districts together form four Lok Sabha constituencies. One constituency is represented by the Hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Lalu Prasad Yadav, second one is represented by Shri Sadhu Yadav, third one is represented by Shahabuddin Saheb and the fourth one is represented by me. He should have a look at his list and he will find that this is not proper. I am saying so because the Government invited tenders for the schemes in the first thee constituencies and construction work is in progress there. But with regard to schemes in my constituency, it has been informed that the action will be taken after the formal approval and survey work is in progress. What is his intention? Will he act in such partial manner that roads will be constructed only in the constituencies represented by the members of his party and roads will not be constructed in constituencies which are not represented by the Members of his party?

Mr. Speaker, Sir, this is the hon. Minister's letter and not mine and if permission is granted, I would like to place it on the table of the House. I have mentioned about the letter only because, it was referred to by him that he has sent us a letter. I would like to request the hon. Minister through you, that the efforts should be made to develop roads in Bihar not in a partial manner, but it should be done impartially. As he had said about the development of Bihar that roads will be developed in Bihar till 2009 in such a manner that Bihar will take seat in the front line. But if he shows partiality, how can it be

possible? In the meeting, it was agreed upon that long distance roads of PWD will also be included in it. Its main purpose was to connect the rural areas having a population of 1000 people to main road. How will he achieve that goal?

Second point I would like to make is that in case the Central Agency does not perform its work properly, will he get the money transferred to the State Government to get the roads constructed in time, as there is a performing government in the State. What measures have been devised for monitoring and investigation, there should be a detailed discussion on it?

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for your kind acceptance of the Calling Attention Motion concerning a matter of public interest. At the same time, I would also thank the hon. Member for his concern for the interest of the people and for his eagerness to get the difficulties being faced by people removed and get the roads constructed there. But, Sir, the charge levelled by the hon. Member that partiality has been done and still continuing is baseless and prejudiced.

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I have only read out his letter.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I had written the letter to provide information to him and it was not only he but I had written to every hon. Member to apprise each of them of latest information.

Sir, there is no discrimination. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY (Buxar): He is misleading the House.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: He has also been sent the letter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You have no right to speak like that. Please do not do this.

[English]

Nothing will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have sent a letter to each of the hon. Members. We have got acknowledgement of the same. If any Member challenges it, I accept the same. I have forwarded a letter to each of the Members. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will go on record. The statement of any hon. Member speaking without my permission will not be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Do not do this. Nobody should interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please improve your image.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: First thing concerns transparency so that every one should know. I wrote to all the hon. Members to let them know the latest position. I have organised the meetings thrice with the Members and also with the hon. Members of Bihar. Now we have started the action. Hon. Member has raised the question that Bihar has not get its due for five to six years. The share of Bihar for the current year was Rs. 1082 crore and Rs. 1141 crore have been approved so far. The expenditure report till date is of Rs. 294 crore. This is the situation as per the financial progress. As per physical progress, so far we have given approval for 4498 kilometres of road. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will have to request hon. Members not to interrupt.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: What are you doing here?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: This is very unfortunate that the Speaker of Lok Sabha has to request Members to keep quiet. You should all think what you are doing.

...*(Interruptions)*

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*Not recorded.

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*Not recorded.

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have replied to the every query raised by hon. Member in my written reply. The cost of 2219 km. of road is Rs. 452 crore. For that, Rs. 359 crores have been released. The length of 463 roads is 1197 km that job has been completed.

SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY: I am not satisfied with the answer given by the Minister. So I am walking out of the House.

12.28 hrs.

[SHRI LAL MUNI CHOUBEY *then left the House*]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: Rs. 298 have already been spent on that. After that, the construction of 252 roads have been approved by Ministry of Rural Development, whose total cost is Rs. 723 crores and length is 2391 km. Four roads of 34.29 km length have been constructed. The construction of 130 roads of 1208 km. is going on. The tender for 65 roads measuring 521 km of length has been invited. The process of inviting tenders for 52 roads of 515 km. length is on. The action of review of making DPR of 328 roads of 2827 km. of length is going on and work is in full swing. So this is the latest position.

Hon'ble Member has raised the question about his own constituency. I have told him that there is a shortage of good contractors in all districts of the country. So we are getting less tenders. Just ten to fifteen days ago, nobody applied for tender in Chhapra, where extension was given three times. The report of yesterday reveals that tender has been filed in two installments and tender for two roads have been awarded.

Sir, his area lies in two districts. In Siwan district, the date of tender has been extended thrice but nobody applied for tender. So I had expected the hon. Member to extend help to find out the reason behind tender not being accepted. We are inviting tenders but there is no taker. So let us find out the reason and take appropriate steps for tenders to be submitted ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Please do not interrupt. The hon'ble Minister is giving a very good speech.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: As far as quality is concerned, at first quality was being checked at three levels. It was being done at State level. At first two levels, quality checking was the responsibility of the State Government. At third level, there is national level monitoring by the Centre. Those retired engineers, IAS officers have been engaged for this purpose. If there is any complaint, it is looked into. I have given directions that the roads being constructed should be checked at three levels—at the beginning, in the middle and at the last. It should be checked at three stages so that if there is any shortcoming, it should be looked into. No compromise is being made with the quality. First, there was no take off, now work is taking off. Hon'ble Member was saying that now his Government has come to power. I have said that first those incomplete roads. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I had told that now a Government that works has come to power.

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: He is confident but very soon he will realise that how far is the Government working?

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, I am sorry. I gave you full opportunity to speak, and the hon. Minister has also given his reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have said that DPR of those roads which have been constructed earlier and in respect of which missing link still left, should be prepared immediately and if State Government wants, it can complete them at their own. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: No, I am sorry. I cannot allow this to go on like this.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH: I have to submit that hon'ble Finance Minister announced in this House only that Rs. 48,000 crore would be spent in four years i.e. Rs. 12,000 crore per year under various

schemes of 'Bharat Nirman'. The previous Government used to spend Rs. 2,500 crore annually. We have a budget of Rs. 48,000 crore, and it would be Rs. 9000 crore for the next year. The previous Government could not spend even Rs. 2500 crore annually while we would spend five times more, i.e. Rs. 12,000 crore per year. We have convened the meetings of Secretaries of all the States twice. We have asked the State Governments that they should increase them capacity to spend because all the villages with a population of over 1,000 would be linked with metalled roads within four years. We propose to link all the villages with a population of over 500 in hilly and tribal areas with All Weather Roads within four years. We have to complete the long desired plan of Bharat Nirman. Sir, I appeal to you and the hon'ble members that the meetings of Vigilance and Monitoring Committee should positively be convened once in every three months and all the work should be monitored and should be encouraged, so that this ambitious plan may be completed with the cooperation of hon'ble Members, State Governments and Panchayati Raj Institutions.

Hon'ble Members have been given due importance. We have informed the hon'ble Members that complete list has been given and directions have been issued to follow the instructions. In case of not following the 'instructions' they are bound to tell whether it comes within the purview of law? We have told that hon'ble Members only should lay the foundation stone, commence the work and declare it open. This way, due importance has been given to the hon'ble Members and with the cooperation of the hon'ble Members, common man will also be benefitted. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: It cannot go on like this.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: I am not levelling allegation against anyone, please let me continue.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, please sit down. I have already allowed your matter to be raised in the House.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Nothing will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please allow me to regulate the proceedings of this House. Please sit down.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath ji, I appeal to you to cooperate.

[English]

Do not record it. Nothing will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down.

[English]

I appeal all of you to please co-operate with the Chair.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PRABHUNATH SINGH: The hon'ble Minister is on his legs.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I would not allow him to speak.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav.

...(Interruptions)

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*Not recorded.

MR. SPEAKER: I would call you both in my Chamber.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I am very sorry. Please help me.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You please come to my chamber.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav, you had given notice for Adjournment Motion. I have not admitted it but I am allowing you to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV (Jhanjharpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, five poor people of minority community were shot dead yesterday on 12th of December in Chilrao village under Turkolia Police Station in East Champaran district, Bihar while they were ploughing the fields. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: You know very well. This is about minority affairs.

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: The constitution of India has entrusted the Union Government with the responsibility to protect the minorities. If the State Government fails to protect their lives and property, it is the duty of the Union Government as per constitution of India. *...(Interruptions)* it is the duty of the Union Government to protect their lives and property. *...(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav's submission will be recorded.

*...(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: Let Shri Devendra Prasadji speak. You are interruptly him.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will give you opportunity. I will give you the opportunity.

...(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Let us conduct the business in the right manner. This is an important issue.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

MR. SPEAKER: You all please sit quitely.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Are you helping him?

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Union Government to a very serious and sensitive issue. Five people of minority community were shot dead yesterday on 12th of December in Chilrao village in Turkolia Police Station in East Champaran district in Bihar when they were plouging the fields. Fear and insecurity has cropped up among the minorities all over the State. This year has seen a series of massacre of minorities. That is why I am saying that this issue is a very serious issue. I would like to request the Government that an investigation may be get conducted and report sought from the Government of Bihar and also a Committee be sent there immediately for providing protecting their lives and property. *...(Interruptions)*

The issue may be investigated by a Committee. People of minorities communities are feeling insecured and their lives and property are at stake. They should be

*Not recorded.

protected so that they could feel secure. ...*(Interruptions)* This has not happened at one place only. This is a highly sensitive issue. A wrong message is being conveyed because of this. That is why we want to bring it to notice of the Government. They should take action by immediately seeking the report. Defaulters should be arrested. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal Yadav only will associate. Nobody else will associate.

[Translation]

SHRI RAGHUNATH JHA (Betiah): Mr. Speaker, I would also like to associate. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV: Their arrest may be ensured. ...*(Interruptions)* People who are shot dead belong to the poorest of the poor classes, Mohd, Athig is a poor agriculture labourer. Mohd. Mozahir, Waskhlahak and Mohd. Uzhayar are poor agriculture labourers.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not take any names. No more.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Only Shri Ram Kripal Yadav's name will be recorded as associated.

[Translation]

SHRI RATHUNATH JHA: Mr. Speaker, I also want your protection.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I have no notice from him. You cannot do that. You cannot browbeat me. I will follow the rules. I will allow only those who have given notice.

[Translation]

You please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: You are concerned for your constituency but you have no time to give notice.

...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Harin Pathak, I will call you. Please let me conduct the House.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Speaker, Sir, a hon. Member Shri Devendra Prasad Yadav of Trikolia village of West Champaran. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Ram Kripal yadav, you associate with him. He has made a statement on the subject.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is a very important matter. The Government of the poor has gone out of power and killing of poor people has started. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: It would not become important with your submission.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Mr. Speaker, Sir, is this Government a Government talking of good governance. How the poor people are being killed by feudal lords. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Do not make any comment on the State Government.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: should the minorities of Bihar leave the State? What is their outlook? Such a Government should be dismissed. Only talking of good governance. ...*(Interruptions)* The minorities are entirely unsecured.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: I will adjourn the House and go away.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: It is our demand from the Central Government. Proper security should be provided to the minorities in the State. The minorities and the poor are in panic there. ...*(Interruptions)* The Government should give a reply that whether they would get security or not? Will all the minorities and the poor be killed? Is this the Government? Will this Government which is talking of good governance bring order in the State within three months.

[English]

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh.

Nothing else will be recorded but the speech of Shri Prabhunath Singh.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Prabhunath Singh, only two minutes.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, your name will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Member, why are you standing?

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: All right. I will go back. I will go away. I will not permit this indiscipline. No. I am sorry. Shri D.P. Yadav, if you go on interrupting, I will have everything deleted. Everything will be deleted. I have allowed you, though it was another Member, who has given notice on the subject. You never bothered to give notice. Even then, your name will be recorded.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Very well, I will adjourn the House.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Raghunath Jha, you do not have to dictate to me. You have no right to dictate to me.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER: The House stands adjourned till 2 p.m.

12.43 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fourteen of the Clock.

14.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at three minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[Mr. Deputy Speaker in the Chair]

SCHEDULED TRIBES (RECOGNITION OF FOREST RIGHTS) BILL, 2005*

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The House shall now take up Item No. 19—Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill. Now Hon. Minister.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): What about Matters under Rule 377 ?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: That would be taken up after this item.

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to recognise and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recorded and to provide for a framework for recording the forest rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes who have been residing in such forests for

*Published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 2, dated 13.12.2005.

generations but whose rights could not be recorded and to provide for a framework for recording the forest rights so vested and the nature of evidence required for such recognition and vesting in respect of forest land."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

14.06 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up Matters under Rule 377.

(i) Need to check illegal mining at Aravali Hills near Delhi-Haryana Border

[Translation]

SHRI AVTAR SINGH BHADANA (Faridabad): Sir, I would like to raw the attention of the Central Government towards illegal mining taking place in the Aravali hills adjacent to Delhi-Haryana border. The Supreme Court has put a ban on mining in this area but throwing all the rules to winds illegal mining is taking place regularly in Saraikhori and court order is being violated. Besides this illegal mining and tree felling is destroying the environment of the area. The Government policy states that in order to protect environment illegal mining should be stopped and more and more trees planted so that pollution is checked. But ignorance of rules by the mining mafias continue.

It is my request to the concerned Ministry of the Central Government that steps be taken to stop illegal mining by following Supreme Court's orders so that environment could be saved from the grips of mining mafias.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Only those things which you have given in notice and which has been approved by the office of Speaker will go on record.

(ii) Need to bring Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh at par with other Indian Institutes of Technology

[English]

SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL (Chandigarh): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, Chandigarh, the joint Capital of Punjab and Haryana, and the headquarters of the Union Territory, with its prestigious institutions like the Punjab University, the Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, the Punjab Engineering College, the College of Architecture and the College of Arts, the Indian Institute of Microbial Technology and the Central Scientific Instruments Organisation, is a city which has become a centre of excellence in many fields, particularly, education and research. Rajiv Gandhi Technology Park has further brought the city on the Word IT Map, where bright students and young professionals long to study and work. However, this picture of excellence is incomplete in the absence of Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) like the seven others in the country. Chandigarh was visualised by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru as the city which would be symbol of modern resurgent India. Conditions there are congenial and conducive to make it proudly vie with the best education cities of the world.

I, therefore, urge the Government to upgrade the existing Punjab Engineering College, which already is a deemed University, as the Indian Institute of Technology at par with the other IITs.

(iii) Need to provide adequate compensation to farmers whose land was acquired for setting up gas-based power project at Masuri in Ghaziabad District, Uttar Pradesh

[Translation]

SHRI SURENDRA PRAKASH GOYAL (Hapur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, in Masuri in district Ghaziabad in my constituency 2235 acres of farmers' land have already been acquired for a gas based power project of the Reliance. A total of 2700 farmers of 7 villages have been affected by the acquisition. Acquisition has already been done of all land belonging to 2000 farmers and some land belonging to 700 farmers. The sad aspect of this power project is that the farmers are not being paid due remuneration of their land. The farmers are staging demonstration at the collectorate for getting Rs. 300 per square yard as compensation. Sometimes this demand of farmers is being termed as undue while at other time it is said that this demand as well as other conditions of farmers can be accepted under National Rehabilitation and Housing policy. On the whole no clear-cut assurance is being given to farmers in this case.

I would like to request the Central Government that they should ensure that all the terms and conditions in

[Shri Surendra Prakash Goyal]

the agreement of acquisition of land from farmers for the power plant should be written clearly and due compensation given to farmers. Keeping in view the present land rate and the terms and conditions earlier fixed by the company should be considered early.

(iv) Need to resume operation of air services from Vagaikulam, Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRI DHANUSKODI R. ATHITHAN (Tirunelveli): Sir, Thuthukudi district is the southern part of Tamil Nadu, having a population of nearly 15 lakhs. Thuthukudi District produced so many veteran freedom fighters like Veerapandiakattabhomman, Velliah Devan, Veeran Sundaralingam, V.O. Chidambaram Pillai, Thukkumedai Rajagopal, Kasirajan, K.T. Kosaljan, Thyagi Benjamin, etc. Thuthukudi is the biggest municipality in Tamil Nadu and the port in this city is one of the major ports in India. This District is industrially advanced and major industries like SPIC, DCW, Sterlite, TAX, Heavy Water Project, etc. are giving a lot of employment opportunities to the people.

In 1992, the Civil Aviation Ministry constructed an Airport at Vagaikulam near Thuthukudi and started the services which connected Chennai and other cities. Unfortunately, in a short period, the air service has been stopped and till now, no air service is being provided from this airport. Air service to Thuthukudi is very much essential which in fact would accelerate the economic development of the zone. Now, the people's representatives, industrialists, businessmen, technocrats, air travelling passengers, have to go to Madurai or Trivandrum to get their flight which gives them untold hardships and involve waste of time and energy to travel 200 KM to reach the airport.

So, I urge upon the Civil Aviation Minister to take necessary steps to revive the air service to Vagaikulam at the earliest possible time and develop the airport to enable operation of big aircrafts.

(v) Need to review the policy regarding import of edible oil in the country with a view to protect the interests of farmers in Rajasthan

[Translation]

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, due to faulty import policy of the Government edible oil is being imported on a large scale from Srilanka and Nepal. as a result of that mills of oilseeds produced in the country are getting closed. Because of closure of these domestic mills the entire mustards procured by the farmers last year are lying in the godowns.

This year also bumper crop of mustard is expected in Rajasthan. It is estimated that this year's mustard production will be four lakh tonnes more than last year's. In the absence of warehousing facilities there will be obstruction in the procurement of mustard when new crops come in March-April.

I would, therefore, request the Minister of Food to start production of oil in mills by taking over old stock of mustard from the godowns and the import policy of edible oil changed so as to benefit the local farmers.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Mansukhbhai D. Vasava—Absent.

(vi) Need to introduce Inter city Express between Rewa and Jabalpur and provide other facilities at Rewa Railway station

SHRI CHANDRAMANI TRIPATHY (Rewa): I would like to draw the attention of the august House and the hon. Minister of Railways towards the difficulties related to railway in my Parliamentary constituency and the long standing demand of the people in this regard. An intercity express train should be run between Rewa and Jabalpur because Jabalpur is a very big commercial centre and thousands of people from Rewa travel upto Jabalpur daily. Apart from this timings of the 2427/2428 train should be changed. A coach should be connected with Mumbai bound Mahanagari Express and Mumbai Hawrah main for the sake of people of Rewa and Satna because hundreds of people from this area travel upto Mumbai. Similarly the Rewa-Bilaspur-Chirmiri Passenger should be extended upto Durg and an AC 3-tier coach attached to it. It is very essential to construct a second platform at Rewa station. The passengers experience enormous difficulties in the absence of a second platform there.

I, therefore, request the hon. Minister of Railways to issue suitable directives to meet the long standing demands of the people of Rewa, Satna and Jabalpur.

(vii) Need to implement agreements regarding sharing of water produced from different hydro projects in Punjab to Rajasthan

SHRI KAILASH MEGHWAL (Tonk): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Rajasthan had laid claims

for its share in the various hydro-power projects of Punjab according to the terms and conditions of the Indus Water Treaty determining its share of power in the hydro-power projects of Punjab and the subsequent agreements regarding its share of water in Satluj, Beas and Ravi rivers. Accordingly, Rajasthan claimed for 575.54 MW out of the installed capacity of 1254 MW of five hydro-power projects namely Anandpur Sahib, Mukerian, UBOC phase-II, Thein dam and Shahpur Kandi.

Thereafter, on 10.5.1984, while making studies to grant permission for drawing water for the Ropar Thermal Power Station from the Nangal Hydel Channel, an agreement was signed amongst the Minister of Power of the Government of India, the Governor of Punjab and the Chief Minister of Haryana and Rajasthan, wherein two decisions were taken. First, the Government of India will refer the claim of Rajasthan in power generated by these five hydro-power projects, to the Supreme Court for its opinion and secondly, the Government of India will also keep in consideration the claims of Rajasthan and Haryana as to the allocation of power to them, over and above their share in the unallocated power of Central Power Plants. Till date both these decisions have not been implemented, which has led to the acute shortage of power in Rajasthan, resulting in a number of difficulties and loss to the State. Nothing has been done so far to compensate the same. Therefore, an immediate action is demanded.

(viii) Need to provide adequate compensation to the farmers whose lands have been acquired in border areas of Rajasthan

SHRI NIKHIL CHAND (Sriganganagar): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Central Government had acquired the lands of the farmers residing on the Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan and erected barbed wire fencing there. Among them there were marginal farmers also, who had just one acre of land, but so far, they have not been provided compensation for their land. Owing to the security reasons, the farmers are also not allowed to cross the barbed wire fencing. Thus they cannot plough their fields. They can neither sow, nor irrigate and harvest their crops. All this results in heavy losses to the farmers. The Government has acquired the land of the farmers but, no compensation has been provided to them so far. The farmers of the border areas of Haryana and Punjab have already been paid compensation.

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to immediately pay adequate compensation to the farmers of border areas of Rajasthan whose lands have been acquired.

(ix) Need for conversion of metre gauge rail line between Botad and Ahmedabad into broad gauge

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA (Dhandhuka): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I have been persistently demanding since 1989 the conversion of metre gauge rail line between Botad and Ahmedabad in my constituency into broad gauge. As a result of the absence of broad gauge line on this rail route, the people of Saurashtra traveling from Botad to Ahmedabad have to go via Surendranagar resulting a wastage of time and money and causes inconvenience to commuters.

I request the hon'ble Minister of Railways to issue orders immediately for conversion of metre gauge rail line between Botad and Ahmedabad into broad gauge and increase the number of passenger trains on broad gauge rail line between Viramgam and Mehsana.

(x) Need for construction of a gas grid for catering to the demands of gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand

[English]

SHRI SUNIL KHAN (Durgapur): Eastern Zone as a whole and West Bengal in Particular is facing a serious problem in the industrial scenario because of non-availability of natural gas in the area. It had a distinct advantage when coal was preferred feedstock, which has now been replaced by natural gas or LNG. For instance, there is no urea producing fertilizer unit in the Eastern States of West Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and Jharkhand as gas is not available as feedstock. The whole planning for utilisation of gas from Bombay High and other future sources including LNG Terminals is being focused on north west and south zone of the country. Gas availability of Eastern Zone is being linked up with unpreditable sources outside the country, in Bangladesh or Myanmar. This is quite unfair that instead of addressing the issue of regional imbalance through equitable distribution of gas available within the country, the demands of gas for eastern zone has been left to be catered with sources, which are yet to be firmed up. It is therefore imperative that immediate plan is drawn for:

1. Installation of gas pipeline from Jagadishpur (Terminal point of HBJ pipeline) to Durgapur/ Haldia as an initial step for a gas grid.

[Shri Sunil Khan]

2. Installation of a LNG Terminal with Regasification Plants at Haldia (West Bengal) and Paradeep (Orissa) and hence I urge upon the Government to construct a gas grid for catering to the demands of gas in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Jharkhand.

(xi) Need to construct a national monument at village Kude, Mughalsarai, Uttar Pradesh, the birth place of former Prime Minister, Late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri

[Translation]

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, through you, I want to draw the attention of the Government of India towards village Kude, Mughalsarai, UP, the birth place of former Prime Minister, Late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri. The birth place of Late Shastriji has been acquired by the Indian Railways. The Government of Uttar Pradesh wants to construct a national monument at that place but owing to objection by the Railways, the said work is not being taken up. There is a statue of Late Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri in Mughalsarai School, but it is not being looked after properly. Therefore, I urge the Government that in view of the public feelings all cooperation should be given in constructing a national monument at the birth place of Late Shri Lal Bahadur Sahstri.

(xii) Need for effective implementation of guidelines regarding inauguration of projects under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in Uttar Pradesh and other parts of the country

SHRI BRAJESH PATHAK (Unnao): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Government of Uttar Pradesh is not following the guidelines of the union Rural Development Ministry regarding inauguration of the roads built under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and also is preparing the proposals of projects under this scheme in Unnao parliamentary constituency, district Unnao in disregard to the said guidelines. The State Government is organizing the programmes without getting approval from the Members of Parliament and also in his absence.

Therefore, I, through this House, request the Central Government to ensure disciplinary action against those officers of the State Government who violate the criteria fixed by the Central Rural Development Ministry for Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and cancel with immediate effect, all programmes which have been or are being organized without ensuring presence of hon'ble Member of Parliament and getting approval from the Member of Parliament, particularly in Unnao Parliamentary Constituency under this scheme. It must be ensured that roads are inaugurated by the concerned MP, after getting approval.

(xiii) Need for early completion of gauge conversion work on Tiruchendur section of Railways in Tamil Nadu

[English]

SHRIMATI V. RADHIKA SELVI (Tiruchendur): Tiruchendur is one of the important pilgrim centres in Tamil Nadu. Throughout the year, pilgrims are thronging this temple and railway plays an important role in transporting the public. Many arts and professional colleges are situated in this area and students from all over Tamil Nadu and Kerala are studying here. Rail transport is the most attractive one. The present metre gauge system does not satisfy these sections of people. People suffer a lot due to transhipment at Tirunelveli Jn. Hence, it was decided by the Department to give preference to this section during conversion. Ninety per cent of the work has already been finalised. All the civil works have been completed and this section could be opened for traffic if required materials are diverted to this section. I request that the work may be completed at the earliest for the benefit of the people of this area.

(xiv) Need to settle pension issue of MTNL employees

SHRI ANANDRAO VITHOBA ADSUL (Buldhana): On 1.4.1986 due to the policy of the Government to corporatise the telecom sector "Bombay Telephones and Delhi Telephones" were carved out from DoT and MTNL was formed. The employees working in the then Bombay Telephones and Delhi Telephones were sent on deemed deputation to MTNL without any deputation allowance and were assured of absorption on the floor of the House along with the formation of corporations for the rest of the Department of Telecom Services, namely, present BSNL.

In the year 1998, the Government decided to offer option to its employees who were working in MTNL on deemed deputation to either get absorbed in MTNL or to continue to work as Government employees and offered

the employees three options for their pensionary benefit, namely, (i) pension as per Government rules; (ii) pro-rata pension; and (iii) contributory provident fund, i.e., PSU pension. The majority of employees opted for pension as per Government rules.

In October 2000, the Government had formed BSNL and employees working in the DTS were transferred to BSNL. The employees working in DTS went on agitation on the issue of pensionary benefit. The Government issued amendment to Rule 37-A of CCS Pension Rule 1972 and inserted the sub-rule 21, which envisages the DoT employees transferred to BSNL to get the Pension and Family Pension directly from the Government.

Sir, there are only about 40,000 employees in MTNL who would be benefited by incorporating the name of MTNL in sub-rule 21 of Rule 37-A.

I request the hon. Minister of Communications and Information technology to fulfil the assurance given by the Government earlier and issue necessary notification which will encourage the employees working with MTNL on deemed deputation to opt for MTNL.

(xv) Need to appoint an Expert Committee with a view to find a permanent solution to recurrence of severe floods in Kolhapur District, Maharashtra

SHRI S.D. MANDLIK (Kolhapur): Sir, in Maharashtra, Kolhapur district suffered tremendous damages due to severe flood situation in the months of July and August, 2005. Although similar flood situation had occurred in the year 1953 and 1989, floodwaters receded immediately and therefore, the damages due to stagnation of water were minimum. However, this time, the flood water did not recede for more than 20 days on two occasions thus causing widespread damages to standing crops and property. The total losses were around Rs. 1300 crore in Kolhapur District alone.

It is clear from the above fact that flood waters were not passing through River Krishna at the desired speed. The only reason for this is increased flood water level at the Alamatti Dam located at Karnataka downstream and passage of very low rate of flood discharge from this Dam. The designated flood discharging capacity of spillway of this Dam is 11 lakh cusecs while the actual discharge permitted by the Government of Karnataka as only 2.6 to 4.5 lakh cusecs during the above flood period. This has caused very heavy backwater effect causing severe flood situation in the territory of Maharashtra, especially in Kolhapur and Sangli Districts located at the boundary of Karnataka.

Through your good office Sir, the Karnataka Government should be made to look into the reason and take proper and timely precautionary measures to avoid similar occurrence in future.

It is also imperative that a permanent solution to avoid repetition of such severe flood situation is necessary by appointing an Expert Committee consisting of members from States other than Maharashtra and Karnataka and make the findings of the Committee binding on the Karnataka State.

(xvi) Need to check massive environmental degradation in the down stream of Dikrong River of Assam due to recurring flood and erosion

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government regarding water pollution and massive environmental degradation in the downstream of Dikrong River of Assam by way of recurring flood and erosion which affect the river valley throughout the year. The Ranganadi HE Project of NEEPCO envisages inter-basin transfer of water from Ranganadi to Dikrong River due to discharge of 160 cusecs of tailrace water from the Ranganadi Power House when operated at its full capacity. Although the model study conducted by the Central Water and Power Research Station, Pune observed that there is no danger to the lower reach of Dikrong River due to this additional discharge of water, the ground reality of totally different. The resultant overflow of the Dikrong River disturbs the normal life in winter months also. Neither NEEPCO nor the Department of Water Resources, Government of Assam has taken up any erosion control, anti-pollution as well as river training programme to protect the area from the normal as well as additional discharge of water. As a result, huge area of habitable and cultivable land is washed away by uprooting large number of families every year besides loss of life and property leading to environmental problem including water pollution.

I, therefore, urge upon the Government to immediately intervene in the matter for realistic assessment of the recurring damage and to ensure flood and erosion control measures, compensatory relief and rehabilitation as well

[Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma]

as pollution control through NEEPCO and other Central Government agencies in collaboration with Assam Government.

SHRI SARBANANDA SONOWAL (Dibrugarh): Sir, I associate with the views of Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma and Shri Vanlalzawma.

(xvii) Need to resume work on Tuirial Hydel Project in Mizoram

SHRI VANLAL ZAWMA (Mizoram): Sir, I would like to invite your kind attention about the Tuirial Hydel Project in Mizoram being undertaken by NEEPCO.

This project was initiated in the year 1999 in Mizoram. This will be the only hydel project functioning in Mizoram. NEEPCO has already spent Rs. 210 crore for the construction works. But this project has been stopped for more than one year. I would like to know the reason for the withdrawal of work on this project.

I request the Government to resume the work on this project early in the interest of the people of Mizoram.

DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA: Sir, I would like to associate with what Shri Vanlal Zawma has mentioned just now.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Okay, we will allow it.

14.36 hrs.

RE: TAXATION LAWS (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 2005

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Hon. Members, I had to inform the House that the hon. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs has requested the hon. Speaker that the combined discussion on Statutory resolution seeking the disapproval of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 2005 and Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill, 2005 may not be taken up today. If the House agrees, we will take up items 23 and 24 together now.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI KASHIRAM RANA (Surat): Sir, the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill should be sent to the Standing Committee. That would be better. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRI KHARABELA SWAIN (Balasore): It is a general convention that Bills are sent to the Standing Committee. This Bill should also be sent to the Standing Committee.

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the hon'ble Minister has promulgated the Ordinance. *...(Interruptions)* Through the Ordinance route the hon'ble Minister wants to introduce this Bill for replacing the ordinance in the House directly. I request you to refer this Bill, in the first place, to the Standing Committee. *...(Interruptions)* Ordinance should not have been promulgated and the prestige of the House should have been maintained. I request that this Bill must be referred to the Standing Committee, as the Taxation Laws (Second Amendment) Bill is likely to have serious implications. *...(Interruptions)* Therefore, in the first place, this Bill may be referred to the Standing Committee so that it is passed unanimously. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: You should raise this point when this Bill again comes up before the House.

...(Interruptions)

[English]

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Sir, this is a Bill which seeks to replace an Ordinance. At the request of some hon. Members I agreed that we can discuss it tomorrow. I spoke to some hon. Members and I do not wish to take their names. They agreed that they will meet me at 5 o'clock and they will seek some clarifications in my office. I have invited them to my office. They have agreed to take it up tomorrow. Now, they cannot stand up and surprise me by saying that we will not take it up tomorrow and that it should go to the Standing Committee. The hon. Speaker has made a request. He told the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to accommodate the views of some hon. Members and to clarify whatever doubts they have got and the Bill will be taken up tomorrow. So, it is not fair on the part of Shri Kashiram Rana to raise the issue on which he had agreed with me that it will be taken up tomorrow.

14.39 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: DISAPPROVAL OF MANIPUR UNIVERSITY ORDINANCE, 2005 AND MANIPUR UNIVERSITY BILL, 2005

[English]

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Now, the House shall take up item Nos. 23 and 24 together.

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Sir, I beg to move:

"That this House disapproves of the Manipur University Ordinance, 2005 (No. 3 of 2005) promulgated by the President on 13 October, 2005."

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): Sir, on behalf of the hon. Minister of Human Resource Development, Shri Arjun Singh, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the State of Manipur and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Motions moved:

"That this House disapproves of the Manipur University Ordinance, 2005 (No. 3 of 2005) promulgated by the President on 13 October, 2005."

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the State of Manipur and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, I would like to say that I am not against the content of the Bill but just I am against the procedure which has been taken as the route for promulgating ordinance. The Leaders of the UPA Government when they were in the Opposition Bench, were used to protest the ordinance procedure. So, I think, when they are in power, they should follow the same procedure and same idea. The ordinance is not the only route for passing the Bill and an enactment. I am just against the procedure and, I think, in the coming future the Government will not take such steps only using the route of promulgating ordinance. This is my submission.

Moreover, it is placed in the Rajya Sabha and it has been forwarded to the Standing Committee. In the Standing Committee, some recommendations are there. Though most of the recommendations have been followed by the Government, yet the Session is here. What is the hurry? They did not wait for the Session. It would be better to put it in the Session itself without going to that route of promulgating ordinance. That is why, I am against this procedure. This is my submission.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU (Arunachal West): Sir, I may be allowed to speak from this seat because my seat is a little inconvenient.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please continue.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Sir, I would like to extend my support to the Bill for granting of Central University status for the State of Manipur. This is a laudable piece of legislation particularly for the people of North-East and the State of Manipur. It was very much deserving since very, very long time. But, at the same time, I would like to caution the Government that an impression should not be created that rewards are given when there are certain troubles in particular States. When there is some kind of hue and cry, then some announcement is made and benefits are provided. I am saying because this impression is being generated and felt all across particularly in my State of Arunachal Pradesh. I am very-very happy for this Bill to be introduced but, at the same time, I am very sad that the long-pending demand for the granting of Central University status for the State of Arunachal Pradesh has not been brought in.

The State of Arunachal Pradesh has only one University. The Arunachal University was recently named as Rajiv Gandhi University. When this was passed in the State Assembly, the Chief Minister and the Education Minister stated that we have named it 'Rajiv Gandhi University' because by renaming after the name of Rajiv Gandhi we will get more funds and a Central University status will be granted. If renaming is being attributed with getting more funds or granting of status, then, it is very-very unfortunate. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: I would like to see that all the States of North East at least have one Central University in each State. Now, Manipur deserves very much a Central University looking at the contribution being made by the people of Manipur, particularly in the field of culture and sports, for the nation. For that, I would congratulate the hon. Minister and the Government for bringing forward this Bill.

If we talk about the North-Eastern Region, a more liberal approach is required from the Government of India. Most of the States are resourceless. They face extreme paucity of funds in the North-Eastern Region which makes it very difficult to set apart funds and take care of its own Universities. Further, the condition of higher education in the North-Eastern region is very much pathetic.

I would like to mention here that the only University of Arunachal Pradesh was established in the year 1984. Even after 21 long years, only 12 conventional subjects are being provided for the students. Today, the need is that along with those conventional subjects, job-oriented subjects like computer science, information technology, business management, bio-technology, which are very much required in this age of the 21st century, should be there. The important point is that even the basic science facilities are not there in the University. Along with Arunachal Pradesh, I would be very much happy if Central University status is granted to the State Universities of Tripura and Sikkim also.

The hon. Minister has stated earlier that we need to have patience. The question is: But patience for how long? I am not standing here favouring a particular political party. But even the previous hon. Minister for HRD also had not done anything for my State. Be it NDA or the UPA, the position is the same. What we need is a strong sense of commitment on the part of the Central Government. An act of insensitivity from the Government of India will do no good for getting the North-Eastern Region into the line of mainstream. This has to be understood in true perspective by whichever party is governing at the Centre.

I would just like to mention about the status of the higher education there. We have only one University which came into being only in 1984. Even after 1985 till the University came into the financial grid of the UGC, the State did not benefit from the Central Plan. In the remaining period of the Eighth Five Year Plan, the UGC granted an amount of only Rs. 75 lakhs. In the Ninth Plan, the UGC's grant was only Rs. 2.70 crore. In the Tenth Five Year Plan, the UGC allocation was an amount of Rs. 4 crore. The Grant-in-Aid from the State since the inception of the University till 1999-2000 was only Rs. 24.76 crore. The investment for the development of higher education, therefore, has been very much minimal. It is totally a historical negligence on the part of the Central Government. What we need is that it should be taken care of properly because if we see the resources of my State or any other State of the North-Eastern Region, the resources are very much meagre. We cannot take care of a University. We have only one University and we have been urging for a long time to have more. The previous hon. Minister also visited the University on an occasion of Convocation. There also, he refused to give the status of a Central University to Arunachal Pradesh. The previous Minister was from my own party. But I strongly criticise that this kind of attitude should not be adopted. The present Government should also see that such an attitude is not adopted.

I would have loved to see hon. Cabinet Minister in the House. Since he is not available, I would like to request through you, Sir, to hon. MOS to convey this message and request the hon. Minister and the Government to bring another legislation for central university for the State of Arunachal Pradesh along with the States of Sikkim and Tripura in this Winter Session only. While replying for this discussion, I would like to hear a commitment, a strong commitment from the hon. Minister that it will be done because we have no more patience left. I must make it very-very clear. We have been maintaining patience for so long but for how long? I have repeatedly been asking this. In this regard several demands have been made by the university students' delegations, MPs delegations, the State Governments' delegations. Now, we are hitting a wall at the end. This is the time. If these States are not taken care of then it will send a very, very negative and wrong message to the people of the North-Eastern States. I would not like to take much time but my appeal finally is that please try to understand the sentiments of these States which are being neglected for so long. This is the right time to recorrect that negligence, those wrong acts committed against the North-Eastern Region and, particularly, my State of Arunachal Pradesh.

With these words and welcoming this particular Bill, I would like to conclude this speech.

DR. THOKCHOM MEINYA (Inner Manipur): Thank you, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I rise to participate in the discussion on the consideration of the Manipur University Bill, 2005. I wholeheartedly support this Bill. This Bill was earlier passed by the Rajya Sabha on 30th November, 2005.

Sir, on 13th October, 2005, the Manipur University Ordinance, 2005 was promulgated and the University of Manipur was converted into a central university with immediate effect. I, on behalf of the people of Manipur, its Secular Progressive Front government, the University fraternity and on my own behalf, do extend our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government. This is one of the many achievements of our UPA Government during the last about one and a half years of its governance. For this, the credit goes to the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. UPA Chairperson.

Sir, I would very humbly put on record that the month of November, 2004 will remain a memorable month in the history of Manipur. The hon. Prime Minister visited the State during this month and laid the foundation stone of the rail head at Jiribam for the national railway project; Jiribam—Tupul (Imphal) Rail line. This is to be completed by 2010, a milestone indeed, for the people of Manipur in whose land no train runs till now.

Sir, at the same time, the hon. Prime Minister handed over the historical Kangla Fort to the people of Manipur which was our seat of power for the Manipur Nation when it was conquered by the British in 1891. On 20th November, 2004, the hon. Prime Minister while addressing the 9th Convocation of the Manipur University announced that the Manipur University would be upgraded to the status of a central university.

The hon. HRD Minister laid on the Table of this House the other day, a statement explaining the circumstances necessitating promulgation of the Manipur University Ordinance, 2005. Hence, the statutory resolution moved by my hon. friends Shri Prabodh Panda, Shri Girdhari Lal Bhargava, Prof. Rasa Singh Rawat and Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan holds no ground at this moment.

The Ordinance was promulgated with a sincere hope only to meet the aspiration of the people of Manipur, as a follow up action to the announcement made by the hon. Prime Minister during his visit in November last year.

Sir, higher education in the State of Manipur and for that matter the Manipur University has a long pathetic history. With your permission, Sir, let me make an attempt to briefly put it in this august House. Collegiate education in the State was started with the establishment of a degree college, namely the Dhanamanjuri College (DM College) in 1946 at Imphal, the Capital City of Manipur. This college was affiliated to the University of Calcutta (Kolkata). The University of Gauhati (Guwahati) was established in 1948 and the affiliation of the college was shifted to the University of Gauhati. A few more colleges had been established after this. Still the State is able to maintain the literacy rate above the national average.

In the late 1960s, post-graduate classes in a few subjects including my subject Mathematics were started in DM College under the University of Gauhati. It was in the year 1972, the Centre of Post-Graduate Studies of the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) was established in Imphal and the post-graduate classes of the DM College were also merged into it. Thus, the JNU Centre was meeting the educational needs of the students of Manipur at the post-graduate level while the undergraduate colleges including some professional colleges in the State of Manipur still continued to be affiliated to the University of Gauhati.

Sir, the Manipur University was established in Imphal in June, 1980, under the Manipur University Act, 1980 enacted by the Manipur Legislative Assembly (Manipur Act 8 of 1980). With the coming of the Manipur University Act, 1980, Guwahati University ceased to exercise jurisdiction in the State of Manipur and the erstwhile Centre of Post-Graduate Studies of the Jawaharlal Nehru University was merged with the newly established Manipur University.

The Manipur University has, at present, 23 post-graduate teaching departments under three schools of studies. It has also 73 affiliated colleges including a Regional Institute of Medical Sciences, three law colleges, six teacher training colleges, three technical/engineering colleges and a college of physical education and sports. The number of students presently enrolled in the teaching departments and affiliated colleges of the University is about 2,000 and 30,000 respectively. Besides, thousands of students are pursuing their studies in almost all cities of the country, including some 7,000 students in the Capital City of Delhi.

Sir, as the Manipur University started without any foundation grant and as it could not get adequate Plan assistance from the State Government in the succeeding

[Dr. Thokchom Meinya]

years, it has not been in a position to create the required infrastructure and to diversify its courses to the extent required so far. At the same time, it is surrounded by Central Universities of the North-Eastern region at Kohima, Silchar, Tezpur, Aizwal and Shillong. There has been a huge imbalance in educational facilities within the region and this has caused consequent large scale emigration of teachers, students and researchers in search of better infrastructural and academic facilities in other States. Against this backdrop and the fact that the State Government, with its limited resources, is not in a position to provide adequate funding for the overall development of the Manipur University, there has been a persistent demand for its conversion into a Central University. Besides repeated requests from the State Government for such a conversion, the Manipur Legislative Assembly have also passed unanimous resolutions to this effect on 9th July, 1999 and more recently, on 13th March, 2003.

Sir, I would also like to put on record the fact that when I was the Minister in-charge of Higher and Technical Education in 2003-04 in the present SPF Government of Manipur, we requested time and again to the then NDA Government at the Centre to consider our request for conversion of the Manipur University into a Central University but of no avail.

15.00 hrs.

To put the record straight, the then HRD Minister was not willing to convert his own *Alma Mater,* the Allahabad University into a Central University and our present UPA Government has done it.

Mr. Deputy Speaker Sir, among the salient features of the present Bill, I have nothing to comment because the Bill is a nice piece of legislation. But we have got certain things to be recorded. The present clause (1) of Statute 17, which provides that the Manipur Institute of Technology, Imphal shall be maintained by the University, needs special mention because this institute was originally started as a Government college and was unable to grow properly for want of funds. During my tenure as the Minister-in-charge of Higher & Technical Education, the college was taken out of the Government and handed over to a State level Society headed by the Chief Minister, when the present nomenclature 'The Manipur Institute of Technology' was given to it and thus enabling the institute to limp back slowly to its present status.

Sir, among the Officers of the University under clause 11 of this Bill, both the Proctor and the Dean of Students' Welfare are not listed under this particular clause. One of the most important things is that the students of my State are always active and sensible. They always associate themselves with all issues of the State including the demand for conversion of the Manipur University into a Central University. Here, may I, therefore, draw the kind attention of this august House that after the promulgation of the Manipur University Ordinance 2005, the present Manipur University Students' Union is enquiring if the Students' council under Statute 40 is going to replace the elected student body, the Manipur Students' Union for all time to come. I would like to request the hon. HRD Minister to look into the matter in order to have the continuance of the election of the student body, Manipur students' Union as is being done in other universities of the country over and above the Students' Council under Statute 40.

All these amendment, I do understand, can be done very well under different clauses 11 (9), 29® and 31(1) of the Bill. I would, therefore, urge upon the HRD Ministry and the Government of India to accommodate such amendments when they are brought to their notice.

Sir, may be, I have made a comparatively long submission for which I beg to be excused. Lastly, may I now very humbly and respectfully request each and every hon. Member present here to join me to support this Manipur University Bill, 2005 and pass it unanimously.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN (Mathurapur): Thank you Mr. Deputy-Speaker Sir. I rise today to support the Manipur University Bill 2005 and request the hon. Members of the House to support the same and pass it in the interest of education and in the interest of the people of the State of Manipur.

I shall be very briefly observing some of the provisions. But before that I want to take one or two minutes just to give the background. As has already been mentioned by my hon. colleague Dr. Meinya, the people of the State of Manipur had been demanding for quite some time to have a Central University in the State. They had also suggested that the Manipur University, established in 1980, be converted into a Central University as early as possible. I feel, the Government has rightly done the thing to fulfil the aspirations of the people of Manipur.

The State of Manipur is spread over an area of approximately 22,000 sq. kms. having a population of

about 23 lakhs. Geographically, the State is divided into two tracks; the hills comprise five district and the plains comprise four districts. It is bounded by Myanmar on the East, Nagaland on the North, Assam and Mizoram on the West and Myanmar and Mizoram on the South. The total forest area is about 17,000 square kilometres which is more than 75 per cent of the total area of the State. The main occupation of the people is agriculture while a good number of them is dependent on the forests for sustenance. The State language is Manipuri and there are 29 other dialects including Tanghul, Paite, Lushai, Thadou and Kuki. As we all know, Sir, the Manipuri people have a very high cultural tradition, and in the field of sports and games, they have put on record their excellent performance at the national and international levels. Literacy rate is quite high. It is around 70 per cent. There are more than 3,600 schools, 73 colleges and one University. The per capita income is about Rs. 8,750 for the fiscal year 2003-04.

With this background, I would now like to discuss some of the provisions of the Bill and would most humbly suggest on some of the clauses incorporated therein. Once again, I reiterate that I support the Bill wholeheartedly and while supporting it, I put forward my suggestions for appropriate action.

To be brief, I come to clause 5 of the Bill about the objects of the University. Here, my suggestion is that the faculties of Engineering and Technology, Management, Medicine and Law should be included. I would further suggest that in the objects of this University Bill, it has been stated that it is to educate and train manpower for the development of the State of Manipur. I would like to suggest that it is not only for the State of Manipur. The language may be modified like this: "The Union of India and the State of Manipur in particular." It is because the education system is for the whole country and the State is only housing the University.

Now, I come to clause 21, which is about the Authorities of the university. I have already stated that the State of Manipur is quite rich in games and sports activities; and in the Authorities of the University, there are six Authorities. There is a provision that there may be such other Authorities, but considering the sports activities of the State I would suggest that after the Authority, the Finance Committee, the Authority, Sports Board should be included in clause 21. Specifically, the Authority's Sports Board may be included. There are certain things which I would like to point out. There are powers of the Vice-Chancellor to convene meetings of the Authorities like the Executive Council, the Academic Council and the Finance Committee. I am sorry to note that there is no such power of the Chancellor though he is the Head of the University as per the provisions of the Bill. He will be presiding over the convocations of the Universities and presiding over the meetings of the Court, whenever present. So, I would suggest that the Chancellor should be having some power in regard to convening of a meeting of the Court and I would say that the Vice-Chancellor should have the power to convene a meeting of the Court including a convocation meeting in consultation with the Chancellor as is the case with many universities including Central Universities.

Next I come to a very small thing. Kindly permit me to say like this. At present it has been provided that there are 11 members of the Executive Council and 7 members will be forming a quorum. As we all know, it is very difficult to have a quorum, having the presence of 7 members out of 11. And what will happen? It might be imagined that meetings of the Executive Council duly convened may fail due to want of quorum and then the Vice-Chancellor would have no alternative than to take recourse to his emergency powers under clause 13, sub-clause (3) of the Bill. Taking recourse to emergency powers every now and then by the Vice-Chancellor of any University, in my opinion, is not good for the health of the University.

Therefore, in the coming days when some amendments will be made, this provision of having a quorum of seven members may be modified.

There is another thing that I would like to point out. A very important authority of the University is College Development Council which will be having its control over the colleges. It would be guiding the different colleges maintained by the University. There are about 73 colleges in number. Now, in Clauses 21 and 25 of the Bill and Statute 32 of the University in the First Schedule of the Bill, it has been given that the College Development Council will be acting along with the Executive Council. That means, the College Development Council and the Executive Council will be acting together so far as the guidance and control of the affiliated colleges are concerned. I feel this is not a good proposition. Whatever the College Development Council might recommend will be going to the Executive Council for a final decision. This is the procedure. Sir, through you, I would bring this to the notice of the Government for consideration.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

PROF. BASUDEB BARMAN: Sir, I shall not take much time. One thing is that the first Chancellor and the first Vice-Chancellor will be appointed by the Visitor. It is good. They will be having a tenure of five years. In my opinion, that is also good. But the first Court, the first Executive Council, the first College Development Council and the first Academic Council are having a tenure of three years each. Most surprisingly, in regard to the constitution of these authorities, namely the Court, the Executive Council, the College Development Council and the Academic Council, it has been provided that the Court will be having not more than 30 members, the first Executive Council will be having not more than 11 members, the first College Development Council will not be having more than 10 members, and the first Academic Council will not be having more than 21 members. All the members are nominated by the Visitor. I accept this.

But in the Bill there should have been some provisions about the constitution of these authorities. There is no mention anywhere in this Bill about the constitution of these authorities. Only a few months back, if we remember, this august House considered and passed the Allahabad University Bill. We remember that in that Bill, all these provisions about the constitution, powers and functions of the different authorities were there. ...*(Interruptions)* I am sorry I shall not be taking more than two minutes. Kindly allow me. But here these provisions are not there. I presume that the first Executive Council and subsequently the first Court of the Manipur University will take steps to have appropriate new and additional Statutes for constitution of these authorities as well as procedure for their formation through democratic ways keeping in view the object of the University.

I may mention here—and it is most interesting—that the provision for the constitution of all these authorities are not given. But the provision for the constitution of the Finance Committee has been given. Somehow, it has come like that. Also, there has been a mention about the Students' Council. I have seen that in Statute 39 but the functions of the Alumni Association have not been provided. Only there is a mention of Alumni Association. But in Statute 40, the functions of the Students' Council have been mentioned. This is good but there have been some omissions in respect of the Alumni Association.

In the end, the only thing that I would like to say is that I support this Bill. I would request and appeal to all the hon. Members to pass this Bill. I would also request the Government to duly consider in the coming days whatever suggestions I have suggested or observed here.

[Translation]

SHRI MOHAN SINGH (Deoria): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Manipur University Bill.

Universities and higher educational institutions are urgently required for education in North-Eastern states. when we were studying in Allahabad University, all the students of Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland used to study in this university. Later on they also led those states in the political arena. But with the Jawaharlal University, Delhi, having been founded and some of parts of its campus having been opened in North-Eastern states and Leh in 1966, the inflow of the students from those areas to Allahabad and Delhi for study came to a halt. Many states of North-Eastern region like Assam, Meghalaya and Mizoram (Aizol) had central university; but it did not hold any justification to leave Manipur and Arunachal Pradesh from having Central University. This work should have been executed earlier by the Government of India. The fact is that the Universities had been in operation since 1980. These are small states having scant population ranging from 7 lacs to 22-23 lacs. They do not have so enough resources to make university level institution functional with the support of their own resources. In this context the judiciousness of the University Grants Commission has also been questioned as the grants provided by them is distributed purely on political ground rather than the quality and standard of the universities. Hence it was urgently required for the Central Government to jump into the fray of University and the Government of India did the same. So, I offer may thanks to them. But I would like to give some suggestions. While I read this University Bill in toto, I found that we had passed Allahabad University Act in the last session. The Government of India accorded the status of Central University to the University which had been in operation since last hundred and twenty-five years. Even at that time we had offered our thanks to the Government of India. This bill seems to be the replica of the earlier bill barring a few clauses thereof. The lacunae of that Bill which came into notice at that time were not removed and later on the same was examined and the lacunae which cropped up is that the universities which are being accorded the status of central university are being

entrusted to the bureaucracy in terms of their operation. The students passed out as graduates there from are being selected neither in academic councils. There was such provision and the same exists here also. Some of the graduates registered there will be nominated for the courts. But the earlier practice was that the selected representatives of the registered graduates used to come in these institutions and only members of the courts used to select executives. But the selected registered graduates are being gradually turned out from university administration. The provision for nominating them is also being made. In this backdrop I would like to urge that the elected representatives of the registered graduates should be there in all the three highest institutions ranging from academic council, courts to executive councils.

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, it is still fresh in my memory that Smt. Indira Gandhi organised a conference of all the university student unions all over the country in St. Stephen's College at the time when I was the President of Students' Union of Allahabad University. At that time there were total 82 universities in India. at present their number has reached over two hundred. Then their number was limited. But there was a strong movement off university students across the country. At that time Dr. B.K.R.V. Rao was Education Minister of the country and the Ministry of Human Resource did not exist, instead, there was Ministry of Education. A great scientist and the erstwhile Chairman of UGC, Dr. Daulat Singh Kothari was also present in that conference. Smt. Indira Gandhi heard our miseries and difficulties. We requested her to provide for the representation of students and student unions in all the administrative institutions to highlight and obviate our grievances against the university. At that moment they came to an opinion that students representation will be provided for in the institutions ranging from academic council to executive council. To this effect an order was issued that the topper students of the class will be provided representation in academic council; and the representatives of students unions in court and executive council. The same is being scrapped. I am constrained to say that the traditional students unions in the universities of the Government of India are being abolished. Election in Kashi Hindu University has been kept in abeyance for a long period. And hence, while we are passing this Bill, the provision for students unions should be incorporated therein, this is my request. It is certainly a fact that the condition of students union is not the same as it was earlier. Now mafia has stated venturing into it, and hence they are couching in politics. The people like hooligans and contractors are winning the election of students unions. That is why we are forced to see that sort of people even in Legislative Assemblies and Lok Sabha. It does not mean that will continue to happen. Democracy is a system which possess capacity to cleanse its own filth like "Gangajal". Democratic system is so strong that it can maintain to purity by bypassing anti-social elements, entering this arena. So, according to me the abolition of student union with any kind of pretension is not correct. Since students union is the first school of democratic polity and I think that disbanding these schools would mean to push the polity of the country to the hands of anti-social elements. So, my second suggestion is that the requirement of students' unions should be upheld. Now this matter has come before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court was sought the suggestions of the Government of India regarding modalities of students' union. We seek suggestions of Election Commission as to what changes should be brought about in the election procedures. On the same lines, of the Government of India should constitute a committee of legal luminaries, scholars and politicians which will suggest as to how the election procedures of students unions should be rectified. I think that Supreme Court has sought suggestions of the Government of India in this regard and hence they should cooperate with the Supreme Court and a guidelines regarding the requirement of students union should be issued across the country.

With this request I support the bill presented by him and I believe that all the members would support this bill.

[English]

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN (Chirayinkil): Sir, I am not opposed to the passing of the Manipur University Bill but I am very much opposed to the manner in which it is passed.

This Bill is a Bill to replace an Ordinance but I cannot avail the opportunity under rule 72 now. If this Bill were introduced in this House, I would have raised all these objections but that opportunity is not available in the instant case because the Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha and passed in that House. The question of leave to introduce the Bill does not arise in this House. So, I cannot raise these objections as per rule 72 and the Constitutional objections which I propose to raise now. I would like all the objections to go on record even though I am very sure that no legal reply could be given to me.

[Shri Varkala Radhakrishnan]

The Fourteenth Lok Sabha started functioning when the President issued the Proclamation and it would end its functioning when it is dissolved. This House functions in two ways: one, through Committees; secondly, by an extended committee, that is, the whole House meeting, that is, the Session. So, the functioning through the Session and through the Committees is the process by which the Parliament is functioning.

Article 123 of the Constitution is very clear that only in emergent situations could an Ordinance be issued and that too would have only a temporary standing. As soon as the House assembles or as soon as the Session commences, within six weeks, it would have to be replaced. This Bill has come before the House on that basis. I might point out here that the hon. Minister has stated that the Bill was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on May 4, 2005.

It is said that the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha referred the Bill to a Parliamentary Standing Committee. So, the House was seized with the Bill. The Parliament has taken cognizance of the Bill. Now, the Bill is in the custody of the House. On that basis the Committee took evidence and submitted its report before the House in the Monsoon Session. The priority of the business is to be decided by the Government. The Government ought to have found time and the business of the House should have been arranged in such a way that the Bill ought to have been passed in the Monsoon Session. If it was not passed then, it is none of our fault. The report of the Committee also came before the House. The entire procedure was over. So, the Business Advisory Committee of the House should have found time to pass it because it was an emergent situation because there is an ordinance and it would get lapsed. So, top priority should have been given to the business of the House. On the basis of the report of the Committee, the Bill ought to have been passed then and there. The Government did not act then. Is it our fault? Let them say it. Everybody knows that it is a Bill to replace an ordinance and it has been referred to the Committee and the Committee submitted the report. No sensible person will delay the matter.

Following the constitutional provisions, the Government ought to have brought this in the previous Session. They have not done it. After the House was adjourned *sine die*, an ordinance was promulgated on the very same day, when the House was seized of the matter. In legal parlance it will be *sub judice*. When a court is seized of a matter, no authority can take up the matter. Here, the Parliament is the supreme authority in the matter of legislation. Without the legislation-making, the Parliament has no meaning.

Here is a case when the Parliament has taken cognizance of the Bill. It started functioning on it and referred it to the Committee and the Committee's report is pending before the House. At that time the House was adjourned and they brought up an ordinance. Is it proper? Is it constitutional? I would not be surprised, if in short time the Government will issue ordinance even when the House is in Session. If things go on like this, in the near future, I am sure the Government will issue ordinance even when the House is in Session.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please come to the Bill. The question is not of the Ordinance. We are discussing the Manipur Bill.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Yes, Sir. There is another aspect. The Constitution is very-very clear that only in an emergent situation an ordinance can be issued. Emergent situation means ordinarily we cannot expect such a situation. For that purpose the founders of the Constitution provided article 123 to meet an emergent situation that may arise in the country. That is the purpose for which this emergency legislative power is given to the Executive. In that sense, it is okay.

But here, this is on conversion of the Manipur University into a Central University. I am reading from the statement of the hon. Minister. It is not my own statement. It says: "The conversion of Manipur University into a Central University had been a long-standing demand". He says it is a long-standing demand from the State. So, it means that he has admitted without dispute that it is a long-pending matter with no emergency. Can an emergency arise in a long-pending matter? You please tell me. That is why I said in the beginning that no legal answer can be given to me. I will immediately relinquish all these things if they can convince me with an answer.

If these people can convince me witn an answer, I will bow before them. Can an emergency arise in a long-pending matter?

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: It is a clear violation. That is why, I submitted that I will not be

surprised if these people issue an Ordinance when the House is in Session because they have issued an Ordinance in a long-pending matter. Not only that, this Bill had been introduced in the House and referred to the Standing Committee. Then, the House adjourned and they issued an Ordinance. This is a very unhealthy practice. This is a bad mark for our parliamentary democracy. ...*(Interruptions)* Please do not repeat this hereafter. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: No running commentary please.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Shri Radhakrishnan, please address the Chair and not individuals.

SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN: Can anybody give me an answer? It is not that this is the only instance, there are so many instances and I do not want to go into details, at this stage. I am extremely sorry for the Government taking such a step.

A law should not be made in the Minister's office. A law should be made only here and not in the Ministry. A law should take its final shape here only and not in the Ministry. Only then, it should be implemented. It is our right to make a law. So, do not encroach upon our right hereafter. Let them do. Anyhow, we can only say this.

With these words, I conclude.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY (Puri): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. At the same time, I disapprove the Ordinance that has been promulgated by this Government. There was no hurry to issue an Ordinance. I am one hundred per cent one with my hon. friend who has said that there was no need for an Ordinance as there was no hurry. Today, we see two Ordinances in the list of Business. This Government is by passing the Standing Committees and going through the route of Ordinance as if there is an election tomorrow and the Government is preparing for it. That is why, they are going for Ordinances. There was no hurry to promulgate the Ordinance.

The entire House is in support of this Bill. So, there is no difficulty in passing of this Bill. That is why, the intention of the Government to issue an Ordinance is very bad. The Government is always bypassing parliamentary system and Lok Sabha and going through the Ordinance route. This is a bad practice. I am not approving of this thing, but I am supporting this Bill.

Manipur is a very beautiful part of our country. Manipur University Bill, 2005 proposes to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating university in the State of Manipur. We are supporting it. This is a long-pending demand of the State and the North-East. I also support the hon. Members who have requested for a central university in Arunachal Pradesh and other parts of the country. That is also necessary. The students of North East are suffering much. They are now going outside the State for their studies. They are having their higher education in other parts of the country as their institutions are affiliated outside the State and therefore, they are bound to go to other parts of the country, outside their States. That is why, a Central university like this was needed. It was rightly done by the Government. We are supporting this Bill. They should also consider establishing such universities in other parts of the country as well.

I should not elaborate about my State. My State has a population of about four crores, but we do not have a Central university. Also, we do not have any Central institution. The only thing that had been given to our State was the National Institute of Science. It was decided by the previous Government, the NDA Government to establish it at Bhubaneswar, but this Government has decided to shift it to Kolkata. This is also not a good thing. They must look at the entire country and all the States equally. They should not decide it on any political basis in which State they will have a Central university and in which part they will not have a Central university. That should not be the consideration of the Government.

Therefore, the Government should reconsider the previous decision, and should decide to have the National Institute of Science at Bhubaneshwar, which was decided earlier. This is one of my requests to the Government.

Furthermore, "the objects of this University:

... shall be to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit ..."

At the moment, the students are suffering. This Bill proposes that the University will provide courses in humanities, social sciences, etc., but courses in medical,

[Shri Braja Kishore Tripathy]

engineering, etc. are not part of the curriculum of this University. What will the students do to get education in these steams? The students would have to go to other States of the country. I feel that this facility should also be extended to the students of the North-East States, so that the students will be able to get education in medical science, engineering, etc. The Government should consider for having a technical institute like the Central University in the North-East, so that the students from North-East can get admission, and complete higher studies in disciplines like engineering, medical science, etc.

I also support the views expressed by Shri Mohan Singh on this issue. He had mentioned that there is no scope for representation of students in the College Development Council. There are elected bodies like Student Unions and some elected representatives from among the students should represent there in the Executive Council of the University and the College Development Council.

We all know that a person aged 18 years is provided the right to vote, but the students here are not getting any representation in the Council to discuss about their problems and the development of the University. There are provisions for other elected bodies to represent in this Council, but there is no such provision in this Bill for having students representation. I would request the hon. Minister that Govt. should make such a provision in it, so that the elected representatives—from among the students—shall get a chance to represent in the Executive Council and the College Development Council of the University.

Sir, I am from a State that has 39 per cent ST and SC population out of four crore total population of the State. The Government of India should decide to make provision for a Central University in Orissa. They are focusing on the development of tribals and Scheduled Castes. Therefore, I would request that they should have a Central University in Orissa preferably in the K.B.K. Districts, which is mostly inhabited by tribals, ST population, etc. The Government should consider for having such type of a Central University, which is not there at present in my State.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please conclude your speech.

SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY: Sir, I am concluding my speech. I support this Bill. I also request that all the requests, which I have made here will get due consideration.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME (Nominated): Thank you, hon. Deputy-Speaker, Sir. I stand here to support the Manipur University Bill, 2005. The Rajya Sabha has already passed the Bill on 30 November, 2005. This Bill meets the aspirations of the people of Manipur. It was a long standing aspiration, which the UPA Government has now addressed.

As you are aware, Manipur has been the cradle of arts, music, dance, drama and sports. It has a very definite culture and a very unique place in the fabric of the States, which constitute the Union of this country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: Please make your points on the Manipur Bill only.

SHRI FRANCIS FANTHOME: Therefore, I think that the Manipur University Bill is an appropriate recognition of the great contributions, which Manipur, as a State, has made to the Indian Union.

As you know, there are Central Universities already at Kohima, Tezpur, Aizawl and Shillong. Now, the University of Manipur is going to become a Central University. There is a request from the other States of the North-East—Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura—that they should also be granted Central universities. Once that is done, the entire North-East region would be able to provide high quality educational opportunities that the nation wants to bring about in this unique region of the country.

The Manipur University is situated at Kanchipur, which is about eight kilometres from Imphal. It is on a plot of land of nearly 300 acres. It is located on the National Highway 39 which links India to Myanmar. This unique location of Manipur University provides for it a defining position in serving the nation's needs to address in terms of providing high quality educational opportunities.

Presently, the University is providing opportunities for education in Anthropology, Earth and Computer Sciences, Humanities, the Arts and Sciences. With this University becoming a Central University, subjects of study like Integrated Forestry and Inter-Disciplinary Sciences would also be introduced. This will upgrade the opportunities of this university. This is extremely important in the context of what the State has been defining in the area of higher

education. I would, therefore, like to compliment the hon. Minister of Human Resources Development and the Prime Minister on this.

During his visit to Manipur in November 2004, the Prime Minister made a very special commitment to integrate the North-East region into the rest of the nation's mainstream. With the passage of this Manipur University Bill, that commitment made by the hon. Prime Minister would be finding a very special recognition.

Concerns regarding certain finer details of the Bill have been expressed by some of the Members in this House. One of the issues I find needs to be specially taken up while we are considering this Bill is the provision that the Students' Council would have nominated members and some members that have made special contributions by being on the prize list of the University. While this structure is appropriate to address a certain concern in the University, there is also a need to provide for a Council that will represent the democratic understanding and rights of the students of the University. Therefore, perhaps an elected body would also be necessary for the University.

Once again, with the provision that I have mentioned, I would like to compliment the Ministry for bringing this Bill. It has not been delayed: It has been passed by Rajya Sabha about a fortnight back. Therefore, this bill is an appropriate piece of legislation that has been brought to the House.

SHRI TAPIR GAO (Arunachal East): Hon. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill which is meant for granting the status of Central University to the Manipur University located in one of the North-Eastern States of the country. I congratulate the people of Manipur and the future generations of Manipur in advance for getting this Central University.

Manipur has got its own very unique, rich and dynamic culture among the North-Eastern States. Going a bit ahead of that I can say that the true Indian culture can be seen in Manipur. We have gone through the Manipur Bill and believe that there is no more to be added in these clauses. However, my humble submission to the hon. Minister is that job-oriented courses and science and technology subjects may be given more importance.

Manipur have its own sports, culture and drama, and it is ahead of this country in some respects. On the other hand, I would like to inform this august House that in the North-Eastern States, Manipur University has 33 per cent reservation for admission but when it is converted to a Central University, it would have 7.5 per cent reservation for ST's and 15 per cent reservation for SC's. By seeing the ethnic problems in Manipur, a clause may kindly be inserted to the effect that it may not be raised up to the all-India rating but the existing 33 per cent may be minimised or some such percentage may be kindly be made for admissions in the University.

While supporting this Bill, I have a great regret towards the Government of India. I represent Arunachal Pradesh. We have a great regret towards this country. Firstly, during Mujibur Rahman and Jinnah time, if Dr. Gopinath Bordolai was not there, North-East could have been included in the East Pakistan. Still the Government of India, especially the hon. Ministers and the Congress Party, are haunting by what Nehru has said in 1962 during the Chinese aggression, leaving the entire North-East to the mercy of China. Why is there always discrimination meted out to the North-East? Hon. Cabinet Minister has stated in the Upper House that there will be more universities in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura. Why is the Government of India waiting for a hue and cry to establish a Central University in the eastern part of the North Eastern States?

Our students from the North-East are facing a lot of problems in getting admission in metropolitan cities of the country. We have a distinct characteristics. On top of that, every year, Members of Parliament, representing the North-East are facing a lot of problems for getting admissions for the students of North-East in Delhi Universities and universities in other metropolitan cities of the country. Therefore, my humble submission to the UPA Government, especially to the hon. Minister of HRD, is this. Why not along with the Manipur Bill, Arunachal Pradesh University Bill, Sikkim University Bill and the Tripura University Bill are not taken up? It is a great regret.

My colleague has stated that the hon. Minister has said that we should have patience. What kind of patience the Government of India require to establish a Central University in eastern part of the North-Eastern State? I would like to request categorically from the hon. minister of HRD that a statement may kindly be laid in this House while making his reply that three more Central Universities will be established, particularly in Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura.

[Shri Tapir Gao]

15.49 hrs.

(SHRI ARJUN SETHI *in the Chair*)

We have got a lot of colleges. I shamefully state in this August House that in my parliamentary constituency in Arunachal Pradesh, there are two colleges, whose buildings are ordinary/temporary type buildings made up by bamboos and wild leaves. Is this the situation in the 21st century? Is this the requirement of the colleges and universities in the North-Eastern Region?

We need more education and more literate people. In spite of educating the younger generations, we are lagging behind in producing good literate citizens in that part of the country. Rather, we are producing more people with underground activities. The law and order situation in that part of the country is a real problem. Therefore, better education is the only medicine. Job-oriented education is the medicine in the society for having disciplined citizens, good politicians, more academicians, more technocrats and more bureaucrats. Therefore, I have got a strong submission to make to the HRD Ministry, at this stage.

I am a proud product of the Arunachal Pradesh University. Today, I have reached this Parliament. But the condition and the situation of the Arunachal Pradesh University cannot be expressed. If the hon. Minister could visit the Arunachal University and inspect the situation on the spot, that will be the best thing for future. Therefore, I support this Bill and I wish that more universities in the North-East may kindly be sanctioned immediately. We are waiting for your statement specially for the State of Manipur. On behalf of Manipur and the entire North-East, I am proud of the fact that Manipur is getting a Central university. This means there will be more job-oriented courses, more literacy, more number of technocrats and bureaucrats. I wish all the best for the people of Manipur and I support this Bill.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GAMANG (Koraput): Mr. Chairman. Sir, I support the Manipur University Bill. I support it because the remotest areas, the hill areas do not have the facilities which are available in the plains of the country. There was a commitment form the Government of India not only for the central university but also for giving central assistance. I think, the Central university is justified the way it is being provided. It should not only be provided in Manipur but also in other States which do not have central universities. Some of the areas that come under this are the hilly area, tribal areas, the Fifth Schedule Area, the remotest areas with international border. So, this is justified. While justifying that, the Government of India will have to consider now for establishing such universities in other destinations in other parts of the country. I refer to the Fifth Schedule Areas of the country. The Fifth Schedule Area is a constitutional boundary under article 244. The Fifth schedule Area mostly covers the States of Orissa, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and like that. We have eight States that come under the Fifth Schedule Area. To my knowledge, we do not have that type of a university so far in the Fifth Schedule Area of the country.

While I am standing here to support, I say why should we not have a Central university in the Fifth Schedule Area especially in Orissa. When I was the Chief Minister of the State, I was able to set up three universities.

One was in the Scheduled Area of Mayurbanj, another was at Balasore and the third Culture University was at Bhubaneshwar. I had provided the funds to have a university at Koraput. But I could not set up that university due to declaration of the Elections. But later on, the present State Govt. could not set up the university at Koraput.

The State Government can take a decision now. But my proposal before the Government of India is that why should there not be a Central University at Koraput on the basis of proposals that are there with the Government of Orissa and pursued with the Govt. of India for Central University at Koraput? There is no need of going into any infrastructure. The whole set of things are there in justifying a university at Koraput.

Sir, I would conclude after seeking one clarification. The State Government of Orissa has been arguing with the Government of India to have a science institute. There is a delay. It needs to be done. So, I would like to know whether the delay is from the State Government side or by the Government of India for consideration of this institute. There is a confusion, which needs to be clarified. There was a proposal for setting up National Institute of Science and Educational research. It was under the consideration of the UGC. The UGC Act does not permit to have this type of institute, as mentioned by the Government o India. I do not know whether it comes under the purview of the UGC or not. I think, we should know the stand taken by the Government of India and the Government of Orissa. It should be found out whether

the National Institute of Science which they are proposing at Pune as well as Kolkata is under the UGC Act or not. If it comes under the UGC Act, then why not the Government of Orissa, which have requested to have this Institute, should also have it? If it does not come under the purview of the UGC Act, then why such decision was taken by the Government?

But Orissa deserves to have this National Institute of Science, when it was decided to set up at two places. ...*(Interruptions)* It needs to be clarified. It is not the main point that we have requested the Government of India and they have rejected it. The main point is whether the Government of India took a decision to have this National Institute of Science or the National Institute of Science and Educational Research. These are two things. This needs to be clarified.

Sir, my State should not be deprived of this National Institute. In a democracy, demand for development will be there. But one would have to justify his argument. And, here, our argument is very valid. So, the Government of India should consider these two issues so that my State of Orissa should not be deprived of this institute and the people would be satisfied with the decision of the Government.

[Translation]

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): Hon'ble Chairman, Sir, I support the Manipur University Bill, 2005. This Bill is actually worth supporting. I myself believe that there is a need to establish Central Universities in North-Eastern States and other such States which share international boundaries, which means that the States which are situated at the border of our country and are suffering from problems pertaining to castes, languages and separatism require central universities to be set up there.

16.00 hrs.

The present Manipur University is being run by the State Government since 1980. We all know that the economic and financial conditions of North-Eastern states can not become as good as the Central Government, it is extremely poor. Due to this, the educational facilities required for the students of that university can not be met. That University was in a very disturbed condition. Due to this a large number of students from Manipur went to Delhi, Chennai, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Mumbai and Kolkata for getting education there. But a number of students could not go to these places for higher education owing to their poor economic conditions. There was a shortage of modern facilities. I believe if Central University is established, the Government will provide land for them and all other modern sources and equipments required for education will also be provided. This will enable the students there to get higher education at low costs. Besides they will also be saved from the difficulties faced by them in commuting to outside places. Therefore, this Bill is to be supported.

Alongwith this, I would like to demand one more thing from the Government. As I said, the North-Eastern States are situated at the international border. Tripura shares its border with Bangladesh. There is not much distance between capital of Bangladesh and Aggartalla. Due to this intruders keep coming here and work towards forming an atmosphere against the country. There is no central university in Tripura. There should be one central university in Tripura also.

Similar is the condition of Arunachal Pradesh. If geographical area of that place is to be seen then it will be found that it is not less than that of Assam in North-Eastern states, rather it is more. There are two central universities in Assam, situated at Silchar and Tezpur. under such circumstances it is very important to have a central university in Arunachal Pradesh as it is adjacent to both China and Myanmar border. In such situation there is always an apprehension of foreign intrusion over there. The present generation there who are not in a position to get higher education are being mislead and encouraged to work against the country. We all are feeling that such powers are increasing in North-Eastern region. It is essential to provide higher education in Arunachal Pradesh to check all this. Therefore, there is an immediate need for central university in Arunachal Pradesh and I would like to make this demand from the Government.

Similarly, there is a need for central university in Sikkim also. These are all mountain regions which makes it difficult for people to commute to far off places. Manipur University in being set up at National Highway No. 39. Economic blockades were caused on this highway for 60 days. Goods that were being transported from Nagaland and other states were completely stopped. Later the Central Government was requested and the daily use commodities were sent by air to these places. Which is why this national highway is suffering from insurgency. Some other three-four districts situated nearby are also

[Shri Thawar Chand Gehlot]

affected by this. There are many reasons as to why this insurgency took place over there and the youth turned into terrorists and separatists. The most important reason that has come to light is that the Government over there was unable to deal with this insurgency. Not only this, recently the electronic media showed that the Government there was itself giving lakhs and crores of rupees to these people which was causing all these problems. This university in going to be set up on the same National Highway No. 39. It is also to be seen that this also should not get disturbed due to terrorism.

I would request hon'ble Minister to make some arrangements from security point of view and he must take care of all these things in the structure that they are creating or there with be difficulty in future. The State Governments demand funds from University Grants Commission but were never granted any funds. Now, since hon'ble President will be the Chancellor of this University, they will be getting financial benefits and will not suffer any financial crisis, which will help this university to functioning properly. This university will have members, authority that will strengthen the structure of the university set up by central university and North-Eastern States will also be benefited by this. I have said earlier that linguisticism and regionalism are increasing in bordering states and there is a need to set up central university there. If there will be a central university there it will help building a national level atmosphere. Therefore central universities should be set up in these bordering states. This is my principle demand and if the Government will pay some attention towards this point then we can be freed from the difficulties arising there.

[English]

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Chairman, Sir, hon. Cabinet Minister should have been here in the House. We would like to know why he is not present in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am told that he has taken permission. Please sit down. Madam, Minister is here. She will reply to your points.

[Translation]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): Hon'ble Members have expressed their views on the Manipur University Bill, 2005, that has been brought and I would like to express my gratitude to all these people. All the hon'ble Members have appreciated this Bill and have expressed their support realizing its importance and I would like to express my gratitude for this also. I would also like to thank all those Members who have been present here and have given their tacit support to this Bill. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I respect the feeling of hon'ble Panda ji and hon'ble Radhakrishnaji who have expressed their disagreement towards this ordinance, because I am also a Member first and then a Minister. The purpose for bringing this ordinance was that when this Bill was introduced in Rajya Sabha it was referred to the Standing Committee. The suggestions received from there were also incorporated in this. 14 Recommendations out of 18 given by the Committee were incorporated in this Bill and then it was brought before Rajya Sabha. The reason behind bringing this ordinance was to remove any weakness in children before the academic session begins, keeping children's welfare in mind we have brought this ordinance between the academic session gap.

Since before giving the status of central university, it is required to cover the entire procedure of appointment of the first Vice Chancellor, Constitution of the first Executive Council and Academic Council as well as appointment of the first Registrar and Financial Officer, which takes a lot of time. Academic session begins but it is not utilized timely, which is why we have brought this in the form of ordinance. Rajya Sabha has passed this with full support after including the recommendations of the Standing Committee. All the hon'ble Members here have also given their support to this Bill. Since all the Members have expressed their views on this Bill and are aware about the need for bringing this Bill. Therefore, without going into the details of the points expressed by the hon'ble Members I would only like to mention some of the points expressed by hon'ble Members.

Several Hon. Members from Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Tripura have demanded that the universities of north-eastern states be accorded the status of Central University. They have drawn the attention towards the economic condition of those states. I would not like to give any assurances inspite of their demands being justified. The Government too has been paying a lot of attention towards it. We all are aware of the problems peculiar to the north-eastern states and hope that the problem related to education system in the states would be resolved soon.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: What prevents the Minister from giving an assurance?

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: My intention is clear. I am aware of the situation in the north-eastern states.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: It is a very important issue. The Minister accepts. She understands our problems. But what is the harm in giving an assurance? We need an assurance. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI THAWAR CHAND GEHLOT (Shajapur): The charge of the Ministry will remain with her. She can assure us without any qualms.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The hon. Member need not worry. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please hear her first.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: I have heard her. Only then I am speaking.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The House is aware of the situation in the north-eastern states.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let her continue her reply.

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Sir, this is against the sentiments of our State.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Central University has to follow established norms.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: I told you to please hear her first. Let her complete her reply.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: What she has said is already on record. She has said that she completely agrees with the hon. Members, and that is on record. She has already stated that there is a need for a Central University there like other States.

SHRI TAPIR GAO: The University in Arunachal Pradesh has been established in 1984. Assurance are given form Delhi. But for how long will the people of Arunachal Pradesh and Sikkim go on waiting for a Central University there? ...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: A Bill has been introduced to accord the status of Central University to Manipur University. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

SHRI KIREN RIJIJU: Sir, I am walking out of the House for she has refused to give an assurance on this issue. It is a very sad thing.

16.16 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Kiren Rijiju left the House)

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The hon. Members have drawn the attention towards the lack of resources there. The State Governments give financial assistance to their respective universities. University Grants Commission provides assistance for development. ...*(Interruptions)* We believe in performance and fulfilling our promises. The UPA Government believes in performance and not in rhetoric and giving assurances. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on record.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: After this, nothing will go on record. He is speaking without my permission.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have already expunged it.

...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI TAPIR GAO: Since she is not giving any assurance on this matter, in protest, I am also walking out of the House.

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*Not recorded.

16.17 hrs.

(At this stage, Shri Tapir Gao left the House.)

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: I am aware of the situation there. Financial assistance is given keeping the situation prevalent there.

[English]

SHRI RAMDAS ATHAWALE (Pandharpur): Sir, I am supporting the views of the Members from Arunachal Pradesh and Tripura. *...(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no doubt that you are supporting them. But please sit down now. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Our members should get full opportunity to speak. Members from the treasury benches should not use such words. *...(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: The State Governments provide financial assistance to their universities. University Grants Commission also provides assistance. Poor condition of the States' finance has a direct bearing on the quality of education imparted there. I have drawn the attention of Planning Commission towards this aspect. I have also drawn the attention of the Planning Commission to provide all assistance to universities be they Central or State.

Hon'ble Members have drawn attention towards universities of other States also. I would like to tell them that special attention has been given to the problems enumerated. Support for today's topic under discussion has come from Members who represent educationally backward region. I would also consider ways to provide quick assistance to north-eastern States in need of such help.

Hon'ble Member has also made a mention of Student Courses. As per the provision, the university authorities can amend this as per their needs with the permission of the President, who also is the Visitor. Barring the Central University norms of the State, any changes in the age requirement can be made for furthering the cause of education with the permission of the President, who is also the Visitor.

Hon. Member Prof. Basudeb Barman referred to the need of linking medical education and law faculty with the University. A provision has been made in the Bill and University can include all these and other faculties to its statute, as per the need.

Hon'ble Sir, one hon'ble Member was concerned whether reservation would be made for SC/ST. I would like to inform him that in Manipur where the Central University is being set up, the SC/ST are in majority. I would like to draw their attention towards Clause (8) of the Bill. Since some Members were apprehensive that it may be diluted, therefore it has been provided in the proviso to Clause (8) that after the Central University has been set up, the University, as per the local situation can make necessary arrangements for all the weaker sections.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, apart from it, all those points towards which the Members had drawn the attention of the Government, have been included in the Clause (8). There should be no apprehension in this regard. Therefore, all these apprehensions have been included in this. According to the Standing Committee most of the recommendations of the Hon'ble Members have been included. As per the provision of the Bill needful would be done according to the requirement.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I hope the concerns raised by Shri Pandaji in his ordinance, have been addressed and he would cooperate by withdrawing his resolution.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Sir, I just want to seek a clarification from the hon. Minister regarding the Central University. Generally, Central Universities are established to focus on a particular subject. For example, I can cite Jawaharlal Nehru University. Osmania University focuses on Indian languages. Similarly in North-East, most of the Central Universities are focussed on specific areas, specific subjects, specific regions and on specific people.

We would like to know whether a Central University will be established in the scheduled areas of Orissa catering to the needs of the tribals. *...(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to inform the hon'ble Members that he has sought the information about Orissa whereas we are discussing this Bill relating to Manipur University.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Mahtab, you have made your point.

...(Interruptions)

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: Sir, I am not against the Bill. I support and welcome the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Panda, are you withdrawing the Resolution?

SHRI PRABODH PANDA: I am satisfied with the answer given by the hon. Minister. I am withdrawing my Resolution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it the pleasure of the House that the Resolution moved by Shri Prabodh Panda be withdrawn?

The Resolution was, by leave, withdrawn.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill to establish and incorporate a teaching and affiliating University in the State of Manipur and to provide for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House will now take up clause by clause consideration of the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That clauses 2 to 48 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 2 to 48 were added to the Bill.

The Schedule was added to Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Long Title were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister may now move that the Bill be passed.

SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH: I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed".

The motion was adopted.

16.27 hrs.

DISCUSSION UNDER RULE 193

Problems being faced by Agriculture Sector

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, Item No. 25—Discussion under Rule 193.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN (Tirupati): Sir, we are happy to discuss these agricultural problems today in the House. Ours is an agricultural country. Sixty per cent of the people are dependent on agriculture. Our main economy depends on agriculture. Today, when we look at the agricultural scene, we mainly depend on monsoons. If the monsoons are good, our agriculture is good. If the monsoons are not good, our entire agricultural sector is failing. That goes to say that in spite of the development in science and technology, we are mainly dependent on rain-god for this agriculture.

[SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL *in the Chair*]

16.28 hrs.

We need to look into the problems of the farmers. The main problem of the farmer is that we do not have a scientific approach. We have Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) on one side. We have 20,000 scientists available in ICAR. On the other side, in the rural areas, farmers are there. The development of science, which takes place in our laboratories, is not reaching the farm. Our farmer is having the same old practice of 30 or 40 years back like the seeds that he was putting. The same seed is put today in his field and

[Dr. Chinta Mohan]

he is not able to generate more of produce. We have so much of science developed like biotechnology and transgenic seeds. On the other hand, the Western countries are producing high variety of seeds—the hybrid seeds. our agricultural scientists and the Department of Agriculture are not able to give them better seeds so that they can have more income.

Now, coming back to the cattle, the main sixty per cent of the farmers today are dependent on cattle—the cows, the sheep, or the buffaloes. They get some milk from them and they generate some income out of it. It is the same old cattle which cannot give them income. The scientists brought about artificial insemination process and it costs about Rs. 800. If the scientists can reach these farmers, they can get better variety of breed and with that they can get a better income.

As regards physical dredging, our farmers are going for the same old practice of physical dredging. They are not able to use the modern scientific technologies, tractors, etc. So many agricultural instruments have come but they are not able to get them for farming.

Coming back to the main thing, today they require money, the loan, for their inputs. When a farmer goes to a bank for the crop loans, he is not looked after well.

All the time, the banker is trying to humiliate the farmers. The farmers go to the bank ten times and the result is nil. The Planning Commission said that a sum of rupees seventy-five lakh crore would be given in the five-year time from 2002-07. When we look into the record, we find that so far they have given only rupees twenty-seven lakh crore only in the form of loan. In spite of the Planning Commission's directive, our bankers are not coming forward to give loans to the farmers. The purpose of nationalisation of banks is totally defeated here.

Sir, we have several banks and no banker is going to a farmer. Of course, the farmers go to the banks. What we have to do is that we must force a banker to go to a farmer and see that loans are given which they need. With so much of difficulty, farmers are taking loans. They are not able to pay interest, they are not able to pay back their loans. Recently, in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, in hundred days, there were floods four times. The farmers went in for crop plantation. The crops totally failed four times. The farmers have taken a little bit of loans from the cooperatives, rural banks and also from the private moneylenders. They have taken the loan; they went in for crop plantation like paddy and other things. All the crops were totally damaged, particularly in my place, in Chittoor and Nellore districts as also in the adjoining State of Tamil Nadu, crops were totally damaged. The farmers are now in great distress. The Government is not able to reach the farmers and help them. This is the situation today with regard to farmers.

Coming to insurance, we have the health insurance scheme. In the same way, the crop insurance also should be given to the farmers. We are taking the mandal as a unit. That is not going to help. We must take not even a village but an individual as a unit. If the crops are damaged, we should try to give them compensation. We should go in four such type of an insurance scheme. Today, we are going in for a crop insurance as a sample in 18 districts in some eight States. That is not going to help them. We have to go all out to see that the farmers get full compensation. With that only, we can help the farmers and our economy.

Coming to marketing, I would like to say that marketing is a big thing. I wanted to say that in the entire world, 50 per cent of mangoes are produced in India. Out of that 50 per cent mangoes produced in India, in my own district, half of it is produced. After producing a good variety of mango, the producers are selling the mango for just three rupees and the very same mango, when it goes to Mumbai and exported to Dubai, is being sold for Rs. 100. Here, the Government should come forward and help the mango farmers and see that they get remunerative price, they get good marketing facilities.

We have the APEDA. I do not know what the APEDA is doing. The Government should put so much of thrust on the APEDA. They should go to the people. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, kindly observe the speech. The subject Agriculture is a serious subject and our economy depends on agriculture.

DR. CHINTA MOHAN: I come to agriculture promotion. The marketing facility should be given to the mango farmers. The poor tribals in the villages, who are producing tamarind, are not getting good marketing facilities. They are in great distress. In my own district of Chittoor, so much of tamarind is produced by the tribals but they are not able to sell it in the market. They need some help from the Government. The APEDA should go

to them and see that they purchase the tamarind and also see that the farmers get remunerative prices.

Also, there are the tobacco farmers in Andhra Pradesh who are mainly in Guntur and Ongole districts. They are producing the good variety of tobacco but they are not having good export potential. The Government should see that they get good export potential.

Coming back to the cotton, it is produced in India but unfortunately we are importing it from US. This is a said thing. The cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh are in distress. They are not able to get good marketing potential. Kindly see that they get some exports to other countries and see that these cotton farmers in Andhra Pradesh should get the benefit. The tomato farmers are also there. Rich varieties of vegetables are produced in Andhra Pradesh. They should also get the good marketing facilities.

Coming back to paddy, the Minimum Support Price is an important thing for a farmer. We are giving the Minimum Support Price for sugarcane. We are giving the Minimum Support Price to the wheat. The same Minimum Support Price should be given to the paddy farmers. We have Public Distribution System. We have to look after common man's interest. At the same time, we should also look after the interest of the farmers. There may be some gap between the Minimum Support Price and the PDS prices. we should see that this should be compensated with some support from the budget.

Coming back to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, you are giving so much of budgetary support to it. About Rs. 2,000 crore are given annually to this Indian Council of Agricultural Research. About 20,000 scientists are sitting and they are sitting in their labs. The farmer does not know what they are doing in their labs. The mindset of the farmer in India should be changed totally. The scientists should go to the villages and see that they get good agricultural support.

You have this National Farmers Commission. You formed a commission for the farmers at the national level. In the entire Commission you do not have even one farmer. I am very sad to say that in the entire Commission you do not have even one farmer. You call it a National Farmers Commission. Why to call it a National Farmers Commission when there is no farmer in the Commission? Why do you put all the retired bureaucrats, technocrats and scientists in it? You can also give some chance to the farmers to be in this Commission so that they can give their inputs to you.

You have Cardamom Board, Tobacco Board, Tea Board, Coffee Board and several boards are with you. In all these boards not even one farmer is heading as the Chairman. Why can you not put some farmers also who are actually producing these things? Why can you not make them the Chairmen of these boards so that they can do better things than the retired bureaucrats?

Coming back to the last budget, the Government promised that it will go for cultivation of about one crore hectares of new land. In the budget it is mentioned. I have not seen even 1,000 acres of new land cultivated so far. You have said in your budget that you will see that one crore hectares of new land is cultivated this year. So far, nothing is being done in this direction. The Minister for Social Justice is also here. I would like to mention that in the Budget they said Rs. 8,000 crore will go to the water bodies and irrigation facilities for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. It is said in the budget. I do not know what is happening in the Planning Commission about this Rs. 8,000 crore earmarked for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. They said that they will give this money to the irrigation facilities for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. I think, not even Rs. 1 crore has been spent on this. You have promised in the budget that you will spend it for poor people, the downtrodden people, the under privileged people but so far nothing has been done in this direction.

I would also like to say that Railways has got a special budget. Today, the Railways are presenting a special budget. Agriculture should also have a special budget. That budget should be presented specially before the Parliament just like Railway Budget and whoever is the Minister for Agriculture should come with a special budget exclusively in the name of agriculture so that special thrust will be there for the agriculture. Ours is an agricultural country. Our economy totally depends on agriculture.

Sir, more than 60 per cent of our people are dependent on agriculture. So, the Government should present a special budget for the agriculture sector. The Government should understand the problems faced by the farmers and take a positive step in this direction.

[Dr. Chinta Mohan]

Now, I would like to say a few words about my State Andhra Pradesh. There is a problem of shortage of urea in my State. I would request the Minister of State for Agriculture, who is sitting here, to speak to the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilisers and see that the problem of urea shortage in the State of Andhra Pradesh is solved immediately.

With regard to starting of new irrigation projects, I would like to say that we have so much of money available with us and so the Government should come up with new irrigation projects in order to provide better irrigation facilities to the farmers for cultivation. The Government of Andhra Pradesh is going in for some new irrigation projects and they need some financial assistance from the Government of India. So, I would request the Government of India to extend financial support to Andhra Pradesh for starting these new irrigation projects. Then, when the Government goes in for some new irrigation projects, the farmers are affected and so they should be given proper compensation.

I would like to say something about the effect of WTO Agreement on the farmers. After we have started the process of globalisation, in the last 14 years there are two sections of people who are badly hit. One is the farmer and the other is the poor man. The farmers' interests have to be looked after well by the Government. We are going to Hong Kong and negotiating and signing various agreements. But before signing any agreement, the Government should keep the interests of farmers in mind.

Finally, I would like to say that agriculture needs more budgetary support from the Government so that the Agriculture Ministry can come up with more programmes to help the farmers. Therefore, I would, once again, request the Government to come up with a special budget for agriculture and protect the interests of farmers.

With these words, I conclude my speech.

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, thank you very much for giving me an opportunity to speak on the problems of the farmers in the House. The prosperity of the farmer depends on two 'Gs'—one 'G' stand for the God and the other for the Government. Today the farmer is neither happy with the Government nor he is being favoured by the God. Good rains bring happiness to the farmers similarly the formulation of better policy by the Government also adds to his happiness. Our economy is directly related the prosperity of the farmers. The economic condition of the market and the prosperity of the State is dependent on the condition of her farmers.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have to ponder over the fact as to why the farmers is in such a distress today. The farmer has to face various problems right from the sowing of the crop to taking it to the market. He faces difficulty in getting good quality seeds, fertilizers and water for irrigation on time and keeps struggling to arrange for the said requirements. The farmer is totally dependent on his crop to fulfill all the obligations of his family. Be it providing education to his wards, taking care of his social engagements along with the health requirements of his family. Today the farmers is facing such a great burden regarding cultivation that he is unable to face it. The farmer has to mortgage his land to marry his daughter and to seek the treatment of his family members. The farmer has to be dependent on his land for each and everything.

I would especially mention Punjab which is facing a social problem and I would like to bring an instance to the notice of the hon'ble Minister. One farmer had to marry his son when the family member of the bride came to the house of the prospective groom, they declined to finalize the talks on the ground that the family of the boy did not own a tractor though they had land and other things. When the father of the groom found out that the reason for the reluctance of the family of the girl to give approval was the no possession of the tractor by him, he mortgaged his land to buy a tractor and this way he made sure that his son was married. It's a different thing that he sold the tractor later on at cheaper rate and he was caught in the vicious circle of repaying his loan.

The trend of suicide is on increase in Punjab. The reason behind it is that cultivation is no more a profitable venture and the farmers have to face a large number of problems. The history is witness to the fact that the farmers of Punjab has always contributed maximum to the foodgrain stock of the country in the need of the hour through his sheer hard work. I have with me certain data which I would like to share with the House. I would like to bring to the notice of the House as to what kind of problems are being faced by the farmers and the possible steps that could be taken to resolve those problems. I would like to bring to the notice of House

some of the facts revealed through the survey conducted by two NGOs, namely Institute for Development and Communication (IDC) and Association for Democratic Rights, in Punjab. The survey have revealed that two classes of farmers are suffering most in Punjab namely, small and marginal farmers and the landless labourers who have either taken the land on rent or are tenant of the land. It has been further revealed in the survey that 20% of the farmers committing suicide are those who grow wheat and cotton and 65% are those who grow wheat and paddy. The survey also pointed our four common factors that contributed to the suicide trend among the farmers. One of the reasons was the complete dependence of the farmer on his land. Secondly, none of the family members of such families was in the government service, thirdly, there was no other source of income other than the agriculture income for the family. One of the common trends observed during the survey was the dominance of the male member among those committing suicide though the survey has also taken note of the suicide among the female members of the family of the farmers. 30% of those who committed suicide were illiterate and 26% of those had acquired primary education while 21% has studied upto middle standard. The modus operandi of the suicide included 77% of the deaths due to the consumption of pesticides while one case of death due to burning and another case of death due to drowning has also been observed.

Punjab have witnessed three kinds of revolutions. The first was the green revolution when the farmers were provided new technology and the annual growth rate of agriculture was increased to the tune of 6.63%. In the second decade, the annual growth rate achieved was 4.74% due to the use of good quality seeds, hybrid varieties of wheat and rice and fertilizer. This growth rate declined to 3.87% during the third decade. With the advent of new technology, growth rate declined. In my opinion, the reason for this is the increasing pressure on land due to which it is losing its fertility and the main culprit behind it is the excess use of fertilizers. Approximately two and a half lac youth are getting added to the list of unemployed each year in Punjab and become a part of employment pool however the farmer doesn't have the sufficient land to engage all his children to the land. The farmer faces the pressure of unemployment of his children and tried to mortgage his land.

According to one survey the farmer has to take loans in 68% of the cases due to unproductive reasons. The Government will have to take some social legal measures to resolve this problem. The NGOs have rendered some suggestions in view of the problems being faced by the farmers viz. family counseling which includes inculcating understanding among them, generating employment and providing them financial assistance. If the farmers are not providing the financial assistance, it will not be possible to uplift him. In my opinion Dr. Chinta Mohan has very aptly understood the problems of the farmers.

I would like to cite an example which is a kind of unprecedented incident in the history of Punjab. Gurudev Singh, a 50 years old farmer of village Nirala from Kapurthala district had to wait for the entire week in the market to sell his crop. The newspapers kept on reporting that the Government is not going to change the purchasing norms and not more than 4 percent in lieu of damage is likely to be purchased. The farmer who waited for the full one week to sell his crop, ultimately had to commit suicide by hanging himself. This is an unprecedented incident in my opinion wherein a farmer had to commit suicide in the market himself and the Government did not respond in any way.

I would like to bring one more point to the attention of the Government. A lot of publicity is done to offer zero percent interest to purchase cars but very high rate of interest is charged from the farmer when he try to get loan to purchase either his house, tractor or any other thing.

I would like to being one more thing to the notice of the hon'ble Minister. The farmers used to be given credit cards during the regime of the NDA Government. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now you conclude.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I have a very important point. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have been given time in proportion to the time allotted to your party.

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: I am concluding in a minute.

In Punjab, Kisan Credit Cards have been issued to farmers. They have to mortgage their land while receiving credit cards, but no stamp duty have been charged on it. Now Government of Punjab is issuing notices to the

[Shri Avinash Rai Khanna]

farmers to pay stamp duty otherwise they will be put behind bars. If farmers have to pay Rs. 5,000-6,000 as stamp duty then they once again will face debt burden. Hon. Minister kindly ask the State Government why it is charging Land Revenue Stamp Duty?

I want to give a suggestion that case of cognizable offence may be registered against 'Sahukaar' 'Aadti' who charge more interest than standard rate of interest so that farmers could make complain against them. The farmers can get some relief if such system is followed. Farmers are facing many problems and little help of the Government can help them in a great way.

SHRI MAHBOOB ZAHEDI (Katwa): Mr. Chairman, Sir, WTO meeting is taking place in Hongkong today and subject of discussion is farmer. I have seen two placards on TV which were asking for the WTO to be done away with.

One more thing is that no one should sign WTO agreement. We should say that WTO should not be implemented. Thousands of farmers are raising slogans, we have seen all this on television. I humbly want to say that meeting of WTO is taking place in Hongkong after Seatle and Cancun. We should say that we will not accept this. We will make progress as per our country alongwith developing countries but not as per WTO agreement. The Government must clear its stand in WTO meeting and have to support the farmers that the Government are with farmers and they should concentrate on their work and make technological develop. The Government will provide farmers better quality of seeds, agriculture land and irrigation facilities. This is my first request.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, ten years have passed since the process of globalisation started. If we look into this period we will find that in 1970-80 budget for this sector was 16.4 percent but since 1980, it was reduced to 6 per cent. Now the budget has been increased marginally. I want to say that 30 per cent of GDP growth comes through farmers but we do not pay attention towards them. It is my request that we must pay attention towards them as 60 percent people are depending upon agriculture. I would like to ask why the Government not make investment for them? We depend upon farmers but Government do not invest a single penny for them. The Government do not formulate any scheme in this regard. How would farmers make progress until the scheme is formulated in this regard? We have to look into this matter also.

It is very distressing to note about the agriculture sector. The Minister of Agriculture have left the House. The condition of agriculture is very bad.

[English]

We are talking much without having an actual action plan for the irrigation sector in India.

[Translation]

Agriculture is done on small piece of land. A part of Bihar is affected by flood and the nearby part is affected by drought. I have seen it personally. Nothing will happen until there is change in system. We have to ponder over this aspect also. What is the situation of irrigation and electricity? Similarly, seeds are not available. We do not produce seeds but procure them from outside. We want to produce seeds through genetic system and genetic engineering but inspite of their being not good, we have to use them. The same situation is prevailing for fertilizers. There are five factories of fertilisers in our country, out of which three have been closed and one is on the verge of closure. Since there is an acute shortage of fertilisers, we have to import it. For this we have to spend more money.

17.00 hrs.

The farmers spend four percent on agriculture but their income is only 1.5 per cent, which is a clear loss. A national survey has been conducted in this regard. It has been found that 50 per cent farmers are under debt burden and every house of the farmer has a debt of Rs. 12,525/-. The banks and financial institutions provide them 12 to 14 per cent loan and they take remaining amount from money lenders which increases their debts. Such situation leads to rise in suicide cases. Four thousand farmers have committed suicide in Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Chennai. We have to think about that. What is the national agriculture policy? The Government should make efforts to save the farmer and to increase the productivity and that is the national policy. Otherwise national policy will denote the rise in debt and suicide cases. We have to think about this. Two meetings of WTO have failed. One meeting is going on in Hongkong. A few representative of our country have also gone there. What are they doing? People from eleven countries are present there. People from Japan and other countries are also there. I hope that our representatives there at least will try to check the efforts of the imperialist

countries like America, Britain, Japan and others with the help of developing countries. The production which has increased to 64 million tonnes is decreased now. I will give the example of Kerala.

[English]

Kerala Members are there. They can feel it very seriously.

[Translation]

We consider that during 1999-2000 export of pepper was 42806 tonne but it has reduced to 14150 tonne in 2004-05 and its prices have declined. Suicides are taking place.

The prices of cardamom has increased from Rs. 65000 to Rs. 7500 which is also not very high and price of almond are decreasing constantly. Whether there is any marketing law for America and WTO? Our marketing system in villages and cities will get vanished after implementing the marketing law. I am a member of the Standing Committee on Agriculture of ICAR. We cannot say afterwards that if there will be marketing law, all the farmers will come to know about it. Just now one of my colleagues has expressed his views here but report of Dr. Swaminathan is more important. The National Commission and National Board have been discussed here but it is very sad to note that thousands of posts are lying vacant in ICAR. We are not able to fill them and what is the use of setting up of several committees and National Board and National Commissions. From where we will get the people and money as do not have much budget.

I want to draw your kind attention towards one thing and that presently Bird Flu is spreading in whole of the world along with Japan and China. Virus for this could not be identified till date. If it will start spreading among the human, people will die just like the birds are dying. Therefore, efforts should be made to check this disease by conducting research in this regard. It should be given the budgetary support. We will strengthen our economy with the help of the farmers of country instead of taking assistance from outside and our country will move as per its independence. With these words, I conclude my speech and extend my thank to you.

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on problems being faced by Agriculture Sector—proposed under Rule 193 by Dr. Chinta Mohna and Shri Santosh Gangwar.

Sir, as all are aware that agriculture is the backbone of our economy and the value chain of Indian agriculture market is very long. If we make an assessment only 30% of the agricultural production comes to the share of farmers and the rest of the 70% goes to the pockets of the middleman, commission agents or other agents. There has been a continuous decline of 3% in the agricultural produce during the last two and a half years and this year there has been a total deficit of 40 million tonnes in the reserves of foodgrains. We can do a favour to the farmers only by promoting investment in agriculture considering it an important area of productivity. This can be done by providing loan to farmers at easy installments. Several other hon'ble Members have also given this suggestion. We have repeatedly stated one thing in the House, hon'ble Members from both sides have also stated that we cannot uplift the agriculture and the farmer by throwing them into the debt trap. We shall have to think in their interest. Just now a reference has been made to suicides committed by farmers. We have observed that there have been 646 cases of suicides involving farmers during the last three years mostly in the areas of Vidarbha, Maharashtra or Khandesh. At present the farmer is burdened with debt and their life has become entirely dependent on loans. This is a very critical situation. There is a 50% decrease in their loan based produce which has forced our farmers to commit suicide. I therefore, I would like to suggest through you, to the hon'ble Minister that there should be a prominent role for the state assistance in agriculture sector. Priority should be given to the states only then we can provide adequate assistance to farmers. We shall have to give a serious consideration to agriculture and the farmer whether it is in the area of fertilizer, pesticides, improved variety of seeds, provision of irrigation and power. Just recently when the House was not in session, on Saturday and Sunday, I had been to my constituency and found that the farmers are in distress. They are getting neither the D.A.P. nor the area. We came to know that the IFFCO factory at Allahabad has stopped the supply of fertilizer due to reasons unknown. The things come to such a pass that the District Cooperative Bank had been forced to pass a resolution that if they were to provided the supply of fertilizer, they would be compelled to buy fertilizer from any other agency. Now it is wheat season. Wheat is being sown. If it is not given water, fertilizer

[Shri Shailendra Kumar]

etc. at the right time, the farmers will be ruined. Therefore, we have to ponder over it seriously and see it to whether farmers are getting DAP or other fertilizers at the right time or not and whether they are getting appropriate subsidy or not.

Secondly, I want to talk about irrigation. In India, around 40% of agricultural land comes under irrigation whereas remaining 60% of agricultural land is still unirrigated. In spite of this, we used to say that agriculture is the backbone of Indian economy and it will make our nation strong. How can it be achieved unless the farmers get water to irrigate their fields? I, therefore, would like to tell the hon. Minister that in the face of a number of disputes among Indian States on the question of distribution of river water, the constitution of a National Water Commission has become imperative. It will help us in granting water to the states according to their needs which will go a long way in irrigating our agriculture and enabling us to move forward.

17.11 hrs.

[SHRI VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN *in the Chair*]

[Translation]

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has entered into an agreement for linking two rivers. But owing to the financial burden, the State is unable to do much in this direction. Here, the Central Government should extend a helping hand. It should work towards making rivers deep and other things so that rain water gets collected in our lakes, ponds etc. which can later be utilized for irrigation.

As far as giving free power to the farmers is concerned recently an announcement to this effect was made in Punjab but the Supreme Court restrained the State Government from doing so and the later said that it can provide electricity on concessional rates but not free of cost. Sometimes our hon'ble Prime Minister also makes statement that we can't provide free power to the farmers. The Maharashtra Government also had announced to supply power free of cost but that decision was also withheld. Now the Government says that the farmers who have pumps ranging from 700 to 800 hp, will have to pay Rs. 900/- annually towards electricity bill. Likewise the Government of Andhra Pradesh had announced free power. I want to say that if it is within the capacity of a State Government to provide free power, then there is nothing wrong in that.

But it will also have to be ensured that no step motherly treatment is meted out to other States and all get equal share.

Just recently a meeting of the Planning Commission was held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. It is a matter of great concern that still there are 40% such farmers who want to get rid of agriculture because they are getting neither the fertilizer nor electricity nor seeds in time. Approximately 8% farmers consider agriculture a risky venture and 27% do not consider it a remunerative business. We shall have to think over it.

Today, farmers are not getting loans from banks. That is why they are compelled to borrow from non-financial Institutional sources and money lenders. Farmers are unable to take loans from the banks as so many formalities need to be completed. Only a few landlords can get loans from the banks. This aspect will also has to be taken into consideration.

Lastly, I would like to submit that a discussion on the landless labourers was held in this very House. They are the farmers living in villages who have very small land holdings of one and half 'Bigha' or 2 to 5 Biswas of land. They are compelled to migrate from rural to urban areas in search of employment.

I had a number of points to speak on to which I would have drawn attention of the hon'ble Minister but due to paucity of time I would not dwell at length. It is a serious matter which has been raised here by Dr. Chinta Mohan and Shri Santosh Gangwar ji under the Rule 193. It is a relevant issue as we draw the attention of the Government towards the problems of farmers through a discussion. I would like to request the remunerative prices should be ensured for the produce of farmers so that they can be benefited. Appropriate prices should be fixed for the cash crops so that the farmers could prosper. With these words I conclude and extend my thanks to you for giving me an opportunity to express my views.

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV (Patna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I express my gratitude to the honourable Member, Mr. Chinta Mohanji who has got me provided with an opportunity to draw the attention to the problems of the agricultural sector.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, Indian economy is dependent, on agriculture 70 to 75 per cent population of India is dependent on the farm-sector and farmers. If we accept it, we should take measures to improve the condition of farmers. Unless and until the condition of the farmers and agrarian labourers is improved, the Indian economy can not improve. Even after so many years of independence, the farmers are living below the poverty line. If today there is any person most aggrieved, he is none other than the farmer. Inspite of the toiling in the farms all the day long, the farmers are not able to provide a square meal to their children. They are not in a position to provide education, medical facilities and adequate food to their children and we say that India has got independence. What sort of independence is this that the farmers are still deprived of the benefits of independence. So, the Government of India is certainly required to pay attention towards the condition of the Indian farmers. Unless and until the Government of India pay proper attention to the farmers, the country cannot be strengthened.

Many a honourable Member has quoted a number of instances regarding the problems of the farmers. Today, the interest of farmers in farms and agriculture is on the wane and they are migrating to the cities and opting for government jobs. At present 40 percent of the farmers do not want to cultivate as they can not realize even the cost of agriculture; not to speak of profit. Fertilizers, seeds and diesel have become costly and they do not even get electricity and have to pay more remuneration to the agrarian labourers. That is why they do not want to cultivate. It is not a good sign for the country. Our economic fabrics depend on agriculture and if the farmers do not take interest in this, our economy will certainly collapse. So, the Government of India should certainly provide maximum support price to the farmers.

Now, reduction in subsidies is being talked about. It is being negotiated in the WTO. Hon'ble Kamal Nathji has gone to Hongkong to attend a meeting. The feelings expressed by all the honourable Members is that the subsidy should not be reduced. We expect that he will give vent to the sentiments of India in the Hongkong Conference and he will protect the interest of our farmers instead of being pliant to let India comply with the developed countries.

Banks provide loans to the farmers at 12 to 18 percent rate of interest whereas the same is provided to the prosperous persons for cars and houses at the interest rate of 6 percent. The farmers have to mortgage even their properties for loans. Moreover, farmers are committing suicides on such a large scale. It is being talked about in, the country. The farmers are committing suicides in several states. They fail to return the loan they take. The persons lending loans to them create undue pressure on them to recover the same. Thus the compulsions lead them to commit suicide. The hon'ble Prime Minister, in particular, is making efforts in this direction. I express my gratitude to him for making arrangements to get rid them of this problem. The amount of 80 thousand crores rupees which earlier was provided for lending loans to the farmers has now been considerably increased. It is a positive step. I tender my thanks both to the hon'ble Prime Minister and the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and at the same time I would like to say that it is not sufficient. The canals are not being dug for years. Neither is there any scheme for this. There are many old canals. ...*(Interruptions)* Mr. Speaker, Sir, just, now I have started speaking and you are ringing the bell.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon'ble Member, the time allotted for you to speak on this issue is over. Only six minutes are to be given to each hon'ble Member, who wants to speak during this discussion.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: I hail from that part of the country where the condition of the farmers are very bad. So, please give me some time.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. friend, the time allotted for each hon. Member is only six minutes, and it is not my fault. This decision has already been taken, and you will also have to follow this decision.

[Translation]

SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV: Each and every person is aware of the problems of Bihar. On the one hand, the area is struck by floods and on the other hand by drought. Thousands of crores of rupees is lost there every year. The condition of that area has gone from bad to worse. As such, poverty and miseries are prevailing over there. Roads are destroyed by floods. It is all the wishes of God. What can we do? Another part of Bihar gets struck

[Shri Ram Kripal Yadav]

by drought. We have to tackle both the floods and the drought. There are several such states which are facing the same situation. The State Governments are required to be provided funds to tackle this situation. The need is to take steps in this regard. The labour class has the capability to double the production. They have done so and if they are provided with oil and electricity, the condition may improve. The roads of that area should be repaired. All sorts of facilities should be provided to the farmers. I think that the farmers have still the capability to double the production and they are able to strengthen the economy of the country. The Government will have to take concrete decisions in this matter. The agricultural sector will have to be accorded the status of industry. This has been the demand of the farmers for a long period. The Government should play the role of the facilitator. The Government should provide irrigation facilities to provide adequate relief to the farmers. They should be provided loans at low rate of interest and supply of electricity should also be ensured. The demand of the farmers is justified. If the financial condition of Government is not good and if electricity cannot be provided free of cost, the same should be provided at a concessional rate so that they may get relief and they can work towards the development of their family and the country as well. It does not matter whether the honourable Members are from this side on that side; what matters such is the feeling expressed by them and it is the necessity of the country. Taking into account the requirement of the crores of farmers, steps may be taken towards this direction. The trend of migrating from villages to cities is a dangerous sign. If you do not make efforts to promote the villagers to live in their villages, there will be none in the farms, none will work there. You are not providing adequate facilities. They will not accept a deal of loss. Today, the farmers are compelled to make loss making deal. And hence they are committing suicide.

You should pay heed even to that aspect. Honourable Chief Minister of Agriculture, please provide relief to the farmers, so that they may produce more to strengthen the economic fabric of the country, eradicate poverty and serve the country.

With these very words, I express my gratitude to you for giving me time despite there being paucity of time. I tender my thanks to you for this. At the same time, I believe that the honourable Minister of Agriculture will respond with the announcement of effective measures as he is here and listening to all these things and above all he himself is farmer. This time you will certainly provide relief to the farmer in your response to the discussion under rule 193 keeping in view the sentiments of the farmers. I tender my thanks to you for providing me an opportunity to speak.

*SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM (Krishnagiri): Hon. Chairman, this august House is now deliberating on the problems faced by the farmers and the sufferings the agricultural community undergo. As one hailing from an agricultural family I pour out my heart and I thank the Chair for the opportunity given to me to intervene in this discussion.

Agriculture is the basic economic activity and forms the basis of our economy. Cavemen who were hunting for food took up cultivation as their occupation and there began civilisation. Crore of people around the world are fed by these tillers of the soil spread world over. Agriculture is the oldest occupation providing food, the essential need for humanity. That is why the great Tamil Saint Poet Ayyan Thiruvalluvar in this 'Thirukkural' said,

Sulandrum Yerpinnathu Ulagam Adhanal Uzhandum Uzhavey Thalai. (phoughshare is the axis of this revolving world and hence agriculture is the fountainhead of all activities)

uzhuvor ulagaththar innahathu attrathu ezhuvarai ellam poruthu (farmers remain foremost in the hearts of the people of this world)

The plight of these dedicated farmers who toil and moil in the soil is disheartening. One of our popular poets, Pathukkottai Kalyanasundaram sang,

Kaadu vilainchenna Machan-Namakkau

Kaiyum Kaalumthaney Mitcham

(Through our toil and moil in the soil we grow plenty in our fields but still what is left behind is just our arms and limbs)

Even if they reap a rich harvest, the farmers and agricultural labourers get merely meagre returns. The basic requirement for agriculture is water. Inadequate irrigational facilities and monsoon failures resulting in drought conditions make farmers the worst losers. At times rain in abundance in the form of consecutive spells of incessant rains leading to rain-floods sway the lives of people like the one in Tamil Nadu now. Standing crops have been damaged felled by flooding water. Farmers are in a helpless situation as they could not reap the fruits of labour but only go through a huge loss. Even

*English translation of the speech originally delivered in Tamil.

when conducive atmosphere and climatic conditions provide them a good harvest, farmers do not get remunerative prices. When market prices are hoped to be quite favourable, unexpectedly they fail to get good harvest. Vulnerable farmers are not able to determine prices for their agricultural produce. They are forced to sell the produce at throw away prices. New kinds of pests and new species of insects affect cultivation. In Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri and Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and in parts of Kerala and Andhra Pradesh, thousands of coconut trees have withered away. Uriophylus insects or pests have caused great loss to these trees that used to have longevity for many years. It is a pitiable situation that crores of rupees worth of loss have hit hard the coconut growers. In our area in Krishnagiri, Dharmapuri, Salem and Dindigul and in many parts of neighbouring Andhra Pradesh mango cultivation and the yield are impressively high. But the returns go to traders and middlemen in a big way than the farmers. I urge upon the Union Government to set up a mango pulp processing unit in that area that will help mango growers in a big way to sustain their farming. Export oriented processing units will be a great boon the Centre could provide now.

Our beloved Leader Kalaignar during his tenure as Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu had set up Direct Markets where farmers themselves can sell vegetables and other agricultural produce they grew and cultivated. Uzhavar Santhai, the shanty for farmers in towns, created direct marketing facility to farmers. Perishable vegetables need to be taken to retail outlets sooner than they are harvested Else all their labour could go in vain. Bearing this in mind, our leader Dr. Kalaignar launched Uzhavar Santhai scheme as a unique and pioneering scheme for the first time in India. Farmers from remote villages too could take their produce to ideally set up markets. They were provided secured place to keep their produce and sell them to public. At 3 and 4 O'clock in the early morning, farmers were encouraged and enthused to bring vegetables and other produce by buses free of cost. They were not made to pay taxes or rent and everything went free for them. Farmers were able to get a good price much more than what the traders paid. Public and even small retailers had a good bargain. Such a good measure that had no such precedence in India had to face closure. Such a project that can be a model to many States needs to be continued. But the current trend in Tamil Nadu is to put any popular project in cold storage all due to jealousy. Farmers and the public are at a loss now. Free electricity for agriculture was another popular measure taken up by our leader Kalaignar. All over India this must be introduced to benefit the farmers who are at their wits' end while finding it difficult to make both ends meet. Both the Centre and the States must come to the rescue of farmers. When agriculture adds on to their debts and recurring losses farmers and agricultural labour are forced to migrate to towns and urban centres. We have self sufficiency in food production. Still our agricultural community is left high and dry. This may lead us to a situation wherein we may be forced to look forward to the mercies of foreigners. So I would like to urge upon the Government to write off agricultural loans.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your time is over. You may please conclude.

SHRI E.G. SUGAVANAM: Farmers need protection in so many ways. They must have social security and insurance cover. We need to streamline crop insurance and other insurance schemes. Farmers must get subsidy to buy inputs like seeds and fertilisers. Genuine farmers who have lost their crops in the recent rain-floods must get a compensation of Rs. 5000 per acre. The farmers who have been hit hard by National Disasters must get relief immediately. I urge upon the Union Government to evolve viable measures during drought period to desilt tanks and strengthen embankments of canals to conserve water. I also at this juncture urge upon the Centre to take up the project to link all the southern rivers.

With this I conclude.

[Translation]

SHRI ANANT GUDHE (Amravati): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we are discussing here the problems which farmers have to face constantly. They have a lot of problems to confront with such as seeds, short supply of power, drought, floods so on and so forth. This apart, they are denied access to the benefits arising out of the Government schemes. There is a problem of imported foods. Poor farmers are not protected the way they ought to be. In this way there is multiplicity of problems. In fact, the farmers' problems are debated here in almost every session. If the Governments intention is to support the farmers in true sense, or they have a genuine concern for them, then there is a need to formulate a national policy to solve their problems.

A path breaking decision needs to be taken to bail out the farmers of the country. For example, there are so many companies of seeds and seeds have a lot of varieties. We had accorded sanction to the Bt. Cottons. Suppose, some commodities supplied by the Bt. cotton companies turn out to be useless, there is no control over them. The Government doesn't declare as to which

[Shri Anant Gudhe]

company is good in terms of quality of seeds and which ones do not meet the specified quality standard. The farmers fail to identify as to which sort of seed is good in terms of quality and when they suffer the loss a result of the loss of harvest, hardly anyone takes care of them, neither the company holds any responsibility nor does the Government.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, right from the pre-independence days we have been engaged in cultivation. Even after the lapse of 58 years post independence, the system of farming and the other methodology employed earlier has remained unchanged. The Government official undertake the estimation of production of different crops by embarking on the old-fashioned mode. Thus, the farmers are denied the support they should have got.

Now-a-days power crisis is rampant across the country. Maharashtra is witnessing such a problem of short power supply since the Congress came to power, electricity is out of sight. Earlier, there would be power cuts stretching upto the period of four hours, now it has gone up got 8 to 12 hours a day. Whenever the farmer goes to the field, he witnesses a power cut. Sugarcane, oranges or vegetables are in the fields but the farmer fails to irrigate them properly due to lack of power supply. In fact, a national policy should be formulated on this count. In bigger cities there's adequate supply of power, however, the farmers do not get it. In case of not receiving power supply for agricultural purposes, farmers are left with no option but to commit suicide. There are several schemes of the Government such as drop irrigation, sprinkle etc. If these are installed by receiving grants from the Government, it involves the expenditure of nearly fifty thousands which otherwise warrants the expenditure of Rs. One lakh. The Government grants 50 percent subsidy for that cause. Nobody bothers to care at what rate the drip irrigation or sprinkle systems are provided to the farmers by the companies under contract receiving grants of the Government and whether the farmers are the real beneficiaries of the Governments subsidy or not. In the current scenario, the situation is such that despite a plethora of schemes of the Government the major chunk of subsidy goes to the businessmen and factory owners and the farmers are denied the benefits they should be having.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, right now it has been stated that a W.T.O. meeting is being held in Hong Kong. This issue has been discussed many times in this House. Earlier too, we had registered a protest that despite having huge quantity of indigenous production of cotton we go for import of cotton at a large scale. I have repeatedly said hefty import duty needs to be levied upon the imports of cotton. Hardly ten percent duty is levied upon it. When this issue was raised in the House, the Government in their reply said that as per the W.T.O. agreements they cannot increase import duty on cotton. When the GATT agreement was reached upon and there had been agreements with the W.T.O. the assurance was given to all the countrymen that farmers will be brought under the cover thanks to the GATT. As a result of the GATT the farmers of the country will progress of economic front, they will gain economic stability. But what is the real picture? Now, the entire nation is caught between the GATT and the VAT. Farmers do not receive the protection, they are supposed to get.

Secondly, right from the olden times, farmers and their progeny are engaged in the farming process. The children of the farmers study in schools but their condition is not good. Not only the agricultural condition of the farmers is bad but also their families have been subjected to very poor condition. There are no schools in the villages. Even if, there are schools, there are no teachers and in case of the availability of these two, there are no basic facilities. farmers children can hardly afford to pass class X or XII. If they fail to study, they take farming. Suppose, somebody is having ten acres of land, and is blessed with four children, if gets evenly distributed among the four with each one getting two and a half acres. In case, they too, are fathered with four children, this chain goes on. As a result the problems of the farmers continues to get aggravated.

The Government needs to take care of the loans taken by the farmers from the money-lenders. The Government of Maharashtra had passed an order against such money-lenders and many of them are facing criminal trials. The rate of interest of the banks is so much exorbitant that while one has to pay interest in the region of seven-eight per cent on housing loans and on car loans, the same is charged at the rate of 17-18 per cent from the farmers against their loans. The interest amount too, gets doubled in two three years. Given such trend, one has fair reason to conclude that banks are also treating the farmers as money lenders. To achieve this end, we should direct the banks to offer interest free loans to the farmers. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude now. There are 33 more speakers, and we have to accommodate them also.

SHRI ANANT GUDHE: Sir, within two minutes, I am concluding.

[Translation]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is huge production of orange in our Vidarbha area and the same is exported to almost every country of the world. Over there, the existing situation is such that the orange trees are getting dried and the Government has no plans whatsoever to protect them. There is an agricultural university in our region where scientists have been engaged in conducting research for the last 15 years to find out the reasons for orange trees getting dried up. When they are nearing the completion of the research, they get transferred else where. Those who are conducting good scientific research do not get protection by the Government. Similarly, the farmers too fail to get Government protection.

Sir, the proposal of making an export zone in Nagpur has been kept in abeyance for many years. This has been under consideration for the past four to five years, still there's no trace of it as of now. We can't think of self sustenance of farmers until and unless their produce is exported.

Unless we formulate proper policies for farmers, cases of farmer's suicide shall not cease and they cannot move forward. The hon'ble Prime Minister makes announcement for improving the township and cities and to fund them adequately. I have no bias against the towns and cities. Towns and cities should be provided with funds, and should be transformed into major cities but concomitantly, the villages should also be enabled to grow and improve. We are finding access to villages by way of the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Sadak Yojana, all the same, the streets in villages need to be improved. Arrangements should be made for imparting education to the children of the farmers. Unless it is done, farmers cannot make progress in the actual sense of the term.

A point has been raised about incidents of suicide by the farmers. About 2500 farmers around the country have committed suicide but no solid step has been taken to stop this incidence. It is a matter to be taken attentively as to why the farmers are committing suicide. In my constituency, a farmer's daughter left a suicide note that she was committing this act as her parents had no work and her siblings could not get the opportunity to study. This is a very unfortunate tendency and we have to address it very attentively. Until and unless we address it and form a national policy to support the farmers, they cannot thrive and survive, so we have to provide them with full support.

[English]

SHRI B. MAHTAB (Cuttack): Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

It is often said that all culture flows from agriculture. What steps have been taken to mitigate the problem of farmers and the problem of the country? What is needed today is not a short-term measure, but a long-term plan; that is necessary. Irrigation plays a major role to mitigate the problem of farmers today.

In India, it is said that around 40 per cent of the cultivable land is irrigated. These are the figures. One may dispute this. In Orissa, around 32 per cent is irrigated and this is the official figure. This is a glaring example that of the total water resources of the country, 13 per cent is in Orissa, and yet, after 58 years of Independence, only 30 per cent of the cultivable land is provided with flow irrigation. The time has come to re-think on this, because as my predecessor-speaker has said, in every Session we discuss about agriculture, problems relating to farmers, etc. So, a time has come now that at the national level, a discussion should be made, deliberation should take place and a decision should be taken to include the subject of 'irrigation' in the Union List. Even today, irrigation is a State Subject; agriculture is a State Subject. With only 35-40 per cent of cultivable land being irrigated today, the time has come to give greater stress on providing irrigation to larger number of farmers and cater to the larger agricultural area.

I will give an example that before Independence, the per capita income of the northern territories, as they were called then, which are Haryana and Punjab, was much less in comparison to Bengal, in comparison to Madras, in which the present Andhra Pradesh was also included, and it was much less than Maharashtra and Bengal. The rain-fed States of that time, even Orissa for that matter, were the granary of this country. In the First, Second and the Third Five Year Plans, greater stress was given

[Shri B. Mahtab]

to providing irrigation facilities and big dams came into existence; larger area was covered under irrigation. But after the Third Five Year Plan, the focus got shifted to industry.

Since the Third Five Year Plan, irrigation or agriculture was not the focus and is still not the focus of the Union Government. That is the main reason why we find today—in hindsight—that large sections of the population, which depend on agriculture, are suffering. Even though the statistics show that production has increased—doubled or tripled in certain sections of our produce—the per capita intake of foodgrains that was there in the 50s or in the 60s has decreased in the 90s or even in the first decade of the 21st century. What is the reason? Have anyone tried to find out the reason why the per capita intake has decreased, when the production of foodgrains has increased? This is the problem, which should be inquired into, and I think, the Central Government would look into that. When I am talking about irrigation facilities to be increased and Centre should intervene, I would like to say that not only larger irrigation projects but medium irrigation projects also should be Centrally financed. Then only respective States can increase their irrigation potential and provide more irrigation to the farmers.

I would also like to mention here that a large chunk of the cultivable area has repeatedly faced the drought situation. There are also large areas which have faced flood situation. The glaring example is there in Orissa. In other States also the same problem is there. I would like to draw the attention to the other situation where flow irrigation is there. In the last 45 years of our planning a large chunk of the area, because of lack of drainage facility, is in a submerged condition. Water-logged area is not possible to be cultivated. Therefore, my request would be that irrigation should be taken up, especially the larger and medium irrigation projects should be taken up totally by the Central, also drainage be improved.

We talk about the country as a whole. In most of the northern States land reform has not been taken up in a big way. Land reform practically has failed in those areas. Unless land reform is taken up in a big way, agriculture cannot improve and we cannot improve the conditions of the farmers.

I come to the other aspect, that is banking. Many hon. Members have stated the problems which the farmers face in banking system. While going around different States, interacting with the bankers, it has come to the notice, as many hon. Members must know, that now bankers are providing funds up to Rs. 50,000 to the tenants, share crop holders who are not in possession of any land. So, banks have been entrusted with this job but certain banks are not doing it properly. Interest component is also a problem. What does a farmer need?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I agreed to give ten minutes because of you and those ten minutes are over.

SHRI B. MAHTAB: Farmers need funds at the time of cultivation. Farmers can repay the loan after the produce is harvested if the market is there. The farmer is at risk every time and that is the reason why many cultivators face problem today. International economists, agricultural economists specifically have said where farmers cultivate paddy, poverty is there, not necessarily in India alone but in other countries also. It seems as if paddy and poverty go together. I think India can prove this vexed question wrong. I think, today the time has come when we have to prove this question wrong.

Suicidal deaths have been discussed earlier. We have been discussing it for the last three years. I need not go into that but I would just like to mention that it is the rich or comparatively the wealthier farmers and cultivators who take loan, unable to repay this loan, have succumbed to this kind of pressure. The cash crop growers have been the victims to this problem.

I would only mention here that after the UPA Government came to power, doubling of cooperative loan was one of the slogans which they had given. Fund is flowing to the rural sector, no doubt but the problem of farmers has not been mitigated. I am not going into the problems of fertilisers or pesticides which other Members have raised.

I would only like to mention about the market. Unless the market is made healthy the farmers cannot get the desired funds, which they can invest in their cultivation.

In conclusion, I would just mention that within last four decades the production in farm sector has increased but the per head consumption has decreased. I would urge upon the Government to inquire why this has happened. At the time of LPG syndrome, liberalisation, privatisation and globalisation when WTO is in progress in Hong Kong, it is in the fitness of things that we deliberate on this problem of farmers. At the same time, we should deliberate on the problems which will come

within another five to ten years' time or say by 2015. Are we prepared?

We should also give greater stress on insurance. Today, crop insurance is confined to paddy, wheat and some cereals but cash crops are not insured. That is the main problem because of which many suicidal deaths are occurring in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, and of course, to a lesser extent in Orissa. So cash crop is the problem. Sugarcane is not included in crop insurance and a number of other cash crops are also not included in the crop insurance system. I would urge upon the Government—the Minister is here—to deliberate upon the inclusion of cash crop in crop insurance. It will help mitigate the problems of many farmers who are in distress.

With these words, I would say that the Central Government should take a holistic view of agriculture. The time has come to discuss agriculture at the NDC level. At the same time, the Central support should be given to build bigger irrigation projects and medium irrigation projects so that irrigation potential could be increased.

With these words, I conclude.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, we have a long list of 31 Members. The House has to take up Special Mentions on matters of urgent public importance at 6 o'clock. So, if the House agrees, the discussion will continue tomorrow.

SEVERAL HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now, till 6 o'clock, Chaudhary Bijendra Singh would speak.

[Translation]

CHAUDHARY BIJENDRA SINGH (Aligarh): I am very thankful to you for having given me an opportunity to participate in an important discussion.

India is pre-dominantly an agricultural country 80% of its population resides in villages. That is why India is called 'a country of villages'. But this is an irony that 80% of the population that resides in villages are dubbed as farmers directly or indirectly, as their chief occupation is agriculture. It is also ironical that the farmer who are producing force of this country after independence and has made this country self-sufficient in foodgrain production, could not made themselves self dependent. It is because of the fact that the agricultural policies of this country were confined in the hands of certain persons. Late Pt. Nehru distributed country's land among certain select persons in 1951 after independence and then it was high time to encourage agro-practices. Agricultural exhibition were held to educate them on agro-techniques, they were given quality seeds and manure, irrigation-resources were augmented. It is only because of the hard work of our farmers who, toiling hard have produced foodgrain to our total population extending it from the pervious figure of 70 per cent. But it is an irony that the product of foodgrains to the 100 per cent population of this country is himself no self-dependent while 10-12 per cent people who has taken over other profession are self-dependent today. It certainly points at errors in our policies. I want to draw the attention of the Government on these very points.

18.00 hrs.

Agriculture sector consists of not only agriculture but many ancillary trades like-fisheries, dairy, animal husbandry, horticulture etc. Had the Government paid due attention to these ancillary sectors also, the burden of farmers who have certainly been reduced and it would have helped them to prosper. Our august House hold discussion on agriculture from time to time and our hon. Members have a concern for that. But it is to ponder over that what quantum of our budgetary provision is allocated to the agro-sector on which 80 per cent of our population depends. What quantum should be allocated for agriculture. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ch. Bijendra Singh, you may continue your speech tomorrow.

The House will now take up Special Mentions.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Hon. Members, there are about 40 notices with me on Special Mentions. I am also one among them. But I would not get a chance to speak. I will call each one of you provided you be brief and we can give an opportunity to all the hon. Members who have given notices.

Shri Shailendra Kumar, be brief so that other hon. Members also get an opportunity to speak.

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR (Chail): Mr. Chairman, Sir, you have given me the opportunity to speak under 'Special Mentions', thank you very much. Members from the treasury benches and from the opposition have spoken about reservation in the private sector, time to time. I also request the Government, through you that reservation in the private sectors should be made mandatory so that SC/ST could reap its benefit. After having been oppressed for centuries these classes could afford to avail themselves some rights in 193 under the Pune Pact between Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar. But it is regretful to note that even after 58 years after Independence, we have not succeeded to fill the 15 per cent vacancies reserved for these classes. As on 1.1.998, there was only 10.38 per cent filling of the vacancies under group 'A', 11.73 per cent of the vacancies under group 'B'— whereas we have to have fill 15 per cent vacancies. ...*(Interruptions)* The UPA Government promised to the MPs of ST that it would fill up all the 80 per cent ST vacancies by the year 2005, but regretfully, these posts are still lying vacant.

I would demand, through you, Sir, that the participation of ST be it in the judiciary or in bureaucracy, the American principle of Diversity should be adopted. Whichever Government comes, it sheds crocodile tears about the conditions of SC/ST but to no avail. I demand that reservation in the private sector should be made mandatory, only then we can fulfill these people's dreams.

[English]

SHRI KINJARAPU YERRANNAIDU (Srikakulam): Sir, I would like to bring an important matter to the notice of the Minister of Surface Transport. The work in the four-lane road between Visakhapatnam and Srikakulam of Andhra Pradesh under the Golden Quadrilateral Project has been stopped three years ago due to which a lot of accidents are taking place. People are suffering a lot due to this stoppage of work. At the time of the award of contract, the contractors had given false bank certificates to the Government. That is why, the Government has taken action against those contractors and cancelled the contract. But work has not been started as yet. Therefore, I urge the Government, through you, that tender should be immediately called and work should be completed at the earliest. There is a big project going on in the National Highway from Chennai to Kolkata. This is my request to the Union Government.

Sir, some Minister may note down this point and inform the concerned Minister.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister has taken note of it.

...(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI SHAILENDRA KUMAR: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the matters raised by hon. Members under 'Special Mentions' should at least be reciprocated by the Government with an assurance in that regard. ...*(Interruptions)* The hon. Minister should reply to that but the Government reciprocates nothing to the hon. Members. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): Sir, I will bring it to the notice of the Minister concerned. The reply will come. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record.

*...(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: Chaudhary Bijendra Singh—not present; Shri Bhuvaneshwar Prasad Mehta—not present; Shri Basu Deb Acharia—not present; Shri Hannan Mollah—not present.

SHRIMATI P. SATHEEDEVI (Badagara): I am drawing the kind attention of this House to the sudden enhancement of the flight charges by the Air India and to the derangement of the flights scheduled for Haj pilgrimage. Thousands of devotees are going to Haj this time. It is understood that about 11,835 persons have already registered their names from Kerala this year. The first flight carrying the pilgrims started on 3rd December, 2005. It is only on the previous day the Air India declared an increase in the flight charges. The decision came on 29th November, 2005. There was no prior information to

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*Not recorded.

the public about the said enhancement. It has really created more difficulties to the pilgrims as a whole.

The increase in the rate of the flight charges is Rs. 5,800. Now, the pilgrims have to pay an amount of Rs. 41,800 for their journey from Calicut International Airport. The decision taken by the Air India to increase the flight fare at this time has created an impression that Air India is, in fact, squeezing the Haj pilgrims.

Moreover, the Air India does not keep the time schedule of the Haj flights. The inordinate delay has created a lot of difficulties to the Haj pilgrims. Due to this inordinate delay, hundreds of pilgrims, including old women, have actually been stranded at the Calicut Airport. They were not even provided with food and accommodation for about 36 hours by the authorities in the airport during the last week.

Hence, I urge upon the Ministry of Civil Aviation to intervene in this matter immediately and give direction to withdraw the enhanced rate of flight charges and also to keep the right time schedule of the Haj flights.

SHRI P. KARUNAKARAN (Kasargod): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the serious problem faced by the freedom fighters of our country. It is very sad that even after nearly 60 years of our Independence, we have to discuss this issue again and again in this House. There were a number of struggles which were held in various States. The States concerned have considered these struggles as part of freedom struggle. Struggles like Punnpra, Vayalar, Kayyur, Karivallur, Morazha were considered by the State as part of the freedom struggle. The Goa struggle was also considered as part of freedom struggle. These States have given State pension to the participants. When the States take decision on this, they appoint Monitoring Committee at the district level. There is a Monitoring Committee at the State level also. It is only after this screening process, the States take a final decision. Many freedom fighters have applied for Central pension. Some of them have received it. But many of them have not got it yet. Many of the representations had been rejected on the technical grounds. When the State has taken the decision, that decision is really applicable to the Central Government also. So, some of the persons have gone to the High Court in Kerala and also in other States. There is a verdict from the High Court of Kerala and also from other States that if the participants of the Struggles have received the pension from the State, that should also be the norms for the Central pension.

There is no reason for denying them. Justice delayed is equal to justice denied. You know, Sir, many of the Freedom Fighters are no more now; many of them are in the sickbeds and some of them are only requesting. We know that no other application is going to come. I would request the Government to take up this issue seriously and give the pension.

[Translation]

SHRI GANESH SINGH (Satna): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to draw this august House's attention, through you, to the State of things and irresponsible behaviour of the doctors of the biggest medical institution in this country, namely, 'AIIMS'. Ten of thousands of people from every part of the country reach hare everyday and they receive medical attention only after much sweats. There are regular complaints of misbehaviour by the doctors to the patients which tarnish the image of AIIMS. We can well imagine the functioning and prevailing state of affairs in other hospitals of the country if premier institutions like AIIMS has such a sorry state of affairs. I would like to tell you a personal experience in this regard. I went to AIIMS on 1st December for medical checkup by Dr. Bahadur of ENT department on the advise of AIIMS superintendent Dr. Sharma.

After waiting for hours together I was called and was again asked to wait for some more time I told him that I had been here since 9 o'clock in the morning and now it was 10.30 and I had to participate in the House proceedings, then he told me that I was not talking properly. He told me that they had their own way of working. I was really shocked and then I left the place. I am not the first to give an example of this kind. Even when the hon'ble Members visit AIIMS for themselves and for their relatives, they are not given any preference and are subjected to humiliation everyday. ...*(Interruptions)* Won't it be appropriate to give some preference to the Members? I would like to demand that improvement should be made in the system of this hospital and alongwith this strict action should be taken against those doctors who misbehave with Members.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh) Mr. Chairman, Sir, the condition of unemployment in the country is turning from bad to worse everyday and we are facing a very dreadful situation today. The number of unemployed people in the country has increased to nearly 44 millions from 13.8 million, as per the last survey conducted. It was found during this survey that there were 600 such unemployed persons who were graduates but were found bagging for their livelihood. This is shameful for the country.

Sir, I would like to say that if we start processing the agricultural produces then we can actually check unemployment to a large extent. But in our country we are only processing two percent of the agricultural produce whereas in other countries it is either 100 percent or at least 70-80 percent. We can provide employment to 30 million people if we set up processing industries and bring it upto 10 percent from the present 2 percent. I would like to submit that so far no action has been taken in regard to the Vision Document 2015, prepared by the Union Government and which is lying and catching dust till now. We can check unemployment to a large extent if we implement this Visit on Document by attaching priority to it. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please conclude.

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, I am still going on. I have not completed. If you say, I will sit down. But, I have not completed as yet.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But you cannot make a lengthy speech because time is very limited. It is Special Mentions.

[Translation]

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH: Sir, we can make a number of processed items from milk but after 55-56 years we have only been able to form a single organization like Amul in Gujarat and if we could make some other new organizations in our country we would be able to help farmers to a large extent. The Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture is sitting here, he also hails from my state and I belong to the constituency where maize is produced. Under the Accelerated Maize Development Programme the Government provides full help and money for it and we can also produce Gasohol from maize and run cars on this fuel as it is done in foreign countries. Besides these six districts this programme should be introduced in some other states also. If we promote cultivation of maize in the vast fallow land in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and promote this programme then we can check unemployment to a large extent. Therefore, through you I would like to demand from the Union Government to promote agro-processing industries and check unemployment.

SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR DUBEY (Dhanbad): Sir, the Indian Iron and Steel company (IISCO) has been merged with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). There are three main coal mines under IISCO—Chaas Nala, Jitpur and Ramnagar and nearly 4 thousand coal workers are working there. The National Coal Wages Agreement No. 7 was finalized in June this year for the coal mine workers of this country and all the Coal India workers are taking its benefits but coal workers employed in IISCO are deprived of its benefits.

Sir, through you I would like to demand that to bring uniformity in the wages and other facilities for coal workers of IISCO, which has been merged with SAIL, National Coal Wages Agreement No. 7 should be implemented immediately so that workers could be able to get similar wages and facilities for similar work. This is a very important and serious issue.

SHRI TUFANI SAROJ (Saidpur): Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the villages located near Mugalsarai Railway Yard. Mugalsarai Railway Yard is the largest railway yard of Asia. A number of trains originate from here to various parts of the country but there are dozens of villages like Taranpur, Islampur, Parshurampur, Kudhe, Dharnek, Govaria which are situated along various lines but due to the objection of railways no development is taking place there. Although Uttar Pradesh Government wants an overall development of these villages but is not able to do so because of the objection of the Railways. Therefore, I would like to submit that Uttar Pradesh Government should issue directions to the Railways to cooperate with the UP Government for the development of the above mentioned villages.

[English]

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN (Mukundapuram): Sir, I rise to bring to the notice of the House the problems being faced by the Government of Kerala as well as the poor lottery agents and the lottery ticket sellers of Kerala.

The Government of Kerala had submitted a Memorandum to the Union Home Ministry on 23rd August, 2004 requesting it to prohibit certain State Government lotteries that are blatantly violating the provisions of the Central Lottery Regulations Act, 1998.

However, even after a lapse of more than 15 long months, no action has so far been taken by the Home Ministry on the above said Memorandum of the Government of Kerala. Continued sale of the lottery tickets violating the existing regulations is very seriously and adversely affecting the self-employment of about three lakh poor lottery agents and the daily earnings of poor lottery sellers of Kerala out of whom a considerable number are physically handicapped persons.

I, therefore, request the Central Government to take immediate and time-bound action on the Memorandum dated 23rd August, 2004 from the Government of Kerala.

[Translation]

SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA (Hoshiarpur): Hon'ble Minister is sitting here and I would like him to listen to my words carefully. 24 Indians have been kept as hostages In Kuwait. These people belong to four states—Punjab, Maharashtra, Tamilandu and Himachal Pradesh. These 24 people have been kept as hostages in Kuwait by their Agents who took them there on the pretext of giving them employment. These people are sitting on a Dharna before the Indian Embassy there but their voice is not being heard at all. Out of these people 17 belong to Punjab and out of those 17, 3 people come form my constituency. I would like to give an example and bring to the notice of the Government as to how these people went there. One person from Hoshiarpur in Kashmiri Rajjowal who has five daughters and his mother and father are of the age of 80 and 82 years respectively. He took Rs. 1.5 or 2 lakh as loan to arrange for his visit to Kuwait. There was a contract between him and his agent that the agent would get him employment there, but instead of Kuwait these agents send such people to Iraq, where they do not want to go because there is no security of life over there.

That agent has confiscated the money and passport of these people. Therefore, it is not only the question of those 24 lives, but also the question of their families, which are staying over here. Their family members are in distress over here and those people are facing trouble over there. Therefore, the Government should intervene in this matter through our Embassy in Kuwait and make arrangements to bring them back to their country. Otherwise, they will meet the same fate as their Co-citizens imprisoned in Pakistani jails, which have to struggle hard to get deported to their country of origin. Therefore, the Government should make arrangements well on time to bring back these Indian nationals.

SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR (Barelly): Earlier also I have raised a matter related to ragging in schools in the House and today I want to raise the same issue again and would like to urge the Government to take effective measures in this regard. The son of a constable, Triveni Sahai, of my constituency took admission in Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Jallandhar. In July, he conveyed to his father at home how the incumbent students were constantly being harassed by ragging in the said institute. His father asked him to bear with it and said that life would return to normal after some time. But the situation did not improved. In October, that boy committed suicide and left behind a suicide note. When his father went there to inquire into the matter, neither administration nor Police helped him, nor no action was taken in this regard.

Mr. Chairman, through you, I would like to request the Government to conduct an inquiry into the said suicide case of that boy. Secondly, it is also a matter of concern that the administration of that institute and the Police did not extend their cooperation. The Government should pay attention in this regard and take effective measures to prevent recurrence of such incidents in future.

SHRI HANSRAJ G. AHIR (Chandrapur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the problem of naxalism in the country. The problem of naxalism has raised its ugly head not only in a particular State, but also in many states of the country. Many Police Personnels, Police officers and common people are falling pray to naxalite violence. The Police and Para-military forces personnel deployed for protecting democracy are getting killed by naxalites. Moreover, the naxalites also train their guns on the common people, the poor farmers, and Adivasis living in forest areas on the pretext that they are police informers. I hail from that area of Maharashtra where 265 Police personnel and citizens have been killed. The compensation given by the State Government to the next of kin of such people is very meagre and inadequate. I understand that this has become a national problem. Therefore, the Union Government should pay attention to it. The Union Government should also pay a compensation of Rs. one lakh besides the compensation paid by the State Government to the family members of the deceased. Besides, employment should be given to one member of the family of the deceased, because the sole bread earners of the family gets killed in these violent incidents.

DR. KARAN SINGH YADAV (Alwar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, more than 16 thousand villages of 21 districts of Rajasthan State are in the grip of severe famine. Belated 'Girdavari' Survey reveals that 21 districts including Alwar, Bikaner, Churu, Jaisalmer, Barmer, Bhilwara, Udaipur, Sirohi and Jodhpur are affected by drought. The crops in more than half of the 16000 affected villages have been ruined cent percent and in rest of the villages, 50 to 75 percent of crops are ruined.

Unfortunately, famine is a regular phenomenon in Rajasthan. The previous Congress Government used to start relief work from August itself, but the present government is indifferent to this problem of the farmers. The people are not having employment and are standing on the verge of starvation. The State Government are having Rs. 500 crore in National Calamity Fund which has been allocated by the Union Government but despite that famine relief work has not been started.

I would like to urge the hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs and Disaster Management to dispatch a Central observers team to assess the situation of famine in Rajasthan and direct the Rajasthan Government to immediately start the relief work.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the year 1947 some people from Western Pakistan migrated to Jammu and Kashmir. They had land, business and houses over there, but they came as refugees and later settled down in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. They got the Indian citizenship but till now they have not got the citizenship of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. There are around one lakh such families. Due to the special states accorded to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370, they have not been given the right to vote for Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly. They are not given jobs under the Union Government, the State Government or in the fields of education; engineering, medical etc. and they are deprived of all such facilities. Mr. Chairman, Sir, through you, I would like to request the Government to put pressure on Jammu and Kashmir Government to grant them citizenship of the state, so that they may be able to avail the benefits and facilities given by the Union and State Government in the state.

[English]

SHRI PRABODH PANDA (Midnapore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government, through you, to the plight of farmers due to distress sale. This year, the Government has announced Rs. 570 per quintal as the Minimum Support Price for paddy and there is an increase of only Rs. 10 per quintal as compared to last year. When the inflation increased by more than five per cent and sometimes even 10 per cent and above, the Minimum Support Price has been increased only by 1.4 per cent. This is the attitude shown by the Government towards farmers. This is very unfortunate.

Moreover, till date procurement of paddy has not been started by the Food Corporation of India, particularly in the State of West Bengal. So, the poor peasants, particularly small and marginal farmers are being forced to go in for distress sale and they are selling their produce below Rs. 500 per quintal.

Therefore, I urge upon the Union Government to force the Food Corporation of India to start its procurement process immediately, without any further delay. I would also request the Union Government to enhance the Minimum Support Price and fix it at Rs. 600 per quintal, at least, for paddy.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, two types of laws were enacted before and after the independence. First, Cruelty to Animals Act and second, Wild Life Protection Act. Even today, these laws are openly violated at some places. I would like to bring this to the notice of the Government. A few days back, I was watch how five animals were offered in sacrifice at 'Kamkhaya Temple' in Nepal. Two days ago I saw that two buffaloes were offered as sacrificed for the well being of. These animals cannot speak, but they are also living beings. One can imagine what kind of pain they go through, when they are slaughtered? You yourself can appreciate their agony.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: The name of the person needs not be recorded.

[Translation]

SHRI JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI (Jodhpur): Though no one has a right to kill wild animals, yet slaughter of animals (Bali) in the name of religion is going on openly. The Government should ban such activities. Buffaloes, pigeons and he-goats are offered to deity in temples. In this way people are killing innocent animals. They, this way, are doing injustice to the nature. Bishnoi's in Rajasthan lay their lives happily for saving animals from being killed ...*(Interruptions)* they sacrifice themselves to protect animals. On 13th, one Shri Gangaram Bishnoi happily sacrificed his life to protect animals. No one has a right to kill animals. Therefore, my submission is that law should be provided more teeth and strict action should be taken against people involved in it.

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO (Jamshedpur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, HCL and ICC management in Eastern

Singhbhoom district of Jharkhand entered into an agreement with Labour Unions for imparting education to the children of labourers set up preparatory schools between 1932 to 1992. Teachers and other employees have been working on permanent basis in said schools. Managing Director of HCL gave financial undertaking from time to time for payment of salaries and provision of other facilities to the teacher and other employees of said schools at par with the teachers and other staff of government schools. Education department of the State Government have granted their permission to run the schools on said condition. But salaries were withheld from September 2002. In addition, arrears were also not paid to the staff nor the pay scales were revised. The State Government also served several written notices to the company between 1973-1980 to hand over said schools to the Government. But no heed was paid to it. Finally the management of company agreed to run the schools on the basis of written request. Now, the management has threatened to close the schools.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You can give your statement here.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: Sir, it is a question of life and death of 25 teachers. I have come to know that the Managing Director of HCL had sent a proposal to the Ministry of Mines in July 2004 seeking administrative approvals for sending employees of schools of company on VRS in view of closure of mines. Said proposal is still pending. Therefore, I urge the Government to direct the management of HCL for disbursal of arrears of salaries of teachers of 6 schools being run by HCL.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are not supposed to read the statement. This is only a Special Mention Hour.

[Translation]

SHRI SUNIL KUMAR MAHATO: The teachers, there, are on the verge of death, that's why it is a serious matter. They are on fast unto death. I have sent a request to the hon. Minister. The teachers are dying of starvations, whereas, the Government are not disbursing the arrears of their salaries.

DR. RAJESH MISHRA (Varanasi): Students from all over India enrol themselves in JJ Medical College, Mumbai, Maharashtra to study medical sciences. Last week some sort of tension cropped up between a group of students and they threatened the students of other group. The condition worsened when students quarrelled with each other. Some students left hostels and took shelter with local guardians as a sense of fear prevailed over there. A leader of BJP gave a statement in Mumbai that*.... Whereas, there were students of whole of north India and not only from Bihar.

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT (Ajmer): He is making a wrong statement. He has denied it which has been reported by the newspersons also. ...*(Interruptions)*

SHRI LAKSHMAN SINGH (Rajgarh): He did not even mention the name of Bihar. ...*(Interruptions)*

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: I am talking of security. I am not levelling charges against anyone. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Controversial matters will not be recorded; only special mention is permitted.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: This will not go on recorded. Please sit down.

...*(Interruptions)**

[Translation]

PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT: Please expunge it ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Delete that word.

[Translation]

DR. RAJESH MISHRA: The students from whole of north India come to study here. At present there are 150 students from Uttar Pradesh and four from my constituency.

The examinations are commencing from today. Students are afraid and terrorised. I urge the government to take notice of it and provide security to students whose examination is scheduled to commence from today. Since students from across the country come here for studying medical sciences, therefore, the government should take steps to remove the fear, so that the students can study peacefully.

[English]

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppey): Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to the injustice being faced by the casual labourers who are working under Air

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*Not recorded.

India Ltd. at Kochi International Airport. Airlines industry is a very booming industry now and most of the airports in India, including the Kochi International Airport, are making huge profits from this industry. In all these Airports, ground handling works are done by the casual labourers. They are also engaged for connected works as Passenger Assistant, Security Assistant, Cargo Assistant loading and unloading cargo and baggage from flights, office assistant, helpers etc. and other works as a casual employee is of permanent nature.

There are 165 casual employees in the Kochi International Airport. All these employees are either the displaced land owners of Kochi Airport Project, or children of the employee of Air India. Some of them have been appointed through Employment Exchange also. Most of these workers have been working in the Kochi International Airport since the inception of the Kochi International Airport in 1999. So far these workers have not been regularised. Still they are treated as casual employees. They are not extended statutory benefits including weekly off, overtime wages, leave benefits, provident fund, bonus etc. These matters were brought before the Management through their Association. The Management had not cared to settle the issue. They had not even cared to present before the labour authorities for settlement. Instead of approaching the matter with an open mind, the Management had taken a retaliatory measure and started harassing the members of the trade union. So, I urge upon the Government to kindly intervene in the matter and issue necessary directions to resolve the genuine demand of the workers and give justice to these casual labourers.

18.40 hrs.

SUBMISSION BY MEMBER

Re: Reported mission of Jupiter 6, a cargo ship since 6.9.2005

SHRI P.C. THOMAS (Muvattupuzha): Sir, Jupiter 6, a ship which is plying in the deep sea, full of oil, has been missing in the seas of South Africa since 5th September. There were 13 crew members in the ship, out of which 10 are Indians. One of them is from Kerala also. The lives of these crew members might be at stake. We are not sure as to what has happened to them. The report from the Shipping Ministry or from the Director General of Shipping is also not confirmatory to arrive at any of these final conclusions. There are so many things which are very suspicious.

It is really doubtful whether the ship has sunk or not. It appears that it has not sunk because the machine, which is intended to give the SOS message as to what has happened in the eventuality of this nature, had given a message more than one month after 5th September from which date it was missing. So, that itself is doubtful. It may be a planted message also. There are doubts whether some piracy has occurred or whether the real owners of the ship themselves are bargaining for something or somebody else is probably bargaining just as what had happened in the case of Maniyappan who was an Indian personnel working abroad. So, it is a very serious issue. Therefore, the Indian Government has to look into this issue, make an inquiry, get the experts' help from other countries at the international for a level and come to some kind of conclusion. We have to save them if they are in the hands of somebody. So, something has to be done.

Though the newspapers, almost all the Malayalam and other national newspapers, have highlighted this, the families of these personnel are in high distress. They are in deep agony. So, something has to be done immediately. I urge upon the Government to act upon immediately. The Ministry of Shipping, the Ministry of External Affairs and also the concerned Ministry must come to safeguard the interests of these crewmen who are, as I said, mainly from India.

It is supposed to be a ship full of oil. Suppose it has sunk somewhere, there is even a doubt of the place where it is supposed to have been sunk. The oil, which has been spilt over, it also minimal. It is a ship full of oil. There are a lot of other doubts also. So, I urge upon the Government to order an inquiry immediately and see that the lives of these personnel are saved if they are living.

DR. K.S. MANOJ: I associate with him.

SHRI LONAPPAN NAMBADAN: Sir, I also associate with this matter.

SHRIMATI C.S. SUJATHA (Mavelikara): Sir, I am also associating with him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All right, you can associate with him.

SHRI P.C. THOMAS: Sir, this is a major issue. So, we would urge upon the hon. Parliamentary Affairs Minister to bring this matter urgently to the notice of the Minister of Shipping and the Minister of External Affairs, including the Prime Minister.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): I will bring this to their notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has agreed.

Now, Shri Asaduddin Owaisi.

...(Interruptions)

DR. K.S. MANOJ (Alleppy): One of the crewmen is from my constituency. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Asaduddin Owaisi, you can speak.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing will go on record except his speech.

...*(Interruptions)**

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have got a very lengthy chance.

...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have been given sufficient time to read from a lengthy statement and even its addition.

...*(Interruptions)*

DR. K.S. MANOJ: I am talking on another matter.

SHRI ASADUDDIN OWAISI (Hyderabad): Sir, after the demolition of Babri Masjid, the Liberhan Commission was formed to look into the real facts of what really happened before the demolition and which were the forces responsible. Since more than 13 years, the Liberhan Commission has been probing the demolition of Babri Masjid. More than 18 months have passed since the UPA Government has come into power. The Liberhan Commission's term is expiring on 30th of December. So far, this present Government has not yet filed an affidavit. The Liberhan Commission has very candidly asked this Government as to who is responsible for the demolition of Babri Masjid, what is the UPA Government's contention, whether it is the BJP of Shiv Sena or RSS which is responsible. Despite that, the present Government has not yet filed the affidavit.

Also, after coming into power, the present UPA Government has clearly stated that they are not agreeing with the affidavit filed by the previous NDA Government. My request, through you, to the Government is that it is high time the Government wakes up to its responsibility and files and affidavit before the Liberhan Commission before the expiry of its term on 30th December.

It is a matter of urgent national importance. The country needs to know the facts as to what really happened. When a Commission has been formed to go into the demolition of Babri Masjid, I hope that the Government will file affidavit before 30th December so that the facts can really come out. The Government should candidly say who is responsible and what really happened to it.

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE (Bilaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to say something about the state of Chhattisgarh.

The delimitation process going on in the said State is being undertaken on the basis of Census-2001. Under said delimitation, birth rate as well a general rate of Scheduled Castes has been reported lower. 350 villages have been shown as uninhabited. Consequently, the population of SCs and STs has decreased resulting in reduction in one seat of Lok Sabha and five seats of Vidhan Sabha for SCs and STs. Said reduction of seat has caused great discontentment amongst the SCs and STs. I would like to say that Chhattisgarh was carved out of Madhya Pradesh in 2000 and two other states, viz, Uttaranchal and Jharkhand were reorganized later. These three states came into existence in 2000 and delimitation work started in the year 2005, whereas, it was to be done after 10 years in place of 5 years. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You put your demand.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHALE: I would like to say that out of 90 Vidhan Sabha seats 34 seats are reserved for tribals. Out of it, 5 seats have been reduced. In Lok Sabha, there were 2 seats for SCs. Out of these 2, one seat has been reduced. In view of it either delimitation should be stopped or it should be done after 10 years. I have requested his excellency hon. President, hon. Prime Minister and Home Minister and Minister of Law to order an investigation of it, to put a check on the large scale irregularities that have been taking place and also the work of delimitation should be stopped till investigations are completed. For delimitation purposes, the number of seats allotted for scheduled castes should remain as it is. I urge the Government to take note of my said demand.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN (Sonepat): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to bring a very serious problem being faced by the people of my constituency, Sonepat to your notice. 2200 acres land of farmers of 9-10 villages touching Delhi border is being acquired by the Government at throw away price. Agricultural land of farmers is being acquired in the name of Rajiv Gandhi Education city, construction of Expressway and for

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*Not recorded.

industries at the rate of Rs. 15-16 lakh an acre, whereas market rate of an acre of land in said area is more than Rs. One crore. The builders are buying land at the rate of Rs. One crore per acre, whereas, the government are acquiring at the rate of Rs. 15 lakh. One side of the village land is being sold at the rate of Rs. One crore per acre, whereas, on other side of the village the Government are paying just Rs. 15 lakh per acre. I would tell the name of affected villages. 299 acres land in Badkhalsa. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: Your demand is about adequate compensation.

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Yes, Sir. ...*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: You mention that only and that is enough.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: Please let me complete. An Express highways is also proposed ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI BIJOY HANDIQUE): It is a State matter.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: It's not merely a state subject, a national highway is also proposed. Let me speak for a minute. 299 acres of Badkhalsa, 662 acres in Sevali, 533 acres of Asarwarpur, 8 acres of Khewada, 4 acres of Bahalgarh, 6 acres of Badmalik and 54 acres of Jhakholi, thus a total of 2200 acres land is being acquired. Badkhalsa village had donated once 700 acres of land for Motilal Nehru Sports School. ...*(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: You please conclude. He has said that it is a State matter. That will be looked into.

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: There is a great resentment over this issue amongst the farmers. Therefore, their land should not be acquired.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has said that he will look into the matter. Why do you insist?

...*(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: The market rate of land over there is Rs. one crore per acre.

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN: After the Minister has responded then why do you continue? Now Shri P. Rajendran please.

[Translation]

SHRI KISHAN SINGH SANGWAN: My submission is that the Government should pay attention to it as the farmers are agitated as they would be ruined if their land is acquired.

[English]

SHRI P. RAJENDRAN (Quilon): Thank you, Sir, for giving me this opportunity. I wish to draw the attention of the Government, through this august House, to a very important matter.

Sansthankotta fresh water lake is one of the important fresh water resources in India, approved under the Ramsor Wetland category in the Ramsor Convention. Also, this Scheme would come under the drinking water projects of the country. The depth of the lake was more than 35.4 metres; now, it is only 14.5 meters. This lake is pumping 350 lakh litres of water to the Quilon Corporation area and the local panchayats. Now, the lake is facing very serious threats from all around that it might even ultimately reach the level of perishing of drinking water in the lake. The State Government is doing nothing to protect this important lake. So, I would request the Government, through you, to cause suitable emergent remedial action to protect and preserve this drinking water resource of the country, Sansthankotta fresh water lake.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House now stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow, December 14, 2005 at 11 a.m.

18.51 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, December 14, 2005/Agrahayana 23, 1927 (Saka).

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